

Remembering Lebanon County Commissioner Bill Ames



I recently had the privilege of participating in the Salvation Army of Lebanon County's annual civic dinner where we honored our dear friend and former Lebanon County Commissioner Bill Ames, who died in December from complications of COVID-19. I was honored to be among those paying tribute to Bill. He was a good man and a dedicated public official who served this county and our residents well. My best wishes and sincerest condolences to Bill's widow, Josie.

Protect Your Assets, Avoid Scams

Older Pennsylvanians are often the targets of scams that steal their life savings and threaten their financial security. While seniors are particularly vulnerable to cyber criminals and phone scams, the threat is real for others as well. I will be hosting a seminar with a representative from the state Office of Attorney General, to alert you to the latest scams and how you can protect yourself. Register now for this timely and informative seminar at RepFrankRyan.com and invite your family members and friends to do so as well. I look forward to seeing you there!

Representative Frank Ryan

*invites you to a
Seminar for Senior Citizens:*

SCAMS

and How to Prevent Them

ID Theft | Financial Planning | Living Wills | POA

There will be a representative from the Attorney General's Office.

Thursday, June 2

2 - 4 p.m.

Lebanon Senior Center

710 Maple St., 1st floor auditorium, Lebanon

SPACE IS LIMITED

RSVP by calling 717-838-3823

or register online at

RepFrankRyan.com

Rep. FRANK RYAN
101st Legislative District

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House Advances Bipartisan Bill to Keep Voter Rolls Updated

To help ensure the accuracy of the state's voter rolls, the House recently gave unanimous approval to a bill that would require information from the Election Registration Information Center (ERIC) to be used to purge deceased voters from the rolls. The bill was introduced after discussions about election reform and improved maintenance of voter registration records revealed current law does not allow for the full use of information provided by the ERIC system. ERIC is a nonprofit organization with the mission of assisting states to improve the accuracy of America's voter rolls and increase access to voter registration for all eligible citizens. It is governed and managed by states that choose to join and was formed in 2012 with assistance from The Pew Charitable Trusts. As of last fall, 31 states and the District of Columbia are members of ERIC. [House Bill 2507](#) now goes to the Senate for consideration.



Syner Road Bridge Replacement Set to Begin Next Week

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) has announced that a \$1.4 million bridge replacement project is set to begin Tuesday, May 24, on Syner Road (Route 4010) in Lebanon County. The bridge spans Quittapahilla Creek between Old Forge Road in North Londonderry Township and Laurel Grove Road in North Annville Township. This project consists of the replacement of an existing three-span stone masonry arch bridge with a two-span precast concrete arch bridge. The bridge will be closed and a detours will be in place using Gravel Hill Road (Route 4011), Ridge Avenue/Ridge Road, Old Forge Road, and Palmyra Bellegrave Road (all of which are designated Route 4008), Steelstown Road, Bates Drive and Syner Road (all of which are designated Route 4010). Work is weather permitting and is expected to be completed by early January.



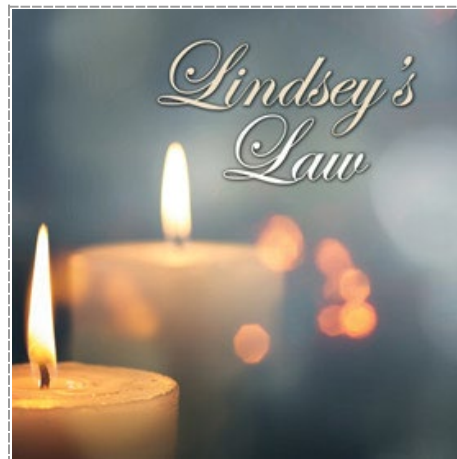
Property Tax Elimination Update

Last month, I asked the Pennsylvania Independent Fiscal Office (IFO) for information concerning my legislation to eliminate Pennsylvania property taxes. Specifically, I asked the IFO for updated estimates on the revenue [House Bill 13](#) would generate to offset property tax elimination. I received a response this week from IFO director, Matt Knittel, and was pleased with his findings. [See his response here.](#)



Lindsey's Law to Protect Against 'Sextortion'

The House recently approved legislation that I co-sponsored, which would enhance penalties against those who commit sexual extortion or "sextortion." Specifically, [House Bill 2271](#) would increase penalties against convicted predators whose abuse leads to serious bodily harm or death. Titled "Lindsey's Law," the bill is named after Lindsey Piccone, a Bucks County woman who was pursued via social media by a predator seeking nude photos of her. She ultimately took her own life. Sextortion occurs when an individual demands sexually explicit photos or videos of an individual and threatens violence



or to expose the victim on social media or elsewhere if the perpetrator doesn't get what they want. This bill, which is part of the House "Smart Justice" package of bills, now moves to the Senate.

Law Aims to Attract More Doctors to PA

At a time when parts of Pennsylvania are suffering doctor shortages and patients are struggling to acquire treatment, a new state law aims to help attract more doctors to the Commonwealth. Graduates of U.S. and Canadian medical schools currently must complete two years of training through an approved residency program to apply for a medical license. However, international medical graduates are required to complete an extra year of training before they become eligible to apply for the same medical license. [Act 16 of 2022](#) will level the playing field so international medical students can apply for their medical license after two years of training. This will remove an unnecessary burden that is limiting the number of medical professionals who can practice in Pennsylvania. The law took effect when it was signed by the governor in late April.



Have You Checked Out Your Local Farmers Market?

Thousands of farms across Pennsylvania market and sell their products directly to consumers. According to the latest data from U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Commonwealth ranks second in the nation in direct-to-consumer sales. The data revealed 6,200 farms are selling food locally through direct marketing. In 2020, those sales generated \$600 million in revenue. Many on-farm markets and farmers market vendors are members of the PA Preferred® program or carry PA Preferred products. PA Preferred is the state branding program for agricultural products grown, produced and processed in Pennsylvania. When purchasing items with the PA Preferred checkmark, consumers are supporting locally grown and processed Pennsylvania agricultural products and directly supporting Pennsylvania farmers. According to the state Department of Agriculture, there are 745 PA Preferred members across the Commonwealth. To find an on-farm market or farmers market near you, visit [Penn State Extension's Farmers Market Finder](#). For more information about PA Preferred, including how to become a member,



visit agriculture.pa.gov.

Armed Forces Day Saturday

This Saturday, May 21, is Armed Forces Day, a day set aside to recognize and honor the men and women who are currently serving in a branch of our nation's armed forces. The day was first celebrated in 1950, soon after the branches of the military were united under the leadership of the U.S. Department of Defense. In his proclamation marking the day, President Harry S. Truman called on fellow citizens to "display the flag of the United States at their homes on Armed Forces Day and to participate in exercises expressive of our recognition of the skill, gallantry, and uncompromising devotion to duty characteristic of the armed forces in the carrying out of their missions."



Mental Health Awareness Month



May is Mental Health Awareness Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness about mental health and continuing the fight against the stigma people face when seeking help. In Pennsylvania, mental health services are administered through county Mental Health and Developmental Services programs. To learn more about mental health care in Pennsylvania, [click here](#). If you or someone you know is contemplating suicide, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at **1-800-273-8255**.

Fish for Free Coming Up Next Weekend!



On Sunday, May 29, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) will host a Fish for Free day to allow anyone (resident or non-resident) to legally fish on all Pennsylvania waterways. No license is required, but all other fishing regulations apply. This is the first of two dates set by the PFBC to enhance fishing opportunities. The next day is Independence Day, Monday, July 4. This is a great way to expose the next generation of anglers to the outdoors. [Find more information here.](#)