

PROTECTING OUR KIDS FROM TRAFFICKING, ABUSE



Continuing our work to stop one of the fastest-growing crimes in our Commonwealth, I helped launch Pennsylvania's new bipartisan, bicameral Anti-Human Trafficking (AHT) Caucus. This coalition of House members and senators is committed to advancing stronger laws, raising public awareness and supporting survivors of this horrific crime.

One of my initiatives targeting a very disturbing element of trafficking – perpetrators using their own children, stepchildren or other relatives to create child sexual abuse materials (CSAM) – was recently approved

unanimously in the House and is pending action in the Senate.

I introduced the measure to increase penalties after a local prosecutor raised the concern to me that traffickers were actively targeting their own relatives because it was “easier” than other methods of finding victims they could use to create CSAM. While disgusted by the need for the legislation, I appreciate the opportunity to bring the ideas and expertise of people in the district to Harrisburg to solve important problems like this.

LOCAL CONTROL IS KEY IN DATA CENTER DISCUSSIONS

The conversation and debate about data centers is incredibly important and we must get it right for our citizens, our communities and our Commonwealth. But we aren't going to get it right if we don't put politics aside and work TOGETHER.

Majority House Democrats have advanced bills that do not serve the best interests of our communities. For example, one bill would require data centers to get nearly one-third of their energy supply from “renewable” sources. Do we really want those data centers covering hundreds of acres of good farmland with solar panels to comply? That's not good policy.

Or how about the state putting our local governments and the people they serve in a bad spot by creating a so-called “model” ordinance addressing data centers? One size does NOT fit all in Pennsylvania. Why

would we try to force that with something as impactful as data centers?

I think it's worth noting that no one went looking to attract cloud-based services or data centers to our area. When they started coming around, our local officials jumped into action to protect what we all love.

We must approach data centers the way we do any development: leaning on our constitutional rights as landowners, local ordinances and zoning, locally elected officials who know their areas the best, and enforcement agencies that monitor our natural resources and energy.

This is a developing issue, and as additional legislative proposals regarding data centers are brought forward, I will keep you informed. My job is to make sure our rural values of local control are not eroded and taken over by big government and unelected officials in Harrisburg. If you ever want to talk more about this topic, feel free to give me a call!

EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SKILLED TRADE ENTREPRENEURS



We had an incredible turnout for our second annual Future Entrepreneur Summit in April! More than 75 students gathered at Lambs Creek Event Space to learn about what it takes to start a business in the skilled trades and the opportunities available right here in our region. The students asked thoughtful questions and showed genuine interest in their futures.

The event was a success because of the outstanding business owners/tradespeople who took time from their busy schedules to join us. They included: Scott Cummings, Cummings Lumber; Hasan Fazelbhoj, Cedar Mountain Springs; Josh Gehman, Gehman Iron; Rich Harris, Buttonwood



Truck Center; Kurtis Martin, Black Creek Enterprises; Trevor Rawleigh, Iron Volt Contracting; Doug Wright, Wright's Farm and Home Service Inc.; and Howard Wattles, a retired electrician who offered the sage advice about the importance of finding something you love to do so you can wake up every day and enjoy going to work.

I also extend special thanks to Pennsylvania College of Technology, Commonwealth University – Mansfield and the outstanding organizations that joined us as co-hosts and sponsors.

We couldn't have done it without you!

State Representative

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MAKE THE CONNECTION!

Community Connection is our weekly email that aims to share stories that bring us together as a community and connect us to one another in ways that demonstrate there are so many more things that unite rather than divide us. The email includes important news from here at home and your state Capitol. Thank you for reading!



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David Butters was recently honored for his 50 years of dedicated service to the community of Morris through the Morris Fire Department. It was an honor to present him with an official citation from the House of Representatives in recognition of this remarkable milestone. Over the past year, Lauren and I attended as many fire company banquets as possible across the region, presenting years of service citations to so many of our local heroes. We are always amazed by the men and women who so selflessly give of themselves and their time to keep our communities and our citizens safe. If you have an interest in joining your local fire company, just give them a call. They would love to share with you how you can use your gifts and talents to serve your neighbors.



We had a great turnout at our annual agriculture breakfast hosted by Sen. Gene Yaw and me in the spring. We were honored to welcome U.S. Sen. Dave McCormick to the event this year, along with PA Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding. We also had a presentation about legacy planning. It is always an honor to spend time with our hardworking farmers!



Members of the Troy Junior Sportsman program continue to do great things! Back in the spring, I had the opportunity to present citations to the junior and senior teams for earning multiple awards at the 2025 PA State Youth Hunter Education Challenge. Last month, they won big again! They'll be competing at nationals in late July...good luck!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FRIDAY AUG. 7

9 a.m. to noon

SENIOR EXPO

Wellsboro Senior High
School Gym and Commons
225 Nichols St., Wellsboro

TUESDAY AUG. 11

9:30-10:30 a.m.

SCAM AWARENESS SEMINAR on SENIOR DAY at the Tioga County Fair
Tioga County Fairgrounds, Main Building
2258 Charleston Road, Wellsboro
Please register at www.RepOwlett.com or contact our offices in Wellsboro or Troy.

THURSDAY SEPT. 10

6-8 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.)

GAME COMMISSION NIGHT: ALL ABOUT BEARS

Wellsboro Fire Company Annex
21 East Ave., Wellsboro
Please register at www.RepOwlett.com or contact our offices in Wellsboro or Troy.