



# STATE REPRESENTATIVE NAPOLEON NELSON

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@RepNapoleon

## Dear Neighbors,

As your State Representative, I spend a great deal of my time on the PA Turnpike. I am usually heading to Harrisburg to vote or to college campuses, large and small businesses, and green spaces throughout the Commonwealth to understand how proposed or previously approved laws are impacting communities.

Through it all, I am thinking about you guys.

It is commonly said, "if you want to fall in love with your community, run for office." It's true. In fact, serving my community has taken that feeling up another five notches. In this newsletter, my team and I didn't want to focus on legislation as much as we wanted to highlight the work we've been doing right here in our back yard!

First and foremost, consider me and my staff your advocates and champions for services relating to state and regional agencies. Whether you need help with SEPTA or the Unemployment Office, PennDOT or professional licensing, we are here and happy to help.

I say the same thing to our local governing partners. Whenever our commissioners or borough councilmembers, school leaders or nonprofit organizations need support when dealing with a state agency or are seeking grant funding, my office is here to be a champion for them, and for all of us! To most of you, we do this work in the shadows. However, every so often we take time out to thank our local partners and celebrate the things we have accomplished together.

This newsletter is one of those times. Please join us in celebrating some of the many important developments happening here in our district! Of course, we also added a plug for our Senior Fair. We look forward to hosting our annual fair on Aug. 25.

In service,

Napoleon

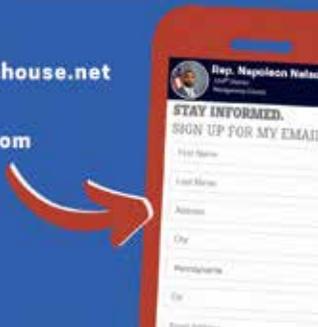


## STAY CONNECTED

Get regular email updates from Harrisburg, vital information about what's happening in the district and across the state, and news you can use in your daily life.

Email  
[RepNelson@pahouse.net](mailto:RepNelson@pahouse.net)

Web  
[RepNapoleon.com](http://RepNapoleon.com)



# OUT & ABOUT



## Opening of Cedar Street Moretti Park

The opening of Cedar Street Moretti Park was quite exciting, especially considering the wildflowers and insects that will inhabit the newest “green space” in Jenkintown.

It’s my hope this aesthetically pleasing addition to our community continues to receive regular foot traffic from individuals in and around our district for years to come.



## More than \$2.6 million in state funding awarded across the district

- The Springfield Township School District received two grants of **\$12,713** each to go toward the purchase of new refrigerated cases to hold food and drink items in student cafeterias.
- A **\$50,000** grant was awarded to LifeLeaf Organic Farms and FarmerJawn Agriculture to build a nano-farm, a corner store and a kitchen/market to serve the local community.
- Congregation Adath Jeshurun was awarded a **\$25,000** nonprofit security grant.
- Yeshivas Ohr Hachaim (DBA Mesivta Yesodei Yisroel) was awarded a **\$75,000** nonprofit security grant.
- Reconstructing Judaism was awarded a **\$24,967** nonprofit security grant.
- **\$2 million** was awarded to the Beth Sholom Synagogue Preservation Foundation in Cheltenham Township to repair and restore the synagogue’s dome.
- Salus University was awarded **\$500,000** to update student service spaces, including the serving and dining areas, student lounges, student affairs offices, the bookstore, and shipping and receiving.



# WORKING FOR YOU

I juggle a handful of differing issues as an elected official. However, my top priority is to represent YOU to the best of my ability while at the state Capitol. This comes in many forms, including voting on and drafting legislation. So far, I'm happy to say I have supported upward of 250 House Bills and am the prime sponsor of three recent bills yet to be introduced on the House floor.

**These include:**

**STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH DAYS:** COVID-19 presented many challenges for K-12 schools as they raced to drastically change day-to-day operations to keep students safe. This caused significant stress for our students and other children across the commonwealth. Due to this, I drafted legislation that would allow students to take excused absences for mental health reasons.

**ESTABLISHING SCHOOL TRAUMA RECORDS:** Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) negatively influence the development of a child and impacts over two-thirds of all school-aged children. This, in part, results in unresolved trauma, violent outbursts and social withdrawal. Pennsylvania has taken some steps to address this issue, but more must be done. My legislation would establish notification systems among school districts and county agencies. In doing so, schools would have greater opportunities to receive funding under the School Safety and Security Grant Program, thereby increasing services and supports to schools and students.

**ENDING CHARGING OF CHILDREN AS ADULTS:** In 2017, more than 400 children between the ages of 14 and 17 were charged with criminal offenses in adult court, due to a law passed by our legislature in 1995 that was inspired by the racist, bipartisan trope of the "super predator." Originally heralded as rehabilitative and a deterrent, Act 33 of Special Session 1 of 1995 requires individuals between the ages of 15 and 17 charged with certain felonies be charged in adult court if they meet certain requirements, such as the use of a weapon during the alleged crime.

However, instead of helping our youth, this "direct file" law is a proven failure that is nothing more than a cruel, unnecessary punishment that forces children into the adult prison system.

To counteract years of injustice to our youth, my legislation aims to protect and rehabilitate young Pennsylvanians by repealing the direct file law. In doing so, our youth can be tried as minors and given the resources they need to avoid a lifetime in the adult legal system.



## Celebrating the Glenside Art Festival

It was a pleasure to spend time at this year's Glenside Arts Festival interacting with residents and yes – petting some very awesome dogs. As a reminder, the 154th Legislative District is home to ongoing community activities each month. Don't miss your chance to get out and see what your community has to offer.



**Napoleon**  
*By the numbers*

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**NAPOLEON NELSON**  
154TH DISTRICT

**Legislation**

**3** Bills Sponsored    **250** Bills Co-Sponsored

2,148 services have been provided from our District Office including:

<b>589</b> Labor & Industry	<b>104</b> PennDOT	<b>65</b> SEPTA Senior ID Cards Processed
<b>42</b> Department of Revenue	<b>38</b> Department of State	<b>28</b> Department of Human Services

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## Another successful Environmental Conference in March

It was encouraging to see another great turnout in March at my office's annual Environmental Conference.

Dubbed "Our Environmental Future: Building Diverse Coalitions for a Better Tomorrow," this event offered a wide-ranging agenda for all environmental activists, including the chance to hear from a diverse panel of experts in the fields of labor, religion, education and more!

This year's goal was to learn how these differing societal entities could work together to build toward a better, healthier tomorrow.

## Expungement Clinic Helping others obtain a fresh start

In June, my office co-hosted an Expungement Clinic for residents in and around the 154th Legislative District. My office assisted upward of 30 individuals looking to expunge their records and reboot their life.

This, among other reasons, is what holding public office is all about. By providing this necessary resource, we were able to get these individuals one step closer to meeting personal and professional goals they otherwise wouldn't have been able to accomplish due to their past criminal records.



## Protect yourself and your community by getting the COVID-19 vaccination

COVID-19 vaccines are now available for those ages 6 months and up! Appointments are required for our youngest residents, however, those 12 and older can walk up to a clinic and get vaccinated.

Vaccines – as well as COVID-19 testing – are available at no cost to our residents. Visit [www.montcopa.org/COVID-19](http://www.montcopa.org/COVID-19) for more details.

STATE REP. NAPOLEON NELSON'S

# Senior Fair



**Thursday, Aug. 25 | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

**Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel**

8339 Old York Road | Elkins Park, PA 19027

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Seniors in attendance can expect assistance with obtaining their SEPTA Key Senior Photo ID cards, and honorably discharged veterans have the opportunity to receive their Veterans' Photo ID Discount Card, which entitles Montgomery County-based vets to receive discounts at nearly 500 establishments countywide. To receive a card, you must bring a valid photo ID, such as a driver's license or passport with proof of residency, and a copy of your discharge papers (DD Form 214).

**Additional services:**

- Dispose of any unwanted, unused or expired prescription medications via Montgomery County's Pill Take Back Mobile Mini.
- Flu shots
- Covid-19 vaccinations

**NOTE:** Vaccinations available with proof of insurance. Please bring your insurance card or Medicare card if you plan to get vaccinated.

**Space is limited, so reserve your spot today by calling my office at (215) 572-5210 or by going to our website at [RepNapoleon.com](http://RepNapoleon.com).**

## My office can help you with:

- Assistance in getting state forms of all kinds, like PACE (pharmaceutical assistance for qualified senior citizens), voter registration, Property Tax/Rent Rebate (for qualified seniors), PHEAA (higher education assistance), etc.
- Requests for literature of all kinds — bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information, student aid information, etc.
- Car registrations, special tags, titles and license applications
- Birth and death certificate applications
- Problems with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, income assistance)
- Questions about utilities or the PUC
- Unemployment compensation, disability, and workers' compensation problems
- Notary services
- Problems or questions about PennDOT
- Complaints and problems with insurance companies
- Problems with Pennsylvania income taxes
- Consumer complaints
- Disability license plates and placards
- Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding local accomplishments and family milestones
- ***Any problem with state government!***



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## **MAIL-IN VOTING RULED CONSTITUTIONAL**

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court recently ruled that Pennsylvania's mail-in voting law can stay in place despite the Republican majority's attempts to remove it as an option for voters. This means there will be no disruption in the way you choose to vote in the upcoming Nov. 8 general election. Mail ballots are now available.

To register to vote, check your registration status, request a mail ballot or find your polling place, visit [www.vote.pa.gov](http://www.vote.pa.gov).

## **Property Tax/Rent Rebate recipients to receive one-time bonus pay**

Older Pennsylvanians and Pennsylvanians with disabilities who qualify for a rebate on rent or property taxes paid in 2021 will be receiving a one-time bonus payment equal to 70% of their original rebate amount. This means the total amount a claimant will receive could be as much as \$1,657.50 (up from a previous maximum of \$975).

Gov. Tom Wolf made these one-time bonus rebates possible by introducing a proposal earlier this year that called for using funds from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to provide additional support to Pennsylvanians who benefit from the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program. As part of the state budget, I voted to use approximately \$140 million in ARPA funding to fund the one-time bonus rebates.

### 2022 General Election Important Dates

 <p><b>Register to vote</b> or update your registration Deadline: <b>October 24</b></p>	 <p><b>Request mail-in or absentee ballot</b> Sign up by: <b>November 1</b></p>
 <p><b>Deadline for mail-in or absentee ballots</b> Due: <b>November 8</b> <small>(must be received by 8 p.m.)</small></p>	 <p><b>Election Day</b> Polls open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Date: <b>November 8</b></p>

[vote.pa.gov](http://vote.pa.gov)

