



# The Daley News

from Representative Mary Jo Daley



Spring 2017

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## Dear Friend,

On Jan. 3, I was honored to be sworn in for a third term as your representative. During the new session I continue to prioritize redistricting reform, increasing education funding, expanding workplace accommodations for working mothers, requiring age-appropriate sex education in public schools, ensuring “shackling” is not used on pregnant inmates and advocating for a budget that puts working families first.

As in previous years, passing a budget is a top priority for lawmakers and the governor. I’m very encouraged that Gov. Wolf’s budget proposal continues to emphasize funding for pre-K, K-12 and college-level education. I am also closely following his plans to consolidate the departments of Health, Aging, Human Services, and Drug and Alcohol programs.

On April 4, House Republicans passed a budget, written without any Democratic input, that makes large cuts that are detrimental to the health and safety of families and communities. This budget fails to make the investments we need to attract good, family-sustaining jobs and falls short of the governor’s request for early-education programs and child care for working parents and their children.

This budget will now be taken up by the Senate. As the process moves forward, I pledge to continue to advocate for responsible state spending that builds on the strengths of our state. I stand with Gov. Wolf in working toward a budget that supports our schools, protects public health and safety and reduces the deficit. We need a budget that works for all people, not just the wealthy and well-connected.

Sincerely,  
*Mary Jo*

## Daley hosts town hall and proposes redistricting reform legislation



On March 27, I co-hosted a town hall meeting on redistricting with Fair Districts PA at Colonial Elementary School in Plymouth Meeting.

The discussion, titled “Redistricting 101: A Conversation with Fair Districts PA and Rep. Mary Jo Daley,” featured a presentation and question-and-answer segment.

Every 10 years following the most recent U.S. Census, the boundaries of Pennsylvania’s state House and Senate districts as well as U.S. congressional districts must be redrawn to reflect changes and shifts in population. While the number of state House and Senate districts does not change based on population shifts, the apportionment of congressional seats within each state can either increase or decrease based on reported population changes. State House and Senate districts are currently drawn by five people who make up the Legislative Reapportionment Commission: the Democratic and Republican leaders of the House and Senate, and a fifth member selected by the legislative leaders. If the four members are unable to agree on the fifth member of the Commission, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court selects the final member. The congressional districts are done differently and don’t go through the five-member commission. The congressional lines are enacted in a regular bill that must pass the House and Senate and receive the governor’s signature.

Redistricting reform is one of the most important topics the legislature considers as it affects nearly every partisan vote we face in session. Too often, the party in power has too much influence on drawing political boundaries, and the process becomes nothing more than gerrymandering.

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On May 8, state Representatives Steve Samuelson and Eric Roe introduced House Bill 722, the companion bill to Senate Bill 22, introduced in February by state Sens. Lisa Boscola and Mario Scavello. These bipartisan bills aim to amend our state's constitution to provide for an independent commission to draw Pennsylvania's congressional and state legislative districts. They would require the state to establish an 11-member independent commission, which would include four individuals registered with the largest political party in Pennsylvania, four registered with the second-largest party, and three individuals unaffiliated with either major political party. A majority vote in the commission would be required for any proposed redistricting plan to be implemented. I am happy to inform you that I have co-sponsored House Bill 722 and will support both of these measures should they come before the House for a vote.

In addition, I have introduced House Bill 924 to ensure openness and fairness in redistricting. My legislation would allow any Pennsylvania resident to submit reapportionment plans for legislative districts and would require the Legislative Reapportionment Commission to consider these plans. To facilitate these efforts, the Commission would be required to make software and demographic data available to the public for use in developing such plans.

Thank you to everyone who attended the town hall and supports fairness in redistricting – our voices on this issue can help make a difference.

## This June – Rep. Daley's 5th annual Senior Fair

I am thrilled to be hosting my 5th annual Senior Fair on Friday, June 16, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Colonial Elementary School, located at 230 Flourtown Road in Plymouth Meeting. There will be vendors from across the five-county area, snacks, raffles, and blood pressure screenings!



The Pennsylvania Department of Banking and Securities will be hosting Consumer Fraud Bingo at my Senior Fair, starting at 11 a.m. Come join us as we have fun and learn tips and tricks for avoiding consumer fraud scams.

SEPTA will also be available to complete your SEPTA ID applications. All you need to bring is valid photo identification in order to apply for your SEPTA pass. SEPTA will mail the pass directly to you.

Recorder of Deeds and Ambler Mayor Jeanne Sorg will be sending her staff to help eligible individuals receive their veteran ID discount cards and file their discharge papers on record with Montgomery County. Interested individuals must bring valid photo identification and their DD-214 discharge papers to receive this free benefit!

## Help available for Property Tax/ Rent Rebate Program



My district office has received Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program applications for eligible residents to begin claiming rebates on property taxes or rent paid in 2016, and my staff is ready to help!

The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people with disabilities 18 or older. The income limit is \$35,000 a year for homeowners and \$15,000 annually for renters. Half of Social Security income is excluded and the maximum standard rebate is \$650.

Claimants must reapply for rebates every year because rebates are based on annual income and property taxes or rent paid annually. Spouses, personal representatives or estates may file rebate claims on behalf of deceased claimants who lived at least one day in 2016 and met all other eligibility criteria.

The rebates normally are distributed beginning on July 1, so the sooner you file, the sooner you will receive your money! The deadline to apply is June 30, 2017.

Please ignore offers to assist with filing the application for a fee. My district office provides help at NO CHARGE, and the Revenue Department does not charge a fee to process your application.

Applications also are available online at [www.revenue.pa.gov](http://www.revenue.pa.gov) or by calling 1-888-222-9190.

## Help available for Unclaimed Property

Each year, the Pennsylvania Treasurer's Office receives millions of dollars of unclaimed property. It is estimated that roughly one in 10 Pennsylvanians has unclaimed property. Pennsylvania Treasurer Joe Torsella, a resident of the 148th District, has challenged state representatives and senators with finding the rightful owners of these funds.

Unclaimed property might include:

- Closed bank accounts
- Uncashed checks, including paychecks
- Stocks and bonds
- Contents of safe deposit boxes
- Proceeds from the demutualization of insurance companies
- Expired gift cards/gift certificates

To find out if you have unclaimed property, search your name in the Unclaimed Property database at [www.patreasury.gov/Unclaimed/Search.html](http://www.patreasury.gov/Unclaimed/Search.html), call 1-800-222-2046, or contact my office. There is NO CHARGE to claim your unclaimed property.



# Around the 148th Legislative District



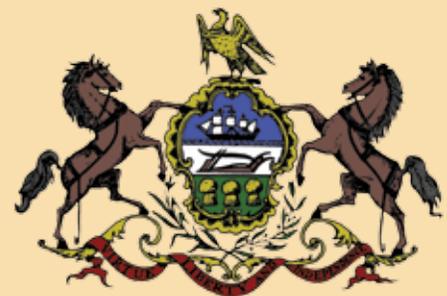
*In March, Rep. Daley read to children at the Boys and Girls Club of Ambler for Women's History Month, in partnership with Rutgers Center for American Women in Politics.*



*On Jan. 10, Rep. Daley joined Rep. Kate Harper to present citations to members of the Blue Bell Boy Scouts in honor of achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Congratulations on your tremendous achievement!*



*Rep. Daley celebrates St. Patrick's Day at the Conshohocken parade on March 11.*



## 2017 electronics recycling

Please note that Montgomery County will not be able to conduct electronics collection events in 2017. Although state law requires electronics manufacturers to offer recycling opportunities for TVs and computers, those manufacturers are no longer sponsoring county recycling collections in Southeastern PA. For a summary of the situation and list of drop-off sites, please call 610-278-3000 or visit [www.montcopa.org/2171/Electronic-Equipment](http://www.montcopa.org/2171/Electronic-Equipment).



**State Representative  
Mary Jo Daley**

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## Visit my district office

Visit our district office in Conshohocken at 815 Fayette St., Suite 200., Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The entrance and parking are at the rear of the building off Harry Street.



815 Fayette Street, Suite 200  
Conshohocken, PA 19428



## Stay connected

In order to keep you informed about my upcoming events and the legislative topics that are important to you, I invite you to sign up to receive my email alerts and follow me on Facebook and Twitter.

### Follow me on Facebook and Twitter

“Like” me on Facebook at [facebook.com/RepMJDaley](https://facebook.com/RepMJDaley) and follow me on Twitter @RepMJDaley.

### Sign up for email updates

You can sign up to receive my email alerts by visiting my website at [www.pahouse.com/Daley](http://www.pahouse.com/Daley), clicking “Contact” at the top of the main page, then “Sign Up for Emails” before filling out the form and leaving the box checked.

Signing up will allow you to continue to receive notices about important issues that matter to you, including:

- Updates on legislation
- News and events in the district
- Other relevant government-related information

## Upcoming Events in 2017

### Tele-Town Hall

Thursday, May 18  
7 p.m.

### 5th annual Senior Fair

Friday, June 16  
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Colonial Elementary School  
230 Flourtown Rd.  
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

*Snacks, door prizes, blood pressure screenings, and bingo!*