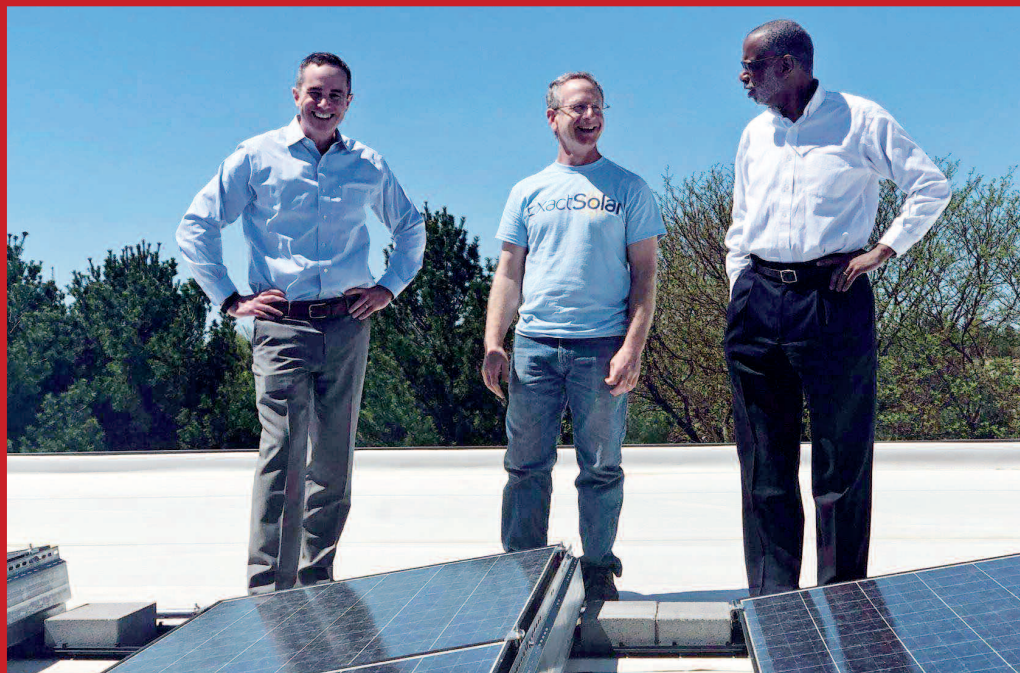




# SENATOR STEVE SANTARSIERO

*Proudly Serving the 10th Senatorial District*

Summer 2019



## Working for Our Community



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State Senator  
**STEVE SANTARSIERO**

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## *Dear Neighbor,*

As you know, Bucks County is a very special place to live, work, worship, learn, and play. I am proud of the rich history and unique offerings in every one of our communities, from Tullytown to Perkasio.

In these first six months as state Senator, I have been getting to know my colleagues from both sides of the aisle and across the Commonwealth. While we may have differing views on some policy matters, we all share a common goal of working together in the best interests of our constituents. In that spirit, I am continuing some of the efforts I began as a member of the House of Representatives (where I served from 2009-2016) – such as protecting the environment for our children and grandchildren, promoting quality public education for all students, minimizing college student debt, making our schools, homes, and public places safe from gun violence, and improving our regional transportation infrastructure.

I am grateful to call Bucks County home and I'm truly honored to serve a community that has given us so much. Whether you are raising a family here, growing a business, or enjoying retirement, let us know how we can work together to keep our towns vibrant!

**Steven J. Santarsiero**  
10th Senatorial District



*Senator Santarsiero with wife Ronni and three children, Billy, Nancy and Johnny*

# Rockhill Quarry Update

The recent reactivation of the Rockhill Quarry in East Rockhill Township has raised several questions about aspects of the operation. I am working with Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick (R-1), Representative Craig Staats (R-145), township officials, and residents to address concerns surrounding the records of continuous operation, asbestos sampling and monitoring, the proposed asphalt plant, and water quality issues.

We brought these concerns to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in January and requested more transparency and an internal investigation. The requested webpage dedicated

to updating the community on quarry matters is now up and running. You can find this page by visiting [www.dep.pa.gov](http://www.dep.pa.gov) and searching "Rockhill Quarry." My priority is to make sure all

aspects of the operation of the quarry follow the letter of the law. I will continue to advocate for our residents on these important quality of life issues.



Senator Santarsiero with Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick (R-1) and Representative Craig Staats (R-145) discussing Rockhill Quarry with residents

## Elcon Developments

After a public meeting in which the Falls Township supervisors unanimously voted to reject Elcon's application to build a hazardous wastewater processing facility and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) "Notice of Intent to Deny" Elcon's application to treat hazardous waste, I wrote a public letter to the DEP outlining my opposition to Elcon. In the letter, I called on DEP to reject Elcon due to the numerous deficiencies in the company's plan and for their repeated attempts to avoid following state laws.

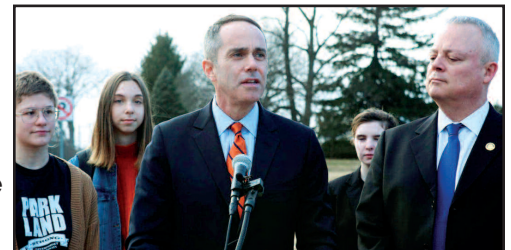
Ultimately, allowing Elcon to operate in the proposed location would be a failure of DEP's mission to protect the residents of Pennsylvania.



## Strengthening Gun Safety Laws

No one should have to go out into the world in fear of gun violence, especially not in their schools, workplaces, or houses of worship. There have been more than 160 mass shootings in the United States so far this year, with five occurring right here in Pennsylvania. Continued inaction on commonsense gun violence prevention is costing lives every day.

That is why I wrote Senate Bills 137 and 138. These bills require the safe storage of firearms when not in use by the owner. Taking such precautions will drastically decrease the likelihood of an accidental firing or firing by an authorized user. I have also joined my senate colleagues in supporting legislation that strengthens background checks. These simple measures respect the individual rights of responsible firearm owners, while also making our communities safer.



Sen. Santarsiero with Rep. Perry Warren (D-31) and Council Rock North students at a press conference announcing SB 137 and SB 138.

# Promoting Renewable Energy to Fight Climate Change

**C**limate change is the great challenge facing our generation. To help address this issue, I co-sponsored and wrote a bill, SB 600, with Senators Art Haywood (D-4) and Tom Killion (R-9), which aims to:

- Expand renewable energy usage in Pennsylvania to 30% by 2030, with 10% being from solar energy;
- Direct the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to study the benefits of a renewable energy storage program;
- Provide for several protections that control costs for consumers.

SB 600 will diversify our energy

portfolio, create thousands of family-sustaining jobs, and

contribute to a greener, healthier environment.



*Senator Santarsiero with fellow legislators, residents, business owners, and renewable energy advocates in the Capital rotunda introducing SB 600.*

# Modernizing Pennsylvania's Equal Pay Law

**O**n the eve of Equal Pay Day, a date that symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year, I joined Senator

Maria Collett (D-12) in calling for legislation that will ensure workers are compensated fairly for their work. Women in Pennsylvania currently earn 79 cents for every dollar paid to

men, amounting to a gap of over \$10,000 a year. It's long overdue that we guarantee all workers are paid fairly and fully for the work they do.

Our legislation would update Pennsylvania's antiquated Equal Pay Law by:

- Broadening the scope of current laws to include more employees and fringe benefits;
- Protecting employees from retaliation when inquiring about wage information;
- Providing workers the ability to collect unpaid wages when an employer is found to have violated the law.



*Senator Santarsiero meeting with members of the Bucks County Women's Advocacy Coalition.*

# Steve in the Community



*It was a great day at the New Hope Celebrates Pride Parade.*



*I was honored to march in the Falls Memorial Day Parade, along with Falls Supervisor Robert Harvie.*

*I had the opportunity to tour the Central Bucks Emergency Medical Services facility in Doylestown and discuss the day-to-day operations and needs of the staff with Chief Chuck Pressler.*



*The doctors, nurses, support staff, and administrators of Grand View Health in Sellersville provide critically important medical services to the residents of Bucks and Montgomery Counties. I fully support their plan to build a state-of-the-art cancer center so that patients can access these life-saving treatment close to home.*



*Joining Representative Wendy Ullman (D-143), Doylestown Mayor Ron Strouse, Chalfont Mayor Brian Wallace, Doylestown Borough Council President Jack O'Brien, Central Bucks Regional Police Department Chief Karl Knott, Heritage Conservancy COO Linda Cacossa, and acting PennDOT Maintenance Manager for Bucks County Kevin Herdin, I had the pleasure of announcing the award of a \$1.5 million grant for the new Doylestown municipal complex.*



**State Senator**  
**Steve Santarsiero**

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## Issue Spotlight: Endometriosis Awareness



It was my honor to welcome two constituents from Chalfont, Rachel and Ryan Leach, to the capitol as the senate passed a resolution recognizing March as Endometriosis Aware Month in Pennsylvania. Rachel is one of 176 million women worldwide living with this disease and she is also the founder of the Eastern Pennsylvania Endometriosis Support Network. Since passing this resolution in March, so many other women have reached out to me with their own personal stories about living with endometriosis, or other serious conditions, and the struggle they faced in receiving an accurate diagnosis, some going undiagnosed and untreated for years. Their pain was prolonged unnecessarily as they searched for answers. When it comes to such serious healthcare issues, women's experiences must be trusted, and their voices must be heard.