



# SENATOR STEVE SANTARSIERO

*Proudly Serving the 10th Senatorial District*

Summer 2021



## Working for Our Community



### NEWS INSIDE

- \$5 Million in Redevelopment Grants Awarded • Voting and Election Reform
- NorthPoint Project Moves Ahead, Bringing Jobs to Falls Township
- Protecting Clean Drinking Water and the Environment
- Steve in the Community • Community Conversations



## State Senator **STEVE SANTARSIERO**

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[SenatorSteveSantarsiero.com](http://SenatorSteveSantarsiero.com)*



### *Dear Neighbor,*

*It's been quite a year. While the pandemic is not yet completely behind us, the wide distribution of the three COVID-19 vaccines has brought us closer to the day when it will be. If you have not yet been vaccinated, please go to one of the many walk-in locations where you*

*can get one of the vaccines. The sooner everyone is vaccinated, the sooner we will arrive at so-called herd immunity and the sooner we can get back to normal.*

*In the last several months, my office has continued to help constituents resolve unemployment compensation issues, helped hundreds of you pre-register for vaccine appointments, and continued to host popular events like our semi-annual shredding service and food drive and our virtual town hall. I look forward to continuing to serve you and encourage you to reach out to my office if you need assistance on any issue.*

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

### **FRONT COVER**

**(Top Right: Main Photo)** Senator Santarsiero helps a constituent pre-register for a COVID-19 vaccine over the phone.

**(Top Left)** Senator Santarsiero joined the Friends of Lake Afton for their spring cleanup event, weeding and planting in the garden along the lake in Yardley Borough.

**(Bottom Left)** During Senator Santarsiero's April shredding event and food drive in Buckingham over 3,500 lbs of food was collected for Bucks County Opportunity Council.

**(Bottom Middle)** Senator Santarsiero (second from left) welcomes BC Discoveries Dance & Theater Arts Company to its new location in Newtown.

**(Bottom Right)** Senator Santarsiero congratulates members of Troop 10 on earning the rank of Eagle Scout.



# Protecting Clean Drinking Water and the Environment

**P**ennsylvania is one of only three states with an Environmental Rights Amendment, which guarantees Pennsylvanians a right to clean air, pure water and the preservation of our natural resources. I will continue to stand up to protect this constitutional right for all Pennsylvanians.

Toward that end, when the Republicans in the State Senate filed a federal lawsuit earlier this year seeking to overturn the decade-long ban on fracking

in the Delaware River Basin, I persuaded 15 of my Democratic colleagues in the Senate to join me in intervening in that case to oppose the overturning of the ban. In March, the federal judge granted our motion and we are now moving to dismiss the case. Bucks and Montgomery Counties have since joined us in this legal battle. Together we will continue to fight to protect the drinking water of over 5 million Pennsylvanians.

## Bringing Jobs to Bucks County

# NorthPoint Project Moves Ahead in Falls Township

**T**hese last few months have seen progress toward the creation of over 5,000 construction jobs, and over 8,000 permanent jobs coming to our area at the former U.S. Steel site in Falls. In March, the Falls Township Board of Supervisors unanimously approved NorthPoint Development's plan to build a 1 million-square-foot warehouse, which will kick off the massive development project.

Last November, working with State Representative John Galloway, I was able to get a provision added to the state's fiscal code that revived the KOIZ (tax abatement zone) for the site to make the project

possible, because this project will breathe new life into our local economy and help thousands of residents secure good jobs with good wages and benefits. I thank Bucks

County, the Pennsbury School Board and Falls Township for agreeing to the tax abatement. I look forward to seeing construction kick off in the near future.







# Steve in the Community



Senator Santarsiero presenting Penridge Regional Police Chief Rodney Blake with a citation marking his retirement after 33 years of service to the community.



Senator Santarsiero speaks from the floor of the Senate during an Appropriations Committee Budget Hearing.



Senator Santarsiero (center) breaks ground with Secretary of DCNR Cindy Adams Dunn and others on \$8.7 M restoration effort at Washington Crossing Historic Park.



Senator Santarsiero (second from right) at the ribbon cutting for two new greenhouses at Snipes Farm and Education Center in Falls Township.



Senator Santarsiero hosts leadership of House and Senate Appropriations Committees for tour of the Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center in Buckingham, PA.



Senator Santarsiero (front row, third from right) attends the Doylestown Hospital Clark Center for Critical Care ribbon cutting.

# \$5 Million in Redevelopment Grants Awarded

**J**ust before the new year, we received the good news that \$5 million in Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) funds were awarded across our district.

RACP is a Commonwealth grant program administered by the Office of the Budget for the acquisition and construction of regional economic, cultural, civic, recreational, and historical improvement projects. As a member of the State Senate, I am fortunate to have the ability to support projects that I believe will advance these policy goals.

I asked for and was able to

secure grants for the following projects because they will drive economic development, support the arts and make regional improvements that are especially needed given the challenges of the pandemic:

- **New Hope Borough:**  
*\$1,750,000 for the construction of a new five-level parking garage;*
- **Doylestown Hospital:**  
*\$1,000,000 for a new Women's Diagnostic Center;*
- **Bucks County Redevelopment Authority:**  
*\$1,000,000 for Morrisville Borough's redevelopment of Manor Park Landfill*

- **Oscar Hammerstein Museum & Theatre Education Center:**  
*\$500,000 for the development of a public museum and education center on the preserved Highland Farm site in Doylestown;*

- **Morrisville Borough:**  
*\$500,000 for improvements to Patriots Park at Historic Summerseat;*

- **Bucks County Children's Museum:**  
*\$250,000 for construction of a new facility.*

I look forward to seeing these projects get underway.

## Voting and Election Reform

**W**ith the 2020 elections behind us, we must continue the work of making it easier for people to vote. Our democracy gets stronger when more people participate in the process.

In January, I was selected to serve on the Special Committee for Election Reform & Integrity. Since then, the committee has held three hearings on last year's elections and on voting issues generally. Over the course of those hearings, we have heard testimony from Republican and Democratic elections officials in Colorado, Utah and Florida as well as in a number of small and large counties here in Pennsylvania. Regardless of party, all the witnesses agreed that:

- (1) there was no widespread fraud in last year's presidential election;

- (2) the process was free and fair and the results were accurate;
- (3) mail-in voting is a good thing;
- (4) giving counties more time to pre-canvass mail-in ballots is important to enable them to get results on election night as opposed to several days later;
- (5) increasing the use of ballot drop boxes is a good thing because it makes it easier to vote;
- (6) early voting sites are also a good thing and work well.

As a result of this testimony, in April, I introduced two pieces of legislation that will improve our election process. The first, the Safe Drop Act, would require all counties to provide one ballot

drop box for every 20,000 residents. This requirement will make it easier for people to drop off their mail-in ballots without fear that the Board of Elections will not receive them in time to be counted.

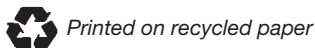
The second bill would give counties at least 21 days prior to Election Day to pre-canvass mail-in ballots – that's the process by which counties scan, but do not tabulate, ballots so that they are in a position to count them quickly after the polls close on election night. Last November it took Pennsylvania five days after the election to determine the outcome of the presidential contest. That delay could have been avoided, if counties had been given the power to pre-canvass.



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

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# COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

## *with Senator Steve Santarsiero*

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EXPERIENCE YARDLEY

NEW HOPE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PERKASIE TOWNE IMPROVEMENT  
ASSOCIATION

BUCKS COUNTY WINE TRAIL

PEDDLER'S VILLAGE

BUCKS COUNTY ALE TRAIL

OPERATION DOYLESTOWN

NEWTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

MERCER MUSEUM  
AND FONTHILL CASTLE

PENNSBURY MANOR

AND MORE!

