

# STURLA

## Report

From State Representative

**MIKE STURLA**

96th Legislative District

February 2020

WWW.PAHOUSE.COM/STURLA



## SHREDDING EVENT ON APRIL 18 AT STURLA'S OFFICE

Rep. Sturla will be hosting a shredding event outside his Lancaster office (150 E. King St.) on Saturday, April 18 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. **Only two banker's boxes are allowed per person.**

**To register, please email [RepMikeSturla@pahouse.net](mailto:RepMikeSturla@pahouse.net) or call 717-295-3157.**

*Any paper can be shredded, and staples or paper clips do not need to be removed.  
Hard drives, tapes, solid-state drives, and other electronic media also can  
be shredded, but they must be removed from devices.*



Identity theft has affected one in five people. To counter "dumpster diving" by thieves, experts advise shredding all sensitive documents, including tax returns (after three years), bank statements, credit card bills, receipts, utility bills, ATM receipts, and pre-approved credit offers. Consumers should also use the free annual service at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) to check for fraudulent activity.

# ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR A \$650 CHECK?

The annual Pa. Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is available to offer “rebates” for rent you paid or “refunds” for your real estate taxes the prior year. If you are permanently disabled, a widow or widower over 50, or over the age of 65 on a fixed income, there is a good chance you could qualify for that rebate/refund.

Call the district office at 717-295-3157 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. to see if you are eligible. If you meet the requirements, we can help you prepare your application for your rebate or refund. No appointment is necessary to stop by, and application help is available until 4:30 p.m.



## WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING\*

Proof of income for 2019:

- The Social Security Administration annual statement (Form 1099).
- Any 1099-R you receive from any pension fund.
- Any other Form 1099 you receive.
- Any/all W-2 you receive from any/all employers.
- Your tax returns (if you paid taxes).

If you have a landlord, a “rent certificate” form, filled in and signed by your landlord. We have blank forms.

If you own the property you live in, proof that your 2019 real estate taxes were paid:

- Your annual statement from your mortgage company (Form 1098), or
- Copies of your tax bills indicating they are “PAID.”

A proof of ID (driver’s license, state ID, passport) will be needed if this is your first application for this program.

Proof of disability if not receiving SSI or Social Security disability benefits.

If you are married:

- Proof of income and Social Security numbers for both husband and wife.
- Both need to sign the application.

\*NOTE: The items listed above are usually all we need to help you. There are times, however, when the Department of Revenue may need additional information.



## 2020 WATER WEEK

This year’s Lancaster Water Week is currently scheduled from Friday, June 5 to Saturday, June 13. Rep. Sturla will be co-sponsoring his annual Conestoga River Clean Up on June 13. Pictured on the left, Sturla is with a volunteer at last year’s clean up.

**To volunteer, please email  
[RepMikeSturla@pahouse.net](mailto:RepMikeSturla@pahouse.net)**



# BACK TO SCHOOL GIVEAWAY ON AUG. 16

Rep. Mike Sturla's 9th Annual Back to School Giveaway will be held on Sunday, August 16 at 12 p.m. at Clipper Magazine Stadium (650 N. Prince St.). It will be open to students who live in the School District of Lancaster area. Parents and guardians can register their children in kindergarten through 8th grade to receive a free backpack, school uniform, shoes and book.

Giveaway time slots will run from 12 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and the festivities will continue until 4 p.m. All attendees will receive a meal voucher and tickets to attend a future Barnstormers game!

Children will also have the opportunity to receive a free haircut, enjoy music, food, games and community activities. Rep. Sturla's staff and local and state service providers will be at the event to answer questions and help families sign up for services.

*Are you, your business or organization interested in volunteering or contributing to the event? Contact Francis Miliano in Rep. Sturla's Lancaster office at 717-295-3157 or [fmiliano@pahouse.net](mailto:fmiliano@pahouse.net).*

**Visit [www.pahouse.com/Sturla](http://www.pahouse.com/Sturla) to register your child for the event! You will need to register each child individually.**



Scan here to register online today



## REDUCED VEHICLE REGISTRATION FOR SENIORS

Pennsylvanians who qualify for retired status registration pay a \$10 per year processing fee instead of the full registration renewal fee. Eligible applicants, regardless of age, must be retired and receiving Social Security, SSI payments, retirement benefits or other pensions and annuities. The total income from all sources named above must not exceed \$19,200.

### REGISTRATION CHECKLIST

- ✓ Vehicle Registration Card and/or Renewal Form
- ✓ Proof of Insurance
- ✓ Proof of Income
- ✓ Government Issued ID (Driver's License)
- ✓ Current Vehicle Mileage
- ✓ Check, Money Order and/or Credit Card to Make \$10 Payment

### WHAT EVENT TOPIC DO YOU WANT?

What topic(s) would you like Rep. Sturla to host a Lancaster event on:

- The Real ID Act for Pennsylvania residents
- Veteran resources and benefits
- Home energy efficiency
- Consumer protection and avoiding scams
- Clean Slate Law
- Other (suggest a topic not listed)

### ¿QUE TEMA DE EVENTO QUIERES?

Que tema(s) le gustaría Rep. Sturla para organizar un evento de Lancaster:

- El acto de Real ID para residentes de Pensilvania
- Recursos y beneficios para Veteranos
- Eficiencia energética del hogar
- Protección al consumidor y evitar estafas
- Ley de "Clean Slate"
- Otro (sugerir un tema que no está en la lista)

**Submit your answers by emailing [RepMikeSturla@pahouse.net](mailto:RepMikeSturla@pahouse.net) or calling the Lancaster office at 717-295-3157.**

**Envíe su respuesta por correo electrónico o llamando a la oficina de Lancaster al 717-295-3157.**

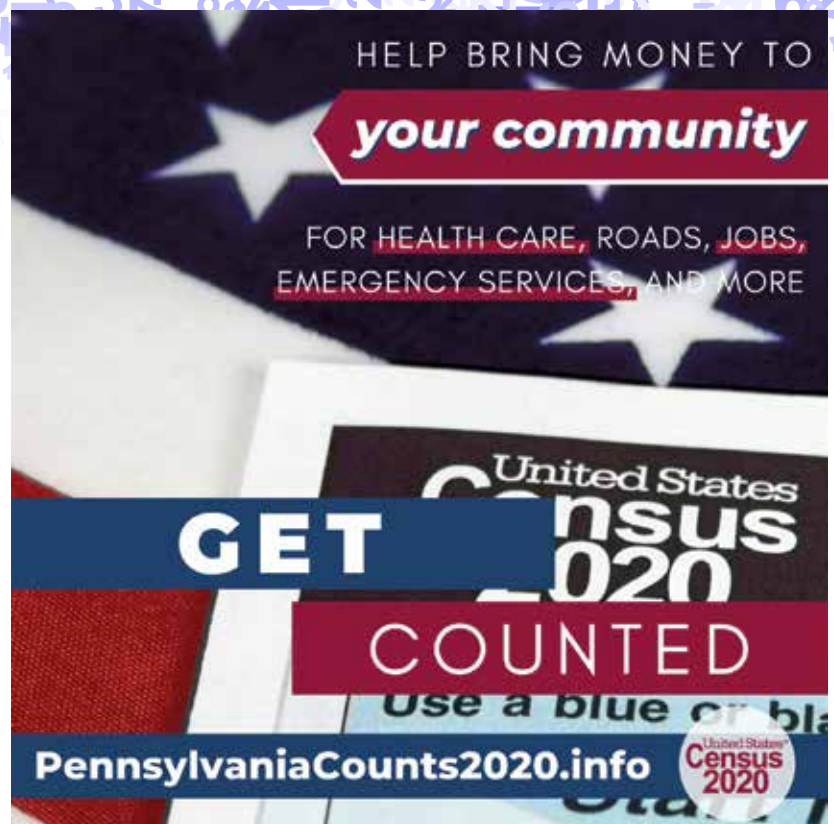
# COMPLETE THE U.S. CENSUS

The Census is a count of all U.S. residents that is required every 10 years by the U.S. Constitution to determine congressional districts, create essential policies, and allocate resources. This population data is used to determine how \$675 billion in federal funding is spent via important programs in various locations.

In March, households will start receiving an invitation to respond to the census by mail, by phone or online. The census is quick, and your responses are confidential. Visit [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov) to learn more.

## WANT A JOB WITH THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU?

To secure the most accurate count, the U.S. Census Bureau is hiring a lot of temporary workers across the entire country. For more information or to apply, go to [2020census.gov/jobs](http://2020census.gov/jobs).



# FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HIGHER ED

The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) has two important programs to help make higher education more affordable for Pennsylvanians.

The **PA State Grant Program** provides funding for students at the undergraduate level. To be considered, you must fill out the FAFSA and complete the PA State Grant Form. Both forms are now available and must be completed by May 1. The deadline is August 1 if you plan to enroll in a community college; a designated Pennsylvania open-admission institution; a business, trade, or technical school; a hospital school of nursing; or a 2-year program that is not transferable to another institution. Summer-term applicants have until August 15 to apply.

The **PA Forward Student Loan Program** offers private student loan options for undergraduate students, graduate students, parents, and those looking to refinance existing student loans. Benefits include interest rates as low as 3.72% APR, no application or origination fees, and multiple repayment options.

For more information about both programs, go to [www.pheaa.org](http://www.pheaa.org) or call the PA State Grant Program at 1-800-692-7392 and PA Forward Student Loan Program at 1-844-723-6793.





# STURLA LEADS POLICY COMMITTEE TO EXPLORE CRITICAL ISSUES

As House Democratic Policy Committee Chair, Rep. Sturla held 76 public hearings in 2019 throughout the state on a variety of important issues, such as wage growth, workforce development, accessible health care, college affordability,

gun violence, criminal justice reform, and the environment. The committee will continue to hold hearings in 2020. To read hearing testimonies or watch videos, visit [www.pahouse.com/PolicyCommittee](http://www.pahouse.com/PolicyCommittee).



FOLLOW THE POLICY COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL MEDIA



## DOES THE PA TREASURY HAVE YOUR UNCLAIMED PROPERTY?



The PA Treasury currently has \$3.5 billion in unclaimed property and receives hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Nearly one in 10 residents has unclaimed property in Pennsylvania. This property includes any financial asset that may have inadvertently been left with a bank, insurance company, business or organization. Those entities are required to transfer such property to the Pennsylvania Treasurer's Office, where it will stay until the owner claims it.

To find out if the state is holding on to your unclaimed property, contact Rep. Sturla's office at 717-295-3157. You can also call 1-800-222-2046 or visit [patreasury.gov/unclaimed-property](http://patreasury.gov/unclaimed-property) to search the database. There is no charge to reclaim your property. Please ignore any solicitation from companies or individuals that attempt to charge you a fee to retrieve your property from Treasury.

## HERE TO SERVE YOU

Rep. Sturla's district office staff is happy to help you navigate state government programs and services. Call the 150 E. King St. office at 717-295-3157 for free assistance.

### **Ayuda disponible en español**

Tengo la fortuna de tener personal bilingüe listo para ayudarle con cualquier problema relacionado con el estado. Puede llamar a la oficina al (717) 295-3157 o pasar por la oficina localizada en 150 E. King St., Lancaster.

## MY OFFICE CAN HELP YOU WITH:

- Property Tax/Rent Rebate problems or questions
- PACE prescription-drug cards for senior citizens
- Car registrations, special tags, handicap placards, titles and driver's license applications
- Information on financial assistance for higher education
- Voter registration and absentee ballot applications
- Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
- Requests for literature – bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information
- Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding accomplishments and family milestones
- Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
- Liquor Control Board concerns or questions
- Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups



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