



# Frank Burns

State Representative

72nd Legislative District

535 Fairfield Ave.  
Johnstown, PA 15906  
(814) 536-8400

119 S. Center St.  
Ebensburg, PA 15931  
(814) 472-8021

112-A Munster Road  
Portage, PA 15946  
(814) 736-7339

405 Park Ave.  
Patton, PA 16668  
(814) 674-5675

Senior Newsletter 2018

## BURNS LEADS CAMBRIA SENIORS IN FIGHT TO RESTORE POPULAR BUS SERVICE DESTINATIONS



Rep. Burns took action when seniors started complaining that the Cambria County Transit Authority had cut

Shared Ride Program bus transportation to several of their favorite destinations back on July 1.

*"By eliminating travel to and from several very popular locations that seniors in our region have long enjoyed visiting - such as the Flight 93 National Memorial - CamTran is hampering the quality of life for seniors in Cambria County." - Rep. Burns*

Rep. Burns researched the matter, finding out from PennDOT that although the state provides operational funding, local transportation agencies have sole discretion when it comes to setting routes, schedules and destinations.

In short order, Rep. Burns fired off letters to CamTran and the Cambria County commissioners, urging immediate reversal of this controversial decision.

Rep. Burns also wrote an open letter to his constituents, informing them neither his office nor PennDOT were involved in this decision.

All three letters, along with updates on all of his legislative activities, are available on Rep. Burns' state website at [www.pahouse.com/Burns](http://www.pahouse.com/Burns).

On this and all other matters impacting them, Rep. Burns will continue to side with and be a voice for seniors.



REPRESENTATIVE BURNS  
WILL BE HOLDING HIS 2018

# SENIOR FAIR

Friday, Sept. 14 • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Young Peoples Community Center  
in Ebsenburg

He looks forward to greeting  
you there, just like these folks  
who attended his last Senior Fair.

See the back page of this newsletter  
for more information!



## Property Tax/Rent Rebate deadline extended to Dec. 31

Good news! The deadline to apply for a rebate on property taxes or rent paid in 2017 under the state's Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program has been extended to Dec. 31, 2018.

The 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. For purposes of calculating income, half of Social Security income is excluded. Spouses, personal representatives or estates may also file rebate claims on behalf of claimants who lived at least one day in 2017 and meet all other eligibility criteria.

The maximum standard rebate is \$650, although supplemental rebates for certain qualifying homeowners can boost rebates to \$975.

You can pick up an application at my office. It costs nothing to apply, and my staff can help you determine if you're eligible and fill out the paperwork. Please bring proof of local (county, borough and school) property taxes and proof of income, such as a 1099 form.

If you've already applied for a rebate, my staff can assist you in checking the status of your rebate. Just give my office a call at 814-472-8021.

If you haven't already done so, I encourage you to check it out and see if you're eligible!

## Burns' office has **SAVED** taxpayers over **\$160,000**

### REFUSES STATE CAR AND CELL PHONE

Rep. Burns spends less than allotted, saving taxpayers more than \$160,000 since taking office – including thousands this session – via unexpended House funds for office rent, mileage, utilities, telephones, furniture leases and office equipment.

Rep. Burns even pays out of his own pocket to keep an office in Patton.

Coupled with over \$100,000 in savings from Ebsenburg office volunteer Charlie Vizzini, Burns has saved taxpayers approximately \$160,000 – and counting!

\$160,000



## Grandparents raising grandchildren

Kinship caregivers (grandparents and other relatives, 55 or older who are primary caregivers raising children younger than 18) face a variety of emotional, legal and financial challenges.

The National Family Caregiver Support Program helps to relieve the caregiver burden by offering qualified primary caregivers up to \$200 per month in reimbursements for approved out-of-pocket expenses.

**Under special circumstances**, some kinship caregivers can receive up to \$500 per month in approved reimbursements. If qualified, the program also provides up to \$2,000 in pre-approved reimbursements to modify a home or purchase assistive devices or technologies.

Contact your local Area Agency on Aging for additional information on eligibility and to apply for the program. You may also visit the Aging Department website at [www.aging.pa.gov](http://www.aging.pa.gov) for more information about programs to help kinship caregivers.

## PACE and PACENET program guidelines

Pennsylvania's prescription assistance programs for older adults, PACE and PACENET, offer low-cost prescription medication to qualified residents, 65 or older. For more information, call 1-800-225-7223.

### ELIGIBILITY:

Social Security Medicare Part B premiums are now excluded from income. This has the same effect as raising the income limits by that amount.

PACE and PACENET eligibility is determined by your previous calendar year's income.

### PACE

- You must be 65 or older.
- You must be a Pennsylvania resident for at least 90 days prior to the date of application.
- You cannot be enrolled in the Department of Human Services' Medicaid prescription benefit.

Medicaid prescription benefit.

- For a single person, total income must be \$14,500 or less.
- For a married couple, combined total income must be \$17,700 or less.

### PACENET

- You must be 65 or older.
- You must be a Pennsylvania resident for at least 90 days prior to the date of application.
- You cannot be enrolled in the Department of Human Services' Medicaid prescription benefit.
- PACENET income limits are slightly higher than those for PACE.
- For a single person, total income can be between \$14,500 and \$23,500.
- For a married couple, combined total income can be between \$17,700 and \$31,500.

## 72nd District Senior Center visits



Cresson Senior Center



Ebensburg Senior Center



Patton Senior Center



Portage Senior Center



Rep. Burns participated in the Portage Senior Center program when Victor Miller was honored as Volunteer of the Year by the state Department of Aging.

STATE REP. FRANK BURNS' 2018

# SENIOR FAIR



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**FRANK  
BURNS**



## SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

### 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Young Peoples Community Center**  
300 Prave St. • Ebensburg, PA 15931

**Food • Games • Prizes • 30+ vendors**

**DISTRICT OFFICES:**

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**WEBSITE:**

[www.pahouse.com/Burns](http://www.pahouse.com/Burns)



/RepFrankBurns



@RepFrankBurns

**Information on senior services  
and state programs!**

PACE/PACENET  
Property Tax/Rent Rebates

Rep. Burns and his staff once again will host this popular event, providing a wealth of information to, for and about seniors. They'll answer questions and provide direction on a host of state government-related programs and services.



**For more information, call Rep Burns' office at (814) 472-8021.**

