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# State Senator LINDSEY M. WILLIAMS Your District 38 Update



#### **Upcoming Events**

# SCHEDULE YOUR DRIVE-UP PROPERTY TAX AND RENT REBATE APPOINTMENT



Presented by SENATOR LINDSEY M. WILLIAMS

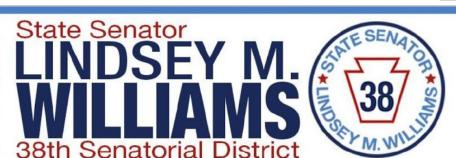
June 2 & 3 2021
Parking Lot at our Natrona Heights Office
Call for your 30 minute appointment:
724-224-2131

1826 Union Avenue Natrona Heights, PA 15065 724-224-2131

SenatorLindseyWilliams.com

#### "Drive-up" Property Tax or Rent Rebate Event!

The deadline for filing your <u>2020 Pennsylvania Property Tax or Rent Rebate</u> is June 30, 2021. If you would like help filing your application, we are holding a "drive-up" Property Tax or Rent Rebate event on **June 2nd or 3rd at our Natrona Heights district office**. Park at the registration tent in front of the office at 1826 Union Avenue, Natrona Heights, PA, 15065 and let us do the rest! Call 724-224-2131 to schedule your 30 minute appointment and review the paperwork you need to bring.



## Free Shredding Event

Saturday, July 24 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Richland Township Municipal Building 4019 Dickey Road** Gibsonia, Pennsylvania 15044

> **Shredding Limit:** 2 boxes per car Paper only!

5000 McKnight Road, Suite 405 Pittsburgh, PA 15237 412-364-0469

1826 Union Avenue Natrona Heights, PA 15065 724-224-2131

SenatorLindseyWilliams@pasenate.com www.SenatorLindseyWilliams.com

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#### Free Shredding Event

Protect your private information by shredding paper documents at our free event on Saturday, July 24, 2021 at the Richland Township Municipal Building from 10-1 p.m. Open to all!

#### **Legislative Update**



Last week, my fellow Senate Democrats and I were proud to introduce our \$6.15 billion "New Deal for Pennsylvania" investment plan for our state's share of the federal American Rescue Plan. This plan invests in the lives of all Pennsylvanians by focusing on our communities, our working families, and our small businesses.

Some of the investments proposed in this plan include:

- A \$325 million investment in stormwater, water and sewage projects to not only ensure that all residents have access to safe, clean drinking water, but to protect the lives and property of our residents from the increasing dangers of floods;
- A \$400 million investment in our roads, bridges and public transportation;
- Direct financial assistance to small businesses impacted by mitigation orders including local non-profits, barbers, salons, museums, caterers and event venues, and gyms;
- \$300 million to childcare providers;
- Investments in our intermediate units, after school, summer, and workforce development programs;
- Funding for our libraries and parks; and
- \$50 million for our EMS and volunteer fire companies, the front-line heroes of the pandemic.

The Senate Democrats' New Deal for PA is an investment in the life of every single Pennsylvanian. We owe it to our communities, to our working families, and to our small businesses to take the funding from the American Rescue Plan and use it in a way that both reflects our values and gets the most bang for our buck. There are so many times all of us here have been frustrated because the solution to a problem is obvious; there just isn't enough money to do it. We have an enormous responsibility to seize this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to fix these very real problems and invest in the people of Pennsylvania.



I had the pleasure of advocating for our EMS agencies and our EMTs along with Representative Mercuri and members of the McCandless Franklin Park Ambulance Authority Board on Wednesday. Ambulance service to our communities is critical and has been plagued by unstable funding sources and shrinking insurance reimbursements for a long time. Our ambulance service should not have to rely on volatile subscription programs and grants to ensure top notch care and quick responses when we call 9-1-1 to help our family, friends, and neighbors. The COVID-19 pandemic not only strained already tight budgets with additional PPE it strained our brave EMTs who put themselves in harm's way while risking taking COVID home to their loved ones.

These men and women have been heroes for years. It's great to clap for our healthcare heroes and put up signs, but we need to do more. We need to show our appreciation by supporting them financially so that they aren't fundraising to buy defibrillators and stretchers. We need these professionals focused on their jobs—savings lives and serving our communities. I'm fighting in Harrisburg to give them stable, reliable funding so they can do just that.

#### **COVID-19 Update**



#### Occupancy Limits Increase May 17, 2021

Starting May 17, Governor Wolf and the Department of Health increased maximum occupancy limits for indoor events and gatherings to 50% and for outdoor events and gatherings to 75%. This update will not prevent municipalities, school districts, restaurants and venues from continuing and implementing stricter mitigation efforts. Based on current CDC guidance, social distancing is still strongly recommended for all municipalities, school districts, restaurants, and venues for unvaccinated individuals.

### Pennsylvania Mask Order Reflects New CDC Guidance for Fully Vaccinated People:

Pennsylvania immediately aligned its mask order for fully vaccinated people last Wednesday with new <u>CDC guidance</u>. According to the CDC, fully vaccinated individuals can resume activities that they did prior to the pandemic without wearing a mask or physically distancing, except where required by law, rule, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance. You're considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after receiving your 2nd shot of your Moderna or Pfiser vaccine or 2 weeks after receiving your 1-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

The PA Department of Health's <u>Amended Universal Masking Order</u> still requires fully vaccinated people to wear masks in healthcare settings. Also, if you are fully vaccinated, please be considerate to businesses or workplaces that continue to require masks.

The CDC noted that under the new guidance, **everyone** is still required to wear a mask when:

- on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation; and
- traveling into, within, or out of the United States, and in U.S. transportation hubs, such as airports and stations.

The PA Department of Health Order still mandates universal masking for unvaccinated people until 70% of the state is vaccinated with at least one dose. If you haven't gotten your vaccine yet, read the section below to find a provider near you.



Special After School/After Work COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic - Children 12 and Up

#### Vaccine Clinic for children 12 years and older:

- When: 3-6 p.m. Thursday, May 20
- Where: UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, One Children's Hospital Drive, 4401 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15224 – at the Rangos Research Center's auditorium
- Free Parking in the North Garage
- What: Pfizer vaccine for children ages 12 and older
- How: Pediatric nurses, pharmacists and Child Life specialists will lead the Clinic to ensure a great vaccine experience for all our children
- At all times: A parent or guardian of children under age 18 must be present at the UPMC clinic to confirm consent at the time of the administration of the vaccine.

Parents/guardians may call 844-876-2822 – 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week – to make an appointment for children ages 12 to 17 at a UPMC COVID-19 vaccination location.

#### **Vaccine Resource Information**

COVID vaccines are now readily available in our area for anyone 12 years or older. There is no need to wait! If you're looking to help schedule a friend or family member who doesn't have internet access, here are some resources.

You may also call our office for help scheduling your vaccine appointment.

#### **Call PA Link for Vaccine Appointment Assistance by Phone:**

- 1-800-753-8827: PA Link provides assistance to seniors and the disabled and is taking calls from those without access to a computer.
- Operators will assess the caller's situation, offer guidance and transfer to a scheduling team.
- For callers with transportation needs, PA Link will also be able to contact partners with their local Area Agency on Aging to assist with coordinating rides.

#### Schedule an Appointment with the Allegheny County Health Department:

- Ross, Castle Shannon, or Hill District clinics. Vaccinations are by appointment only and open to all Pennsylvania adults.
- Appointments can be scheduled on the county's <a href="http://vax4.alleghenycounty.us">http://vax4.alleghenycounty.us</a> and will be announced through Allegheny Alerts.
- Residents without Internet access, or having difficulty navigating the online registration system, may call 2-1-1 daily between 9 AM and Noon for scheduling assistance.
- The closest site is Ross Township Community Vaccine ACHD Point of Distribution (POD) location: Ross Township Community Center, 1000 Ross Municipal Rd, Pittsburgh, PA <u>15237</u>.

#### Go to (20+) Getting Pittsburgh Vaccinated - COVID-19 Appointment Tip Page | Facebook

 The Facebook Group Getting Pittsburgh Vaccinated has compiled information on vaccine scheduling, provider locations, transportation, veteran vaccination, and answers to common vaccination questions.

#### Visit\_<u>Vaccinatepa.org</u>:

- University of Pittsburgh student volunteers created this website to help Pennsylvanians get vaccinated as easily as possible.
- Information on specific locations that have vaccine inventory is available to make scheduling efficient. Visit the website here.

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#### **New UC System Workshops**

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Pennsylvania's new Unemployment Compensation (UC) system launches on June 8, 2021. The new online system looks completely different, has no PIN numbers, displays more claim information, and offers streamlined claim services like document uploads and appeals. To make the transition as smooth as possible, we recommend attending one of Labor and Industry's workshops on the new system.

#### **Upcoming UC System Workshop Dates:**

- · Saturday, May 22, 2:00 PM Spanish
- · Saturday, May 22, 3:30 PM English
- Wednesday, May 26, 2:00 PM English
- Thursday, May 27, 6:00 PM English
- Thursday, May 27, 7:30 PM Spanish

The full workshop schedule and links to attend are at <u>UC Workshops (pa.gov)</u>.

The new UC system requires a Keystone ID, a username and password that replaces the old PIN system. If you already have a Keystone ID, you will use that to log into the system. If you don't have one, you can create one. This ID can also be used to log into other services, such as PA CareerLink and COMPASS. Claimants can find all information related to the new UC system, including videos on creating a Keystone ID at Resources (pa.gov).

As always, please call our office if you have any questions. We are committed to helping our constituents throughout this transition.

#### **Extended Benefit (EB) Unemployment Program Ending**

Due to the drop in the number of Pennsylvanians filing for unemployment, the Extended Benefit (EB) program automatically concluded last week. Just over 7,000 individuals are filing for benefits on the EB program. These individuals are being moved to the PEUC program beginning Sunday, May 16. The PEUC program will be available to eligible individuals until the week ending Sept. 4. The change in program does not cause any changes in the filing process or benefit amount.











## Legal Assistance Program for Tenants & Homeowners

The Legal Assistance Program (LAP) provides a variety of free housing legal services to eligible tenants and homeowners who live in the City of Pittsburgh. Income limits apply (see back of flyer).

#### Legal Services Provided:

#### **For Tenants**

- Mediation Services
- Limited Legal Consultation
- · Full Legal Representation

#### For Homeowners

- Tangled Title
- · Foreclosure Prevention

### Who do I contact for legal assistance?

Please call 412-534-6600 to receive a referral.

For Spanish, Portuguese, or other languages, call: 412-530-5244

Language interpretation services are available for 40+ languages. No one will be denied services based on citizenship status.

#### Our Legal & Community Partners:















#### **Housing Opportunity Fund Open**

The Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh announced that the Housing Opportunity Fund's Legal Assistance Program is officially up and running just in time to meet the legal needs of City residents as the national eviction moratorium is set to expire in June 2021.









#### PA COVID-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program (CHIRP)

Allegheny County has awarded over \$15 million in CHIRP funding to 642 businesses. The grants average \$22,477 per business. To date, 542 payments have been sent with the remaining payments being distributed in the next week to 10 days. Be sure to support our local businesses!

#### **Good News**



#### **New Tarentum Energy Bar**

There's a new small business in the district just in time for summer! Stop by <u>The Buzz</u> at 312 E. 6th Avenue, Tarentum for a cool, refreshing, healthy and energizing beverage. You can use the coupon pictured above for your purchase.

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<u>SenatorLindseyWilliams@pasenate.com</u>. My staff will return your call/email within 24 hours (Monday-Friday).

Senator Lindsey Williams

#### **Ross Office**

5000 McKnight Road Suite 405 Pittsburgh, PA 15237

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Fax: 412-364-0928

#### **Harrison Office**

1826 Union Avenue Natrona Heights, PA 15065 Phone: 724-224-2131

Fax: 724-224-2145

**Harrisburg Office** 

366 Capitol Building Senate Box 203038 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3038

> Phone: 717-787-6538 Fax: 717-787-8625