

## Lebanon Stunned by Tragic Police Shooting, Loss of 40-Year Police Veteran

Today, we learned the shocking details of yesterday's tragic police shooting in the 1100 block of Forest Street in Lebanon that claimed the life of a veteran police officer and seriously injured two others. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families, friends and colleagues of police Lieutenant William Lebo, age 63, who served 40 years with the Lebanon Police Department and was just one month shy of retirement when paid the ultimate sacrifice, and officers Ryan Adams and Derek Underkoffler, both age 32 and seven-year veterans of the Lebanon Police Department. At a news



conference this morning, Lebanon Mayor Sherry Capello said Officer Adams was in serious, but stable condition and Officer Underkoffler remains in critical, but stable condition. Our hearts go out to these officers and their families as they heal and fight to overcome this horrible tragedy. It is truly a sad day, and we pray for all involved.

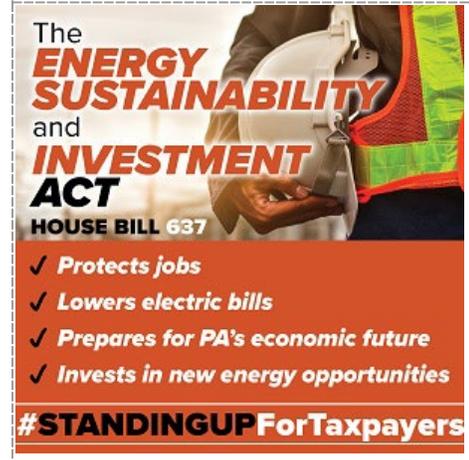
## Palmyra Baseball Team Holds Civics Day Game



Congratulations to the Palmyra High School baseball team on its great Civics Day game. It was a great honor to meet all the players and throw out the first pitch. I am so proud of these young athletes, and their dedicated coaches, parents and school administrators who make it all possible.

## Bill to Protect Energy Jobs Approved by House

Energy jobs are vital to our economy and energy independence is a goal we must continue working toward to free ourselves and other nations from dependence on Russian oil and gas. To advance these objectives, the House this week approved [House Bill 637](#) - the Energy Sustainability and Investment Act, which I co-sponsored. The bill would require the General Assembly's approval before the Commonwealth could enter multi-state compacts, like the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). While all 11 other states enrolled in RGGI are there as a result of a vote by their legislatures, Gov. Tom Wolf is circumventing that process here. Pennsylvania is the third-largest electricity generation producer in the country and the largest exporter of electricity, but RGGI could change that by implementing a tax on energy producers that would raise consumer electric bills by an estimated 30%, according to the Independent Fiscal Office. This would lead to job losses due to plant closures and suspension of new plant construction. House Bill 637 would protect energy jobs, energy production and energy consumers, and it would make a significant investment in economically and environmentally sound alternative carbon reduction measures. The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration.



## Area Student Robotics Team Best in District Competition



The Krypton Cougars robotics team placed first in a recent Mid-Atlantic District FIRST competition. FIRST (Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology), aims to inspire young people to pursue education and career opportunities in STEM-related fields. The Cougars, comprised of high school students from the Palmyra and Hershey areas, competed against students from other teams in eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. That win secured them an invitation to the Mid-Atlantic District championship on April 7-9 at Lehigh University. Best wishes to these bright young competitors, their mentors and coaches!

## House Moves to Divest of any Investments in Russia



The graphic features a blue background with a grid pattern and various icons including a globe, a microphone, and a speech bubble. The text "Frankly SPEAKING" is prominently displayed in yellow and white. Below this, the text "State Representative Francis X. Ryan" is shown in white and yellow, with the website "www.RepFrankRyan.com" at the bottom. A portrait of Francis X. Ryan is on the right side of the graphic.

**Frankly**  
**SPEAKING**

State Representative  
**Francis X. Ryan**  
[www.RepFrankRyan.com](http://www.RepFrankRyan.com)

The House took several steps toward divesting the state of investments in Russia

and Belarus and advancing energy production here. On Monday, the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee approved five bills that I co-sponsored, which would remove roadblocks to energy development, including opening the Delaware River Basin for natural gas development; ending the governor's moratorium on subsurface leases on state land; stopping advocacy organizations from accepting donations from foreign entities to disrupt the Commonwealth's efforts to establish energy independence; and stopping Pennsylvania's entry into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. This legislation, which now goes to the full House for consideration, was the subject of this week's podcast. [Listen here.](#)

## Fairness in Women's Sports Act Moving in the House

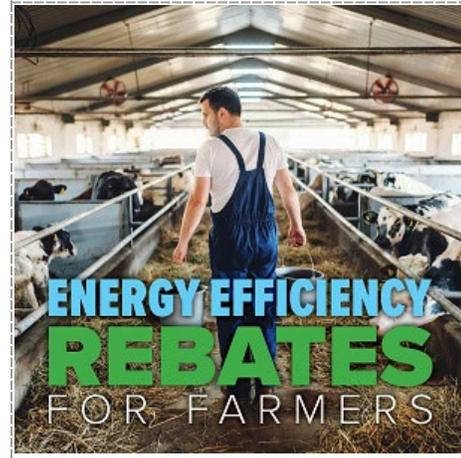
To support women's rights in competitive sports, the House Education Committee this week approved the Fairness in Women's Sports Act. [House Bill 972](#), which I co-sponsored, would protect opportunities for women and girls in athletics by ensuring women are not forced to compete against biological males playing on women's sports teams. The current movement to allow biological males to participate in women's sports threatens the progress made under Title IX and could rob female athletes of scholarships and other opportunities gained by participating and excelling in sports.

Title IX was adopted nearly 50 years ago to ensure equal athletic opportunities for women. Science tells us that men have the ability to develop greater strength, speed and endurance than similarly gifted and trained women. In fact, in 2018, 275 high school boys ran the 400 meter faster than the lifetime best of Olympic Team USA member and world-record-holding sprinter Allyson Felix. Lawmakers also pointed to the recent example of Lia Thomas, a biological male who competed on the University of Pennsylvania's men's swim team with mediocre results and then transitioned to female and smashed records on the women's swim team. House Bill 972 now goes to the full House for consideration.



## Energy Efficiency Rebates Available to PA Farmers

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has created a new agricultural energy efficiency rebate program to help agricultural producers in the Commonwealth reduce energy consumption on their farms through the use of energy efficient technologies. Commercial producers who conduct normal farming operations in Pennsylvania are eligible to apply. Rebates may be used for LED lighting, including fixtures and controls; efficient milk pumping equipment, including pumps, motors and controls such as variable frequency drives; and efficient



ventilation equipment, including fans, motors and controls such as variable frequency drives. The rebates will pay 50% of equipment costs, up to \$2,000 per technology category. Applicants may apply for both lighting and variable frequency drive rebates. Applications are being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis as funding remains available or through June 30. [Click here](#) for additional information.

## COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Available from FEMA

Pennsylvanians who lost loved ones to COVID-19 and incurred funeral expenses as a result may be eligible for assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). FEMA's funeral assistance program will provide financial assistance for funeral expenses incurred after Jan. 20, 2020, for deaths related to COVID-19. To be eligible, the death must have occurred in the United States and the death certificate must attribute the death to COVID-19. Assistance is limited to \$9,000 per funeral and a maximum of \$35,500 per application. The program will provide



reimbursement for expenses incurred for funeral services, including but not limited to transportation to identify the deceased individual, the transfer of

remains, a burial plot or cremation niche, a marker or headstone, clergy or officiant services, the use of funeral home equipment or staff, and cremation or interment costs. To apply, call FEMA's COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Helpline at 1-844-684-6333 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Additional information [is available here](#).

## Trout Season Opens April 2



If you like to fish, tomorrow is your lucky day! Saturday, April 2, is opening day of trout season in Pennsylvania. Many creeks and streams have already been stocked and it's time to purchase your fishing license, permits and gear. For more information, [click here](#).