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Dear Residents of SD-44:

This past week was a chance to reflect back on what I am grateful for this year. While 2020 has been a year unlike any other filled with challenges, uncertainty, and grieving, there are many things that I continue to be thankful for. For one, I am grateful for my entire SD44 team. They always strive to go the extra mile; putting in the heart and hustle to help people, while collaborating with others towards our shared mission of enhancing public service and restoring people's faith in government. I am also grateful for:

Our first responders, healthcare workers, home care workers, delivery workers, teachers, grocery store and pharmacy employees, and anyone working hard to help make the lives of others better.

All of the people working in the various departments of government who have helped my office navigate challenges and expand our knowledge on what improvements and changes are needed to make our state government work for the people, as it was designed to.

All of the interesting, unique, amazing people I've met since elected, who've taught me about things I didn't know about and shared their stories with me. You've made me a better person, you've kept me brave, opened my eyes to so many issues, and educated me through your struggles, successes, and experiences.

Sincerely,

Senator Katie Muth

Pipeline Bill Signed by Governor Wolf

[House Bill 2293](#), introduced by Rep. Quinn (Delco), is regarded as the first of nearly two dozen pipeline safety bills to have won final legislative passage during the past three years. The bill would require a pipeline operator to provide emergency response plans upon request to the state Public Utility Commission, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agenda and affected county emergency management directors.

Because of security concerns regarding pipelines, [HB2293](#) would require that officials who review these plans abide by a state law protecting confidentiality of public utility information. A pipeline operator who doesn't comply with an access request could face enforcement action from the PUC under the bill.

I initially introduced an amendment, which would have required an operator to submit the emergency plans regardless of a request and make an operator liable for costs associated with an incident. The Senate Majority party indicated that they would not run the bill with the amendment ([which Rep. Quinn agreed would have strengthened the bill](#)), so I withdrew my amendment in order to move the bill and finally break through on a topic that has been debated for several years as incidents with spills, methane leaks and fires have occurred with natural gas pipelines being built through populated suburban areas throughout SD44 and the surrounding area.



State House's first pipeline emergency bill signed

Phestival of Tress- Supporting Local Animal Shelter and Rescues

Last week, my team and I spent some time decorating a tree for the [Phestival of Trees](#) drive-thru event benefiting local animal shelters and rescues.

The drive-thru event was held Friday-Saturday at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center and tress were decorated by local schools, businesses, designers, and community members. All proceeds benefited local animal rescues and shelters. I am happy to say that the event was sold out all three days, which will go a long way to help local shelters stock up for the winter and care for so many of our furry friends.



OP-ED: It's not too late to combat climate change

Given RGGI's bipartisan leadership and successful track record, it's disappointing that some legislators are using their position to push to maintain the status quo. Instead of attacking climate solutions, legislators in Harrisburg should be working diligently to promote policies that will reduce Pennsylvania's carbon footprint.

[Read more in the OP-ED](#) that I co-authored with Amanda Lapham of PennEnvironment.



PENNLIVE.COM

It's not too late: RGGI can help PA combat climate change

We must protect our communities from the worst impacts of clim...

Montco Recovery Tuition Assistance Program

Montgomery County Community College recently launched the Recovery Tuition Assistance Program, which offers MCCC tuition waivers for eligible Montco residents who have become unemployed due to COVID-19.

Assistance is available to any Montgomery County residents who suffered full- or part-time employment loss on or after March 6, 2020, the date of Governor Tom Wolf's Emergency Disaster Declaration. Supporting documentation is required.

Information on the program and application can be found at: mc3.edu/montcorecovery

MONTCO RECOVERY TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Helping Montgomery County residents who have become unemployed due to COVID-19.



LEARN MORE ▶



How to Stay Informed

Pennsylvania Department of Health

- The PA DoH [Daily COVID-19 report](#). Updated regularly throughout the day.
- Follow the PA Health Department on [Twitter](#).
- Follow them on [Facebook](#).

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Follow the CDC on [Twitter](#).
- Follow the CDC on [Facebook](#).
- Learn how best to [prevent "community transition"](#) with specific details on what to do before, during, and after outbreaks.

Be sure to check out the complete list of information, data, and resources available to those in:

[Berks County](#)

[Chester County](#)

[Montgomery County](#)



SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS
from

KATIE MUTH
PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATOR

Submit your mobile number to stay up-to-date with the latest events and happenings from Senator Katie Muth sent right to your phone.



DISTRICT OFFICE

338 Main Street
Royersford, PA 19468
Phone: (610) 792-2137
Fax: (610) 948-3037

HARRISBURG OFFICE

185 Main Capitol | Senate Box 203044
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3044
Phone: (717) 787-1398
Phone: (717) 783-4587