

Keystone Connection

Rick Santorum

United States Senator, Pennsylvania

Dear Friends,

It has been an exciting last couple of months. I have had the opportunity to meet with Pennsylvanians across the Commonwealth. It is a great honor to serve you and I hope this newsletter provides you with a glimpse of the last few months and a quick update of how federal issues affect you and your family.

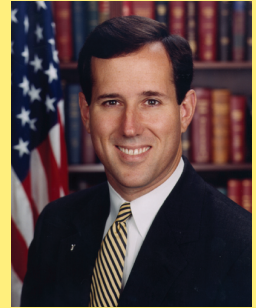
This newsletter is just a sampling of my numerous efforts to help Pennsylvania. As always, please feel free to contact me or visit my website <http://santorum.senate.gov> with your questions and concerns.

In the upcoming months, I will continue to work hard to address issues important to Pennsylvania.

Very truly yours,



Rick Santorum
United States Senate



This past February, I traveled to eleven locations throughout Pennsylvania to have a discussion with Pennsylvanians, from seniors in high school to senior citizens, about their retirement and the need for **Social Security reform**. As a Senator representing the 2nd highest per-capita senior population in the country, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Social Security and Family Policy, and a member of the Special Committee on Aging, I take my responsibility of representing both current and future retirees in Pennsylvania very seriously. Furthermore, as the father of six children, I want to ensure



our kids have the same retirement security that current retirees experience.



I traveled across the Keystone State, stopping at Duquesne University, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, Drexel University, Widener University, National City Bank in Erie, Penn State University, Messiah Village in Mechanicsburg, University of Scranton, Lafayette College, Bucknell University, and Ann's Choice in Warminster, I listened to the comments from hundreds of Pennsylvanians.

As the debate continues, I look forward to playing an integral role in strengthening Social Security and engaging Pennsylvanians at each step of the process. I hope that residents of Pennsylvania will continue to engage this issue until we find a bipartisan solution that allows Social Security to remain a program on which our children and grandchildren can depend.



The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) has been extremely helpful in assisting Pennsylvania's local communities leverage millions of dollars in funding for housing and community development. I have been a longtime supporter of CDBG, one of the most effective federal domestic programs at successfully revitalizing Pennsylvania's neighborhoods. Therefore, I was pleased to have the opportunity to **discuss the CDBG program** with community leaders, elected officials, and residents in the Lehigh Valley.

CDBG provides flexible federal funding to local community recipients who select the most appropriate programs to fight poverty or spur community and economic development in our counties, municipalities, and cities. Programs like CDBG are vital to our state and have positively impacted our communities.

Agriculture is Pennsylvania's largest industry.

In January I participated in the Open Beef Cattle Judging Contest and met with members of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau while attending the 2005 Farm Show at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg. The Farm Show is a great opportunity for Pennsylvanians to experience culture, family, community, agriculture, and good food.



I currently serve on the **Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee**, where I am able to represent Pennsylvania's farming and agriculture community and their interests. During my tenure in the Senate, I have led the fight to create the Farmland Preservation Program, through which Pennsylvania has already received more than \$12 million, allowing for the **protection and preservation** of more than 13,000 acres of farmland.

Shanksville in Somerset County

Did you know?

In April 2005, I introduced a **bipartisan resolution** honoring the passengers and crew whose lives were taken aboard United Airlines Flight 93 on September 11, 2001. This resolution provides for a place in the Capitol Building to be memorialized in the name of the crew and passengers of Flight 93, with a remembrance plaque placed at the location, as an expression of deep gratitude.

America is indebted to the heroic actions of those on Flight 93, who showed great bravery on that horrific day. In addition to saving the lives of thousands, the passengers on Flight 93 ensured the preservation of one of the greatest symbols of America's freedom and democracy.

