

# DAVID M. MALONEY, SR.

Proudly Serving the 130<sup>th</sup> District

 RepMaloney.com

## Remembering Service and Sacrifice in Vietnam

Back in March, it was a sunny but chilly day atop the hill in Reading where the city's Vietnam Memorial sits when I joined with area veterans to remember, solemnly, 50-years since the end of the conflict.

There were smiles of seeing old friends, and sorrow remembering those who did not make it home. This is why I authored and passed a law requiring every state-owned property in Pennsylvania to fly the POW/MIA banner along with the Stars and Stripes and the state flag.

According to [USAFacts.org](https://www.usafacts.org), as recent as 2022, there are roughly 231,500 veterans in Pennsylvania who served during the Vietnam War. Pennsylvania has the third highest number of veterans among the 50 states.



## Property Tax Relief Update

No doubt many residents of the 130<sup>th</sup> Legislative District recall voting to adopt an amendment to Pennsylvania's constitution that allows up to 100% of a home-or farmstead's value to be excluded from real estate taxation.

I was pleased to have authored and shepherded this constitutional amendment through the legislative process, and I have continued to advocate for enabling legislation to implement it for real property tax relief.

During the current legislative session, House Democrats have used parliamentary maneuvers to block numerous amendments that would create an exclusion to reduce real estate taxes by as much as \$1,000 for homeowners and farmstead owners. While not the total property tax elimination I would ultimately like to see, these proposals would be a step in the right direction by providing real relief, and it is disappointing to see all House Democrats vote to prevent them from moving forward despite full Republican support.



## Election Integrity

It is vitally important that our citizens have confidence that all votes counted in elections were fairly cast by individuals in Pennsylvania who are eligible to vote, and I have proposed legislation to do just that.

My legislation is very simple and pragmatic – it will require that when registering to vote a person demonstrate they are a U.S. citizen before their registration is considered complete. To make this process simple for individuals registering to vote, I made certain the legislation details the large number of ways a potential voter may demonstrate citizenship.

To ensure federal law is adhered to – which is that only U.S. citizens may vote in federal, state or local elections – my legislation requires copies of birth certificates for those seeking to register to vote be provided at no cost to potential voters.

The right to vote is a gift preserved for us by sweat and blood of generations before. We must also shoulder that yoke as freedom is not to be taken for granted. It must be guarded.



## SCHOOL DISTRICT FUNDING

The school funding numbers for 2024-25 in Pennsylvania have been released. These are the funding increases for all the school districts in the 130<sup>th</sup> Legislative District are as follows:

**Boyertown Area School District:**  
**\$3,141,178**  
an increase of 13.0%.

**Kutztown Area School District:**  
**\$405,187**  
an increase of 7.2%

**Brandywine Heights Area School District:**  
**\$213,547**  
an increase of 3.4%.

**Oley Valley School District:** **\$228,860**  
an increase of 3.9%.

**Fleetwood Area School District:**  
**\$442,029**  
an increase of 4.8%.

**Upper Perkiomen School District:**  
**\$712,691**  
an increase of 5.5%.



# Community Patriotism



It is important that we remember our heroes on Memorial Day. I enjoy celebrating this day with folks in Fleetwood, Oley and Boyertown.

# First Responders Recognition Day is Sept. 27

My law declaring Sept. 27 as *First Responders Recognition Day in Pennsylvania, Act 87 of 2021*, directs the governor each year to issue “a proclamation calling upon all public schools and educational institutions to observe “*First Responders Recognition Day*” and to conduct exercises recognizing the contributions and remembering the sacrifices that first responders have made.”

So far, no governor has seen fit to issue such a proclamation, so I am calling on us to do so.

Some 97% of Pennsylvanians rely on volunteers for fire protection of their homes. And let us remember that our military is also comprised of all volunteers. To volunteer one’s time and service to a goal bigger than any of us is a huge thing to ask, and to give.

Several years ago, I invited Mark Malizzi, a local first responder chaplain, to give the opening prayer for the House of Representatives and he inspired me to think about how we could honor these men and women. We should absolutely have a day set aside each year to remember what they do with a celebration in our communities, and we don’t need a governor to say it is “okay.”

## Citizen of the Year

The Boyertown’s Citizen of the Year 2024 honor goes to Kenneth Hunt.

Ken’s deep belief in community and service to his neighbors has driven him to dedicate the last 20-plus years of his life to serving others in the Boyertown area.

Hunt has been the executive director at United Way of Boyertown Area since 2005. He has also served as the co-leader of the Boyertown Area Homelessness Task Force, secretary of the Berks-Mont Business Association and a member of the BMBA Philadelphia Avenue Street Fair Committee. He has served as a free AARP tax preparer, delivered Meals on Wheels and tutored youth.

The Citizen of the Year Committee also recognized Jeff Shontz, owner of Bear’s Den Fitness, as Mentor of the Year; Boyertown Ambulance EMS Chief James Boyer as First Responder of the Year; and Boyertown student Samantha Jo Dolansky as Outstanding Senior of the Year.

The Boyertown Area Historical Society earned this year’s Special Recognition Award as a local non-profit that has gone “above and beyond” for the community.



## Hands-on with PA’s Natural Resources

One of the benefits of living where we do are the numerous clear, cool streams running through this part of Berks County, which support a healthy population of trout. This season the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission stocked approximately 3.2 million adult trout in 697 streams and 129 lakes open to public angling. I participated in numerous stockings in Berks County and all across the state.

The adult trout stocking schedule can be found at [fishandboat.com](http://fishandboat.com) and is searchable by county; lists the waterways in alphabetical order; and indicates stocking dates, meeting locations for volunteers and the species of trout that will be stocked at each location.



## Star Spangled Standout!



Keith Weiser of Fleetwood sang the Star Spangled Banner at the PA Farm Show’s Military Veterans and Families Day. Watch Keith’s outstanding performance and hear him explain what it means to him in my videos at [RepMaloney.com](http://RepMaloney.com).



## Honor and Remember

This year, in preparation for Memorial Day – a very special day in the 130<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, I joined other volunteers from American Legion Post 878 to place flags on the graves of veterans in cemeteries in Oley, Spangsville and Friedensburg. Oley Cemetery in Spangsville has 339 veterans and Frieden’s UCC in Oley contains roughly 300.

## Blue Marsh Lake Water Police Get New Enforcement Tool

As the House Game and Fisheries Committee chairman, I was recently invited by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) to tour Blue Marsh Lake and its facilities.

My grandsons and I were treated to the unique experience of riding around the lake with waterways conservation officers (WCOs) in one of the PFBC’s new Boston Whaler Guardian 210 law enforcement boats. It is a very impressive machine.

Previously, the conservation officers used an aging Grady White, but that is really a fishing boat, and the deck layout was not suitable for repeated boardings throughout the day and the navigation electronics were quite old.



## Oley Field Hockey Star Goes International

After four standout seasons on the Oley Valley High School Field Hockey Team, Phia Gladieux, now attending Penn State University, was named to the Olympic team earlier this year.

In their second pool game of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, the No. 13 U.S. Olympic Women’s Field Hockey Team met No. 7 Spain. The second quarter ended deadlocked at 1-1.

The opening quarter didn’t see much action early on, but things started to pick up midway through. Down the left side, Megan Valzonis (San Diego, Calif.) received it and crossed it right, as the ball bounced off goalkeeper Clara Perez and landed to Phia Gladieux, who had a quick turn and shot into the goal, her first Olympic goal.

Oley Valley grad Phia Gladieux is one of five Berks County women on the U.S. Field Hockey Team who played at the Summer Olympics in Paris, along with Ashley Hoffman and Kelee Lepage, Karlie Kisha and Meredith Sholder, who grew up in the Oley Valley School District.

*Story courtesy of, Teryn Brill Galloway, USA Field Hockey / Photo courtesy Getty Images.*



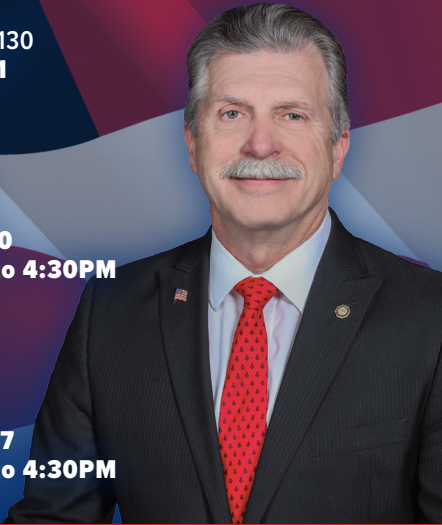
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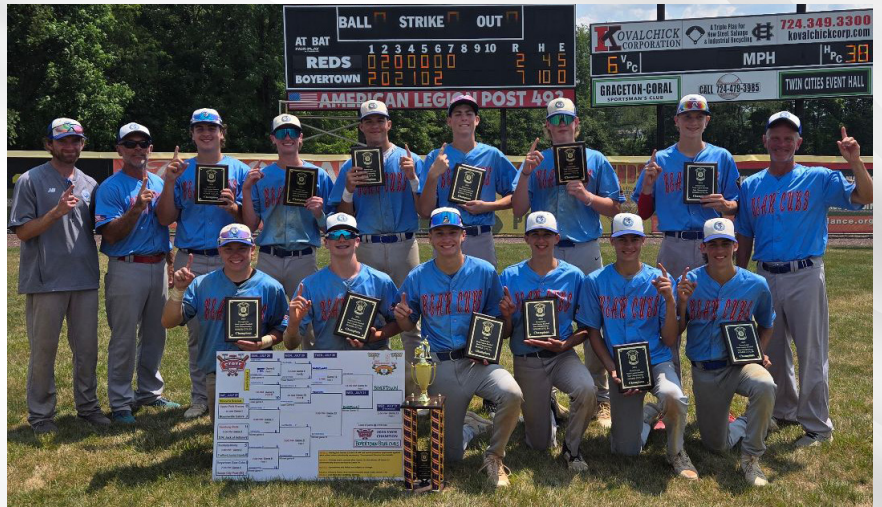
## BEAR CUBS STATE CHAMPS!

Bear Cubs celebrated their 7-2 state championship win over Hamburg on July 31 in Homer City. (Photo and text provided by Boyertown Junior Legion)

The Bear Cubs completed a dominant undefeated run through the 2024 Junior Legion State Tournament to earn the title of State Champs for the 15th time in team history! They outscored their opponents a combined 61-11 in the tournament and haven't lost a game since the second round of the Berks League Playoffs.

The championship game featured a rematch against Hamburg the fourth time the two teams faced each other in 2024. The Cubs scored first, converting three straight singles to lead off the bottom of the first (Costello, Artim and Reinert) into two runs (2 RBI for Reinert). Hamburg responded by scoring two in the top of the second to tie the game at two.

The Cubs repeated their first inning magic in the bottom of the third with one-out singles from Costello and Artim



followed by a two-RBI double by Reinert to put Boyertown up 4-2. These turned out to be the winning runs, as the Cubs would never trail again, on their way to a 7-2 victory and the state championship.



## EAGLE SCOUTS



Achieving the rank of Eagle Scout is a major accomplishment in a young person's life. It is the highest-ranking award in the Boy Scouts of America and involves many rigorous tasks and civic projects that benefit their communities. Here are some of the most recent and past Eagle Scouts who received a Pennsylvania House of Representatives citation from me for their work. When you see them out in our community, join me in letting them know we all appreciate what they have done.

Alysha Ulrich  
Matthew P. Stahl  
David Robert Dieteman  
Austin Bonetz  
Marley Yambor  
Jonathan Palmer Fleck  
Bryan Mark Wagner  
Parker Louis Sarge  
Ezra Fegan

Isaiah Fegan  
Daniel Meyer  
Jared Drabick  
Robert Parks  
Gage Fecera  
Reis William  
Linsenbigler  
Luke Yambor  
Samuel Orzolek

Jason M. Moyer  
Charles Kuter  
Nathanael Brundage  
Keely Josiah Grim  
Andrew Wookey  
Sean Purretta  
Keegan Isaiah Thomas  
Jack Dramby  
Colten James-Frost Miller

Tatyana Ulman  
Joshua Mitten  
Lucas Jonathan Famous  
William Ryan Daub  
Caiden A. Futchko  
Laura Adams  
Chase Toscano  
James A. Moyer  
Kaleb Riley Smeltz

Adler Daren Kullman  
Alexander Kuter  
Bode Layton Brewer  
Joshua Bruce Wagner  
Wyatt Allen Ulsh  
Brayden Andrew  
Samuelsen  
Carter Parkhouse Smith