# Philadelphia Daily Record

## Santa Farnese



STATE SEN. LARRY FARNESE and CH2M HILL Philadelphia surprised 40 area children with new bikes for the holidays. This is second consecutive year Farnese and CH2M HILL have partnered to give new bikes to children participating in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

Farnese is joined by Principal Brianna Dunn of the Laura W. Waring School and students. children who received new bikes were selected by Big Brothers Big Sisters.

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### The Philadelphia **Public Record** Calendar

#### Dec. 22-

State Rep. Vanessa Lowery Brown hosts Winter Wonderland Open House at HS for Future, 4021 Parkside Ave., 5 p.m. Clowns, face-painting, magic show, child-safety, constituent services. Santa will come with gifts for children. Free but must RSVP for ticket (215) 879-6615.

Dec. 29-

Friends of Council Majority Leader-Elect Curtis Jones hosts "Black Out Party" at 4130 Main St., next to Manayunk Brewery, 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Dress in black. VIP Cocktail 6-8 p.m. \$1,000 host, \$500 sponsor, \$250 VIP, \$50 general admission, guest. For info Dorian Stanley (732) 642-2163.

Dec. 30-

Kwanzaa Dinner & Show fundraiser to send 50 students to Africa at Imhotep Charter HS, 6201 N. 21st St.,7-11 p.m. Tickets \$40; seniors and children under 12, \$30. For info Maisha Sullivan (215) 385-0214.

Jan. 2-Inaugural celebration for Jewell Williams, Sheriff of Phila., at Horizons Rooftop Ballrm., Sheraton Hotel, 17th & Race Sts. Attire: boots and denim, and party gear. RSVP Jewell-Williams2011@gmail.com.

Jan. 3-

S. Phila. Tea Party meeting at Prudential Savings Bank, entrance

from parking lot in rear, 1834 Oregon Ave., 7 p.m. Guest speaker. All invited.

#### Apr. 26-

2012 Centennial Pk. Celebration honoring Joseph Manko, Ryan Howard and Vanguard at Phila. Horticultural Ctr., Montgomery Ave. & N. Horticultural Dr., 6 p.m. For tickets, etc. Arthur (215) 988-9341.



## Casey: Try Swifter Screening Program At Phila. Airport

US Sen. Bob Casey (D-Pa.) called on the Transportation Security Administration to bring its new prescreening program to Philadelphia and Pittsburgh International Airports.

The new program, which allows for expedited screening at select checkpoints, is being road tested at airports across the country. Bringing the program to Philadelphia and Pittsburgh would allow travelers a smoother commute and make Philadelphia and Pittsburgh International Airports a more-attractive destination for travelers.

"Philadelphia and Pittsburgh International Airports are a major driver of economic growth in our state, bringing TSA's pre-screening program to our airports will only increase their positive impact on the economy," Casey said. "We must do everything we can to keep air travel safe, reliable and efficient- bringing TSA's pre-screening program to Philadelphia and Pittsburgh International will do just that."

TSA is testing a limited, voluntary passenger pre-screening initiative

with a small traveler population at four US airports, with plans to expand the program's reach. In his letter, Casey asked that the TSA include Philadelphia and Pittsburgh International Airports in that expansion. Currently airports in Atlanta, Dallas, Detroit, Miami and Las Vegas are taking place in the pre-screening program.

Philadelphia International Airport is the only major airport serving the 5th largest metropolitan area in the United States. It is owned and operated by the City of Philadelphia.

### DA Hails Closing Of Megan's Law Loopholes

Philadelphia District Attorney Seth Williams commends Gov. Tom Corbett, the General Assembly and his fellow DAs for enacting important legislation that will better protect children in the Commonwealth from sex offenders.

This legislation, signed into law Wednesday by the Governor, closes loopholes in Megan's Law that until now have allowed transient and out-of-state sex offenders to avoid registering with law enforcement. These offenders otherwise went unnoticed in Pennsylvania. The new legislation also makes it a felony for a teacher, coach, or school employee to engage in sexual relations with any student with whom they have direct contact. It also brings Pennsyl-

vania in compliance with the federal Adam Walsh Act requirements.

"It is critical that our laws are tough on sex offenders and do not permit them to evade registration requirements," says Williams. "The registration of a convicted sex offender is not only an important tool for law-enforcement agencies, it's also a necessary key for a community's sense of well being, and I am pleased the General Assembly and Governor worked so hard to enact this legislation."

Williams, who is chair of the legislative committee of the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association, said closing the transient and out-of-state sex-offender loopholes was the primary legislative priority of the Association. "If you are a sex offender, you must register, and failing to do so is a felony. And know this; we will prosecute you if you break the law again."

## Shooting Spurs Partnership Between Police, Muslims

Facilitated by State Sen. Anthony H. Williams (D-W. Phila.), police and members of the Muslim community recently came together to work toward easing tensions after a West Philadelphia man, later identified as a Muslim, was critically wounded by police in No-

vember.

One of Williams' top priorities is liberating neighborhoods from violence and improving the quality of life for its residents. In that regard, Williams has organized several meetings between the communities and police within the 8th Senatorial Dist.

"It is unacceptable for people to live in fear because of violence on our streets," said Williams. "We have to find ways for the police and the community to work cooperatively toward the single goal of making our neighborhoods safe, whether it is through Town Watches, civic associations, or ongoing community meetings."

Community leaders sought the

Senator's assistance to mend the cultural divide that appears to exist between the Muslim community and police. During the meeting, held on Dec. 14, Capt. David Bellamy offered to provide sensitivity training to the officers of the 18th Police Dist. with the assistance and support of Muslim leaders. Imam Asim Abdul-Rashid, Amir of the Mailis Ash-Shura of Philadelphia and The Delaware Valley, a consultative body of Muslim leaders, and Imam Abu Mashkuwr N. AbdulKhabiyr of the Al-Mateen Islamic Center offered their organizations' help with the training and to work collaboratively to alleviate concerns within the Muslim community and to build positive partnerships moving forward.

"It was an honor to help organize

these meetings between our city's finest and leaders of the Muslim community, with a goal of working toward reconciliation, trust and respect by and for all involved," Williams said. "Our city thrives on its diversity, so it is critical to understand the different cultures that converge, while maintaining the safety of residents and allowing the police to effectively protect us."

The community meetings and the successful gun buy-back events, resulting from his successful "Neighborhood to Neighborhood 2011 Summer of Peace initiative, are examples of ongoing efforts by Williams to forge partnerships between the police and residents of his district.

Williams is a longtime ardent and active supporter of implementing actions to reduce gun violence and improve the quality of life for the community. Recently he sponsored the most-successful gun buy-back program in recent years at Francis Myers Recreation Center in Kingsessing.

A line of weapons outside the rec center was a sharp contrast to the line of children waiting to enter a Christmas bazaar inside at the same time. "The children who came with their families to enjoy a fun day at the recreation center are the number-one reason why we need to get guns off the streets," said Williams.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Police Dist. and SWAT officers took possession of 279 handguns and rifles. The 279 weapons included 81 long arms and shotguns; 184 handguns; and14 starter



pistols and bb guns. Only three handguns collected were identified as in stolen status. The 279 guns are more than double the 131 guns colDist. in 2010.

ShopRite gave everyone who

lected at this event in the 12<sup>th</sup> Police turned in their guns \$100 gift cards to help families with their holiday meals.

## Simon Friedman Says: Back Stack

**SUPPORTERS** of State Sen. Mike Stack gathered at office of Simon Friedman, a financial firm in Far Northeast, last week. From left, Stack welcomed banker Anthony Szusczewicz and Councilman-Elect Bob Henon.





FLANKING Sen. Stack are Alan Gulko and Simon Friedman.

## Fattah: Enon Tabernacle Demonstrates True 'Reason For The Season'

Congressman Chaka Fattah (D-Phila.) issued a statement commending Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church for its donation of \$65,000 to guarantee delivery from layaway of winter coats to more than 800 Philadelphia-area residents:

"Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church has done it again! The big church with the big heart has once again demonstrated its generosity and community awareness with this amazing gesture of guaranteeing winter coats for more than 800 people. It is a gift of the highest order, directly assisting those who struggle to pay their bills but neither seeking nor expecting such generosity.

"All across our nation, in this difficult economy, religious organizations, nonprofits, businesses and individuals are stepping up by sharing, like Enon Tabernacle, to demonstrate the true 'reason for the season.' One example is the Burlington Coat Factory's response to Enon, donating 1,000 new coats to the church's network of community organizations.

"Under the dynamic leadership of the Rev. Alyn Waller, this great church has always been a leader in the Philadelphia faith community. I commend Rev. Waller and the entire Enon Tabernacle family for showing that 'Christmas warmth' comes in many forms."

## Philly Baseball Doctor Named Dermatologist Of The Year

The Pennsylvania Academy of Dermatology & Dermatologic Surgery recognized Kenneth E. Wasserman, MD, a dermatologist from Philadelphia, as the recipient of its seventh annual "Dermatologist of the Year Award." The award was presented during a special ceremony at the Academy's 44th Annual Meeting in Hershey.

This honor recognizes an Academy member who has made significant contributions to the specialty of dermatology, as well as to the leadership and/or educational programs of the Academy throughout his or her career.

Dr. Wasserman spends his time as

a clinician, professor, and active participant of organized medicine. He has been in private practice since 1987 and serves as a team physician for the Baltimore Orioles baseball team. He is also the founder of Play Smart In the Sun, a Major League Baseball skin-cancer program.

Dr. Wasserman is an assistant clinical professor at Drexel University Hospital and a clinical instructor at Jefferson University Hospital.

Since 1990, he has been an executive board member for the Pennsylvania Academy of Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery. At the American Academy of Dermatology, he has served as a member of

the sports committee and represented Philadelphia as a member of the AAD's advisory board.

Dr. Wasserman graduated from Hahnemann Medical College in 1983. He then completed an internal medicine internship from Winthrop University Hospital and a dermatology residency from Hahnemann.



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