

# Statehouse Update

From the Office of State Representative Mary Lightbody  
House District 19 | 614-466-4847 <><> Rep19@ohiohouse.gov

Dear Neighbor,

Happy Fall, Ohio! As we enter this new season, I hope you and your family stay safe, healthy, and warm.

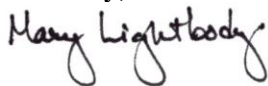
If you haven't yet, now is the perfect time to schedule a Flu Shot! Visit <https://www.vaccines.gov/find-vaccines/> to find a vaccine provider near you. It's important to stay up to date on your shots to keep you, your family, and your community healthy.

This October is National Work and Family Month. No matter who you are or where you live, I know how important it is to ensure everyone has the opportunity to have a good paying job that will support you and your family. I'm proud to support legislation that will make Ohio's economy work for working families.

The deadline to register to vote is Tuesday, October 11 for the November 8 election. I encourage you to check your registration or register for the first time by visiting [voteohio.gov](http://voteohio.gov). Make your voice heard and keep our democracy strong!

I am proud to be your state representative. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,



## I work for you.

Please contact me about any issues of concern and reach out anytime for updates on legislation in committees or votes by the legislature, as well as any upcoming district events that you would like me to attend.

Please contact my office at any time:

Office: 614-466-4847

Email: [Rep19@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep19@ohiohouse.gov)



## Upcoming Open Office Hours

I look forward to meeting with you. Please contact my office if you would prefer a private meeting.

- ❖ **Sunday, October 9**  
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Westerville Public Library  
Pink Study Room  
*No appointment needed*
- ❖ **Thursday, October 20**  
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
New Albany Library  
Meeting Room 2  
*No appointment needed*
- ❖ **Wednesday, October 26**  
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Barrel and Boar Creekside  
121 Mill St., Gahanna  
***Please RSVP to my office by October 25***

## National First Responders Day



October 28 is National First Responders Day. I'm proud to recognize the hardworking Ohioans who put their lives on the line to keep our communities safe every single day. I will continue to support legislation that supports our EMTs, police officers, firefighters, and more. First responders have always been there in our times of need— it's time for us to show our appreciation.

In September I was glad to join the Westerville Police Department and the City of Westerville for the ribbon cutting for the new Justice Center (pictured above) which will serve as the new home for the department.

## Information for children and students

Children and students have always been a focus of my career. As a middle school teacher, a professor, and now as a State Representative, I continue to make children and families a priority. Below, I have highlighted resources and programs that focus on education and support for children, teens, and their families.

CAP4Kids is a campaign by the Children's Advocacy Project of Columbus that provides area-specific resources for families. Visit [CAP4Kids.org/Columbus](https://CAP4Kids.org/Columbus) for information and resources for employment, housing, food, childcare, mental health, and much more. Many of these services are free or low-cost.

Lift Like a Girl is a program hosted by Healthy New Albany at the Philip Heit Center. With sessions for girls in grades 6-7<sup>th</sup> and 8-10<sup>th</sup>, the program teaches girls the fundamentals of strength and conditioning and encourages them to build a healthy lifestyle. This is only one of many youth programs that Healthy New Albany provides. Visit <https://healthynewalbany.org/programs/> for more information about Lift Like a Girl and other programs the organization hosts.

Upcoming events hosted by the **New Albany Plain Township Historical Society** – 6359 Dublin Granville Road

- October 13: The Mike Butsko Vietnam Gold Star Memorial. Learn about the proposed New Albany Vietnam War Memorial with visiting artist Mike Kraus.
- November 10: the Ealy brothers in the Civil War with author Larry Strayer

More information is available at [www.newalbanyhistory.info](http://www.newalbanyhistory.info).

### “Shred Hunger”

The Franklin County Auditor's office is hosting a free event to:

- safely shred documents,
- recycle electronics,
- and collect donations of household and non-perishable food items for neighbors in need.

The event is on Saturday, October 15, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. at the Westerville Public Service Center, 370 Park Meadow Road, Westerville, OH 43081.

Accepted electronic materials:

Computers, laptops, tablets, monitors, cellphones, MP3 players, printers, copiers, printer cartridges, fax machines, VCRs, DVD players, LCD TVs, tube-style TVs, CRT monitors, cameras, batteries of any kind, cables, hard drives, keyboards, and mice.

Not accepted electronic materials:

Household appliances (e.g., blenders, microwaves, ovens, refrigerators, toasters), vacuum cleaners, lamps, or lightbulbs of any kind.

## Domestic Violence Awareness Month



Call the Ohio Domestic Violence Network Hotline: 1-800-934-9840 - or - Text START to 88788

For more resources, visit: <https://www.odvn.org/find-help/>

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. I will always support legislation that protects survivors and victims, and holds abusers accountable.

If you or someone you know needs help, visit [odvn.org/find-help](https://odvn.org/find-help) or call the hotline numbers above.

## National Work and Family Month

October is National Work and Family Month. All Ohio families should have the opportunity to thrive. I'm working to deliver real solutions for working families, not extreme legislation meant to divide us. My Families First Agenda would protect and expand women's access to reproductive health care, reduce costs for families, keep communities safe, and invest in our children and future.

Too many hardworking Ohioans are feeling the squeeze of high costs for everyday expenses, such as healthcare, groceries, and rent. I am proud to support legislation to reduce costs for Ohio families, including these bills:

- Eliminate the Diaper Tax (HB 695). Helps families spend more time with their newborn and less time worrying about the cost of diapers.
- Caregiver Expenses Tax Credit (HB 79). Reducing costs for important caregiving services by putting more money back in your pocket.
- Earned Income Tax Credit (HB 59). This is a tax cut for those that need it most: Ohio's middle class.

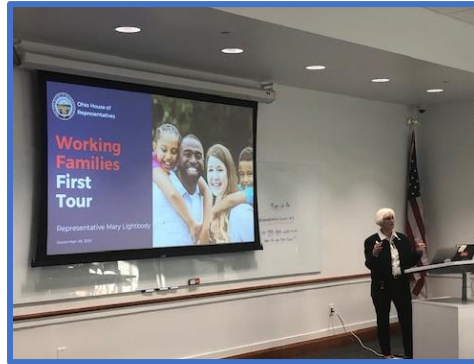
I will always prioritize legislation to make Ohio's economy work for working families.

## Ohio School Report Cards

The Ohio Department of Education released their [2021-2022 State school report card data](#).

A few changes were made to what is reported as required by [HB 82](#), which became effective 9/30/2021. The latest edition of the Ohio School Report Cards will feature ratings of 1-5 stars in five categories: achievement, progress, early literacy, gap closing and graduation.

I'm proud to represent the Gahanna-Jefferson City School District, the New Albany Plain Local School District, Westerville City School District and Columbus City School District! I know how important it is to support public schools, teachers, and most of all our students.



### Out and about in District 19

- In recent months, I have
- hosted two town halls,
  - met with local elected officials,
  - attended community events,
  - met with students,
  - welcomed new businesses,
  - and more!

