

# Crossing Guards endorse Taylor push for harsher penalties for assault

Legislation would give crossing guards same legal protection as other school officials

Crossing guards who escort children through the dangerous intersections of the community have come together to endorse a bill cosponsored by State Rep. John Taylor that would give crossing guards the same legal protection as other school officials.

The bill recently passed the House Judiciary Committee and moves to the floor for a vote by the full House of Representatives.

"Thank you for taking such an important interest in us," said Debbie Kolakowski, who watches over the intersection of Richmond and Lefevre streets. "We are honored that you are trying to make sure we are protected."

The bipartisan bill increases the penalty for assaulting a school crossing guard to an aggravated assault. It is currently classified as a simple assault.

Taylor joined with other representatives from western Pennsylvania last year after a Pittsburgh crossing guard was assaulted, but the alleged perpetrator was not charged with aggravated assault because the Pennsylvania statute does not include school crossing guards.

"Harsher penalties make us feel you have our backs, just like we have the backs of all children we cross," Kolakowski said. "We thank you from the bottoms of our hearts." She was joined by eight others, calling themselves The Bridesburg Crossing Guards.

"Crossing guards are invaluable to our community," Taylor said. "They deserve the same protection as other school and municipal officials."

Under current Pennsylvania law crossing guards are not included under the aggravated assault statute. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania



Crossing guards from throughout the district have endorsed a bill cosponsored by State Rep. John Taylor to increase the penalties for anyone who attacks a crossing guard. From left, Maryanne Gracey, Phyllis Farrell, Tracie Roth, John Taylor, Missy Becker, Debbie Kolakowski, Donna Smith and Linda Mostovyk.

Consolidated Statutes currently protects police, school and municipal officials from aggravated assault.

Under the new bill, any person who attempts to, or intentionally causes, bodily injury to a crossing guard who is properly attired and acting in the scope of his or her official duty could face as much as 10 years and prison and/or a fine of up to \$25,000.

"Crossing guards are instrumental in our children's lives," Taylor said. "It's important that, under the law, we show them the respect they deserve and provide the protections they need."

Juniata News E-Mail  
juniatanews@comcast.net

## HEALTH FOOD INTERNATIONAL

Moved From Aramingo & Venango to

3939 "M" STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19124

Tel: (215) 289-5750 Fax (215) 289-5908  
E-MAIL: josephyaffa@verizon.net

WHOLESALE  
RETAIL

Celebrating  
25 Years

We Accept Access Card and All Major Credit Cards!!!!

Big Selection of Vitamins, Supplements to support Lungs, Kidney, Prostate, Immune System, Cholesterol, Detoxify Tea, XXtra Clean, OMNI, Ready Clean

## END OF WINTER SALE!

WALNUTS .....	<b>PRICES LOWER THAN WHOLESALE! BRING IN THIS AD FOR SPECIAL PRICING!</b>	\$4.99 lb.
CASHEWS .....		\$4.59 lb.
ALMONDS .....		\$4.59 lb.
YOGURT RAISINS .....		\$2.99 lb.
CHOCOLATE COVERED RAISINS .....		\$2.99 lb.
Big Selection of GUMMIES .....		\$2.00 bag

MANY KINDS OF CHOCOLATES - \$3.99 lb.

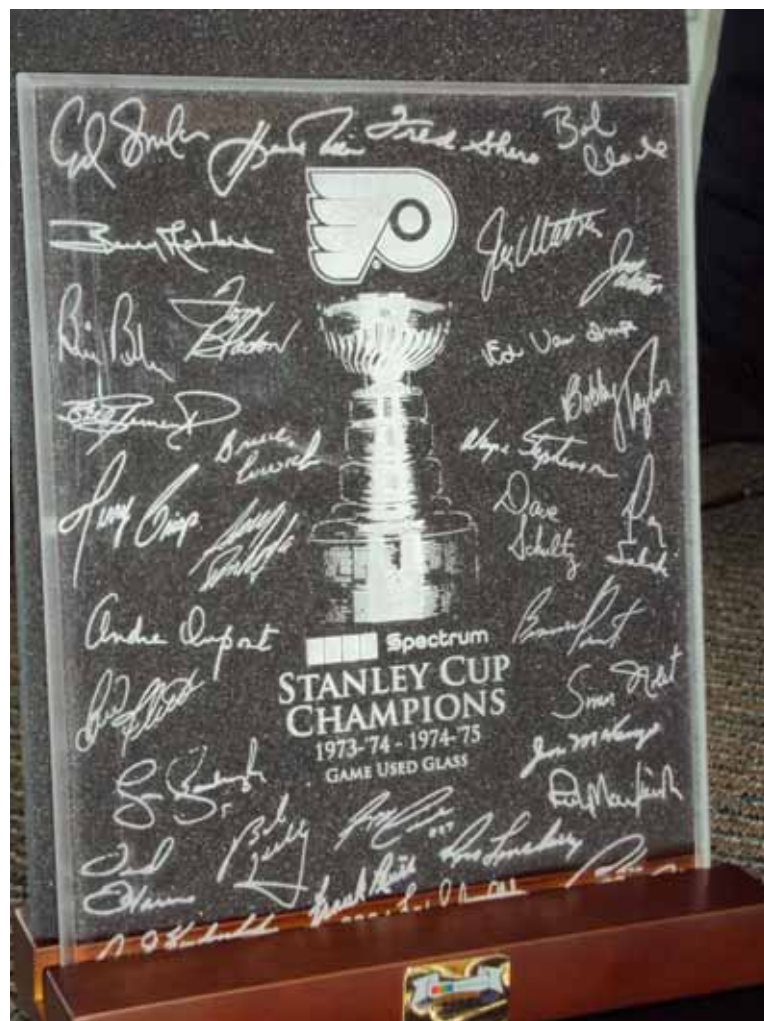
EBT CARD  
ACCEPTED

**Peanuts, Papaya, Pineapple, Golden Raisins \$1.99 lb.**

Open Mon.-Fri. 7:30am-6:00pm  
Saturday 10am-6pm

Large variety of Grains, Beans & Seeds.  
We Sell Vegetarian Food, Honey, Tea, Noni Juice, Natural Soap, Shampoo, Cosmetics

## New Spectrum Souvenir



The newest souvenir from the Spectrum is an 8 x 10 piece of the Spectrum hockey glass etched with autographs from members of the Philadelphia Flyers both Stanley Cup Teams (1974 and 1975). There are only 500 being made and they retail for \$74.75 and will be available soon at RememberTheSpectrum.com. Smaller, puck-sized pieces of Spectrum glass will also be available for \$19.67.

1934 JUNIATA NEWS 2010

215-435-3909

Email: juniatanews@comcast.net