

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Representative Tony DeLuca Nominates Faith Milazzo of the Penn Hills Anti-Litter Group to Receive Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's Community Pride Award



From Left: PA State Representative Tony DeLuca; Faith Milazzo, Community Pride Award Recipient; Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and Myrna Newman, Executive Director of Allegheny CleanWays.

The Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Community Pride Award recognizes outstanding environmental stewardship by a business, individual, school, community organization or civic group that makes an outstanding commitment to litter control, recycling, beautification or general environmental stewardship.

The inaugural Community Pride Award was presented to Faith Milazzo of Penn Hills on August 27. Milazzo was nominated by State Representative Tony DeLuca for her work to address and clean up litter in the 32nd legislative district, including the Penn Hills area, Verona and Blackridge. Milazzo created the Penn Hills Anti-Litter Group with Christine DeCarolis in 2017 and together they organized 30 volunteers to participate in the 2019 Pittsburgh Garbage Olympics. The group collected 85 bags of trash and won

the award for most team spirit. Their annual cleanups are registered with Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's Pick Up Pennsylvania program which provides free trash bags, gloves and safety vests.

The anti-litter group maintains a Facebook page that serves as a clearinghouse of sorts for the local community to communicate about litter, recycling, reducing, reusing, and hopes to spur people into action. The group encourages participating in litter pickups as a group and/or solo.

Milazzo is quick to recognize community members for their dedication. "I am extremely grateful for all the volunteers in Penn Hills who continue to show up to community litter pickups as well as pick up trash on their own. I am proud to be surrounded by so many dedicated, caring individuals. To quote Margaret Mead, 'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world.'"

Milazzo accepted the Community Pride Award at a recent awards presentation attended by her family, PA State Representative Tony DeLuca; Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and Myrna Newman, Executive Director of Allegheny CleanWays.

"When I received information about the Community Pride Award, I immediately thought of Faith Milazzo and decided I wanted to nominate her for this honor. Ms. Milazzo is a tireless volunteer who is dedicated to making Penn Hills a cleaner and more beautiful place to live and do business. Leading by example by organizing and participating in numerous clean-up events every year, she seizes every opportunity to encourage people not to litter and to have pride in their neighborhoods. Ms. Milazzo is the perfect candidate to receive this award and I was so proud to nominate her for it," said Tony DeLuca, PA State Representative.

The community Pride Award is a part of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's Leaders for a Beautiful Pennsylvania. Leaders for a Beautiful Pennsylvania showcases legislators and public officials "leading the way" in effort to keep their communities clean and beautiful, and also serves as a toolbox for leaders to access program tools and resources needed to initiate change. This initiative encourages officials to coordinate or join a local improvement project, whether it be a cleanup, planting at a local park, special recycling event or painting a community building. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful provides the program tools and resources to get you started.

"Clean and beautiful communities are the foundation for community and economic development. We are grateful for Faith and the Penn Hills Anti-Litter Group for volunteering their free time to improve their community," said Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. "We encourage public officials to sign up to be a Leader for a Beautiful Pennsylvania and pledge to work together to keep our communities clean and beautiful."

To nominate a constituent for a Community Pride Award, the nominator must be a legislator or public official who has signed the Leaders for a Beautiful Pennsylvania Pledge. Visit keepbeautiful.org and choose Keep It, then Leaders for a Beautiful Pennsylvania for more information.

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About Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's mission is empowering Pennsylvanians to keep our communities clean and beautiful. Since 1990, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and its volunteers have removed over 147 million pounds of litter from Pennsylvania's roadways, greenways, parks, forests, and waterways. To learn more about Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, visit www.keeppabeautiful.org.