AGE 12 BLUE VALLEY TIMES SEPTEMBER 23, 2025







RYAN MACKENZIE

U.S. CONGRESS



U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps

By Congressman Ryan Mackenzie

The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps is a nationwide program that builds leadership, discipline, and teamwork among young people ages 10-18. The Lehigh Valley Division is currently accepting new recruit applications as part of its national recruitment drive running through October 31st, 2025.

Students who join gain exposure to military life, hands-on training, and opportunities to build valuable skills for the future.

To learn more about the Sea Cadet program and how to apply, visit seacadets.org.

Combatting Opioid Overprescribing

By Congressman Ryan Mackenzie

I recently joined the Congressional Naloxone Training, where Members of Congress and staff learned how to recognize the signs of an opioid overdose and administer naloxone, a medication that can save lives in emergencies.

The opioid epidemic has devastated too many families, often fueled by the overprescribing of powerful painkillers. In the Pennsylvania State House, I authored legislation to curb the overprescribing of opioids to injured workers. Now, in Congress, I've built on that work with an amendment in the FY26 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), requiring an updated study on opioid prescribing in the military health system. This will help ensure military doctors follow the latest CDC and FDA guidelines, protecting servicemembers and their families.

PASSED
BY THE US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Legislation Addressing
Opioid Addiction Among our
Armed Forces

U.S. Congressman Ryan Mackenzie

Capping off my action on this issue for the week, I also offered an amendment as part of the State Department Reauthorization markup to help crack down on Chinese opioid precursor chemicals.

Throughout our nation, law enforcement officers are taking on the opioid epidemic — saving lives, stopping cartels, and getting poison off the streets. Now, it's time to extend this work beyond our borders. For years, China has played a leading role in this crisis by manufacturing and distributing the precursor chemicals that end up in the opioids killing Americans.

My amendment directs the State Department to join this fight by engaging with foreign governments to prevent and interdict the flow of synthetic drugs and precursor chemicals, especially those originating from China. It's time to crack down on every piece of this problem.