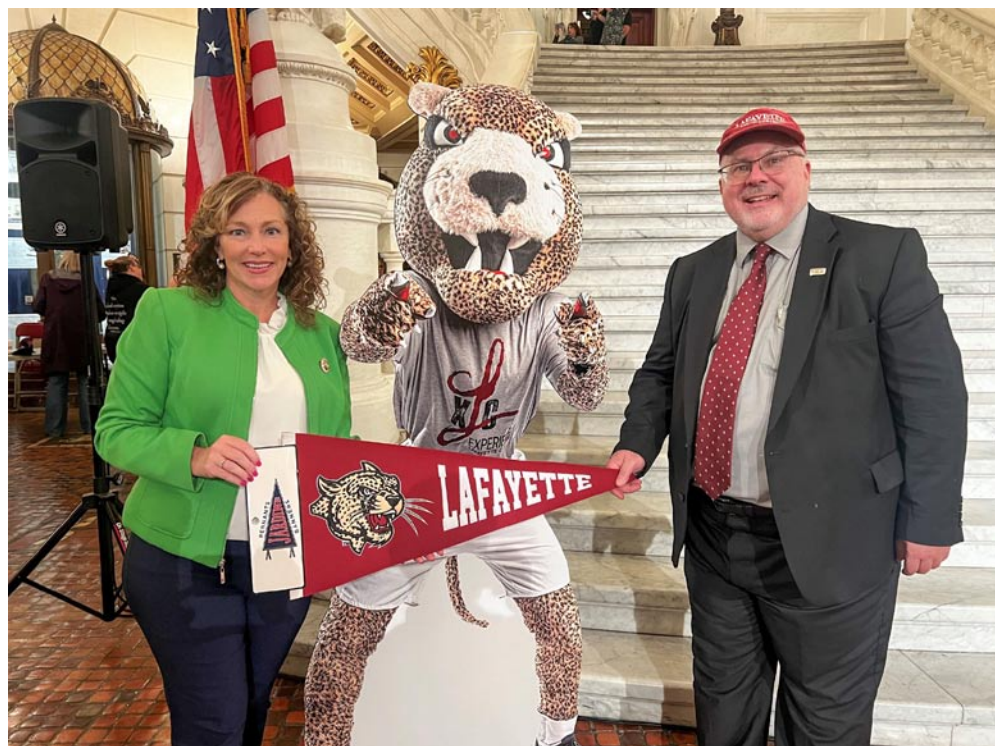




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### Mascot Day at the Capitol

By Rep. Ann Flood

Last week in Harrisburg, the Capitol was buzzing with school spirit as mascots from institutions affiliated with the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania (AICUP) made an appearance for Mascot Day! I had the pleasure of seeing Maurice Luker III, executive director of Corporate, Foundation, and Government Relations at Lafayette College, alongside the Lafayette Leopard for a fun photo opportunity. This beloved mascot has been a fixture since 1924, showcasing a rich history with many beloved iterations over the years.

Maurice recently visited me at my district office in Pen Argyl to discuss the comprehensive plan for Lafayette College's future. Education is vital to shaping our communities and empowering future leaders, and I am excited to support initiatives that inspire the next generation of thinkers and innovators. AICUP is the only statewide organization dedicated solely to representing the interests of independent, nonprofit higher education in Pennsylvania, working to enhance and support the efforts of campus leaders.

### Dan Zmoda Recognized For His Songbird Banding

By WM

Our Wildlife Habitat Council certified facilities include community partners that add significant value to our education programs. Their support to our WM teams has elevated citizen science education and we are proud to call them our friends.

In September, Grand Central Landfill's wildlife habitat team presented Dan Zmoda with an appreciation plaque recognizing his songbird banding and data collection work. Dan's contribution is continuing the great work previously done by the landfill's late friend and federal bird bander, Paul Karner. Dan works closely with Kevin (seen in photo) to monitor the 55 Bluebird boxes around the landfill property and report the data to the Bird Banding Laboratory when the duo bands the songbirds. This project is one of fourteen projects at the Grand Central Landfill and included in the WHC certification program. It has earned the facility Gold status- the highest achievement by the WHC.

