

T G I F

from
Adams County

written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

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In this issue...



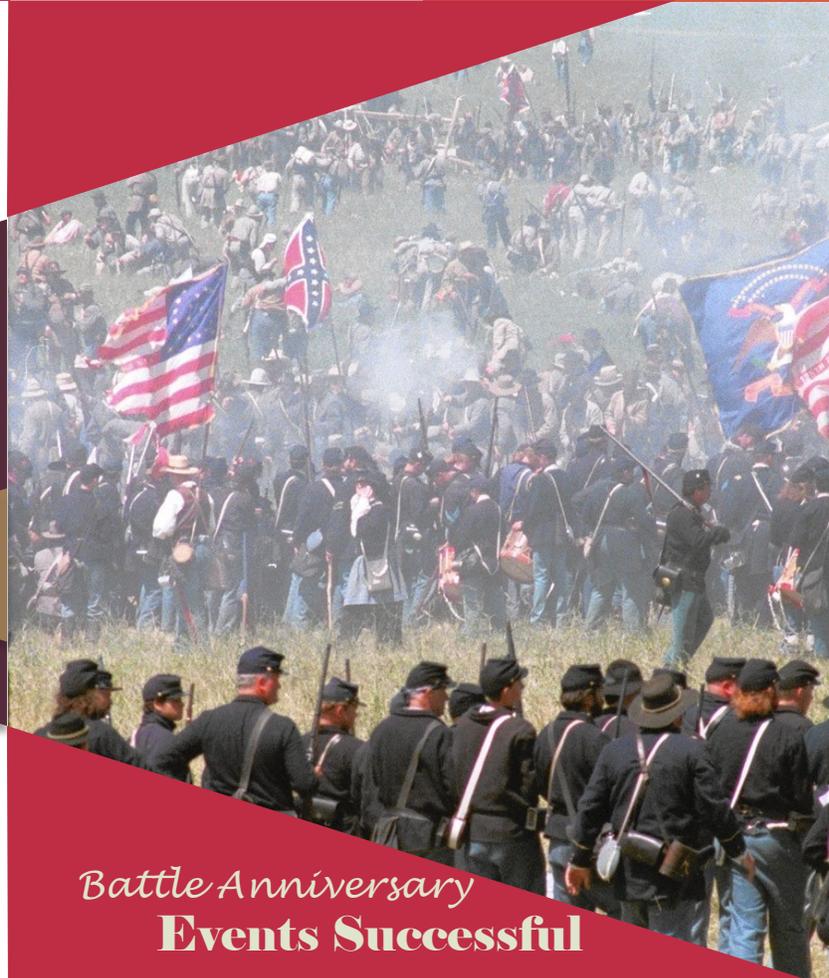
Page 2
Congratulations Master
Farmer
Black Fly Suppression
IT Update



Page 3
Budget Season
CCAP Summer
Conference
One Hundred Nights of
Taps



Page 4
Construction to Begin
The End



Battle Anniversary **Events Successful**

Tourism and Agriculture are the two main stays of our economy in Adams County. The month of July is especially significant to our economy. This year more than ever, planning for National Park Service Anniversary events, the Annual Civil War Reenactment and Bike Week took on enhanced efforts by area agencies to be proactive in planning for many contingencies. We all know that Adams County is not immune to events happening across the nation and around the world.

On behalf of all our county residents, visitors and event participants, thank you to the many individuals, organizations and agencies that made sure we were safe, and were also prepared to take action if necessary. These type of events are part of the fabric of who we are in Adams County; my hope is that with appropriate preparation, prevention and planning that we will not lose these type of events that are part of defining who we are!



Congratulations Master Farmer

Tom Clowney is synonymous with being a fine gentleman, community servant and a dedicated member of the Adams County farm community since the 1960's. This year Tom was designated by the American Agriculturist Magazine as one of four 2018 Mid-Atlantic Master Farmers. Tom was one of only two Pennsylvanian's to receive the prestigious award. He and wife Joanne founded 220 acre Lagging Stream Farm in the 1960's. Lagging Stream Farm is located on Barlow Road, in Cumberland Township, where over 200 cows are milked daily. Chatting with Tom is always a delight and he is one of the few constituents that may still provide you with a personal handwritten note or letter. On behalf of the entire Board of Commissioners and the residents of Adams County – congratulations Tom! The Board will recognize Tom's significant life-time achievement at a future Commissioner's meeting.

Black Fly Suppression

Several years ago the Board was implored by several residents of the New Chester Conewago Creek area to please consider coming to their aid in the suppression of Black Fly's. We were able to engage and participate in a state spraying program from helicopters, at a nominal cost, that has been very successful. This is an issue many of us would not think about. The Board recently received a note from a resident of that area which I share with you:

We want to thank you for continuing to fund spraying for black flies along the Conewago Creek near New Chester each summer. It has made a tremendous difference, allowing us to enjoy being outdoors. Prior to spraying, the black flies were constantly around our heads, flying into our eyes causing health issues.

Helicopter Applicators Inc. will be dispersing Vectobac SC, which is a Bti product manufactured by Valent Biosciences. Bti is short for *Bacillus thuringiensis var. israelensis*, which is a bacterial larvicide, not a chemical, and is the only product used in Pennsylvania's waterways for black fly suppression. Vectobac SC is a thick brown liquid resembling chocolate milk. The helicopter will fly low near tree top level and release the Vectobac SC at various predetermined positions on each stream.

IT Update

The Information Technology Department is pleased to report that the Courthouse portion of the VOIP telephone project is now completed. With all departments officially removed from the old phone system, the legacy PBX system will be turned off for a two month period to ensure it can be permanently removed. The IT Department would like to thank all departments who participated in the VOIP training process, and for working closely with IT during your cut-overs. The final phase of the VOIP deployment will be the County Correctional Complex. The IT Department plans to have the final phase of the project completed in the fall. It is our hope that the efforts put forth on this two year project have provided the up-to-date tools necessary for current business communication requirements in each of your offices.

In addition, the majority of phones at the Courthouse have a pre-programmed speed dial to call the Courthouse security checkpoint on each VOIP phone.





Budget Season

It seems like we just finished last year's budget and it's time to begin the process again. We meet with the Finance Department on a regular basis for updates - and I am happy to report that this current year's budget is right on target. The Finance Department has begun to draft next year's budget and department directors are urged to begin the draft budget process and confer with Finance on your needs. The target to have all draft budgets into Finance is August 10, however no later than August 17.

CCAP Summer Conference in Adams County

Adams County is very pleased to host the annual County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania Summer Conference August 4-8. Over 300 county commissioners, staff, family, speakers and vendors will gather at the Gateway Complex for numerous sessions and speakers. Beside the keynote motivational speaker Tim Brown, other speakers of note include Governor Tom Wolf, Gubernatorial Candidate Scott Wagner, Congressman Lou Barletta and Senator Robert Casey.

When not attending the sessions, scheduled activities include an Eisenhower Steak Roast at the Eisenhower National Historic Site, a Cocktail Reception at the National Park Visitor Center, an Adams County Wine & Battlefield Tour, Golf Tournament at The Links of Gettysburg, a Sporting Clay Shoot and a Fun Run/Walk. This summer session in Adams County seems to be very popular with the CCAP members as I just received notification that both the Wyndham and Courtyard are both sold out for the conference; and that other area lodging is being utilized. As a member of the CCAP Board of Directors, and on behalf of the Adams County Commissioners, we welcome our fellow county commissioners and their families to Adams County!

One Hundred Nights of Taps

The notes of Taps are filling the air in Gettysburg every evening this summer as the famous 24-note call is sounded in honor of those who have served our nation. The Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania, in partnership with Gettysburg National Military Park and Taps For Veterans, invite the public to attend One Hundred Nights of Taps between Memorial Day and Labor Day at the Soldiers National Monument in the Gettysburg National Cemetery.

Performers have been assembled to sound the iconic bugle call each evening at 7 pm. Among the buglers signed up to perform are military veterans, Civil War reenactor buglers, community band members, high school and college stu-



dents, and music teachers.

You are encouraged and invited to attend any evening performance. The easiest recommended parking is at the Gettysburg National Cemetery Lot on Taneytown Road. You could also park on Baltimore Street. This is very moving and poignant event that I have personally experienced. For more information and to sign up to perform on an evening please visit: www.tapsbugler.com/100-nights-of-taps/ or www.lincolnfellowship.wildapricot.org

Construction to Being on York Road Bridge

Harrisburg, PA – Construction for the bridge carrying Route 30 (York Road) over Rock Creek in Gettysburg Borough and Straban Township, Adams County, is scheduled to begin during the week of July 30 as part of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's (PennDOT) Rapid Bridge Replacement Project. When construction begins, traffic will shift to one lane in each direction through the work zone. Motorists are advised to allow extra time when traveling through the work areas because slowdowns will occur. The new bridge should be complete by the end of 2018. In the event of unfavorable weather or unforeseen activities, this schedule may change.

This bridge is one out of the 558 bridges being replaced under the Rapid Bridge Replacement Project. The Rapid Bridge Replacement Project is a public-private partnership (P3) between PennDOT and Plenary Walsh Keystone Partners (PWKP), under which PWKP will finance, design, replace, and maintain the bridges for 25 years.

To see the bridges included in the statewide initiative and to learn more about the Rapid Bridge Replacement Project, visit www.parapidbridges.com.



The End

It is that time of year when the agricultural bounty of Adams County is on display and available at our many fruit and vegetable markets. Nothing like fresh cherries, peaches, sweet corn, tomatoes, watermelon and cantaloupe. Don't forget just a few of those markets on the square, at the transit center, Gettysburg Outlets and the Gettysburg Recreation Park as well as several notable farm markets throughout the county. Incidentally, I just had my first Kuhn's Fruit Farm fresh peach yesterday - and it was simply delicious.

Well for you Taco Bell fans your ship has come in. Now we have the Panera fans waiting in the wings. You CVS customers will soon have a drive in window. Folks over 55 will soon have another community near Hunterstown & Rt. 15. The ribbon was cut on Tuesday for the development called Amblewood. Economic development in Adams County does seem to be experiencing a slight uptick.

It seems like everywhere I turn road construction has me turning around, searching out alleys, and looking for alternate routes. I guess it's just that time of year. The 96TH South Mountain Fair is just around the corner from July 31 – August 4. It takes some of us older folks a bit of getting used to being held at this earlier date - but it is a great family event celebrating our Adams County heritage. Admission is \$7 for adults and it includes all entertainment. Chicken corn soup and milkshakes here I come.