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from  
*Adams County*

written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

June 21, 2024

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## *Traffic Detour Alerts*

Rt 116W - A bridge replacement project is underway on Route 116, near the Gettysburg Times in Cumberland Township. As crews prepared for the bridge reconstruction, PennDOT warns of possible lane restrictions over the next two weeks, and a full road closure is set to begin on July 20. PennDOT has established a detour to begin on July 20 using Knoxlyn-Orrtanna Road, Knoxlyn Road, and Route 30. All work is expected to be completed by August 14.

Rt 97 - A detour began on Thursday, June 13, for a box culvert and retaining wall replacement project on Route 97 in Germany Township. The structures are located between Mathias Road and Georgetown Road just north of the Maryland state line. Weather permitting, the detour is expected



ROAD TO  
THRU TRAFFIC

to  
be lifted by Friday,  
August 16, 2024.

Traffic heading north from south of the closure should take Old Hanover Road north near Union Mills in Maryland and cross into Pennsylvania where the road is designated Pine Grove Road. They should continue north on Pine Grove Road to Route 194 (Hanover Pike/King Street), then head west on that road to Littlestown Borough and Route 97.

Traffic heading south from north of the closure should take Route 194 (King Street/Hanover Pike) in Littlestown Borough east to Pine Grove Road, head south on Pine Grove Road to the Maryland state line, where the road is designated Old Hanover Road, and continue to Route 97 south of the closure near Union Mills.

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## Affordable Housing Units Approved

Affordable Housing remains a critical issue in Adams County and is a high priority of this Board. At the June 12 public meeting the Board was pleased to approve an Affordable Housing Trust Fund Agreement with SCCAP. The Agreement paves the way for the phased re-development of the second floor of the old Columbia Gas Building on Stratton Street in Gettysburg that serves as SCCAP's administrative offices for the renovation of 4 housing units. The grant award of \$300,000 was approved unanimously by the Board! We appreciate SCCAP's collaboration on this project! The Board is currently supporting a 40-unit project at Misty Ridge with a determination expected sometime in July.

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## Board Recognizes A 100-Year-Old WWII Veteran

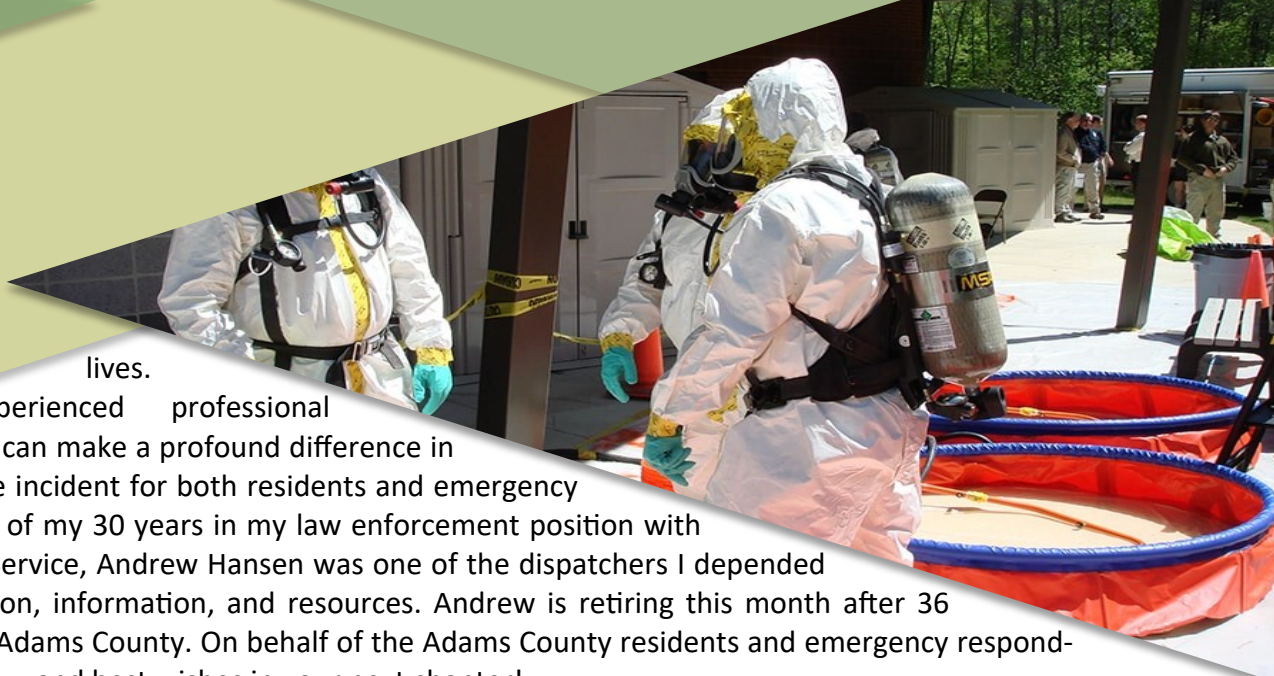
The Adams County Board of Commissioners had the distinct pleasure of recognizing 100-year-old WWII veteran Levato Virgie Jacob Thomas with a proclamation pronouncing June 10, 2024, as *Levato Virgie Jacob Thomas Day* in Adams County. Thomas joined the WWII Nurse Cadet program and was transferred to the McGuire Army Hospital in Richmond where she remained stationed until 2 weeks after the war ended.

Pridefully representing the Adams County Board of Commissioners, on Saturday, June 8, Treasurer Crissy Redding presented the proclamation with an audience of 125 family and friends of Thomas at the Gettysburg Brethren Church on Biglerville Road. Crissy reports it was a very rewarding and uplifting experience. She also reported she now has a new best friend and has been invited to visit. Thank you, Crissy, for filling in for the commissioners at this very special occasion for this Adams County resident and her family!

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## Best Wishes Emergency Telecommunicator Andrew Hansen

The position of Adams County Department of Emergency Services Dispatcher is often taken for granted until there is a need to dial 911 – then it becomes the most important time in many residents'



lives.  
Experienced professional dispatchers can make a profound difference in the outcome of the incident for both residents and emergency responders. For 20 of my 30 years in my law enforcement position with the National Park Service, Andrew Hansen was one of the dispatchers I depended on daily for direction, information, and resources. Andrew is retiring this month after 36 years of service to Adams County. On behalf of the Adams County residents and emergency responders Thank You Andy – and best wishes in your next chapter!

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## **Hazardous Materials Incident Response Contracted to York County**

Although it is very necessary, maintaining, training, and equipping a Hazardous Material Response Team, for a limited number of calls per year, is very costly. At the June 12 public meeting, the Board approved and signed a contract with York County to provide this service to Adams County. The cost will be \$8000 for a term of 1-year. The Board also approved an agreement with CCAP and PEMA which affirms the existence of the Hazmat contract with York County and acknowledges the duty of the County to report dispatches of the Hazmat Response Team to the Commonwealth of PA Response & Coordination center.

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## **State Tourism Initiative Hopefully Benefits Adams County**

Adams County's two largest economic drivers are Tourism and Agriculture.

Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro recently revealed the State's new tourism marketing branding, "Pennsylvania: The Great American Getaway," at an event in Lackawanna County, which Destination Gettysburg attended among other destination marketing organizations across the State. This new branding comes on the cusp of America 250th, which celebrates the anniversary of the Country's founding in 1776. The brand replaces "Pursue Your Happiness" which was established eight years ago.

As part of this announcement, the state tourism office launched a summer marketing campaign, "Your Great American Getaway Starts Here," highlighting the vast variety of experiences that travelers can find across the State. The Governor also revealed that his budget proposal for the coming year includes a \$15-million budget for the state tourism office to promote Pennsylvania to domestic and international travelers. That proposal is a significant increase over current funding.

As one of more than 50 DMOs across Pennsylvania, Adams County's tourism marketing organization Destination Gettysburg, will utilize the State branding and join in marketing efforts that benefit destinations throughout Pennsylvania.

LIVE

PENNSYLVANIA  
THE GREAT AMERICAN GETAWAY





# Helicopter Spraying

Black flies have caused concern and complaints from Adams County residents especially in the New Chester area. An aerial black fly (gnat) suppression operation is scheduled for Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, on Conewago Creek. This operation will begin in Adams County at 7:00AM and finish in Huntingdon County. This aerial application will include flights in Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lebanon, Mifflin, Perry, and York Counties. The helicopter will be a Bell OH58 with the tail number N656HA and is grey with red and blue stripes.

Helicopter Applicators Inc. will be dispersing Vectobac 12AS, 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 12AS is a thick brown liquid resembling chocolate milk. The helicopter will fly low near tree top level and release the Vectobac at various predetermined positions on each stream. If residents have any questions regarding this specific operation or the Program in general, please contact M. Gochnauer at 717-265-4834 or email me at [mgochnauer@pa.gov](mailto:mgochnauer@pa.gov).



## The End

- 1st Rhode Island Light Artillery Battery B + Maine & Vincent's Brigade Living History, Saturday & Sunday, PA Memorial. Programs and artillery demonstrations. Living history schedule [nps.gov](http://nps.gov)
- Pollinator Festival & Plant Sale, Saturday, Adams County Farmers Market, Gettysburg Rec Park, 8-1.
- Live Music: The Willys, Adams County Winery, Sunday 1PM.
- Yoga In Apple Country, Ploughman Cider Taproom Patio, Lincoln Square. Beginner friendly yoga with acoustic jams. At 10:00 this Sunday and the 4th Sunday of July, August, September.
- Kinky Boots the Musical, Gettysburg Community Theater, Friday, Saturday & Sunday the next two weekends.
- Cameron Molloy & the Drivin Wheel- Live Music, This evening at 6PM. Lincoln Social Food Market. The bar now has a complete PA Spirits license featuring PA beers, cider, and spirits.
- Visit General Lee's Headquarters. Seminary Ridge Education staff at the historic Mary Thompson house on Buford Avenue just north of Lutheran Seminary. June 29/30 10-3 and July 6, 10-3.
- Cinema Under the Stars: The Best Years of Our Lives! Saturday 8PM. Lutheran Seminary outdoor. Bring your blanket or lawn chair. You may see me there!
- 161st Anniversary Battle Reenactment. Daniel Lady Farm. July 6 & 7. Battle actions and living history. An all-day family event making those dusty old history books come alive. Gate opens at 8:30 AM. Adults \$30 Child \$15. [www.danielladyfarm.com](http://www.danielladyfarm.com)
- The Night Before Gettysburg. A virtual reality experience with Abraham Lincoln at the Gettysburg Railway Station, Carlisle Street. Performance at 7PM. Free to public. June 28-30. [www.destinationgettyburg.com](http://www.destinationgettyburg.com)
- Fish At Sachs Bridge. Gettysburg Nature Alliance. June 29. Includes nature walks and fly-fishing instruction. 10-2.
- The 21st Annual Corn Fest. The Historic Round Barn. Sunday, July 28.
- Majestic Theater Summer Classics – The Princess Bride. Majestic Theater. Wednesday, June 26 at 7:30. \$8.
- Civil War Era Dressmaking & Popular Fashions. Friday, June 28, at the George Spangler Farm. Tickets are required in advance. Gate opens at 5:30. Parking available on-site for ticket holders. Explore the farm before presentation at 6:00. Cost \$20. [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org)