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written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

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# **THANK YOU \* VETERANS \***

### Veterans Day November 11th

Veterans Day on November 11 is a legal U.S. holiday dedicated to American military veterans. In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I, then known as "the Great War." Commemorated in many countries as Armistice Day the following year, November 11th became a federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In 1954, in the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, President Eisenhower pursued legislation changing the name to Veterans Day and honor all of our nation's veterans.

That weekend there will be several Veterans Day Programs around Adams County. The Allied Veterans Council of Adams County hosts an annual Veterans



Day program at the Gettysburg American Legion, Post 202, 528 W. Middle Street, Gettysburg. The program begins at 11AM and features a speaker with the Apple Core Band playing a tribute to the different branches of the Armed Forces that is always uplifting!

Also on Wednesday November 8, from 8-12, there will be a veterans get together at the WWII American Experience Museum. Besides free coffee, donuts and tours of the museum, Veterans Service Officers will be on hand to answer questions pertaining to VA benefits and the new PACT ACT.

### General Election Tuesday, November 7th

The Pennsylvania General Election is only days away on Tuesday, November 7. A reminder that the Adams County Elections & Voter Registration office has moved from the courthouse to the first floor of the Department of Emergency Services Building (911 Center) 230 Greenamyer Ln, Gettysburg, PA 17325. The McSherrystown poll has moved to Delone Catholic High School, 140 South Oxford Avenue, McSherrystown, PA 17344 and the Bonneauville poll has moved to the Deacon Rich Weaver Parish Center, 12 East Hanover Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

On another election note, on October 10<sup>th</sup> Secretary of State Al Schmidt visited our new election office at the Adams County Department of Emergency Services. Director Angie Crouse reported that Secretary Schmidt took questions and listened to the Election office's concerns. Angie framed the meeting as a very beneficial and positive interaction.

### No Increase in 2024 Health Care Cost for County Staff

The Board is keenly aware that staff health care benefits are an important consideration for recruitment and retention of quality staff. Thus, we work very hard all year long with HR and our health partner consultants/ providers to deliver quality health coverage. The Board is happy to report a very small increase in staff health care contribution and no reduction in benefits in 2024. There will be minor changes to the cost of generic drugs from \$5 to \$8 and mail order 90-day refills will increase by \$6. We hope you agree holding the staff contribution line on health care is quite an accomplishment in this health care market! The deductibles will remain at \$500 and \$1000 for the majority of our staff. Open enrollment for employees begins Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

### Oak Lawn Clean-Up Day Next Saturday

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Next Sunday, November 5, from 11-3, join family, friends, and county staff for Fall Cleanup at Oak Lawn Cemetery. The saga of Oak Lawn Cemetery is well known. The cemetery fell on hard times due to misappropriation of funds and owner malfeasance that created community dilemma. The County ultimately took over the cemetery as a pass through, until some of the unused property could be sold as starting capital for the non-profit Oak Lawn Foundation. The County has provided for general maintenance until the transfer to the non-profit takes place. Oak Lawn family, friends and volunteers gather in the Spring and Fall for a more detailed cleanup. Bring your, rake, shovel, weedwhacker, wheelbarrow, trimmers, and other lawn care items and join us for a great feeling of community service while honoring and supporting the Oak Lawn deceased and their families\_Cindy Codori-Schultz coordinates the Oak Lawn Family/Friends & Volunteers and may be reached at <u>sleepyhollowghostwalks@comcast.net</u>. You may also contact me at <u>rphiel@adamscountypa.gov</u> for more information. I hope to see you at Oak Lawn on Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Glass Recycling in Adams County a Reality**

Glass re-cycling is off the wish-list and now a reality in Adams County! With a hauler agreement now signed, the process of making long awaited glass re-cycling in Adams County is complete. The re-cycling service will be offered to both Adams County residents and commercial businesses. The challenge has been to find a hauler to pick up and process the glass. The Board signed an agreement with CAP Glass which services numerous states in our region. The county received a \$10,000 grant from the Adams County Community Foundation to construct an area for the glass collection at the Adams County Department of Emergency Services (911) parking lot. The site will have scheduled drop-off times manned by volunteers. Currently every other Saturday is being discussed - but exact days and times have not yet been finalized. The County will support this initiative as long as we have a hauler to take the glass. This project is a perfect example of community and county collaboration. A loud shout out to community advocate Cynthia Salisbury and County Manager Steve Nevada for their steadfast resolve in overcoming numerous obstacles and bringing this project to fruition! The ribbon cutting at the new facility is schedule for Saturday, November 4 at 9:00AM.

### **Giving Spree Needs Volunteers**

Adams County's Annual Day of Giving, otherwise known as the Adams County Community Foundation Giving Spree, can at last return to an in-person event held at Gettysburg Area Middle School on November 9<sup>th</sup>. With the in-person format, volunteers are needed! The Foundation is looking for at least a 2-hour commitment, or longer if you are available. If you have not attended the event previously, it is a fun and uplifting event, as thousands of donors come to learn about and support the missions of a hundred county nonprofits. There are seated jobs, active jobs, indoors and out. Volunteers are needed before, during and after the November 9<sup>th</sup> event. For more information go to ACCFGivingSpree.org or give Lisa Donahoe a call 717-337-0060 or email Lisa at <u>lisa@adamscountycf.org</u>

**UNTEERS** 

### Volunteer Emergency Responders To Receive Tax Credit

At the October 18 Commissioners Meeting, the Board authorized the public advertisement of Ordinance No. 3 of 2023, in accordance with the requirements of Section 509 of the County Code. This Ordinance will create a real estate tax credit for active volunteers of County fire and non-profit emergency medical services organizations and meet other qualifications as outlined in the ordinance. The tax credit shall not exceed \$250. The Chief/President of each organization will determine if the hours contributed to the organization qualify the individual for the credit, using an approved method of computation. The Board of Commissioners fully supports recognizing our volunteer emergency responders as volunteer departments struggle with sustainability, staffing, recruitment, training, and equipment costs.

• Debris of the Battle. Presentation after the battle was over how area residents faced danger gathering and selling the artifacts of the battle to tourists. Beyond The Battle Museum, Saturday 1 PM. A free event. On Sunday the subject matter is Roads To Gettysburg with historian Tim Smith at 1PM.

• Halloween On The Hill. Strawberry Hill, Fairfield. There will be an Adult hike and a Family Hike. Event is Saturday 6-9PM with hikes taking off at 8PM. Scavenger Hunt and meet some critters. Cost is \$5 or \$20 family 5 or more.

- Allied Veterans Council of Adams County, **Veteran's Day Program, Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>,** Gettysburg American Legion Post 202, 11AM.
- Veteran's Get Together, WWII Experience, Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 8-12. Refreshments, Tours and Veterans Service Officers to answer questions and provide information.
- **Mid-Atlantic African Violet Show,** Saturday, November 4, 1-5PM at the Wyndham. Admission is donation.

• Gettysburg Garden Club Christmas Greens & Gourmet Gifts Sale, GFD North Stratton Street, Saturday, December 2, 9-2.

- Gettysburg Military Antiques Show, Allstar Complex, this Saturday 9-5 & Sunday 9-2.
- **Dedication Day Program.** Saturday, November 18, National Cemetery, 10:15AM. Susan Eisenhower is keynote speaker.
- Remembrance Day Parade, Saturday, November 18, Baltimore Street and Steinwehr Avenue, 1PM.

# • Time Change Alert!! Daylight Savings time ends Saturday November 5<sup>th</sup> at midnight so be sure to set your clock back!

No matter what you do, get out there and experience all the historical, recreational, agricultural, natural, and cultural opportunities that beautiful Adams County has to offer!