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from
Adams County

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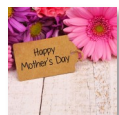
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VOTE

Municipal Primary Election this Tuesday

A reminder that this Tuesday, May 16 is the Municipal Primary Election. Although the municipal election consistently has the lowest voter turnout, the impact on voters' everyday life is most significant. Your borough and township officials, school board, and county government officials play a key role in providing necessary services to our community and determine municipal, county and school taxes. The Adams County Elections Office reports that as of yesterday the total mail-ins returned are approximately 2,000. That is down significantly from last year's Governor's race, and not surprisingly down even further from a Presidential race. Sadly, there is normally only a 25-35% turnout for the Municipal Election.

Expect to see some different folks on the Adams County Board of Elections checking on the polls and canvassing ballots in this year's Primary & General Election. Normally the sitting Board of Commissioners comprise



the Adams County Board of Elections; but with all 3 commissioners seeking to be re-elected, there is a requirement to appoint a Board of Elections comprised of the same party make-up. The Republicans are Jim Waybright and Robin Fitzpatrick, and the Democrat is Vickie Corbett. Waybright and Corbett have served in this role previously. The Board would like to thank these individuals for their civic engagement and service to the community in this role. We also hope for their sake there are no 1 vote margins!

Voting in free democratic elections is a privilege that should not be taken for granted. Hats off as usual to our Elections Office and other county staff who make the process effective and secure. Exercise your right and privilege on May 16!

Election Reform Very Important to PA Counties

On April 25, the House State Government Committee advanced a bill addressing a top priority of counties this session, pre-canvassing of mail-in ballots. House Bill 847, introduced by former Centre County commissioner and committee chair Rep. Scott Conklin, would give counties seven days to begin pre-canvassing mail-in and absentee ballots before Election Day. It would also tighten the deadline for voters to request mail-in or absentee ballots to 11 days prior to an election, from the current seven days. Additionally, HB 847 was amended to allow in-person application for mail-in ballots up to the day prior to Election Day, rather than seven days initially proposed in the bill. The bill was reported out of committee by a 12-9 vote and now moves before the full House for consideration.

Counties take their responsibility for the fair, secure and accurate administration of Pennsylvania's elections very seriously, and need clear rules that enable consistent implementation across the commonwealth. With that in mind, counties look forward to discussions with the House before final consideration to further improve the bill and assure counties are able to properly implement the language in the bill, while maintaining the critical pieces that counties are focused on attaining this year as their top priorities.

Work Release Transferred back to County

In 2007 Work Release was transferred from a prior Board of Commissioners to the Courts. At the May 3 commissioners public meeting, by resolution, the supervision was passed back to the County. Along with traditional Work Release, the hope is to start a "Transitions To Success Program" that will target first time low risk and probation violations utilizing a successful Scandinavian model. The programs will utilize current correctional staff that have applied for the opportunity to engage in this multi-faceted approach to successfully re-enter inmates into the community. Warden Katy Hileman was the catalyst who brought this approach to the attention of the Courts and County. Community Supervision Specialists Joe Weaver and Travis Pryor, as well as Captain of Community Corrections & Re-entry Darrel Smith, applied and were selected from the ranks of correction staff for these roles.

In the Transitions To Success program Inmates have single cells, a communal kitchen, redesigned common areas, and an outdoor green space. It also differs programmatically from the rest of the facility, with prison officers receiving specialized treatment training to facilitate meaningful communication with the inmates. Successful inmates become mentors to new inmates entering the program. The hope is that individuals that are successful completing the Transitions program may then qualify for the work release program. Under the supervision of

**TRANSITION
To
SUCCESS™**



the Adams County Prison Board, Warden Hileman and her staff have devoted themselves to the development of forward-thinking treatment programs that may help to reduce the rate of recidivism in Adams County. It is further the goal of this new treatment programming that individuals who are incarcerated at the Adams County Adult Correctional Complex (ACACC) leave the jail with the acquisition of a new skill set that may allow them to better manage a successful re-introduction into the community.

On Wednesday, after attending a picnic at ACACC for Corrections Officers Week, all three Commissioners toured the Work Release Building with staff. The building is undergoing interior renovations in preparation for the recalibration of these 2 programs. The Board appreciates the time, thought, energy and initiative that has gone into the attempt to enhance re-entry into the community – which in turn benefits Adams County!

The Chamber of Gettysburg & Adams County Awards

On Wednesday evening, the commissioners had the privilege of presenting three recognitions from Adams County during the Chamber Awards at The Lodges of Gettysburg. The Non-profit of the Year winner was the Visiting Nurses Association. VNA, a community-based non-profit based in Hanover and Spring Grove, has been a cornerstone of our community since 1909. The past three years their role has been especially critical - as well as difficult. Several of the presenters on Wednesday evening related how VNA has benefited themselves and their families.

For the Adams County Educator of the Year Award, Adams County Tech Prep Teacher/Chef Jeremy Schaffner was nominated for his exceptional skill in preparing young adults for both careers and for life. There were two tables of current and former students to support their respected teacher.

The Small Businessperson of the Year was Jay Patel. Patel's successful immigrant story started on a farm in India, where he got a degree in Mechanical Engineering, traveled to Toronto, Canada with \$8 in his pocket seeking a job, and was advised to go to Gettysburg and buy a small motel which would provide both income and family lodging. Jay bought the Penn Eagle motel in 1981 on York Road at the current Arby's location. He never looked back turning it into a Friendship Inn, buying the Stonehenge Lodge which was later converted to a Comfort Suite, the Hampton Inn, and The Hilton Garden Inn. Jay's impact on our community is notable! Congratulations to all three award winners!

Corrections Officers Recognized

Adams County Corrections Officers were recognized at the commissioners public meeting on May 3 during *National Corrections Officer Week*. A large contingent of officers from the Adams County Adult Correctional Complex attended the meeting with the Warden Hileman & Assistant Warden Snyder. The past several years made what is always a difficult job - even more difficult with COVID dynamics. Both the officers and the prison administration are to be commended for their commitment, experience, knowledge, and resourcefulness to get through that taxing period. The Warden reported

Thank you

that current staffing levels and the quality of applicants is encouraging. As reported above, the ACACC is enthusiastic to oversee work release and establish and guide a Transitions To Success Program. Our best wishes to the ACACC administration and staff for success on every level!



The End

- Rock the night away with *Heads Or Tails Experience* at Jacks Hard Cider Core Theater tonight from 6-9PM.
- Head up to the Thirsty Farmer Brew Works for *Tommy B Live* from 5-8PM this evening. Pair your drink with delicious food made from farm fresh ingredients.
- Mother's Day Four-Course Brunch Tea at 9AM and 10:30AM on Sunday.
- Mother's Day special this Friday, Saturday & Sunday at *Eagle & The Owl Restaurant in Carroll Valley*. Three course \$28 special menu selection with starter, entrée and dessert. Happy Mother's Day!!
- *Living History Encampment & Candlelight Talk* this Sunday at Children of Gettysburg 1863 on Baltimore Street. The living history encampment is open to the public from 10-4 each day with the candlelight program from 8-9PM Saturday.
- *Mother's Day Make'nTake* at Hollabaugh Bros this Saturday from 10-12 so gather the kids and make Mom a special gift. Cost is \$15 per flower pot and includes painting a flower pot with flowers, making a homemade card, a 20% off gift certificate to give Mom to use at Hollabaugh's. Recommended age 4-10.
- *Mother's Day Craft Class with EZ Peezy Crafts* at Adams County Winery this Saturday from 11-3. The \$75 cost includes building your own planter box with supplies and plants included, a tour of the winery production room, and a glass of wine with the complimentary glass for you to keep.
- *Get Together for Tourism Event* during National Travel & Tourism Week. On Saturday from 11-3 join Destination Gettysburg for Community Day featuring a free picnic lunch at the Eastern Museum of Motor Racing just off Rt 15 in York Springs. Admission to the museum is Free!
- On Sunday at Hauser Hill Event Center, celebrate *Mother's Day Chill On The Hill* with a Blues Trio, indulge in crepes, build a bouquet while sipping wine, beer, sangria and other non-alcoholic drinks while appreciating the stunning view.
- On Sunday The Outlet Shoppes At Gettysburg is hosting the *Beautiful Brass Cars Flea Market* featuring the largest display of brass era pre-1916 cars on the East Coast. The display begins at 8AM.
- The Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra performs a free Mother's Day concert this Sunday at The Seminary. The performance will feature soloists Felix Hell on the organ and Grace Kim on the piano. The performance begins at 4:00PM

It's time to put down mulch, plant those flowers and mow the grass. I have already been pulling and spraying weeds. No matter what you do, get out there and experience all the Historical, Recreational, Agricultural, Natural, & Cultural opportunities that beautiful Adams County has to offer! A Happy Mother's Day wish to all you mom's!