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from
Adams County

written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

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Real Estate Tax Rebate For First Responders

At the November 15th public meeting the Commissioners approved Ordinance #3 of 2023. This Ordinance provided tax relief for qualified fire fighters and volunteer personnel residing in Adams County.

The State Legislature recently passed a bill that allowed Counties to provide tax relief for volunteer responders – without providing any funding. Thus, each County had to decide if they chose to fund this initiative. Given the value and commitment of volunteer first responders in Adams County, the Commissioners determined that implementation of this program was very appropriate. It is hopefully another recruiting and retention tool. The money will come from the County's General Fund. Qualifying volunteer responders will receive a \$250 tax credit. Qualifying hours will be tracked by the President or Chief of the organization with an approved formula for that department. The Adams County Board of Commissioners recognizes the significance, value, and commitment of our volunteer first responders and hopes this small gesture provides our volunteer responders both fiscal and personal recognition!

Staff Health Insurance

Health Insurance is high on everyone's priority list and Adams County staff is no exception. The Commissioners understand how important health insurance is to county staff and strive to provide the highest quality health insurance at the lowest possible employee contribution.

At the November 15th public meeting the Commissioner's approved the 2024 agreement with Capital Blue Cross. Staff can choose a \$500 or \$1000 deductible - unless their union contract differentiates. The contract again includes PPO & RX programs along with Vision & Dental. Here is the best news for staff - there is no increase in employee contributions this year! In today's health insurance climate, the Board is very pleased to hold the line on health insurance contributions by staff - while providing quality health insurance!

Adams County staff, please remember to complete your benefit elections by today. No changes will be accepted after this date!!



The End

- **A Gettysburg Christmas Festival** December 1-3.

Downtown Gettysburg. Three stages of entertainment, free activities, shopping, dining, food, beverages, carriage rides, markets, tours, kids' activities, and crafts. Tickets for screening of the movie "A Gettysburg Christmas" unfortunately are sold out.

- **Gettysburg Choral Society "Joy to the World" Performance.** Friday 7PM. Lutheran Seminary Chapel. Free!
- **Dueling Pianos Live,** Boyer Cellars, Biglerville. Friday 6-9PM. Audience driven all request format. If you haven't experienced dueling pianos is a great time!
- **Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer Jr,** 60-minute musical. Gettysburg Community Theater, Saturday 2PM. \$15 on-line & \$20 at door.
- **Homespun Christmas & Holiday Market,** Historic G.A.R. Building, 53 East Middle Street. Friday & Saturday. Hand-crafted gifts with traditional baked goods, Eisenhower's famous fudge and holiday greens.
- **Daniel Lady Farm Candlelight Tours.** Next 2 Saturdays. 5:30-9PM. \$10-15. Learn about Christmas in different periods with the house decorated for Christmas. 1008 Hanover Road, Gettysburg.
- **Songs & Stories of a Civil War Hospital.** Christ Lutheran Church Chambersburg Street. Open House from 2-4 and Christmas Carols of the Civil War 4-5PM.
- **Gettysburg Garden Club Annual Greens & Gourmet Gifts Sale,** Gettysburg Fire Department, Saturday, 9AM.

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!