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from
Adams County

written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

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PA Ag Secretary Russell Redding Retained

At the Public Officials Luncheon at the Pennsylvania Farm Show on Wednesday, it was very welcome news to learn that Adams County's own, Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding, was asked to stay in that position under the in-coming Shapiro administration. As confirmed by Secretary Redding's and Governor Shapiro's remarks during the event, it would be an understatement to say that we are thrilled he accepted the position. Russell is a valued friend to many in Adams County, and symbolizes what effective administration, stellar service to community, and non-partisanship look like during these all too prevalent partisan times. This is why Russell Redding has been asked by both Republican and Democratic administrations to come on board and do the important work for Pennsylvania agriculture. With that all being fact - just make sure when you see Nina around the county, you give her a big thank-you for allowing us to share Russell for just a wee bit longer!



PA Farm Show Back With High Demand

All three commissioners attended the 107TH Pennsylvania Farm Show for the Public Officials event on Wednesday. With obvious pent-up demand, visitor turn-out was significant with heavy traffic, shuttle parking and crowds of visitors inside the building. Once inside the Farm Show building it was navigable – but make sure you watch out for speeding infant strollers pushed by distracted operators!

Governor-elect Josh Shapiro and Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding were the featured speakers at the Public Officials event. In his remarks, Secretary Redding elaborated on this year's Farm Show theme "*Rooted In Progress*" by honoring our agriculture roots and visioning for the future. Shapiro expressed his prioritized commitment to agriculture as a critical economic tool, stated that after looking over the agriculture landscape that Russell Redding was clearly the individual to lead agriculture in Pennsylvania, and that immediately after his remarks he was headed to the Dairymen's Association booth to try their new orange creamsicle milkshake. Ed Note: Lisa Moreno-Woodward reported she went to the Farm Show Wednesday evening and gave the creamsicle milkshake a full thumbs up! The Pennsylvania Farm Show concludes it's 2023 run tomorrow.

Broadband Survey Update

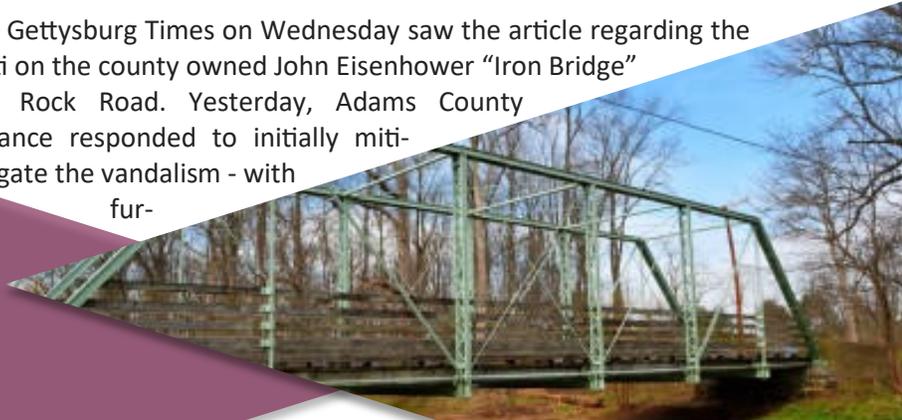
In our continuing effort to further better internet service in Adams County, the public survey for the Broadband Community Assessment is concluding today. You still can complete the survey on-line today by going to the Adams County Home Page www.adamscountypa.gov This survey effort has been very successful and will contribute valuable information to the study. Currently over 2,500 responses from households and businesses have been collected throughout Adams County! Such a large number of responses will assist us in determining which specific areas of the county need faster, more reliable internet service. Thank you to all who have taken the time to complete a survey for your home or business. We continue to encourage residents to check the Broadband Initiative website at <https://arcg.is/OSW8Ge> within the coming months to stay up-to-date on the County's progress.

Congratulations IT's Megan Smith

We are keenly aware that cybersecurity is a contemporary priority and a significant risk to our organization. Congratulations are in order to an Adams County IT staff member who graduated from the *National Association of Counties Cybersecurity Leadership Academy* this month! Megan Smith, IT Technician/Application Support Specialist, was one of 20 participants in the program across the state of PA to complete the 12-week leadership course. Megan joins two previous Adams County graduates, Phil Walter & Gale Kendall in obtaining NACo leadership certification. Megan, we salute and thank you for your achievement!

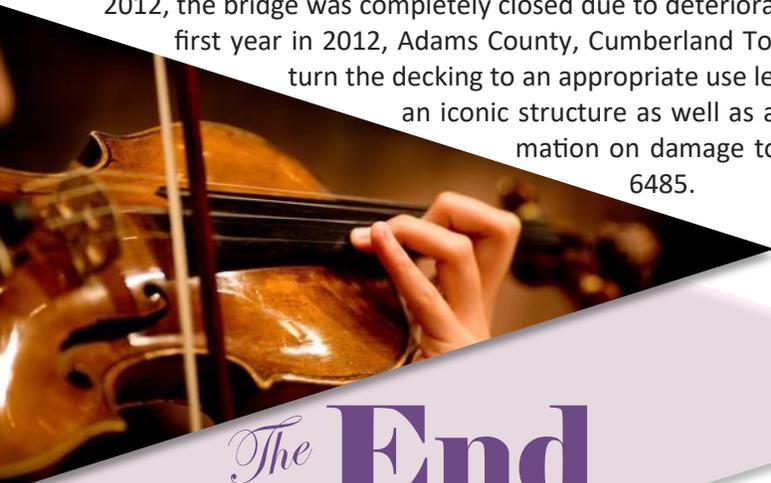
John Eisenhower (Iron Bridge) Vandalized

Many folks who read the Gettysburg Times on Wednesday saw the article regarding the offensive graffiti on the county owned John Eisenhower "Iron Bridge" off Red Rock Road. Yesterday, Adams County Maintenance responded to initially mitigate the vandalism - with fur-



ther mitigation anticipated. This unique and significant historic bridge, built in 1886, utilized metal pipe and struts throughout the bridge, with distinctive unique castings.

The bridge on Water Works Road, has been restored in place and is now restricted to pedestrians and bicycles. At the beginning of this Board's tenure in 2012, the bridge was completely closed due to deteriorated unsafe decking. By the end of that first year in 2012, Adams County, Cumberland Township and a private donor collaborated to return the decking to an appropriate use level for pedestrians and bikers. The Iron Bridge is certainly an iconic structure as well as a wonderful route to walk, run or bike! If you have any information on damage to the bridge, please contact Cumberland Twp. PD at 717-334-6485.



The End

Things have calmed down after that surge of events over the holiday season, but here are a few ideas that you may find enticing - when some of us are not watching play-off football this weekend!

- The *National Park Service Winter Lecture Series* has begun every Saturday & Sunday at 1:30 in the Visitor Center Theater. The lectures featuring the Park, the Battle and the American Civil War run through February 26. Free tickets are required. Go to [nps.gov/get](https://www.nps.gov/get)
- I can guarantee you a great night of entertainment by attending this evening's performance of *Dancing with the Local Stars* at The Majestic Theater. You will find me in the balcony. Support the YWCA & The Adams County Arts Council. The show begins at 7PM with ticket prices between \$33-45. Call the box office at 717-337-8200 or go to www.gettysburgmajestic.org
- *Tank Rides*. Have you ever ridden in a WWII Sherman army tank? No? Well, this Saturday for a \$595 donation, at the WWII American Experience, two can take at least a 10-minute ride that also includes instruction. Also, on Saturday there are Live Military Vehicle Demonstrations. Adults \$25 & Kids over 6 \$15. Email jwilson@visitww2.org or call 717-253-3414.
- *Black History Walking Tour of Gettysburg* this Saturday & Sunday, 11 & 1. Gettysburg Licensed Town Guides offer 1-hour tours. Reservations necessary 1 hour before tour. \$15. www.gbtlg.com
- *Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra Baroque Ensemble*, Sunday, 3PM at the Lutheran Seminary. Concert is free and open to public.
- Eating is one of my favorite social and recreational pastimes. Adams County *Firehall Dinners* are near the top of that list. The iconic Heidlersburg Fire Company Beef & Oyster Dinners are back inside the building January 21 from 3-6. Cost is \$25. Carry out is also available. The Cashtown Community Fire Company Fair is back in their building on February 2 & 3 with their long-standing family oyster/turkey/chicken/waffles dinner. Cost \$25. Buchanan Valley FD is hosting a meat raffle on January 20. The event includes a free broasted chicken meal. Doors open at 4:00, meal at 6:00 and raffle begins at 7:00.

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