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from
Adams County

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Election Night Ballot Return Process

I am pleased to report the Primary Election operations went very well in Adams County. This can certainly be attributed to the work, planning and dedication of many County staff and poll workers, with an assist from Mother Nature on a beautiful spring day! Although “slow and steady with no lines” seemed to be descriptive of poll activity, turnout at the end of the day exceeded expectations for a primary at 39%. Normally for a primary the turnout is closer to the 25% range.

Of approximately 7000 mail-in ballots sent to Adams County voters requesting that method of voting, 5556 were returned. Ballots cast totaled 23,823 with 19,168 registered Democrats and 40,505 registered Republicans. The new receiving process of poll workers returning ballot boxes and paperwork from their cars in Courthouse Alley generally worked well with a few ob-



A logo for PDF/A digital record preservation, featuring the text 'PDF/A' in a white box on a maroon background, with a white Adobe Acrobat symbol below it.

PDF/A

servations made to improve speed and efficiency in the future. The Election Canvas is taking place today, where results from each precinct are certified, military ballots are counted, ballots in question and provisional ballots are examined. There will probably be a mandated re-count required by statute for the U.S. Senate race between Oz & McCormick due to the margin being less than half a percent. If that occurs, we will receive instructions from the PA Department of State providing guidelines for the re-count. The process of preparing for the General Election on November 8 has already begun.

A loud shout out to all our dedicated County staff and poll workers for their work and dedication to ensure this fundamental right to vote is exercised in both an effective and secure manner in Adams County.

IT Update

The Information Technology Department recently completed a core project related to PDF/a digital record preservation. As required by law; the County, Courts, and Elected offices must follow record retention procedures as set by the appropriate governing bodies. These bodies include the Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission and The Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts. Each have set disposition schedules broken out specifically by department.

The purpose of the PDF/a project was to create a single digital repository where all long term and permanent records may be stored by interested departments. Now that the project has concluded, departments are encouraged to contact the IT Department to learn more about how this environment may be used to store department specific long term and permanent records digitally. Ultimately, this has the potential to eliminate the need to keep physical paper records and microfilmed images.

Fallen Officer Memorial Service

The Adams County Fallen Officer Memorial Service was held Friday, May 6th, 2022, at the Adams County Department of Emergency Services. The event was hosted by the Adams County Chiefs of Police. Seven Adams County Law Enforcement Officers that have died in the line of duty since 1924 were recognized. All Pennsylvania law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty in 2021 were also recognized. McSherrystown Police Department Canine Ozi was recognized for his service to the community with end of watch on February 25, 2022. Jamie Tome, the sister of deceased Northern York County Regional Police Officer David Tome delivered opening remarks. Tome was killed by a distracted driver in 2008. Adams County District Attorney Brian Sinnett delivered closing remarks.

Adams County Receives HARB Award

On May 18, 2022, the Gettysburg's Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) recognized Adams County with a certificate of merit in the restoration category for work completed on the Adams County Historic Courthouse roof and belltower. The County was also recognized as an honorable mention in the category of new commercial construction for work at Mercy House (45 W High Street). HARB commended Adams County for the County's work to protect the architectural and historical character that makes Gettysburg a unique

988

place.

Special thanks go out to Larry Steinour, Director of Building and Maintenance, for his diligent work on this project.

Lifeline & 988 National Suicide Hotline

The Adams County Community should be aware that **988** has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. While some areas may be currently able to connect to the Lifeline by dialing 988, this dialing code will be available to everyone across the United States starting on July 16, 2022. When people call, text, or chat 988, they will be connected to trained counselors that are part of the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network. These trained counselors will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources if necessary.

The current Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will always remain available to people in emotional distress or suicidal crisis, even after 988 is launched on July 16. The Lifeline's network of over 180 crisis centers has been in operation since 2005 and has been proven to be effective. It's the counselors at these local crisis centers who answer the contacts the Lifeline receives every day. Numerous studies have shown that callers feel less suicidal, less depressed, less overwhelmed, and more hopeful after speaking with a Lifeline counselor.

Adams County Staff/Family Bus Trip

Adams County HR is coordinating a bus trip to see the O's play the Yankees on Sunday July 24th at 1:05 pm. The cost is roughly \$85 per person for bus and ticket for the game. This event is not funded by the County. The bus can either hold 38 or 54 (either bus is available as of now). Please let Michelle Miller know as soon as possible if you are interested in going (along with your family/friends) so the bus and tickets can be reserved. You will need to pay then as well. This is a great opportunity for baseball lovers!

Adams County Envirothon

The Adams County Conservation District was excited to bring back the Adams County Envirothon's these past two weeks at the Agricultural and Natural Resources Center (Ag Center). After taking a two-year hiatus from hosting an in-person event, spirits were high for all those who attended the events. The event blessed with beautiful warm sunny days for both the High school and Middle school events. Students from five schools organized teams to compete in five exams, over two days, focusing on wildlife, aquatics, forestry, soils, and the 2022 current environmental issue, which was "Waste to Resource".

Agency staff from the Adams County Conservation District, Adams County Planning, USDA - Natural Resource & Conservation Services, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Game Commission, and Gettysburg College - Advancing Science all came out to provide programming at stations that were situated around the Ag Center campus. Ad-

ams Electric Cooperative, Inc., Arentz Hay & Grain, Inc, C. S. Davidson, Inc, Gettysburg Adams Kiwanis, Gettysburg Municipal Authority, and Land & Sea Services, LLC all sponsored the events to make it possible to provide each participant with a Petersons Field Guide.

The winning team of each station was also awarded a variety of Field Guides pertinent to each station. Adams County Commissioners Phiel, Martin, and Qually assisted with handing out awards. Littlestown High School "TEAM TOO" finished 1st and took home the traveling trophy. Gettysburg High School "Ruffled Grouse" team finished 2nd and close behind in 3rd was Littlestown High School "Team #1". At the Middle School event, Upper Adams "Team Black" were the Grand Champions and close behind were 2nd place Upper Adams "Team Gold" and 3rd place New Oxford's "Team Marcellus Shale". The Conservation District is looking forward to growing these annual events in the years to come and are thankful for all the volunteers who make such a great event possible.



The End

Don't forget there is *live music at The Mansion House* in Fairfield every Thursday evening from 6PM-8:30PM. There is no cover charge and music may be inside or outside depending on the weather.

This evening experience *The Taverns of Gettysburg: A Walking* tour with a Licensed Town Guide at 6PM. You will hear some of Gettysburg's most colorful history of balloon rides, murders, tanks, the Medal of Honor, Presidents, fires, civil war history and temperance societies. Here's the bonus: At the end you will receive a voucher for beer or wine from a local merchant. Call 717-253-5737 or www.gbtlg.com

For you BBQ lovers Banjo's BBQ will be serving delicious BBQ at the Quality Inn Gettysburg Battlefield parking lot Saturday's and Sunday's beginning at 11AM and weekdays at 2PM. Go to Facebook for more information.

Bend The Rails is performing on the Gettysburg Square on the Arts Council platform. It is a blend of folk, blues, and country music. On Saturday *Aaron Getchell Band* will be performing at 7PM. Bring your chair and enjoy the performance. This is a free event. Singer/Songwriter Marisa Porter is live at *Garryowen Pub* from 8PM-10PM this evening. At *Jacks Hard Cider Friday Night Live* From The Grey will perform 7PM-10PM. The *Clark McLane Band* hits the stage at GO from 10PM-1AM on Saturday evening.

Gettysburg Tours is running a *Pour Tour Shuttle* this evening at 5PM. This is the *Wine Friday Tour*. They will go to Hallbrendt Winery, J&P Winery and Reid's Winery. Cost is \$35 which includes free gift, water, and transportation. Contact Gettysburg Battlefield Tours.

Oyler's Organic Farm & Market offer a fresh breakfast on Saturday morning utilizing organic eggs, meats, waffles, pancakes, English muffins, and bagels. They are located at 400 Pleasant Valley Road, Biglerville. Phone 717-677-8411.

Support the *Adams County SPCA* on Sunday by participating in the *Adams County SPCA Loyalty Walk* at 8:30AM at Oakside Park. You can walk either ½, 1, or 3 miles. Registration begins at 8:30AM and the walk begins at 10:00AM. There are also other activities including a dog costume contest and a Lure Course. A \$5 donation per dog is suggested.

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!