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*from*  
*Adams County*

written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

August 24, 2018

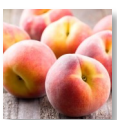
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*Best Wishes*

## **Solicitor John Hartzell**

Most of you are already aware that Adams County Solicitor John Hartzell will be moving on to work with the Pennsylvania Department of State, in the area of Right to Know/Elections, beginning September 10. John's experience, attention to detail and historic organizational knowledge will be greatly missed. Like myself, John has deep roots in Adams County and we have a lot of common knowledge of events, places and people. I will miss frequently going down memory lane with John as we spontaneously recalled and reminisced about those items – especially regarding the common roots of our youth on the farm in Cashtown.

Besides John's dedication to Adams County government, John's commitment as a long-time scoutmaster to hundreds of local youth in Troop 73, even for many years after his own son completed scouting, is also commendable. John was the scouting mentor to my youngest son Connor when he completed his Eagle Scout rank. I hear they are going to gold plate a stool at



The Texas Lunch to honor John for him just to use on weekends? John said that we can keep him on our speed dial.

Thank you John for your dedicated and valuable service to Adams County government and to the Adams County community! We wish you the best as you as you embark on your new journey!

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## York Springs Celebrates 150th Anniversary

Looking for something to do this evening and tomorrow? On Aug. 20, 1868, the Court of Quarter Sessions in Gettysburg granted the petition of the citizens of York Springs to incorporate as the Borough of York Springs. One hundred and fifty years later, on Aug. 25, 2018, the Borough of York Springs is celebrating this milestone with a fun-filled day of community activities to celebrate the town's history. There are a total of 35 events planned at 12 venues, including a 5K Run/Fun Walk, Old-Fashioned Baseball, Civil War re-enactments, pottery demonstrations, live entertainment, food tasting and fireworks. Six different competitions ranging from a baking contest to a watermelon eating contest to a hula hoop competition are open to those who want to participate.

While the event is free to attend, some activities, like carriage rides, require tickets which can be purchased online before the event. Vendor registration for craft vendors and those who want to participate in the community yard sale can also be found online. The Adams County Commissioners and other community officials will recognize the anniversary during ceremonies at 6:30PM.

Visit [www.yorksprings150th.org](http://www.yorksprings150th.org) to view a full list schedule of events, register and purchase tickets for events throughout the day.

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## Former Courthouse Phone System Now History

The Information Technology Department is also happy to report that the legacy telephone system at the Courthouse has officially been shut down. All incoming and outgoing calling is no longer reliant on the old system for the first time in many decades. After roughly a 30 year run, the PBX IWATSU system will officially be removed from its place in the old IT data center within the next few months. The VOIP system now controls all county building calling needs with the exception of the County Prison. The IT staff have already begun to deploy the new VOIP phones at the Prison with an anticipated cutover date to the new system sometime in the fall. The total phone counts for the new system will be around 600 phones in use. The IT Department has plans to offer a follow up seminar in early 2019 to speak with any interested departments on utilizing more advanced features within the system. It will also provide a time to receive feedback on how the system has been working within its first full year of use throughout the County.



## Rt. 34 Bridge Open

The new bridge carrying Route 34 (Carlisle Road) over Opossum Creek in Menallen Township, Adams County is again open to traffic.. This bridge was replaced as part of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's (PennDOT) Rapid Bridge Replacement Project. With the new bridge open, motorists may notice a slight bump as they drive across the bridge until a polyester polymer concrete (PPC) overlay is applied to the deck. The PPC overlay is designed to protect the deck from the wear and tear brought about by Pennsylvania's harsh winters and reduce the long-term maintenance costs.

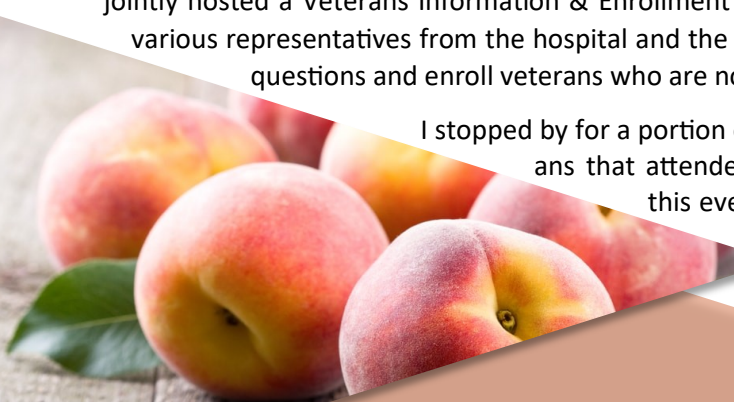
The Rapid Bridge Replacement Project is a public-private partnership (P3) between PennDOT and Plenary Walsh Keystone Partners (PWKP), under which PWKP will finance, design, replace, and maintain the bridges for 25 years. The P3 approach will allow PennDOT to replace the bridges more quickly while achieving significant savings and minimizing impact on motorists.

To see the bridges included in the statewide initiative and to learn more about the Rapid Bridge Replacement Project, visit [www.parapidbridges.com](http://www.parapidbridges.com). or call 877-444-9990.

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## VA Information & Enrollment Fair a Success

On Wednesday afternoon, the Lebanon VA Medical Center and the Adams County Department of Veterans Affairs jointly hosted a Veterans Information & Enrollment Fair at the Gettysburg American Legion from 4-8PM. There were various representatives from the hospital and the National Cemetery Administration to provide information, answer questions and enroll veterans who are not currently enrolled in VA Health Care.



I stopped by for a portion of the program and was very pleased at the number of local veterans that attended. A shout out to Adams County Veterans Affairs for facilitating this event and *The Gettysburg Times* for helping to get the word out. For veteran's program information or enrollment contact Adams County Veterans Affairs at 717-337-9835.

# The End

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After the deluge of rain, this weekend finally promises to be beautiful. Beside the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2-day weekend celebration and activities in York Springs, there are many other activities as well. The historic and always popular Buchanan Valley Picnic at St. Ignatius Catholic Church is this Saturday from noon until dusk. If you are already in the vicinity of York Springs this weekend is the Annual Peach Fest at Peters Orchards. Adams County's harvest bounty is in full gear with peaches, apples, tomatoes, corn, watermelon and other produce ripe for your eating enjoyment.

This is the last weekend at the Totem Pole for *The Queen of Bingo*. I am not sure if I will be successful, but I am going to try and get there as I hear it is a hilarious two hours of humor. Don't forget that The Majestic Theater is always a great venue to catch a 4PM or 7PM movie and then catch dinner before or after.

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!