

T G I F

from
Adams County

written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

October 10, 2025

In this issue...

Page 2

Rooftop Solar Project Realizes \$300,000
Tax Rebate



Board Agrees To House Franklin
County Prisoners

Hanover Shoe Farm Land

Conservation Hits 3,101 ac

Violence Against Women & Children
Grant Approved



Board Approves Community Block
Grant Applications

WWII Museum Hosts D-Day Exhibit

Page 3

Courthouse Exterior Painting Finished
Staff Appreciation Picnic Efforts –
Appreciated!



The End



AC Renews Lease with Air Methods Medi-Vac

Five years ago, it was an important step forward in improving the health, safety, and welfare of our Adams County residents when the Adams County Board of Commissioners approved leasing space to Air Methods, placing a Medi-vac helicopter at the Adams County Department of Emergency Services. At our October 1st public meeting, the Board of Commissioners approved the Land and Office Space Lease Agreement with Air Methods, LLC. This Agreement renews the original lease for an additional 2-years. Air Methods will continue to lease approximately 10,000 square feet at 230 Greenmyer Lane, Straban Township, at a rate of \$3,085.46 per month for the purpose of operating an air ambulance service. This Agreement is effective as of August 1, 2025 and expires July 31, 2027.

Rooftop Solar Project Realizes \$300k Tax Rebate

The Board recently approved an engagement letter with Walker Blue to provide tax consulting services to the County for the purpose of claiming the Federal Investment Tax Credit for the rooftop solar project at the Human Services Building. The tax credit is anticipated to be worth approximately \$300,000.00. The total cost of these services, including tax form preparation, is \$21,467.00. This Agreement is effective October 1, 2025.

Board Agrees To House Specified Franklin County Prisoners

Adams and Franklin Counties have always had a good working relationship especially with corrections and emergency services. To assist Franklin County and fill some open space for a fee at the Adams County Adult Correction Facility, the Board recently approved an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with Franklin County to house certain low-security inmates at the Adult Correctional Complex on an as needed basis. The Agreement provides that Franklin County will reimburse Adams County at a per diem rate of \$80.00 per inmate as well as for costs of all meals. This Agreement is effective October 1, 2025 for a period of six (6) months.

Hanover Shoe Farm Land Conservation Hits 3,101 Acres

At the October 1st public meeting, the Board approved two more conservation easements protecting valuable agricultural land. The Agreement of Sale was approved for the purchase of a Conservation Easement on a 132.05-acre farm owned by Trotalong, LLC (Hanover Shoe Farms) in Conewago Township. The total cost of the Conservation Easement is \$396,150.00, which will be paid for entirely by the Commonwealth. No County funds will be used for this purchase. This generally completes the preservation in perpetuity of 3,101 acres of Hanover Shoe Farms land. This has been a collaboration between the landowners, County of Adams, Adams County Planning, Land Conservancy of Adams County, Union Township, Conewago Township and other donors and contributors. The effort of every contributor is appreciated in making this unique and significant project happen!

There was also an Agreement of Sale for the purchase of a Conservation Easement on a 102.06-acre farm owned by David and Fabienne Gladfelter in Mt. Pleasant Township. The total cost of the Conservation Easement is \$306,180.00, which will be paid for entirely by the Commonwealth in three (3) equal annual installments. No County funds will be used for this purchase.

Violence Against Women & Children Grant Approved

Protecting the health and welfare of Adams County residents is always fundamental to the Board's responsibility – especially for the most vulnerable! Upon recommendation of District Attorney Brian Sinnett, the Board of Commissioners approved the Pass-Through Contract Agreement with YWCA Hanover – Safe Home. This Contract allocates \$37,500.00 in funds from the STOP Violence Against Women Subgrant #44102 to YWCA Hanover – Safe Home for a portion of the salary and benefits of a Client Advocate and two on-call Client Advocates. The Agreement is effective October 1, 2025 and terminates December 31, 2026.

Board Approves Community Block Grant Applications

Community Development Block Grants continue to be an option for municipal infrastructure improvement. At a CDBG public hearing held during the October 1st Commissioners public meeting, Resolution No. 10 of 2025 was passed authorizing the submission of an application to the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for Community Development Block Grant Program funds in the amounts of \$318,267.00 for the County, \$126,173.00 on behalf of the Borough of Gettysburg, and \$101,261.00 on behalf of the Borough of Littlestown. This Resolution is effective October 1, 2025.

WWII Museum Hosts Unique D-Day Exhibit

On the 80TH Anniversary of D-Day, this month, the World War II American Experience Museum on Mummasburg Road is hosting a free exhibit, The Longest Yarn. This is only one of 3 stops in the US. The exhibit was shipped in from France. It's a scenario where crafting meets history is quite large. This



265' knitted and crocheted tapestry of dioramas depicts the 80 days between D-Day landings and the liberation of Paris. The work involved hundreds of volunteers worldwide. The exhibition has toured internationally, including in Normandy, France, and the United States.

Courthouse Exterior Painting Completed

You may have recently noticed very long ladders and high lifts around the courthouse for the past month. On those ladders and high lifts were Adams County Maintenance staff painting the windows and trim of the Courthouse. For anyone who has recently hired a painting contractor you know painting does not come cheap, especially three and four story high commercial painting. A shout out to Adams County Maintenance staff for completing the job in-house, keeping costs down and making sure our historic building is preserved and well maintained!

Staff Appreciation Picnic Efforts – Appreciated!

A tip of the hat + thank you to our colleagues who make our September Staff Appreciation Week and Picnic at the AG Center a delightful opportunity to partake in some delicious food and commune with other co-workers. A special shout out to coordinators Paula Neiman, Lisa Moreno-Woodward and Cecilia Billingsley, cooks Tom Leedy, Rick Esenwine and Nick Cook, our HR Department, and our Planning Department for putting together the games and several others who make this day happen. As has become a tradition, Bag the Bounty was the recipient of food donations from staff!



The End

- **National Apple Harvest Festival:** An iconic Adams County Fall event at the South Mountain Fairground featuring lots and lots of crafts, entertainment, great food and beverage. Always the first and second weekends of October, although last week felt a bit like summer, this looks like another great weekend. Saturday 8-6 and Sunday 8-5. \$ 10 for adults and parking/shuttle free!
- **Land Conservancy Of Adams County Road Rally:** Grab your co-pilot on Saturday, October 18 and enjoy the vistas of beautiful Adams County while seeing the “Animals of Adams County.” This is not a race! Teams make numerous stops and answer trivia questions. The rally begins at the Adams County AG Center at 1:00 and ends with a finish line party. This event combines education and fun during a beautiful Fall season in Adams County. This popular annual event is always seeking to add participants and sponsors as one of the organizations largest fundraisers. You can sign up and find registration forms at www.preserveadams.org/road-rally or call 717-334-2828.
- **John Prine Community Tribute:** I’m not too old to remember I was a big John Prine fan about 55 years ago. Well fast forward there will be a live tribute concert this evening at 7PM at the Lincoln Square bandstand. These concerts are sponsored by several benefactors and are free. Bring your own chair and enjoy music under the (hopefully) stars. You may just see me there!
- **Potomac Home Brigade Living History:** At Spangler Spring on Saturday & Sunday, experience the roar of artillery and the flash of bayonets as living historians camp on the battlefield and demonstrate the tools, tactic, and firepower of the two armies – that waged war across these hallowed grounds. Saturday 11, 1 & 3. Sunday 11 & 1.
- **Adams County Farmers Market Trick-Or-Treat Trail.** This is the 2nd annual ACFM Trick-Or-Treat Trail on Saturday from 8-1 at the Gettysburg Rec Park. The event is free for kids and families to participate. Grab some great fresh local produce while you are there.
- **Gettysburg Downtown Filming This Weekend:** Baltimore Street will be closed this weekend in front of the Shriver House with movie cameras capturing the Union retreat through the town to Cemetery Hill on July 1st 1863. This brand-new film from actor and director Bo Brinkman follows a fictional Gettysburg family whose lives are forever changed by the civil war and one Union soldiers struggle to survive and find his way home. We hear that Baltimore Street in that area will be closed and covered with ground to replicate the historic street. Paid spectator seating is available that includes several other perks with all proceeds going to Shriver House preservation.
- **Eisenhower 135TH Birthday Commemoration:** The Eisenhower Society commemorates Ike’s 135TH birthday anniversary with a ceremony at his statue in front of the Gettysburg College Admissions Office on Carlisle Street with comments and a wreath laying at noon on Saturday. At 1PM all are welcome to gather for a luncheon with featured speaker Dr. Brain Black “Ike’s Last Road Trip” referencing our national road system, at the Dobbin House. The price is \$35.
- **Fall Family Day At The Spangler Farm:** Enjoy the holiday weekend at the George Spangler Farm with a FREE day of fun and exploration at the best-preserved field hospital from the civil war. Activities include living history, encampment’s, civil war medicine, historic barn preservation presentations and local favorites. Guest can drive directly to the property at 488 Blacksmith Shop Road. Contact: gettysburgfoundation.org
- **Liberty Tree Dedication:** At 10AM Saturday join America 250PA and the Pennsylvania Freemasons at the Lutheran Seminary for the *The Liberty Tree Project In Adams County*. 67 Liberty Trees are being planted in Pennsylvania – one for each of the 67 counties.
- **Collaborating For Youth Family Friday & Farm Night:** Friday, October 17, from 4:30-6:30 at Gettysburg Rec Park. This free event will include a DJ, crafts, pumpkin painting, scarecrow making, games and food along with a pumpkin pie eater contest.

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!