

T.G.I.F. *from Adams County*

WRITTEN BY: COMMISSIONER PHIEL



Adams County Junior Firefighting Cadet Academy

What's New

CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS
MONTH COMMUNITY EVENT

UNITED WAY HAS A NEW HOME

CCAP 2026 SUMMER
CONFERENCE

SOUTH MOUNTAIN FAIR

BLUE STAR MEMORIAL MARKER
DEDICATION

AFFORDABLE HOUSING GRANT
AWARDED

Attracting young adults to the fire service has become more difficult in today's world. This is especially true in the volunteer fire service. Our volunteer fire companies in Adams County, and surrounding counties, provide a tremendous community service while providing a significant savings to taxpayers.

The days of handing a volunteer a helmet, coat, and boots, and then put them on a rig are long over! As a community we need to do a better job attracting and training young adults to this beneficial community and life experience. In that regard, I would like to recognize the Adams County Cadet Fire Academy that graduated 24 students last week. This is an intensive week-long camp at the Adams County Department of Emergency Services for junior firefighters ages 14-17 covering self-contained breathing apparatus, hose deployments, rescue, and a menu of other firefighting skills. The cadets' bunk at DES and usually visit other fire departments in the area for their evening meal.

These young adults are to be commended for their motivation, discipline, and recognition of community service. A huge shout out to the adult volunteers and instructors that make this academy happen. Volunteering for a week is a large commitment of time and energy; but most of these folks have a passion for the fire service and are enthusiastic about passing their knowledge to these young adults. Make sure these young adults and volunteer trainers know they are appreciated by the community!

Child Support Awareness Month Community Event

The Adams County Domestic Relations is proud to host its Annual Child Support Awareness Community Connections Event on Friday, August 7, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM at the Human Services Building. Families attending the event can enjoy games, activities, entertainment, and community engagement. Free attractions include face painting, caricature artist, balloon artist, games, prizes and free school supplies while supplies last. Children will also receive a free ice cream cone, and a variety of food trucks will be on site offering food and refreshments for purchase.

More than 30 community agencies and organizations will be on hand to connect residents with programs and services available throughout Adams County. Participating organizations include KPETS, Adams County Library, Adams County Head Start, Adams County Farmers Market, CareerLink, PA Commuter Services, AmeriHealth Caritas of PA, Penn State Agriculture Extension, Rabbit Transit, Tonality Music Therapy, South Central Community Action (SCCAP), Healthy Adams County, York/Adams MH-IDD, ARC of York/Adams, YWCA, Justice Works Youth Care, United Way, Technology Assisted Children's Home Program, Family First Health, Hoffman Homes, County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, Gettysburg School District, PA Bureau of Child Support Enforcement, Domestic Relations Association of Pennsylvania, Adams County Assistance Office, START – Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic and many County departments.

Adams County Domestic Relations will also be partnering with the Adams County Farmers Market to enhance community engagement in tandem to Kid's Day at the farmers market on August 1, 2026.

Child Support Awareness

COMMUNITY

CONNECTIONS EVENT

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026
10:00 AM – 1:30PM

Rain date: Friday, August 14, 2026 10:00am - 1:30pm
If you have any questions, please contact our office at 717-337-9804.

ADAMS COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING
525 BOYDS SCHOOL ROAD, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325
 On the lawn left of the building

**Celebrating Children &
 Raising Community Awareness**

- FREE FACE PAINTING
- FREE BALLOON ANIMALS
- COMMUNITY SERVICES
- FOOD TRUCKS
- THERAPY PETS
- FREE ACTIVITIES AND CRAFTS
- DOOR PRIZES
- EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS
- FREE COLORING BOOKS
- FIRST RESPONDERS



Concientización sobre la manutención de los hijos

COMUNIDAD

Evento Connections

VIERNES, 7 DE AGOSTO DE 2026
10:00 AM – 1:30 PM

Fecha de lluvia: viernes 14 de agosto de 2026 10:00am - 1:30pm.
Si tiene alguna pregunta, comuníquese con nuestra oficina al 717-337-9804.

Edificio de Servicios Humanos del Condado de Adams 525
Boyd's School Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325
 En el césped a la izquierda del edificio
 Celebrando a los niños y

Aumentar la conciencia de la comunidad

- Pintacaritas gratis
- Globo de Animales Gratis
- Comunidad Servicios
- Viveres Camiones
- Mascotas de Terapia
- Puerta Premios
- Educativo Materiales
- Libros de Colorear gratis
- Primero Respondedores
- Actividades y artesanías Gratis



United Way Has A New Home

Adams County United Way Board Member Commissioner Martin wants everyone to know that the United Way of Adams County has a new home that is very easy to access with great

parking. They have moved from Buford Avenue in Gettysburg, to Gettysburg Village Drive, Suite 920 at the Gettysburg Outlets off Baltimore Pike. The mission of United Way of Adams County is to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of our community. Programs like Bag The Bounty, Annual Day of Caring, Give It Up For Good Sale, Women's Purse Auction, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program & Annual Day Of Caring are programs that we are familiar with and target assistance to different needs of our community. The United Way is seeking contributions to off set the cost of the necessary relocation. Let's help them help us!



UNITED WAY
Adams County

CCAP 2026 Summer Conference

This weekend the Board will be headed to the Poconos for our state-wide summer conference. Last year, I stepped down from the CCAP Board of Directors after 12-years serving as District 3 Representative for nine counties, Commissioner Martin is now on the board serving as the Chair of the Agriculture Committee. Given the importance of agriculture to Adams County that is certainly appropriate. Beside a variety of break out sessions for 3-days we are expecting to hear from US Senator Dave McCormick, U.S. House Ag Chair GT Thomphson, & PA Treasurer Stacy Garrity. Two of the sessions, New Trends in PA Tourism, and Data Centers – What You Need To Know, seem very relevant and interesting. I am also looking forward to a tour of the Pocono Raceway and lunch at Pocono Organics!

**140TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
& TRADE SHOW**
MONROE COUNTY

AUGUST 2-5, 2026

KALAHARI RESORTS AND CONVENTIONS

CELEBRATING AMERICA

CCAP
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Association of Pennsylvania

South Mountain Fair

How many of you went to the South Mountain Fair last week? If you didn't you missed a great Adams County tradition with great weather conditions. When I was a kid the beginning of school meant the South Mountain Fair, and every kid would get a free ticket at school - so their parents had to take them. It was much larger and they always had lots of huge new farm equipment, new cars and old tractors on display that you could climb into the driver's seat. With the Fair moving from early September to mid-July those "Big Fair" days are gone, but this year the Fair seemed to have good energy and was very well attended. It was so well attended that when I went there on Thursday

evening to work my shift from 7-10PM, it took me 1-hour to get from Arendtsville to the fairgrounds because of traffic. That was Apple Harvest Festival type traffic! I guess you call that a positive/negative. To me the core of the Fair is 4-H and the opportunity it provides for the members to present their accomplishments and products as they gain the skills, memories and leadership that will stay with them forever. I must confess though the food is another driving force. I'm always a sucker for the chicken corn soup, chocolate milk shakes and a dog with kraut and mustard. Thanks to all the many volunteers who make the South Mountain Fair happen each year to show the best of Adams County!



Blue Star Memorial Marker Dedication

On Saturday, the Commissioners have been invited to attend the dedication of a Blue Star Memorial Marker being dedicated at the Harbaugh Library in Biglerville. Both the 1PM event and the memorial marker are sponsored by the Biglerville Garden Club. Blue Star Memorial Markers are tribute signs honoring all the men and women who have served, are serving, or will serve, in the United States Armed Forces. This tribute was started in 1944 by the New Jersey Council of Garden Clubs with 8,000 dogwood trees planted for WWII veterans. The markers are inspired by the blue service stars on flags and banners displayed by families during WWI and WWII. There are four different types of markers depending on where they are displayed and this would be a By-Way Marker. I hope you consider attending this community tribute to our Armed Forces and take a moment to pause and reflect on the sacrifices of others each time you see one!

Affordable Housing Grant Awarded

Affordable housing remains one of the most critical issues in Adams County. The Board continually strives to support and enhance affordable housing. At our July 21 public meeting, the Board of Commissioners approved the Housing Committee to utilize Act 137 Affordable Housing Trust Fund Grant Program in the amount of \$90,000.00 to Servants, Inc., an organization providing housing rehabilitation for eligible low-income residents of Adams County and to initiate the Grant Agreement process for final approval at a future scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

The End

- **4th Annual Gettysburg Brewfest & Trail 5k Run/Walk:** Saturday, August 15 at the Daniel Lady Farm. 5K Run/Walk at 8AM and Brewfest VIP at 2:30 and General Admission 3:30. 5K Run/Walk and Brewfest are separate or can be combined. 20 beer and cider brewers with multiple brews. Event takes place at the historic and beautiful preserved 200-acre Daniel Lady Farm. Shade and picnic tables available. Food, music + house and barn tours. The event proceeds help sustain and preserve the farm. The Farm is looking for some race volunteers to make sure the runners stay on course - and some volunteers to help at the entrance when the patrons first come in. Volunteers then get to enjoy the Brewfest. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me. For more information and to purchase tickets go to event website at gettysburgbrewfestandtrail5k.com
- **South Pacific:** Totem Pole Playhouse. This evening through August 16. A timeless musical blending love, war, and the fight against prejudice set during WWII. The performance is part of Totem Pole's celebration of America's 250TH birthday. totempoleplayhouse.org
- **Bendersville Fireman's Carnival:** July 30-August 1. Lots of good food, rides, prize bingo, games of chance, Half Pint ice cream and music. Sit down meals from 4-8 with pot pie, roast beef and chicken platters. You just may see me with some friends tonight up there tapping our toes to Dean Crawford and the Dunn's River Band. Get out there and support our volunteer fire departments.
- **Author Walk & Talk – George Spangler Farm:** This evening at 6PM walk with author Ron Kirkwood at the George Spangler Farm & Field Hospital while he and guest speakers share stories about the soldiers, medical workers, civilians connected to the site and the role the farm played before, during and after the battle. Tickets are available for \$20 through the Gettysburg Foundation at gettysburgfoundation.org
- **29TH Annual Music Muster:** From today through Sunday experience the sounds of Civil War Music at Gettysburg National Military Park. This free event features 19TH century ballads, folk songs, military music, brass bands, marches and Victorian era performances. Performance sites include the Visitor Center, Park Amphitheater, Dobbin House, and the Pennsylvania Memorial. Go to nps.gov for schedule and location.
- **Garden Party In The Demonstration Gardens 2026:** Saturday 10-1. This open house by the Penn State Extension Master Gardner's, takes place in the Demonstration Gardens at the Adams County AG Center on Old Harrisburg Road. It will offer an opportunity to reflect on gardening practices of the late 1700's while recognizing the continued innovation and knowledge that shape gardening today. Activities include guided garden tours, hands on demonstrations reflecting historic gardening methods, and family friendly experiences including children's crafts.
- **Adams County Farmers Market Kids Day:** Saturday 8-1 at Gettysburg Rec Park. A fun filled experience for kids of all ages. Kids can earn their own market tokens while shopping and exploring. Plenty of crafts, activities and learning games designed for kids and families. Kids Day is made possible by Healthy Adams County.



- **Hopeless Semantics at Art Oasis Lincoln Square:** Hopeless Semantics takes the stage on Lincoln Square on Saturday from 1-4. The duo plays a wide variety of instrumentation and songs with excellent vocals and harmonies. Look for variety of live music at Arts Oasis from May – October. For a full event schedule go to adamsarts.org
- **Music Gettysburg Presents “Cormorants Fancy”:** Sunday, 6:00PM at the Seminary outdoor pavilion. The regions premier Celtic ensemble brings the traditions of Ireland, Scotland, Wales and other Celtic regions to life through song and dances. This free community event with the backdrop of the United Lutheran Seminary should appeal to music fans, history buffs, and anyone looking for an enjoyable evening. musicgettysburg.org



**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 !**