from

Adams County

written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

June 28, 2019

In this issue...

Page 2



Senate Bill 48 Passes New
Election Equipment
Funding
Adams County Wellness
Event
Rear Vestibule Project

Information

Page 3



HB 370 Passes Supporting Land Preservation The End



The Best to
Security Director
Mike Baltzley

Mike Baltzley
Adams County's long-time Director of Security Mike Baltzley is hanging up his Kevlar vest today. Mike has been the Director of Security for Adams County for 11 years after a career with the Uniformed Division of the Secret Service. We very much appreciate and recognize Mike's consistent professionalism and dedication to the security of both persons and property in Adams County. We also appreciate Mike's passion for good food, bringing in various dishes on the occasions that involve food in the courthouse. I know there are quite a few of us that look forward to seeing Mike at the Harney VFW Crab & Oyster Feeds. Cliff Molloy will be Acting Director of Security until a replacement is named. Mike - thank you for your service to Adams County residents and best wishes from all your friends and colleagues in Adams County! Eat well and travel safely!

Senate Bill 48 Passes

You have been reading in previous TGIF's the concern by counties regarding the state mandate to purchase new voting machines. The original state commitment to provide 10% reimbursement, and the federal government to provide 10% caused significant concern and backlash by counties. The cost to Adams County to replace our machines is approximately \$500,000. We expect to have them on-line for the next General Election on November 5. As a member of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania Board of Directors, CCAP Board made Election Equipment Reimbursement and Election Reform its highest priority this year.

Some (hopefully) good news! On Wednesday, the House Appropriations Committee adopted an amendment to Senate Bill 48, which would provide for a \$90 million bond issuance for county voting equipment. Under the language in the amendment, counties would be eligible for up to 60% of the costs of their voting equipment, either as a reimbursement if equipment has been purchased, or as funding for a future purchase, with timing depending on how quickly bonds can be let. So it looks like Adams County may possibly be receiving 70% reimbursement. So the check may be in the mail – and we will let you know if and when it arrives. We will wait and see what happens with it on the Governor's desk?

Adams County Wellness Event

HR Director Michele Miller reports that approximately 200 employees and their families had a great time at the Harrisburg Senators game on Father's Day. What an outstanding turnout. Michele reported that the Senators lost, it rained a little, but the food and company were great. This event was the second wellness event for 2019. A shout out to our HR staff for facilitating these events. Michele says to stay tuned for at least two more events in 2019!

Rear Vestibule Project Information

Lauer Construction is slated to begin work on the new rear vestibule Monday, July 15, 2019. The first phase is to demolish the vestibule concrete pad and pour a new pad. The second phase involves constructing 24" brick knee wall to support the new vestibule windows. While these two phases are occurring, this entrance will be closed for staff ingress and egress. Employees will be required to enter through the Courthouse Lobby, Monday – Friday from 7:00 am through 4:30 pm. Those employees with after-hours access will have their badges coded to allow entrance into this facility through the Prisoner Ramp doors. This entrance shall not be used during regular business hours due to congestion that would occur when the Sheriff's Office is moving prisoners. Fencing will be placed by Lauer immediately adjacent to the entrance. A plastic sawhorse or similar device will be placed inside the current entrance to eliminate the possibility of someone exiting the building while these phases are occurring. Signage for emergency exits will be temporarily placed by the County on the West Staircase walls indicating that in the event of an evacuation, individuals may continue to the basement and out the Prisoner Ramp Doors.

Once these first two phases are completed, the Rear Vestibule may be re-opened as an entry point while the new windows and doors are manufactured. This process will take approximately three to four weeks to be completed. Once the doors and windows are ready for installation, the entrance

will again be closed for a day or two. A security officer will be situated at the rear entrance anytime doors are required to be open to prevent entry by

ing members of public. You cooperation and patience while we make this improvement for enhanced environmental considerations and security is appreciated.

HB 370 Passes Supporting Land Preservation

After six years of lobbying support throughout the agricultural community, HB 370 has finally passed! What does that mean for Adams County? Adams County's Farmland Preservation Program proposed a change to the State Farmland Preservation Program to allow for a one-time subdivision of either an existing residential structure or the construction of an additional residence for the landowner, immediate family member or employees. The motivation for such a bill came from the necessity to allow the next generation to continue to work on the farm, but own their residence outright and not under the property ownership of the farm. The Bill also gives permission to the agricultural conservation easement landowner to relinquish and extinguish the right of construction of the additional residence if they wanted to. This current Bill was introduced by Representative Klunk in 2017 and co-sponsored by local Representative Dan Moul. A shout out to our conservation staff for their support and facilitation of this bill.

For those of you that have been following this blog - there is big news to report on my quest for our next Golden Retriever. The healthy litter was born last Thursday - with the arrival of four females and two males. The female dam is local and the sire is a swash-buckler from Massachusetts. I get second pick of the females. Visiting privileges will be in about three weeks. The pups should be weaned and ready for their new homes by late August. It seems like Zoë, Bailey & Cassie have come up around the Phiel household as prime name contenders. I told another friend, also a former Golden owner about the pups, and he is taking one of the males. Kathy says we need to train this Golden not to get on the furniture or in the pool. Really??

A long 4th of July weekend is just around the corner as many of us will parley the holiday on Thursday into a four day weekend. You have two more nights to catch the Gettysburg Fireman's Carnival with fireworks at 11 tonight. The Latimore Valley Annual Fair begins today thru Sunday at the Latimore Valley Fairgrounds in York Springs. On Saturday morning, Hollabaugh Brothers is having an All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast from 9-11. Next Saturday & Sunday Hollabaugh's is having their 64TH Anniversary Blueberry Festival. The National Park Service will have a variety of Ranger lead Living History Programs in commemoration of the 156TH Anniversary of the battle on July 1, 2 & 3. On July 4TH enjoy the Community Concert & Fireworks at Gettysburg College Stadium. The festivities begin at 6PM. Two major community events will take place the next two weekends. The Annual Civil War Battle Reenactment is next Friday, Saturday & Sunday - and then Bike Week kicks off the following Thursday - Sunday. The weekend after that is Old Time Vintage Baseball at the same site as the reenactment on Pumping Station Road.

The best to each of you for a safe and enjoyable July 4TH holiday. It looks to be a hot stretch of weather, so stay cool and get out there and experience all the historical, recreational, agricultural, natural and cultural opportunities that beautiful Adams County has to offer!

Designed by: Chip Guise Page 3