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*from*  
*Adams County*

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## *General Election* **Wrap Up**

The November 6<sup>th</sup> General Election saw an unusually large turnout for a non-presidential election of 58.5%. Out of total voter registration of 67,025, total ballots cast were 39,262. What made that percentage even more commendable was for most of the morning voters endured torrential downpours. In fact, during my visits to 19 precincts, I observed turnout was heaviest from 7:00AM – 11:00AM when the rain was the heaviest. Although there were some lines in the morning our Voter Registration & Election office reported no significant issues. Monica Dutko tells me that this was the largest turnout for a mid-term election ever. A shout out to Adams County voters for getting out the vote in Adams County on November 6th!

Last but not least - best wishes and a job well done to retiring Voter Registration & Elections Director Monica Dutko!





## *Adams County* **Tentative Budget Adopted**

At the Wednesday, November 14 Commissioners Meeting, the Board voted to adopt the 2019 Tentative Budget. The budget contains no tax increase with total Tentative Revenues of \$64,424,714, Tentative Expenditures of \$63,599,904 leaving a Tentative Contingency Reserve of \$824,810. The Tentative Capital Budget is \$2,879,703.

Adams County continues to be in a strong financial position with an AA2+ Bond rating and very healthy reserve. Staff and management is to be commended as they continue to refine the budget process including trends, needs, income and expenditures.

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## **Human Services Building Dedication**

A reminder that the dedication of the Adams County Human Services Building will be held at 12:00 noon November 26 in the all purpose room. Following the 45 minute program light refreshments will be served and a tour of the building will be available. Both staff and public are cordially invited to attend the dedication of this significant venue that will serve Adams County residents for decades.

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## **Court Hearings Commence at Human Services Bldg.**

The Adams County Human Services Building was conceived and designed to accommodate and increase the effectiveness of numerous functions. As part of that philosophy, it was always envisioned that Children & Youth Hearings, Juvenile Probation Hearings, Domestic Relations Hearings, and Central Court would move from the downtown Courthouse to the Human Services Building to create a better overall environment for those proceedings. Parking will definitely be more convenient and the physical space(s), security enhancements and technical improvements will create an enhanced level of service delivery.

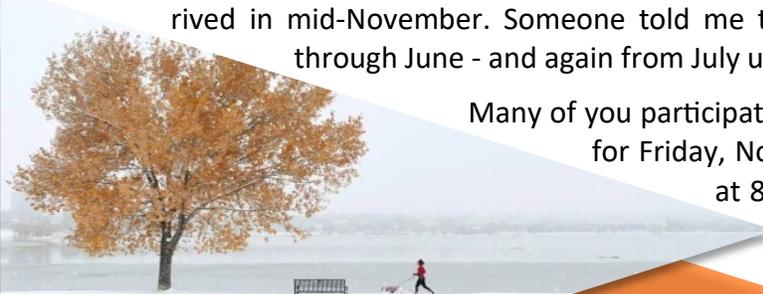
The inaugural session of Juvenile Court took place yesterday and from all reports went smoothly despite the eventual snow closure. Domestic Relations Court is slated to begin on November 27 and Central Court on November 28. For those of you who have experienced it, Central Court can be quite a busy day on the 3rd floor of the Courthouse and the design and flow of the HSB should improve that dynamic. The opening of the larger central courtroom will also complement the magisterial courtrooms of Magistrate Judge Beauchat & Magistrate Judge Harvey.



# Opening & Closing Status

Given the weather events of yesterday, I guess we can say winter has certainly arrived. I remind you that for overnight or pending weather events any change in status is posted on the homepage of the county website. This is normally done by 6AM when achievable. You can also go to WGAL 8 and WGET/WGTY/WHVR for information. We try our best to make the right call; but just ask any weather anchor if they always get it right.

I for one am not ready for winter. It seems we had summer, then monsoon season and now winter has arrived in mid-November. Someone told me that it has only rained twice this year. Once from April through June - and again from July until November!



Many of you participate in the SGT MAC Wreath Project, so mark your calendars for Friday, November 30. Wreath prep begins in the GIANT Parking lot at 8AM and then moves to the National Cemetery at 1:00 for the program and wreath distribution. Wreaths are then taken to Quantico National Cemetery the following day for placing on the graves at Quantico. Wreath preparation volunteers are always welcome at GIANT and we normally see a turnout of several hundred to prepare in excess of 14,500 wreaths. Both preparation and distribution are held rain or shine so dress warmly and appropriately for conditions. Contact Adams County Veterans Affairs Director Stan Clark for more details.

*The* **End**

In the spirit of the holiday season, the Gettysburg Heritage Center will serve as a donation collection site for several non-profits in the area. The GHC has partnered with several groups to help create awareness, and help serve as a community drop off location. Donations will be accepted at the GHC from now until December 2, 2018. Anyone who contributes will receive a voucher for a 10% discount in the gift shop! Non-profit collections include: Gettysburg Food Pantry accepting non-perishable, non-expired food items for the local food pantry. Adams Co. Office for Aging & Survivors, Inc., partnering with Wolf's Bus Lines "Stuff a Bus" accepting toiletries & personal items, puzzles, stamps, snacks, socks, first aid items and gloves. Maryland Center for Veterans Education & Training partnering with Gettysburg Area Retail Merchants Association (GARMA) accepting hats, gloves, toiletries, pens, puzzles, t-shirts, pants, socks, and writing tablets. All donated items must be new and unused, and all food items cannot be expired.

Remembrance Day weekend is here and provides the opportunity to attend several RD related events. The Remembrance Day Parade kicks off at 1:00 on Saturday and proceeds from the Middle School onto Steiner Avenue. On Saturday evening, take the opportunity to attend the National Cemetery Remembrance Illumination from 5:30 – 9:00. You will find it to be a moving experience. On Monday, November 19, the Dedication Day speaker at the National Cemetery will be retiring Gettysburg College President Janet Riggs. The program begins in the National Cemetery with a wreath laying at 10:15.

As we enter the holiday season, we can count among our many blessings the wonderful community that we live in. From the Adams County Board of Commissioners we wish you and your family a blessed Thanksgiving.

No matter what you do, get out there and experience all the historical, recreational, agricultural, natural and cultural opportunity that beautiful Adams County has to offer!