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from
Adams County

written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

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In this issue...

Page 2

COVID Testing/Vaccine
Center Return
Dog Licenses Online
CYS Requests Holiday
Support



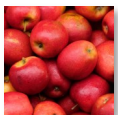
Page 3

Tax Appeal Season
Community Development
Block Grant
Election Day Nov. 2nd



Page 4

The End



Adams County Operations Update

The wearing of masks continues to be required in County facilities. The Courthouse and County offices remain open for business with the following operational exceptions: The Sheriff's office requires appointments for License to Carry Permits and fingerprinting, the Prothonotary's office requires appointments for passports, the District Attorney's office requires appointments, public viewing of Court proceedings is still via virtual viewing at the Human Services Building by contacting the Court Administrator at 717-337-9846 at least 24 hours prior to the hearing, and the Prison and 2nd floor of the Department of Emergency Services are closed to the public.





COVID Testing & Vaccination Center Return

Once again, the Adams County Department of Emergency Services is working in partnership with WellSpan Health to meet the community's needs in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Tentatively, next week, WellSpan will be opening a drive thru COVID-19 testing site at the DES facility, 230 Greenmyer Ln, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Shortly thereafter, a vaccination center will be activated. It is anticipated that the testing and vaccine administration will occur at DES for the next six months. The Board applauds this relationship with WellSpan that benefits our community!

Dog Licenses Now On-line

The Treasurer's Office will be officially launching an "Online Dog Licensing Program." This program will allow for the purchasing of (annual) dog licenses online in addition to providing the Treasurer's Office with the tools and resources of managing and issuing in-office sales of dog licensing, sportsman firearm/pistol permits and Small Games of Chance licenses. This program will have many benefits including 24-7 licensing for pet owners, providing 24-7 availability of information to animal control, dog wardens, permitting the Adams County SPCA and the Adams County 911 Center to obtain information needed when the courthouse is closed. The system will offer a higher level of efficiency in data processing and an easier format in the research of requested information.

This new licensing system/program will replace the current system which has been in place since 1994. It is important to note that the online option of purchasing dog licenses is available for annual dog licenses only. The purchasing of Lifetime Licenses will continue to be available only by mail or over the counter in the Treasurer's Office because lifetime licenses require Permanent Identification Verification. The traditional options of obtaining an annual license will continue either by mail, in-office sales and/or at one of our 7 satellite locations through-out the county. The Treasurer's Office is excited to bring this option of licensing to the residents of Adams County!

Adams County CYS Requests Holiday Support

The holiday season is fast approaching, and once again, Adams County Children and Youth Services would like to offer Holiday Meals to families that they serve. To make this possible, they need your help. The following canned goods and non-perishable items are needed: Sweet Potatoes, Corn, Green Beans, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Gravy, Pumpkin/Other Pie Fillings, Pie Crusts, Cooking Oil, Cake/Brownie Mix and Applesauce/Fruits Cranberry Sauce. They are collecting donations now through November 12th, 2021. Donations will be collected in the Human Resources Office at the Courthouse. There will also be a donation box in the lunchroom of the Human Services Building or they can be dropped off at the Children and Youth Office. This process is repeated at the Christmas holiday with hams and the same items above. All in all, over 100 families end up being supported with food that is very appreciated and make holidays more joyful and little one's tummies full.

In addition to the food drive, Children and Youth staff are busy making wish lists for children through WellSpan Health's Annual Angel Tree outreach. The Angel Tree Outreach is for children/youth between the ages of birth to 13 years. The recipients would be involved with Adams County Children and Youth Services through protective services or in an out of home placement such as a shelter or residential treatment facility. Children and Youth's Independent Living Council also helps the Adams County Independent Living Program who is sponsoring its holiday outreach for youth 14-20 years of age. This program targets youth who are in need of holiday assistance and are receiving protective services, are in shelter or RTF and those who are receiving IL Aftercare Services. Referrals are due no later than November 5th. Each youth will be matched with a volunteer who will be their sponsor for the holidays. If you know of someone who would be interested in being a sponsor, please have them contact Becky Arter at Children and Youth at (717)337-0110.





Tax Appeal Season

The Adams County Board of Assessment Appeals, made up of the County Commissioners as the primary board, and a pool of residents serving in an auxiliary board are wrapping up real estate tax appeals this year. Results of the 2021 appeals will, in most cases, take effect for the 2022 tax year. This year, the boards have heard 96 appeals, down from previous year totals of 120 in 2020; 190 in 2019; 217 in 2018; and 260 in 2017. For the 2nd year we successfully conducted remote hearings using Microsoft Teams software, finding that many property owners are appreciative of not having to take time off work, find parking in downtown Gettysburg or make a special trip if they live away from the area.

Thank you to our community residents who serve on our Auxiliary board - and a special thank you to the Tax Services team working behind the scenes to schedule, notify property owners and keep the hearings on track.

Election Day November 2nd

Here is some important information regarding the upcoming General Election on November 2.

- Last day to apply for Mail-In or Absentee is October 26, 2021
- Last to return Mail-In or Absentee ballots is November 2, 2021, at 8:00p.
 - Please return them as soon as possible.
 - A ballot drop box for mail-in/absentee ballots is available inside the lobby of the Adams County Courthouse in Gettysburg, PA.
 - If voters change their mind and do not want to use their absentee/mail-in ballot, they must return the ballot and envelopes to the Judge of Elections, then they can vote a regular ballot. If they do not return their ballot, they must vote a Provisional Ballot at the poll.
- Polling sites are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on November 2nd. If you are in line when the polls close, you are entitled to vote.
 - You can find your polling location through the link below:

<https://adamsgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=0e5bb31a8e6d452cab0f6ac4a8a4d4bc>

Exercise your right to vote!!!

Community Development Block Grant

The Adams County Commissioners at their most recent meeting approved the final budget for the submission of the Community Development Block Grant Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. Adams County receives an annual allocation each year from HUD and submits an annual application for these funds and does so on behalf of the Borough of Gettysburg and the Borough of Littlestown as well. This year Adams County's allocation is \$335,076.00; Gettysburg Borough's allocation is \$132,490.00; and Littlestown Borough's allocation is \$98,000.00.

The activities proposed for

inclusion in the County's 2021 CDBG application are: Adams County Arts Council – Healing HEARTS Program: \$16,249.42, YWCA – LMI Fitness Scholarships: \$26,589.97, Biglerville Borough – East York Street Waterline Replacement: \$110,791.53, East Berlin – Municipal Building ADA Improvements: \$36,191.90, Hoffman Homes – Utility System Improvements: \$84,940.18. The Borough of Gettysburg's projects include South Street Streetscape Improvements at a cost of \$130,490. The Borough of Littlestown projects include installation of ADA compliant Curb Ramps at a cost of \$93,818.



The End

After a 1-year hiatus *The National Apple Harvest Festival* drew large crowds both weekends. The sun shined brightly the 1st weekend with unseasonably warm temperatures and folks anxious to get back to this popular Adams County event. The country ham breakfast sandwich, chicken corn soup, milk shakes, caramel apples and apple fritters were as good as I remembered. I did miss the guy who makes new leather belts to order and the broom lady. Thanks to the Upper Adams Jaycees and all the community volunteers who make this great event happen to benefit our community!

This evening from 7pm-11pm is the *Adams County Arts Council Costume Party* at Herr Tavern on Chambersburg Road. This is Adams County's premier adult costume party with music, hors d'oeuvres and costume prizes included. Ticket prices \$25-35, email aa@adamsarts.com for additional information. Walk-ins are welcome. Also, this afternoon at 3:30pm *The Gettysburg Brass* hits the square in the music quadrant playing period, popular, patriotic songs. Join Ben Jones and The Gettysburg Brass for this Free concert. Bring your chair for a little clapping and toe tapping. At 7PM *The Townies* hit the square for a blend of blues, funk, country – and a lot of other stuff. The price of this concert is also Free! Look for other musical groups there all weekend. You can't beat the price!

On Saturday afternoon from 1pm-3pm join the *Adams County Historical Society* for a *historical walking tour* across the Harmon & Herbst Farms (former Gettysburg Country Club property). The tour will be led by ACHS Executive Director Andrew Dalton and Licensed Battlefield Guide and author Larry Korczyk. Cost is \$15 for ACHS members and \$25 for non-members. Contact the ACHS www.achs-pa.org.

The Cashtown Inn is having a Grand Re-opening on Saturday from 10am-7pm. There will be complimentary tours as well as living history and reenactors. There will be a strolling violinist/fiddler from 10am-4pm and a free concert on the hill at 4pm. Free cookies, cider and pumpkin painting while supplies last. There will be food for purchase and grab n go flowers for sale. They say the preferred method of payment is cash – since it is the Cashtown Inn! On Saturday, *New Oxford's Annual Harvest Day & Parade* takes place on Center Square from 10am-4:30pm.

Support *Adams County Children & Youth Services Independent Living* by taking your witches and goblins to the *Phi Delta Theta Haunted Mansion* this evening from 6pm-9pm. The event started on Wednesday and has reportedly already raised several thousand dollars for the cause. Cost is \$7 for witches and goblins - and \$7 for regular folks as well.

On Saturday, The Majestic Theater is hosting *The Met: Live In HD* at 1pm and on Saturday evening if you like Jazz – The Gettysburg College Jazz Ensemble performs live at The Majestic. Ticket price is just \$5. Also, on Saturday & Sunday experience the Axis and Allies during *WWII Weekend* at the historic Daniel Lady Farm on Hanover Road. Besides lots of living history, WWII reenactors, camps and equipment, the featured event is Normandy – Battle of the French Countryside. Gates open at 9am. All proceeds help the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association preserve this historic site. Go to www.gbpa.org

I want to conclude upcoming activities reminding everyone that on Friday, November 5, *Adams County Foundation Annual Giving Spree*. Donors may support more than 95 community non-profits by mail, drop-off or on-line for the holidays. Drop off address is The Gettysburg Times parking lot, 1570 Fairfield Road. Visit www.ACCFGivingSpree.org for details. Remember, this event is critical to many Adams County non-profits - so start off the holiday season in the giving spirit by being generous to organization that are so immensely important to the fabric of our community!