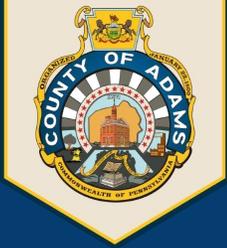


Adams County, Pennsylvania

NEWSLETTER

February 27, 2015
Edition

ADAMS
COUNTY



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T.G.I.F.

Adams County Children & Youth **New Child Abuse Legislation**

If you read the Gettysburg Times, Saturday, February 14 edition, you would have seen Adams County Children & Youth's Betty Snyder, Josie Rusello & Heather Smith featured on the front page. The article related information on the new Child Abuse protocols and legislation that went into effect January 1.

The new legislation expanded the definition for mandated reporting, child abuse and perpetrator among other amendments. In addition to doctors, teachers, nurses and caseworkers, there is now more responsibility on volunteers such as coaches and youth group leaders and custodians to report suspected abuse. The law has changed from significant pain to substantial pain; and now only one occurrence can constitute an act of abuse. Betty believes that



Darryl Wheeler/Gettysburg Times

with the expanded definition C&Y will be conducting more joint investigations with law enforcement.

Mandated reporters can call Child Line at 1-800-932-0313. If residents have any questions regarding mandated reporting or the new law, contact Betty Snyder at 717-337-0110. A shout out to all our Adams County C&Y staff for the sometimes difficult and valuable work they do for our community 24/7.

Court Reporting & Captioning Week

At last week's commissioner's public meeting, the commissioners recognized Adams County Court Reporters Alicia Wooters, Rhonda Kershner, Corrie Ondrizek, and Jennifer Chance during *Court Reporting & Captioning Week*. The work of these professionals is vital to ensure the keeping, preserving, and protecting of the official court record. I know that many of us marvel at their ability to listen to several individuals speaking rapidly at once – and get all the testimony transcribed accurately with those weird characters. Their contribution is essential to the work of the Court and our county. We recognize and thank our Court Reporters for their professional service all year long!

Penn State **Master Gardner's**

Penn State Master Gardner's help to educate our community in plant selection; weed, insect and disease identification, composting, water quality, soil improvement and many other plant and conservation topics. Recently, county staff members Dewaine Finkenbinder and Carolyn Black received 200 hour Charms for their volunteer hours to the program during 2014. Thank you to Dewaine & Carolyn for your community contribution. For more information on the Penn State Master Gardner Program - call 717-334-6271 or email mar35@psu.edu

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

The Information Technology Department continued development of the County's internal intranet website. The offices of Planning and Development, along with the Clerk of Courts, recently expanded their use of the County intranet with the addition of several internal items for employee use. The Planning and Development office will utilize the intranet to share department-wide projects, internal documents, and announcements. The Clerk of Courts will utilize their portion of the intranet for employee recognition, internal documents, and employee handbook. The Clerk of Courts plans for the intranet to be a gathering place for the department to showcase their employees' talents and provide a central location to find information.

Additionally, the District Attorney's Prosecution Management System upgrade has been scheduled for Monday, March 2nd. The system upgrade

will provide users a reliable platform and reduce system latency due to outdated software. A new service will be included in the release which provides encrypted connections to various state agencies for data distribution.

Also, current third party reporting software expenses will be reduced through the use of proprietary reporting software provided by the vendor.

Furthermore, the department installed a public Wi-Fi

access point in the Emergency Services Building. The access point will provide public internet access within the three conference rooms on the first floor of the building. This will offer public users of the conference rooms the ability to connect personal devices to the internet. This portion of the network will be separate from the County's internal network. The access point will be actively monitored by internal staff to ensure there is no misuse of the service.

in·tra·net
/ˈintrə.net/
the most logical central location for workplace documents. When changes happen, it's easy to replace them with the most current version, thus reducing confusion.

Finance Team Recommendation

Office Assistance Volunteers

Do you wish you had a volunteer for a few hours to assist in your office? The Department of Probation Services may be able to help you. If you provide Donna Powers, Administrative & Community Services Manager (ext. 121) with the details related to what the tasks are the volunteer(s) would be doing, where and/or whom they would be reporting to, and providing supervision, and how many hours daily or weekly they would be needed, Pro-

bation Services should be able to offer a volunteer.

These volunteers are on active probation or parole supervision and would be satisfying their Community Service obligations. Please allow for a minimum of 5 days for the coordination of your volunteer.



Land Conservancy of Adams County UPCOMING EVENTS

As a proud board member, and long-time supporter of the Land Conservancy of Adams County, I wanted to inform you of several very significant LCAC upcoming events. On Thursday, March 12, the membership will meet for their 19th Annual Dinner at the Historic Gettysburg Hotel. Catch up on the latest conservancy news, bid on a variety of unique items at the silent auction, and honor the seven landowners who preserved a total of 1,060 acres of Adams County land in 2014.

On Sunday, April 26, the Blue Parrot Bistro in Gettysburg will once again host the LCAC annual Art Auction, which will feature a wide variety of original artwork created by local and regional artists—everything from painting and drawing to ceramics and other three-dimensional work. Included in the auction for the first time this year will be specimens of high-quality collectible Americana, such as fraktur, stoneware, redware, ironware, baskets, quilts, weathervanes, carved decoys, antique games and toys, and more. Over the years the Land Conservancy Art Auction has become one

of the area's most popular community events—and one of our most significant fundraisers for LCAC, raising more than \$256,000 since the first auction in 1998. Auction proceeds help underwrite the expenses incurred in working with local landowners to create conservation easements, our fundamental tool in accomplishing the mission of preserving the rural lands and heritage of Adams County.

The always popular LCAC Road Rally, is on Saturday October 17. Rally Master Mark Clowney selected the theme to recognize Historic Gettysburg -Adams County's *Barn Preservation Project*, which celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2015. Led by chairman Curt Musselman, the HGAC's barn preservation project has surveyed more than 150 Adams County barns and launched what may be Pennsylvania's first grant program supporting barn owners' preservation efforts. As it so happens, many of these barns stand on properties preserved through the Land Conservancy. Several of these barns will be visited on the Rally route.

The END

The last Arctic blast departs, a snow blast comes in...and now the Arctic blast returns ☹️. If you were complacent in January... and thought this winter would be friendlier than last winter – like me - you were wrong. Will be interesting to see if how much of a lion March really is? I actually put my SUV in 4WD and made it to the Heidlersburg Roast Beef & Oyster Dinner last Saturday evening. The good news was there was certainly no line and no wait. The bad news was that attendance was cut by at least 75% due to the snow.

In this TGIF, I already mentioned three significant upcoming Land Conservancy of Adams County events. These are indicative of the many things to do in Adams County. 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!



Cold Water Conservationist *Of The Year*

The Adams County Board of Commissioners is pleased to recognize staff member and Adams County Watershed Specialist Adam McClain, for his on-going efforts to conserve and maintain the quality of Adams County Water resources. Adam is consistently committed to both watershed conservation and education, while working with landowners and students to ensure appropriate and on-going water conservation practices.

We would like to specifically congratulate Adam McClain for receiving

Trout Unlimited *Coldwater Conservation Professional of the Year Award* on Tuesday, February 17 at their annual dinner. On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Martin presented a county proclamation to Adam. This award is a result of Adam's diverse efforts in assuring that waterway environmental and conservation practices insure the health of headwaters and streams.

Thank you to Adam for his outstanding conservation commitment to Adams County and the region.