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Edition



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T.G.I.F.

Written by: *Commissioner Randy Phiel*

Adams County 911 Emergency Radio System Up and Running

The Evening Sun

Mark your calendars folks. Tuesday morning was a great day for Adams County emergency responders and residents. A desperately needed and long awaited new digital 911 emergency radio system was turned on for Adams County Law Enforcement and will soon be turned on for all emergency responders.

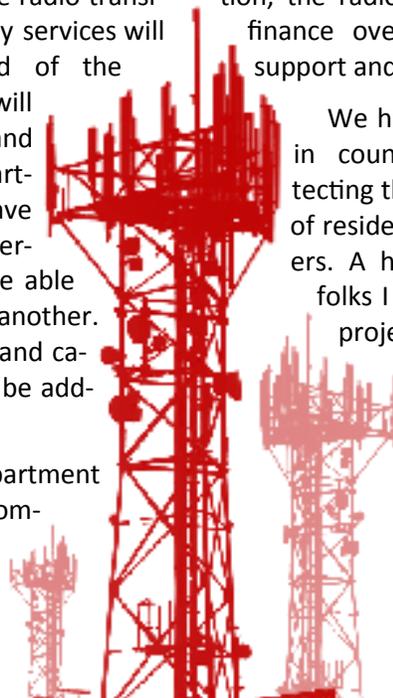
As a former 30-year federal law enforcement officer, I knew walking in the door that one of the most important tools in any emergency responders toolbox is the radio. I am pleased to report the “phase-in” is going remarkably well and the radio transition for the rest of emergency services will be completed by the end of the year. The new system will have much improved clarity and reception, plus different departments and agencies will have inter-operability. Inter-operability is the ability to be able to communicate with one another. GPS is one of many features and capabilities that will eventually be added and phased in.

The Latimore police department has experienced significant communication issues for a long

time. At Tuesday’s radio transitioning event at the emergency services center, it was pleasing to overhear Latimore Officer Ralph Griffiths and McSherrystown PD Chief Mike Woods commenting to the other that it was finally nice to have clear communication between them.

A lot of folks have put their heart and souls into this critical project for a long time. I would like to recognize Commissioners Martin & Qually, Adams County Emergency Services staff and especially John Eline and Mary Bowers, county administration, the radio work group and the radio finance oversight committee for their support and outstanding efforts.

We have no greater responsibility in county government than protecting the health, safety and welfare of residents and emergency responders. A huge shout out to all these folks I mentioned for completing a project that benefits our families, friends and neighbors, as well as every resident of Adams County.



Information Technology **UPDATE**

The Information Technology Department recently met with the Littlestown Borough staff to discuss the planning and development for a new borough website. The new site will contain various content such as meeting minutes, right to know, and borough news. The borough has also requested a page for the Littlestown Borough Police Department, which will aid the police department in communicating with residents. With these additional communication outlets in place, residents will benefit from the easy to access web technology.

In addition, many of the Adams County employees are aware that the Information Technology team has developed an employees' only intranet located on the County website. The employees' intranet is a private network accessible only to County staff. There is a wide range of information and services that have been uploaded by various County Departments. The goal of the employees' intranet is to serve as a powerful tool for communications within the County. The intranet will primarily be used by staff to keep up-to-date on Human Resources activities, County News and Events, and County Policies. Currently, the County is conducting a Silent Auction to benefit the United Way organization which is available on the Employees intranet only. Thus far, we have had a noteworthy amount of participation from employees. It is because of the participation and use of the technology that it has been a great success! An additional feature that will be available soon on the intranet is the Employee Payroll Online where you will be able to view and print paycheck stubs.

Human Services Building Update

The County Solicitor is working with a real estate settlement attorney to prepare all the necessary documents and prepare the deed for a closing date of October 30. The county manager is being assisted by building and maintenance, security department, IT and finance/purchasing in making preliminary assessments of needs to get the building linked into the county infrastructure.

The county manager is in discussions with court administration on the options of

temporary relocation for the probation department to the new building since the lease is expiring at their location in the Union Square Building. The new building has 15,000 sq ft of finished office space. We understand that the transition period certainly may not be ideal; but we appreciate everyone's understanding, cooperation and optimism. Stay tuned...as there will be more updates as we take ownership at the end of the month!

Adams County Law Enforcement Firearms Training Range Groundbreaking

With Straban Township zoning in the rearview mirror, and an agreement between the County of Adams and the Adams County Law Enforcement Association in final review; next Friday at 9:00am we will be ceremoniously breaking out the gold shovels and turning over some ground for the new *Adams County Law Enforcement Firearms Training Range* beside the Adams County Emergency Services Facility.

A public/private partnership between the county, the law enforcement association and private entities will be utilized to fund range construction without utilizing taxpayer's funds. The event will be a prelude to seeking a wide range of community support.

The range will be dedicated to diverse law enforcement law firearms training such as required qualification, moving shooters, shoot-don't-shoot, barricade, vehicle barricade, vehicle ambush and reduced light. The range will not be open to the public.

The Capital Campaign Co-Chairmen are Adams County Sheriff Jim Muller and Adams County Commissioner Randy Phiel. The Honorary Chairman is Senator Richard Alloway. Next Friday they will be joined by Commissioners Martin and Qually, and law enforcement officers from around the county for this event. The Range Committee will be contacting all county departments.

The **END**

With a forecast of weather in the mid 60's for this weekend, we have a great opportunity get rid of dead flowers, mow the grass, pull the last of the weeds or fire up the grille. Those opportunities will be rapidly decreasing as we turn up the heat, scrape our windshields or put some more wood on the fire. The Farmers Markets are still full of bounty - so take advantage before some shut down for the winter.

I wanted to make sure you were aware that the Totem Pole's production of *A Christmas Carol* is moving to the Majestic

Theater for an extended run in December. I have gone to the Capital Theater production in Chambersburg with my family for many years, and it is truly a wonderful experience. I will be there on December 11 after the Christmas tuba concert in front of the Gettysburg hotel. This production will be popular so get your tickets while you can.

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