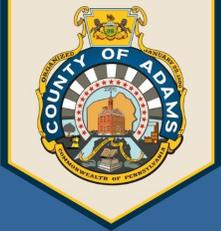


NEWSLETTER

September 26th,
2014 Edition

ADAMS
COUNTY



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T.G.I.F.

Written by: *Commissioner Randy Phiel*



On a beautiful Saturday, Farm City Day was held at Round Hill Farms near East Berlin last week. This family event - featuring some type of agriculture is held every other year; and has been plagued by hurricane residual in the past. Fortunately, the weather could not have been more perfect this year. The event featured hay ride tours, exhibits, farm equipment, pony rides, a scavenger hunt, games for the children, great food and free ice cream for the kids.

The event was very well attended and allowed the public to view the crop, cattle, pig, and turkey operations on three beautiful farms that totaled 560 acres; while riding on the narrated hay wagon tour. A highlight for me was the owner's formal garden. The caretaker was there to provide information and generously allowed folks to take home some flowers. I assisted

with registration while Commissioner Martin was a tour narrator. I also had some ice cream and it was excellent - with a lot of milk fat.

A shout out to the Farm City Committee members Ellen Dayhoff, Mark Clowney, Kelly Koch, Cindy Sanderson, Rick Crouse, Katie Epstein, Katie Nolt, Roxy Sauble, Robby Sebright, Bill Huffman, Bob Clowney & Charlotte Clowney for a job well done. Thank you so much to the Pappy Bross & Miller families for their hospitality.

Have I said this is a great family event and is part of the fabric of Adams County? I wonder where farm we will be at for the event in two years? Put it on your calendar when it is announced.

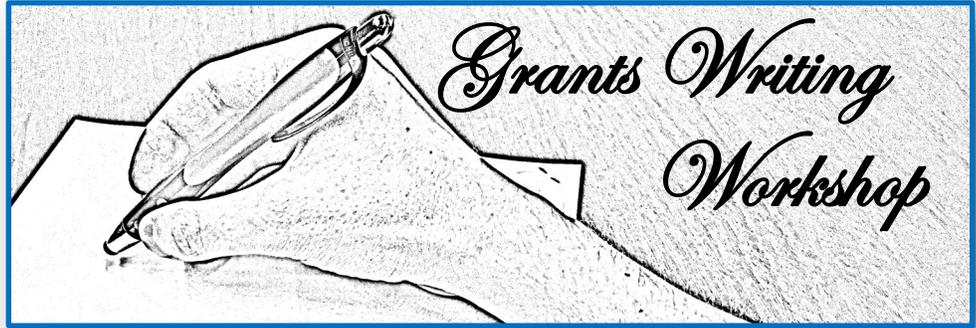


Tax Appeals

Tax appeals are in full swing with the second week just completed. At certain times both auxiliary boards are conducting hearings at the same time on the second floor. The commissioners begin commercial appeal hearings next week. You may have already noticed appellants waiting outside the commissioners and tax office for their appointed hearing time. Each year the number of appellants has been decreasing, as we strive to insure fairness and equity.

Investments & Insurance

Commissioner Martin attended the CCAP investment board meeting on Sept 19th. He reports positive performance for the CCAP investment portfolio which includes various insurance programs. The excellent returns have created substantial reserves and provide a strong financial position. The same day Commissioner Martin also attended the PComp insurance board meeting. Coming out of that meeting, Commissioner Martin reports there is very good reason for Adams County to expect a dividend return next year due to the continual strengthening of PComp's financial position. Goals and objectives that we set by the PComp Board two years ago have produced positive results. One reason for the positive outlook is attributed to county employees being more safety conscious - which results in lower claims.



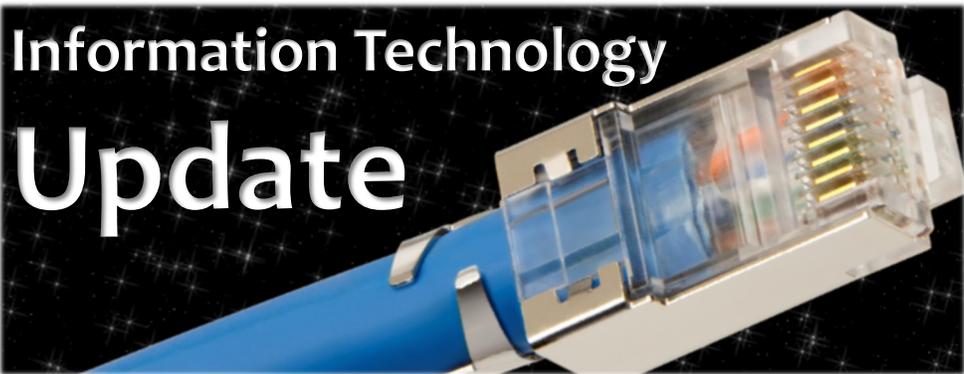
Grants are an important part of government at the local and county level. If the idea of writing a grant proposal makes your stomach ache, here's something that might help: "Getting the Most from Your Grant Writing Efforts". This workshop from Penn State Extension will examine the grant writing process in detail. The workshop is scheduled for Tuesday October 28th from 5:00 – 9:00 pm, at the East Berlin Area Community Center, 405 North Avenue, East Berlin, PA 17316.

Topics include identifying and working with foundations, the components of an effective proposal, evaluation strategies, the grant review process, and effective search strategies. This workshop is recommended for staff, volunteers and board members of community nonprofits, local governments and other community organizations. Whether you are responsible for obtaining grants, wondering where to start, or simply curious about how to im-

prove your efforts, the interactive program will give you an opportunity to share best practices, learn from your peers and do a little networking. Barbara Ernico from Adams County Community Foundation and Duane Kanagy from Adams Electric Cooperative will join us as guest presenters to provide information about their programs as well as the funder's perspective.

The cost is \$25 per person and includes a light dinner courtesy of the East Berlin Area Community Center. Space is limited, so please register early. You may register on-line at extension.psu.edu/grant-writing or contact Penn State Extension Adams County (717) 334-6271 x. 307. Penn State encourages people with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please call Penn State Extension Cambria County, (717) 334-6271.

Information Technology Update



The Information Technology department continued the second phase of the multi-phase network infrastructure and computer system upgrades. Core network switches were mounted and configured in the data center on Wednesday, September 17. The upgrade of the core switches will allow data traffic to flow with increased speed and include advanced fail-over capabilities. A network infrastructure walk through was also conducted to strategize and develop a new topology layout for the network.

Along with the capital project, the first half of the Prothonotary's Full Court System upgrade was successfully completed on Friday, September 12. The second half of the upgrade will include the acceptance of credit cards using the Cite Pay module. This portion will continue into the end of the calendar year.

Additionally, final testing is being completed for the upgrade of the One Solution financial system. Once testing is completed, the system will be upgraded to the most recent release of the software.

In addition, the Information Technology department went live with the new [Adams County Connected Website](#) on Monday, September 15. The Adams County Connected Committee was formed by the commissioners to enhance technology and focus on improvement of county-wide internet access. Furthermore, department members met with Bendersville Borough Staff in regards to the county developing and hosting the Borough website. The meeting was utilized for requirements gathering to define the structure and expectations of the website.



MISSION OF MERCY *Healing through Love* PROJECT

Last year all three commissioners toured the Mission of Mercy medical outreach on clinic day at the Four-square Gospel Church, West Middle Street. We observed that the volume of residents being served at no charge was significant. Commissioner Martin, along with Stan & Candi Clark, participated in the Mission of Mercy's fundraiser Tuesday evening at the Gettysburg Hotel.

The MOM provides free medical service to those that cannot afford the medical care they need. This is an agency that depends 100% on financial donations and volunteer services. It is a totally non-governmental service. There were several compelling testimonials Tuesday evening by those that received critical medical attention that either saved their lives or restored their dignity and quality of life. This organization does very important work without any government subsidies. Please consider supporting this organization.

The End

It is hard to believe it is time for the Apple Harvest Festival. To me Apple Harvest symbolizes that fall is officially here. I will be volunteering the first Saturday & Sunday for two different organizations. Consider volunteering during one of the four days. You will find helping at Apple Harvest a unique and rewarding experience. The National Tour Bus Association has named the National Apple

Harvest Festival and the Gettysburg Battle Anniversary events as two of their top 100 events. Also, don't forget about Pippenfest this weekend in Fairfield.

Fall is a wonderful season in Adams County. Whatever you do, get out there and experience all historical, recreational, agricultural, natural and cultural opportunities that beautiful Adams County has to offer.



DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE....

National Apple Harvest Festival

50TH FESTIVAL: OCTOBER 4, 5 & OCTOBER 11, 12, 2014

The National Apple Harvest Festival, which is held during the first two full weekends in October, has been celebrating beautiful crafts, great music and wonderful food for

forty-nine years. The festival has something for everyone with hundreds of arts and crafts dealers, demonstrations, contests, food stands, and entertainment.

Adams County Human Services Building Update

Over the past few months the Directors of Children and Youth, Probation Services, Domestic Relations, and others have been meeting with Architectural Workshop to finalize the design of a potential Human Services Building located at the County Complex on Greenamyre Lane.

When this Board took office we challenged ourselves to find creative solutions to get out of existing leases that were costing the County more and more every year. At the same time, we all knew that our existing space was maximized. We created a taskforce of independent citizens to review potential solutions to the situation. The taskforce considered other options that were presented; but independently came up with the idea of building a Human Services Building at the county complex in Straban Town-

ship. The planning is now entering into its final stages and after months of hard work by Directors, the Courts are ready to make a presentation on October 8th at the Commissioner's public meeting. Our goal all along has been to come up with a project that increases our space efficiency; but does not increase our expenses, thus avoiding a tax increase.

Our hope is to receive a proposal that fulfills the needs of the affected departments, reduces our rental expenses, and provides for future growth. As this project could potentially affect many County employees, we encourage you to attend this meeting to hear firsthand the proposal. Lastly, we would like to thank the Courts for rising to the challenge of trying to reduce costs and vision for the future.

Calendar Events

- ◆ **Board of Commissioners Work Session- Oct. 8th @ 9am**
- ◆ **Columbus Day- County Closed**
- ◆ **Board of Commissioners Meeting- Oct. 15th @ 9am**
- ◆ **Planning Commission Meeting- Oct 15th @ 7pm**

Announcements

- ◆ **October is Nation Cyber Security Month**
- ◆ **Judicial and Upset Sale Results**
- ◆ **Collaborating for Youth- October 8th, 2014**

Voter Registration

- ◆ **Official General Election Ballot/Specimen November 4th, 2014**
- ◆ **Register to Vote**
- ◆ **Voters Services**

Sheriff Sales

- ◆ **Sales Dates/Current Sales**