

Written by: *Commissioner Randy Phiel*

T.G.I.F.

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Adams County's **Staff Picnic** *Friday, September 23rd*

All county staff are invited to the 10th annual Adams County staff picnic on Friday, September 23rd at the Ag Center. As in the past it should be lots of fun with games and good food. The lunch menu will consist of hamburgers, hot dogs, pork B-B-Q, grilled chicken breasts, potato salad, coleslaw, pasta salad, macaroni & cheese, baked beans, rolls, chips, condiments (cheese, ketchup, mustard, relish, and onions), soda and water. Desserts will be provided to satisfy the employee with a sweet tooth. A drawing will be held for gifts so don't forget to add your name in the box! We are including this year "**BAG the BOUNTY**". Please

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bring non-perishable items for donation to needy families within the County.

Our tradition of available Commissioners and Judges serving you lunch will be a feature again this year. Last year instead of serving lunch, Commissioner Qually and I spent a lot of our time in the dunk tank for the Linda Kranias Fundraiser. I had the good aim and pleasure of hitting the bull's eye on Commissioner Qually numerous times – in good fun. Marty, Jim and I look forward to serving you lunch again this year - and staying out of the dunk tank. The picnic provides an opportunity for fun, food and comradery while supporting worthy causes. Hope to see you there!

Adams County Voter Registration

Director Monica Dutko has been appointed by the Joint State Government Commission to serve on the *Advisory Committee for Voting System Technology*.

The committee is comprised of County Commissioners, County Election Directors, Doug Hill CCAP Director, representatives from disability advocacy groups and the Department of State. Congratulations to Monica for expertly representing the residents of Adams County. Congratulations Monica!

Oak Lawn Victims *Restitution*

Most of us are well aware of the very sad situation at Oak Lawn Cemetery. In this sea of sadness there is some good news to report. The staff at Adams County Victim/ Witness has been working diligently and serving these 819 victims above and beyond their normal workload. They have been working with the Pennsylvania Victims Compensation Fund thru PPCD to facilitate some compensation for the victims. At this time 245 claims have been approved for a total of \$493,955.05 paid. The process is still on-going as more victims apply for compensation.

I would also like to recognize the Cumberland Township Police Department for their efforts on this case on behalf of the community. The amount of victims has created a volume of work that is staggering. I would like to especially recognize Lt. Tim Guise and Detective Steve Higgs for their unwavering dedication to this case. Tim & Steve will also be recognized at the Victims Rights Week presentation next year. Also, a shout out to Brian Sinnet and our Adams County District Attorney's Office and Adams County Veterans Affairs Director Stan Clark. This case has had an impact on every individual or office it has touched not only with an increased workload - but with typical human emotions for the plight of the victims.

Adams County Law Enforcement Firearms Range *Fundraiser*

Mark your calendars for the Adams County Law Enforcement Firearms Range Fundraising Kick-Off on Saturday, September 17 at Battlefield Harley Davidson. The event will be held from 1-9PM. This is a family friendly event that includes lots to do and see for young and old alike. Besides a Chicken BBQ Dinner for the purchase price of \$10, there will be a fireworks display at 8PM, a bomb robot, an Adams County Law Enforcement Vehicle Display, music, helicopter rides and bomb dog demonstrations to list just some of the activities.

The planning, design and permitting for the training range is almost done and you will soon be seeing the rendering in various marketing publications. The firearms training range will be strategically located beside the 911 center and thus will be able to utilize already existing parking, classrooms and restrooms. **Adams County Blue Needs You** on Saturday, September 17 to help us off to a great start for the Adams County Law Enforcement Training Range Campaign Kick-off.

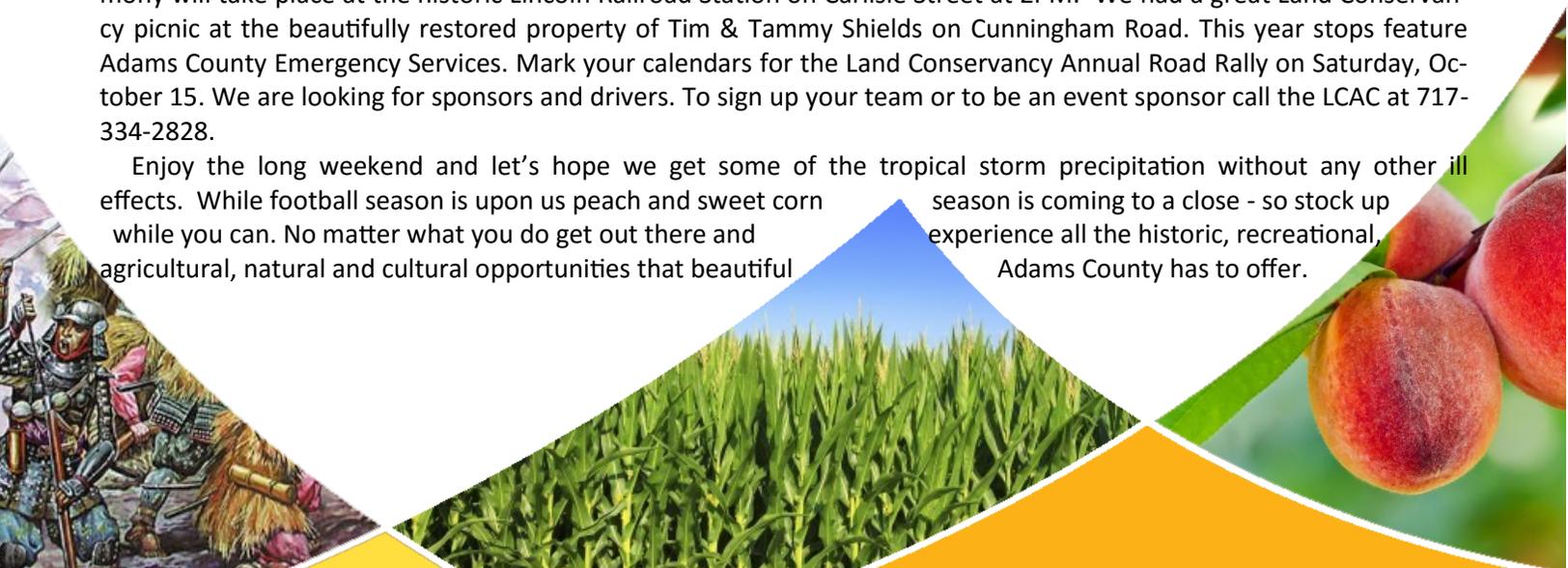
Farmland Preservation *News*

Adams County Rural Resources Manager Ellen Dayhoff wanted me to inform you that based on the Cigarette Tax increase in this year's budget, the Farm Land Preservation program here in Adams County will get an additional \$110,000 to spend over the next two years. At the recent State Board Meeting, which celebrated 5,000 farms preserved, it was commented on by the staff that the additional \$5M will become permanent - increasing revenue from \$31M to \$36M statewide.

If you have been in Adams County for any length of time you have probably bumped into East Berlin Chief Mike Grim or Gettysburg Sgt. Larry Runk. In my thirty year of law enforcement in Adams County, I had the honor and pleasure of working with both of them. While reading a proclamation at Chief Grim's retirement in East Berlin on Sunday, I commented on the relationships, incidents and experiences that flood your memory after a thirty year career in law enforcement. Our best wishes to both Mike and Larry for their service and dedication to the Adams County community!

On Labor Day the Gettysburg Community will celebrate its new relationship with the Sekigahara Battlefield in Japan. The public is invited to a special joint signing ceremony for creation of the sister city/sister park relationship. The ceremony will take place at the historic Lincoln Railroad Station on Carlisle Street at 2PM. We had a great Land Conservancy picnic at the beautifully restored property of Tim & Tammy Shields on Cunningham Road. This year stops feature Adams County Emergency Services. Mark your calendars for the Land Conservancy Annual Road Rally on Saturday, October 15. We are looking for sponsors and drivers. To sign up your team or to be an event sponsor call the LCAC at 717-334-2828.

Enjoy the long weekend and let's hope we get some of the tropical storm precipitation without any other ill effects. While football season is upon us peach and sweet corn season is coming to a close - so stock up while you can. 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.



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The End