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Bag the Bounty

& County Picnic a Success

Vickie Corbett, Executive Director of the United Way, wants to extend her thanks and appreciation to everyone that contributed to BAG THE BOUNTY. Adams County employees donated an impressive 241.8 lbs. of food at our annual employee picnic. On behalf of the Board of Commissioners and the Picnic Committee – thank you!

Speaking of the Staff Picnic - there seemed to be a record turnout on a knockdown beautiful day last Friday at the Ag Center 4H Pavilion.

Given today's gloomy weather we were fortunate to have the weather we had last Friday. The picnic does not happen without a lot of work from members of our staff who step to the plate every year. A special shout out to Paula Neiman, Barb Walter, Tom Leedy, John Eline, Cindy Sanderson, Cecilia Billingsley and the entire HR Department. Also Judge Wagner and Judge Simpson joined the Commissioners on the serving line. When you see those folks take the time to say Thank You!

Strong PComp Insurance DIVIDEND

Due to the strong financial condition of PComp, Adams County will receive a \$259,451 dividend payment. This was the largest refund in the insurance pool this year. The CCAP PComp program is a Workman's Compensation insurance pool made up of participating Pennsylvania counties. Adams County Commissioner Jim Martin serves on the PComp Board as Vice-Chair. Commissioner Martin tells us the reason for the significant refund is low claims and good investment of reserves. He also predicts that our premium may decrease in the range of 3-4% – which is something you seldom hear these days.

Thank you to all of you who perform your duties in a safe manner - thus lowering our injury rate. Your participation utilizing healthy and safe practices do bring positive personal and financial results.

Information Technology Update

The Information Technology Department has scheduled Wednesday, October 26th as the go live date for the new Eclipse document management system. The Eclipse platform will replace the current legacy DocStar system which has been used throughout the County since it went live in 2005. The upgrade will provide a modern platform utilizing a web interface for an updated appearance to the software. Over the past month, various County Departments have been trained on the new system to prepare for the cutover. A test environment was also created for all County Departments to test individual functions of the new software. All County Departments are highly encouraged to finalize testing to ensure a smooth transition over to the new Eclipse platform.

In addition, the Information Technology Department has initiated the first phase of the new telephone system. The first phase of the project will focus on outfitting the Human Services building with new phones as Departments move out to the new location. The new system will replace the current 25 year old analog system with a new Voice over IP telephone platform. The new Cisco VOIP system will replace approximately 600 phones found throughout many of the County buildings. The phone upgrades will include the Courthouse, Human Services, Prison, Conservation District Building and Magistrates Offices. With a modernized phone system in place, the County will have the ability to automate many manual functions and provide Departments an array of options not offered in the current system. One of the most anticipated features will include conference calling. The project is scheduled to span the 2017 calendar year.

Furthermore, the IT Department was recently approved by the Commissioners to move forward with the audio system upgrades to the Historical Courtroom at the Courthouse. The current audio system will be replaced with a sound system that has been designed and engineered to significantly improve the sound quality in comparison to the current outdated system. Much attention was given to preserving the historical integrity of the Courtroom while determining the placement of the system hardware. The project is scheduled to kick off in mid-October with the new system vendor. We would like to give special recognition to the Building and Maintenance Department who will be working closely with the IT Department throughout the completion of the project.

Lastly, the IT Department went live with the new Reading Township website on Tuesday, September 27th. The new site contains pertinent information for meetings, announcements, and ordinances. The Township's website will be a valuable resource for their residents and those interested in obtaining information about Reading Township. Please check out the award winning Adams County website at your convenience.

Human Services Building

The demolition is almost complete and metal stud walls are beginning to sprout. As of the end of business today both the HSB Core Team and the Directors will have chosen from the menu of materials and colors presented by the architect. Please remember if you need to do business at the HSB, the old entrance on the parking lot side is now closed for construction and you must enter from the front of the building into Probation or the break room. Also anyone going into the construction area must wear a hard hat. There are several hard hats available in our maintenance room at the rear of the building.

Veterans Affairs Update

Adams County Veterans Service Officer Victor Woerner was presented his Certificate of Training from the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Accreditation Training earlier this month. This accreditation enables Vic to represent Veterans with the U. S. Department of Veterans Administration. Victor joined the Adams County Veterans Affairs office in August and is now certified to assist our County Veterans with all types of claims and benefits. Director Stan Clark also completed his mandatory annual Continuing Education course at the same time.

Since Vic has joined the Department, he has initiated a very detailed and comprehensive system of keeping track of all Veteran contacts as well as action taken for each Veteran. He has also devised a plan to better organize and maintain our records and activities. In a short period of time Vic Woerner has made beneficial advances for the Department and enabled it to better serve our Adams County Veterans.

Well it looks like a damp weekend for Apple Harvest. It certainly will not be the first time I parked at 6:30AM in the field across the road from the fairground, trudged through the mud and discussed exactly what time we should start the charcoal and how long the chicken fire pit should be given weather conditions. Unfortunately weather does correlate to sales. Regardless, it is sort of like a reunion for many of us - and we have a fire pit team that runs like a well oiled machine – sort of! Apple Harvest is simply a fabulous community event.

All the regional fall festivals have begun. Pippinfest was of course Apple Harvest is this weekend and next you do get out there and experience all the agricultural, natural and cultural that beautiful Adams County has to offer!

held last weekend in Fairfield and weekend. No matter what historical, recreational, opportunities

“...get out there and experience all the historical, recreational, agricultural, natural and cultural opportunities that beautiful Adams County has to offer!”

The End