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from
Adams County

written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

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In this issue...



Page 2

Office Receives Financial
Achievement
PSP Community
Awareness



Page 3

IT Adams County Work
Group Established
Commissioner Activity



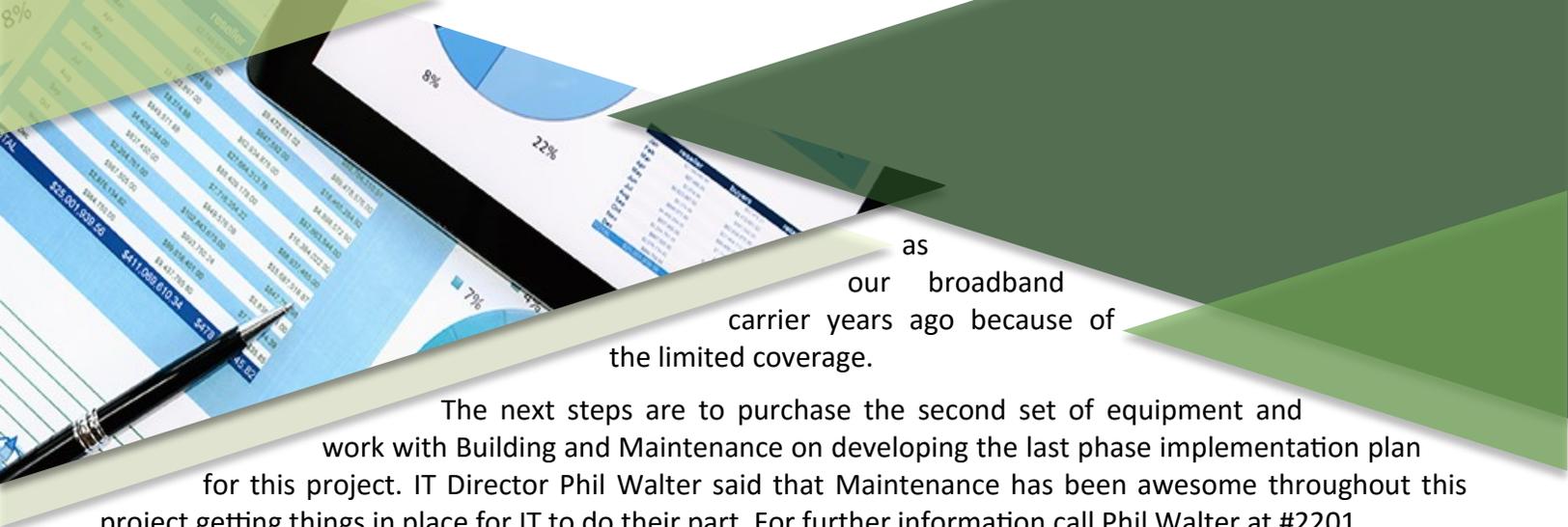
Page 4

The End



Improved Cell Phone Service

Our IT Department reports that Phase 1 of the SureCall cell phone boosting project is complete. We are pleased to report that the solution is working better than expected with coverage from the first phase equipment reaching much further into the building than expected. Now that Phase 1 has been completed, it turns out that we will be able to eliminate some of the equipment that we thought we would need for this project. Staff should already be seeing far more bars available on their personal and county issued phones with broadband connection in the Phase 1 area. The only carrier reporting a poor signal is "Sprint", which isn't strong even when you leave the building. IT reports there is no immediate solution for his. The County switched from Sprint to Verizon



as
our broadband
carrier years ago because of
the limited coverage.

The next steps are to purchase the second set of equipment and work with Building and Maintenance on developing the last phase implementation plan for this project. IT Director Phil Walter said that Maintenance has been awesome throughout this project getting things in place for IT to do their part. For further information call Phil Walter at #2201.

Office Receives Financial Achievement Awards

On some days when you go by the new Adams County Human Services Building the parking seems like it is already 3/4 full. Looking back it's a good thing the parking was expanded during construction! As planned and anticipated, a number of Court Hearings have transitioned to the Adams County Human Services Building. MDJ Beauchat has been there for the past year, Central Court moved out there in November as did Juvenile Court, Dependency Court and Domestic Relations Court. MDJ Harvey relocated from E. Middle Street to HSB on January 3. The HSB has built in technology and digital recording of proceedings that has been phased in, initially with a court reporter to make sure there were no gaps in a complete record. This process has now progressed to court hearings being conducted fully with digital coverage without court reporters which results in savings. Both the public and staff seem extremely pleased with the facilities and especially the free ample parking. Public transportation is available to the complex 4 times a day Tuesday - Friday via the Freedom Transit Blue Line.

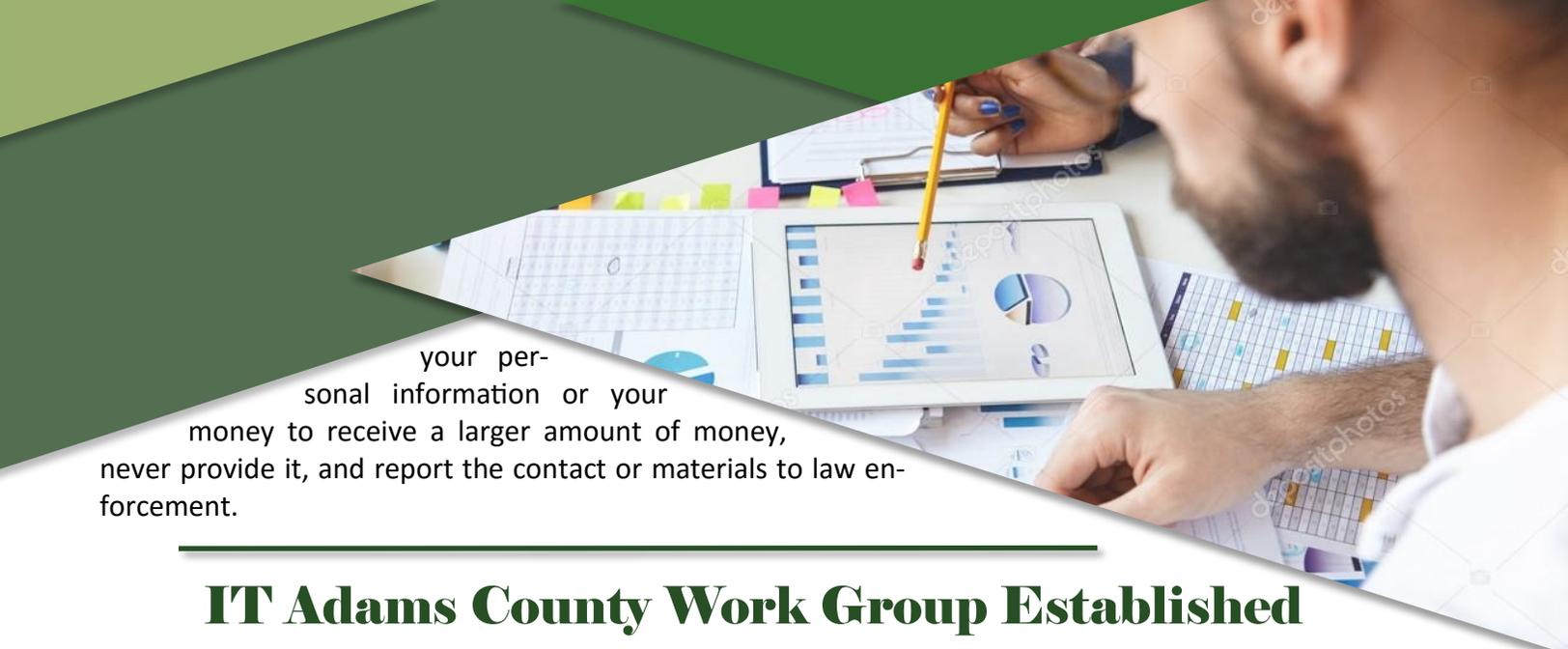
PSP Community Awareness Bulletin

The Pennsylvania State Police recently asked us to release a Community Service Bulletin regarding inappropriate material on social media sites that children may frequent. A character called "Momo" has been widely reported being inserted in sites such as WhatsApp, YouTube and Facebook, advising children to engage in self-harm or perform inappropriate acts. It has been reported that YouTube For Kids has had content inserted with self-harm, suicide, sex abuse, human trafficking and gun violence. Much of this information is unconfirmed; but widely circulating.

PSP is urging parents to utilize parental controls on social media as well as be present when children are on the internet. Parents can also bookmark favorite, safe sites for their children. Talk with your children about appropriate on-line behavior. Make sure children know who they can talk to about any social media activity that makes them uncomfortable.

Recently PSP also recently put out a Community Alert regarding Federal Shut Down Schemes or materials you may receive referring to the recent federal shutdown. If you receive materials that ask for





your personal information or your money to receive a larger amount of money, never provide it, and report the contact or materials to law enforcement.

IT Adams County Work Group Established

With the approval of the County Commissioners, the IT Department has announced the creation of the “Department Requested IT Projects Governance Workgroup.” The primary purpose of the workgroup will be to review, score, and prioritize all department requested IT projects for each year. With an abundance of IT project and requests coming in from many departments, this workgroup will be taking an equitable approach to ensure the most important IT projects are being worked on. Members of this new workgroup include representation from IT, Finance, Building & Maintenance, and the Courts. The group is scheduled to meet on a monthly basis to review the status of existing projects and also score any new project requests received since the previous meeting. As the workgroup moves ahead, better communications on the status of current IT projects, as well as when new projects are scheduled to begin, will become more accurate.

Brandon Brenize, IT projects coordinator, will have daily oversight on all department requested IT projects. It will be the department’s responsibility to notify him of a new project request to ensure it gets added into the system queue for review by the team. He will be tasked with ensuring the workgroup is briefed on the requested projects and that an accurate representation of the project is brought forth to the group. Department heads may be asked to provide more information directly to the workgroup, as needed. It is the ultimate goal of IT to create a fair and transparent process to ensure all departments are receiving a fair amount of IT resource time to advance your department’s technology solutions. The Adams County IT Governance Workgroup is following a model used by CCAP at their headquarters to better manage and prioritize their IT projects. The Board fully supports and applauds this initiative to better manage our ever growing and significant IT program.

Commissioner Activity

Today is a day that the Adams County Commissioners have set aside to network with one of the county’s leading industries, Agriculture. This morning was our traditional breakfast meeting with the Adams County Farm Bureau. This meeting creates plenty of good conversation that involves a number of issues facing the agricultural community. Some issues we can address and others we carry to our spring CCAP County Commissioners Conference. This morning’s major concern seemed to be storm water run-off and nutrient management as it relates to Chesapeake Bay initiatives. Farm labor as related to H2A guest worker



programs was also discussed. At the conference we can address some of the issues with our colleagues, generally through the CCAP Agricultural Committee. Commissioner Martin will be representing agricultural issues at the next CCAP Agricultural Committee Meeting on March 24 in Harrisburg. March 24-26 we will be attending the CCAP Spring Commissioners Conference in Harrisburg. This evening we will be attending the Annual Adams County Fruit Growers Association Dinner Meeting. This is a significant event where we can network with the fruit growing industry. We understand the importance of supporting these major county industry's and look forward to their banquet as an extension of our support for the fruit growing industry.

On Tuesday we attended the Adams County Arts Council Annual Dinner Meeting, next Thursday we will be attending the Land Conservancy of Adams County Annual Dinner Meeting, Tuesday March 19 we have Destination Gettysburg's Annual Meeting and we have the Callie Awards on Thursday, March 28th. Throw in the Gettysburg FD Awards Banquet, East Berlin FD Gun Dinner Fundraiser, Biglerville FD Shrimp Feed, Fairfield FD Annual Awards Dinner tomorrow evening, Farm Bureau Annual Dinner in April and the United Fire Company Awards Dinner March 30 – and you get the idea that in March & April we are not home that much - and we definitely need to think about dieting in May!



The End

This past January has been two years since I lost my beloved 13 ½ year-old Golden Retriever Molly. We were soulmates. I still have not gotten over her. Last Saturday, I was at an event in East Berlin and the owner of the business came walking in with a 14-week old Golden Retriever puppy named Molson. Molson was being trained as a Service Dog. He was a sweetheart. Naturally, I had my picture taken with Molson. It is a standing joke around the commissioner's office that they can never get me to smile for pictures. Commissioner Martin was at the event and made the comment that for once I smiled having my picture taken with Molson. I sent the picture to my family - and got a text back from my wife Kathy that it was time for me to get another Golden pup. I have been reluctant to take the puppy plunge due my schedule. Say no more. Knowing I would have puppy support from my family, this week I found a litter of Golden Retriever pups in Lancaster that are two weeks old. We are going for a Meet & Greet with the pups on Saturday morning. They will be weaned and ready to go to their new homes by mid-April. My daughters are already compiling a list of female Golden Retriever names. Two new granddaughters, a third granddaughter on the way and a new puppy. We are making sure there is no lack of activity around the Phiel household! I will let you know about the results of my visit.

Don't forget to spring your clock forward before you turn in on Saturday night. It is going to be light until 7:30 so you will have more time for your outdoor spring activities – whenever spring-like weather finally gets here? I haven't seen anything beginning to peek through yet? I am ready to jump back on my zero turn and bask in the sunshine – hopefully on some dry turf this year. Spring must be close because yesterday I got my form to fill out from Neiderer's to open my pool in May.

There is so much 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!