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from
Adams County

written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

October 21, 2022

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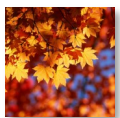
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Leading Candidate for “PA Ag Discovery Center”

As a result of an outstanding collaborative effort between Adams County Economic Alliance, Destination Gettysburg, Adams County Planning, Adams County Solicitor’s Office and the Adams County Commissioner’s Office, the PA Ag Discovery Center may soon be a reality in Adams County. At Wednesday’s meeting, the Board pledged \$150,000 to the development of the Center’s Feasibility Study & Business Plan, which is coming from the county’s portion of the restricted Hotel Tax as an allowed use.

The decision to locate the PA Ag Discovery in Adams County was the result of an extensive site selection process. The Discovery Center Team solicited proposals from four counties in Central-Pennsylvania, and after careful consideration determined that Adams County offered the most cohesive approach and enthusiastic support for bringing the Center to life. The Discovery Center will showcase Pennsylvania’s rich agricultural industry and

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history and cultivate the next generation of farmers through an interactive and fun educational experience. The complex will be open year-round and will be an ideal venue for families with school aged children, field trips, and individuals of all ages interested in an interactive learning experience about Pennsylvania's agricultural history and legacy. The Center will be a multi-building complex that will immerse visitors in a replica farming community. It will feature dedicated spaces to learn about crops, dairy cows, poultry, and other livestock, as well as environmental education, child play, events, retail sales and outdoor experiences.

This complex will be a showcase for Pennsylvania Ag, provide educational benefits especially to youth, and be a complement to Adams County's Ag/Tourism economy! Compliments from the Adams County Board of Commissioners to our Adams County Extended Team, for their noteworthy, combined efforts to benefit and promote our county!

General Election Tuesday, November 8th

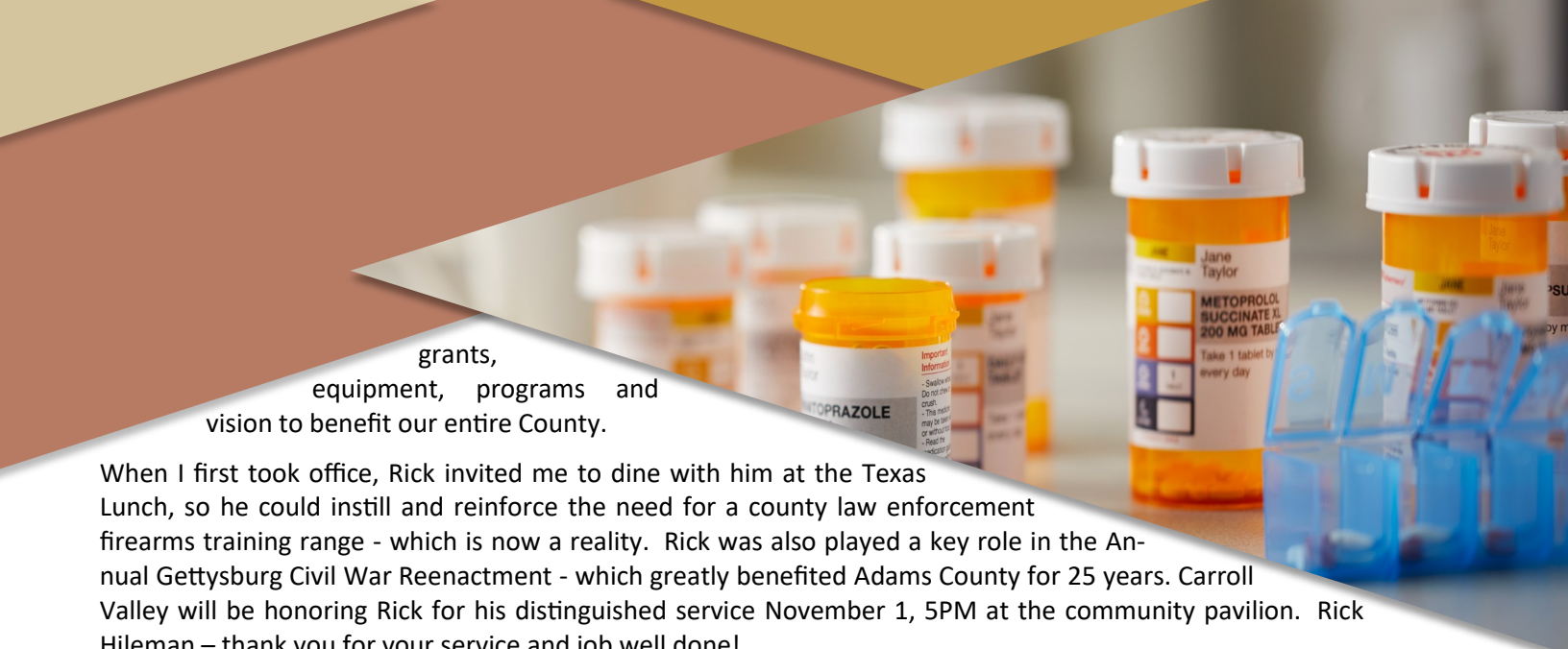
I know you have seen this before in TGIF, but with the November 8th General Election just around the corner, this is Last Call! Residents wishing to register or vote by mail/absentee must meet fast approaching deadlines. Here are the deadlines and some other election reminders:

- The last day to register to vote is October 24th
- The last day to apply for mail-in/absentee is November 1st
- The last day for County Board of Elections to receive the voted ballot is November 8th at 8:00pm. Ballots received by mail in the Elections Office after 8PM election day will not be counted. The date of postmark is not a factor. The ballot must be in the office by 8PM election day!
- In order to apply for an absentee or mail-in ballot, you must supply proof of identification. Read the instructions carefully and mark your ballot. Be sure to complete the front and back of each page. Seal your ballot in the inner secrecy envelope that indicates "official election ballot." Do not make any marks on the inner secrecy envelope. Your ballot must be enclosed and sealed in the inner secrecy envelope that indicates "official election ballot" or it will not be counted. Seal the inner secrecy envelope in the pre-addressed outer return envelope. Complete the voter's declaration on the outside of the outer return envelope. If you do not complete the declaration on the return envelope your ballot will not be counted.
- Voters cannot drop off ballots for family members or friends. Each voter must return his or her own ballot. Voters with a disability can have someone return the ballot for them, but it must be designated in writing. Emergency ballots are available to voters who have an unexpected illness or disability or a last-minute absence from their municipality.

Thank You/Best Wishes Carroll Valley Police Chief Rick Hileman

Carroll Valley Police Chief Rick Hileman is retiring this month after serving the residents of Carroll Valley & Adams County from 1992-2022. Rick has been a steadfast anchor in our law enforcement community for 30 years. It has been my privilege to know and work with Rick, both professionally and personally, for most of that time. Besides supplying vision and benefit to the Carroll Valley/Fairfield community, Rick has facilitated

Best Wishes!



grants,
equipment, programs and
vision to benefit our entire County.

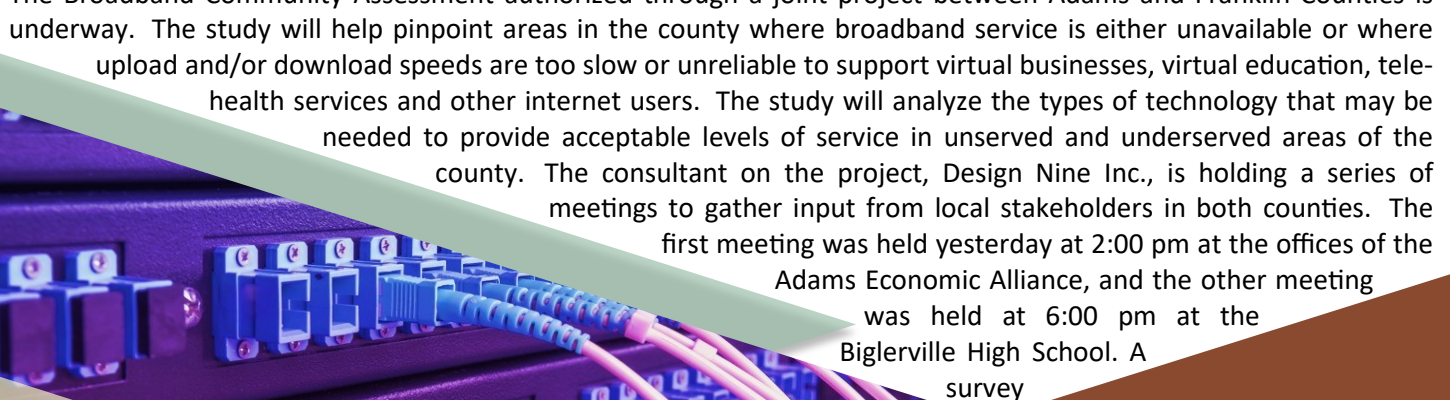
When I first took office, Rick invited me to dine with him at the Texas Lunch, so he could instill and reinforce the need for a county law enforcement firearms training range - which is now a reality. Rick was also played a key role in the Annual Gettysburg Civil War Reenactment - which greatly benefited Adams County for 25 years. Carroll Valley will be honoring Rick for his distinguished service November 1, 5PM at the community pavilion. Rick Hileman – thank you for your service and job well done!

National Prescription Take Back Day / Take Back Locations

At the Commissioners public meeting on Wednesday, the Board approved a proclamation for National Prescription Take Back Day, October 29TH. Prescription drug abuse is the fastest growing drug problem in the United States, with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stating national prescription drug overdose rates have reached epidemic levels. 3.4% of Adams County youth report pain reliever abuse during their lifetime. Due to the increase in prescription drug overdoses, there are more fatalities in the United States related to drug overdoses than car crashes. Since 2003, there have been more overdose deaths related to prescription opioid analgesics than to heroin, cocaine, hallucinogens like LSD, and inhalants combined. For every one overdose death related to opioid pain relievers, there are nine treatment admissions, 30 emergency department visits for misuse / abuse, 118 people with abuse and dependence, and almost 800 past year non-medical users.

Everyone can help prevent prescription drug abuse by properly securing and disposing of expired and unused medicines at home or by turning them in year-round at one of the 12 permanent Medication Return Box locations in the county. The locations are the Adams County Sheriff's Office, Gettysburg Borough, Eastern Adams Regional, Littlestown Borough, Latimore Township, Reading Township, East Berlin Borough, Carroll Valley Borough, Liberty Township, Cumberland Township, McSherrystown Borough, Conewago Township, Biglerville Borough, and Tyrone Township, Pennsylvania State Police Troop H – Gettysburg and Chambersburg, Biglerville Hose & Truck Co. #1, Gettysburg Housing Authority, McSherrystown Moose Lodge. The Adams County Overdose Awareness Task Force and Collaborating For Youth are partnering to curb the misuse / abuse of medicine.

Adams County Broadband Update



The Broadband Community Assessment authorized through a joint project between Adams and Franklin Counties is underway. The study will help pinpoint areas in the county where broadband service is either unavailable or where upload and/or download speeds are too slow or unreliable to support virtual businesses, virtual education, telehealth services and other internet users. The study will analyze the types of technology that may be needed to provide acceptable levels of service in unserved and underserved areas of the county. The consultant on the project, Design Nine Inc., is holding a series of meetings to gather input from local stakeholders in both counties. The first meeting was held yesterday at 2:00 pm at the offices of the Adams Economic Alliance, and the other meeting was held at 6:00 pm at the Biglerville High School. A survey

will be distributed in the future.

The Adams County Board of Commissioners recently appointed a Broadband Community Advisory Task Force to help formulate and advance a strategy to address the development and implementation of an affordable county-wide broadband network. Commissioner Marty Qually has been appointed as an ex-officio member of this taskforce. The team of local leaders will be critical to identifying gaps in service, industry specific needs, and helping to reach out to the public for input. The need for better broadband service has long been a concern of the Adams County Board of Commissioners, and the Board's interest in improving broadband accessibility throughout the County was heightened due to the pandemic. Affordable broadband high-speed internet is critical infrastructure in today's world and is essential for the long-term economic viability and livability of the county. Reliable access is a quality-of-life issue, necessary for remote learning and medical access as well as economic development and stability.



The End

- Calling all Adams County ghost and goblins for a *Halloween Staff Luncheon* in the Courthouse Breakroom on October 31 from 11:30 -1:00. The lunch will include sloppy joe's, hot dogs, baked beans, BBQ chicken, mac/cheese, veggies, dips, chips, and desserts. Contact HR by October 27 to sign up and provide a donation for food. Thank you to HR for providing these workplace opportunities!
- Fall activities continue this weekend with the *Annual Harvest Day & Parade* in New Oxford on Saturday. The parade steps off from New Oxford High School at 3PM. Live entertainment, craft vendors, food vendors, and lots of kid's activities will be held from 10AM-4PM.
- On Saturday the Gettysburg American Legion is holding a *Trunk or Treat* in the Legion parking lot at 528 E. Middle Street. Legion members will hand out candy to kids.
- The Blue Ridge Theater Guild presents *From The Haunted Mind Of Edgar Allen Poe* this evening at 7PM in the Fairfield Borough Hall. Tickets are \$10. Call 717-642-5640.
- Experience a little bit of Germany in Adams County this weekend. A *Rotary Oktoberfest* is being held this Saturday, from 2PM-6PM, at Adams County Winery. Support youth programming in Adams County while enjoying the best German Band in Central PA. Ticket includes meal of German Beer Brat, or hamburger, kraut, potato salad and other delights. Beer and wine are sold separately. Price is \$15. Call 717-334-9171 Ext 116.
- My grandkids went to *Fields of Adventure* in Aspers last weekend and just loved it. They have a corn maze, pumpkins, slides, cider donuts and lots of things to do. This is a great family activity! This evening is "Flashlight Friday Night In The Corn Maze." Fields of Adventure, 64 Tree Lane, Aspers.
- Its *Pour Tour Shuttle Wine Friday* this evening. You will visit Halbrendt Vineyard, J&P Winery, and Reid's Winery. Cost is \$35 and departs at 5PM. Contact Gettysburg Tours 717-334-6296.
- Gettysburg Community Theater has an *Improv Show* slated for Saturday, November 5TH at 7PM. If you like to laugh at adults being goofy you will find this very entertaining. \$10 in advance and \$15 at door.
- This evening at The Majestic Theater enjoy *Haunted Illusions*. Celebrate Halloween with an incredible night of illusion at the hands of master illusionist David Caserta. Tickets \$39-44.
- At Hollabaugh Bros. Orchards take a *Fall Colors Wagon Ride* at 10AM & 11AM through the beautiful orchards while enjoying the fall foliage. Cost is \$3 per person with 2 and under free. 717-677-8412.

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!