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from
Adams County

written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

November 8, 2024

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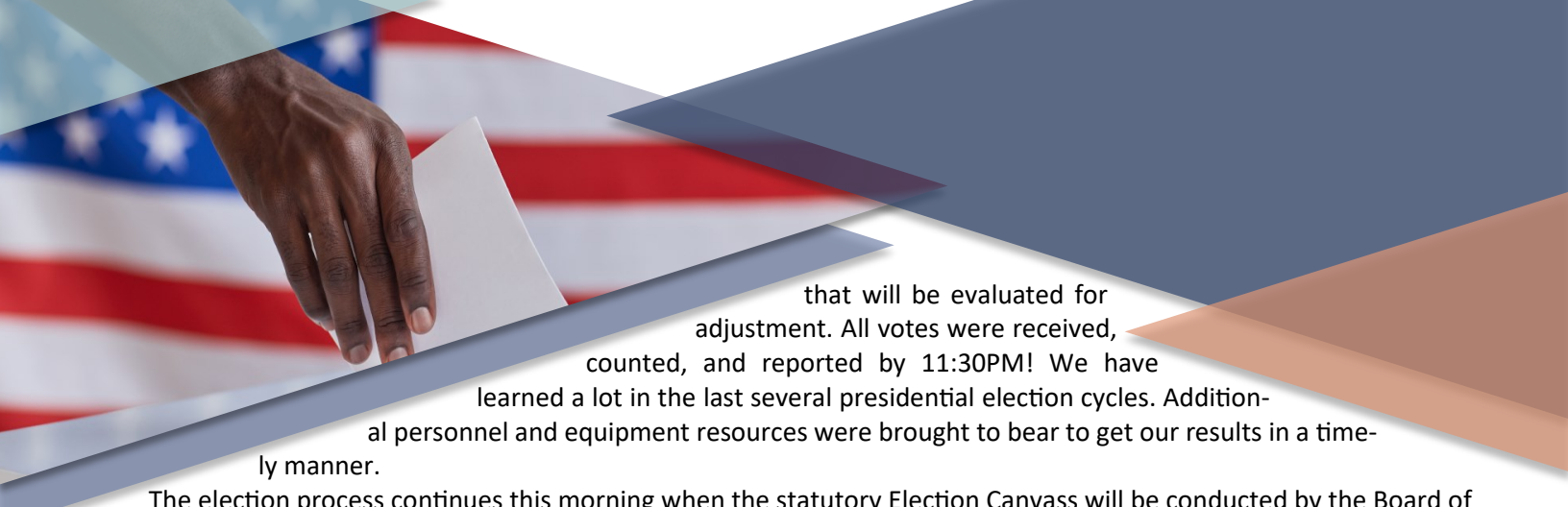
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County General Election Breaks Record

This Presidential election resulted in Adams County voters turning out in record numbers. Of our approximately 76,000 registered voters, 79.71% either submitted an absentee or mail-in ballot or cast their vote at the polls on election day. Of the approximately 19,000 mail-in applications, 18,488 ballots were returned. Thus, approximately 23% of our registered voters chose to vote by mail-in.

Given the anticipation and enthusiasm on both sides of the aisle, and beautiful Fall weather, the initial early morning surge at the polls was unparalleled. Voters began queuing up at 6AM resulting in initial lines at most polling places. With some exceptions, after the initial surge, voter activity remained steady the rest of the day. The Adams County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Adams County Election Board, are glad to report there was no disruption or equipment issues at the polls to our knowledge. A few precincts had longer than normal lines





that will be evaluated for adjustment. All votes were received, counted, and reported by 11:30PM! We have learned a lot in the last several presidential election cycles. Additional personnel and equipment resources were brought to bear to get our results in a timely manner.

The election process continues this morning when the statutory Election Canvass will be conducted by the Board of Elections beginning today at 9AM.

I cannot conclude this report without recognizing the folks in the Adams County Election's office, other Adams County staff who supplement the election office during election season, and all the community poll workers who come together each election day to serve their community and country to provide this anchor of democracy. Administering elections in the past decade has become much more costly, timely, consuming, and scrutinized. This is personified and multiplied during a Presidential Election year. The importance of our elections process is undisputed. The Adams County Board of Elections tips our hats and sincerely thanks each of you for your role in this process!

Veterans Day on Monday

Monday is more than just another holiday. It is a day to pause, recognize and honor all U.S Veterans for their service. To that end, the Allied Veteran's Council of Adams County invites the public to attend their annual Veterans Day program on Monday, November 11. The program is held at the Gettysburg American Legion and begins at 11:00AM with music by the Apple Core Band. After the indoor program, the group moves outside for the calling of deceased names and ringing of the bell.

For those that have previously attended the program, you already know this is a very poignant ceremony of remembrance. You will find attending is a worthwhile experience remembering and honoring our Veterans. I hope to see you there!

Thank you to all our Veterans for your courage, strength, and dedication to keep us free and safe!

Oak Lawn Volunteer Cleanup Day This Sunday 12-4

Besides the graves of hundreds of Adams County residents, Oak Lawn Cemetery has over 600 Veterans graves in the Veterans' section. Due to well publicized criminal malfeasance, Adams County had no choice but to assume control to preserve the cemetery. A recent Oak Lawn Volunteer Cleanup Day left some tasks incomplete. The main goal of this Sunday Volunteer Cleanup Day is to improve and straighten some of the grave markers. I will be there Sunday with a van full of tools. If you have some free time and want to provide some valuable community service, bring your shovel, rake, wheelbarrow, digging bar, weedwhacker and other tools to pitch in.

For a very rewarding experience, just show up or contact Volunteer Coordinator Cindy Shultz at 717-357-9684 or www.sleepyhollowofgettysburg.com

Conservation District Appointments

At the October 30 public meeting, the Board of Commissioners re-appointed Michelle Kirk as Farmer Director to the Adams County Conservation District Board for another four (4) year term effective January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2028. Commissioner Jim Martin was also re-appointed as the Commissioner Representative for another one (1) year term, effective January 1, 2025, thru December 31, 2025.

The Adams County Conservation District is vital to benefiting and maintaining our agrarian heritage, economy, and stewardship of our environment. We are very appreciative of all our Adams County residents who engage in important community service by volunteering to serve on these Boards!



The End

- **Fall Journeys – Virtual Historic Encounters.** Virtual reality experience through November/December GNMP Visitor Center. Numerous showtimes. Choose from three historic figures. A regular showtime includes a virtual encounter with one historic figure.

Call 877-874-2478 or reservations@gettysburgfoundation.org

- **Murder On the Menu.** The 37TH Annual Yummy Awards Dinner. From 5-8 this evening enjoy a fun flavor filled evening that includes a 4 course dinner and show. The Lodges At Gettysburg. 685 Camp Gettysburg Road. \$75 for show and meal. For complete details contact denise@gettysburglodges.com
- **Adams County Historical Society Fall Fest.** 40+ vendors, crafts, handmade gifts, local artisan goods, and food. Saturday from 9-4. achs-pa.org
- **Annual Saint Francis Gift Fair & Holiday Bazaar.** Saturday from 8-230. Xavier Café serving Latino & Americano breakfast. \$1,000 Grand Prize Raffle. 43 vendors expected. stfcc.org
- **Gettysburg College Jazz Ensemble at Majestic.** Annual Autumn Leaves concert at the historic Majestic Theater. Includes both musical and vocal jazz tunes. Saturday at 8. Tickets are \$5 and public is welcome.
- **Nashville Song Writers Evening.** Eisenhower Inn. Saturday 7-9. Live music with 4 of the best songwriters in the industry share their stories and perform their hits. Adults \$45. Under 15 free. Cash bar available.
- **Remembrance Day Parade.** Saturday, November 16 at 1PM.
- **Remembrance Day National Cemetery Illumination.** Saturday, November 16, 5:30 – 9:00. Luminaries and flags light up the graves in the Soldiers National Cemetery. The event is sponsored by the Gettysburg Foundation.
- **Dedication Day Ceremony.** Gettysburg National Cemetery. Tuesday, November 19 begins at 10:30. Dedication Day 2024 will commemorate the 161st anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Wreath laying, music, speakers, and Gettysburg Address. Free and open to the public.
- **Movie "Conclave."** Showing now at the Majestic Theater. *Conclave* follows one of the world's most secretive and ancient events – selecting the new Pope. I plan on seeing this one – I think I can learn something while being entertained!
- **Standing Ovation - Gettysburg Community Theater.** Numerous shows this weekend and next weekend. A musical variety show that brings famous actors from the silver screen together in a musical comedy perfect for the young at heart. Tickets \$20-25 and may be purchased on-line at gettysburgcommunitytheater.org.

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!