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from
Adams County

written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

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WELCOME

Managers Musing ***How About Them Apples?***

I have invited County Manager Steve Nevada to be a contributor to TGIF on a regular basis to provide information and convey his thoughts and ideas. Steve: Welcome to the Adams County Team and TGIF.

Happy Friday Adams County Team! My name is Steve Nevada, and I began employment with Adams County on January 13, 2020 in the role of County Manager. I am writing to share a bit about myself and hopefully reach a larger audience. My first two weeks have been a great experience! All the incredible support I have received from everyone I have met thus far has been inspiring. I have seen on daily a basis how dedicated the Adams County employees are and how staff make the County a great place to live and work. It is very humbling to have the privilege of serving in this position and I commit to you that I will strive to support

welcome

and assist you in any way I can to help our community.

I am a lifelong resident of Adams County. I reside with my lovely wife, three children, two dogs, and two cats on the mountain west of Gettysburg, near Cashtown. Besides my work, I enjoy spending time with my family, mountain and road biking, playing sports with my kids, reading, and watching a good movie or show. My role prior to starting with Adams County was the Assistant County Administrator for Franklin County.

Being a native Adams Countian and resident, I am very interested in the quality of life in our community. In our positions we have the capability to make a positive daily impact on the community we serve. I believe in the Adams County goals of enriching social, economic, and environmental vitality, while providing services which are responsive to the health, safety, and general welfare needs of County residents.

Being new to my role I hope you will help me with your expertise and bring me up to speed regarding County operations. Please do not hesitate to outreach to ask me questions and/or provide information. By the same token I am sure I will have questions. My wife has told me I am full of questions. She is right as I am naturally curious. With that in mind, please know I am not asking questions to be intrusive, my goal is to assure I understand how we operate so I can best provide support to you.

In closing, I truly believe that each of us must find meaning in our work. The best work happens when you know that it's not just work; but something that will improve other people's lives. This is the opportunity that drives each of us and I look forward to embracing that here in Adams County. I cherish and celebrate Adams County's principles and values. We are going to continue to provide superior service to our community that will make our employees and this community incredibly proud of what we do. My door is always open. Thanks for reading! P.S. - If you have any suggestions of good books, movies and/or TV shows let me know.

-Steve

Mercy House Recovery Center Groundbreaking

On Tuesday morning the commissioners, other public officials, donors, contractors, RASE Project staff and even two members of the Sister of Mercy Convent gathered at the abandoned Mercy House for a ceremonial groundbreaking ceremony. The legacy of the Mercy House will live on as it is renovated to provide housing for 7 males in recovery on the second floor and maintain a walk-in center on the first floor. Of the estimated \$1.2M cost, to date \$956,000 has been raised through grants and donations. The building will be totally renovated and upgraded with ADA accessibility including an elevator. Work will begin this week with asbestos mitigation and construction should begin soon thereafter. We are hopeful the project is complete this Fall.

The recovery center will be administered by the RASE Project that currently serves Cumberland, Perry, Dauphin, Lancaster and Lebanon counties. The renovated property will continue to be owned by Adams County. The residents are required to agree to a strict set of guidelines that include evening counseling sessions and having a full-time day shift job. Mercy House will provide more program benefits, adjudication and prison alternative options. We are especially grateful to the York County Commissioners, as the other entity in our MHIDD/

WEATHER ALERT

Health Choices
joinder, and the local community individuals and organizations that realized the significance of this endeavor and stepped up with their financial support.

Weather Opening, Closing and Delay

Given the weather events of last week, I guess we can say winter has certainly arrived, suddenly we are in a deep freeze. What is worse than snow is ice - and this past week was an icy situation that did not melt. I remind you that for overnight or pending weather events any change in status is posted on the homepage of the county website. This is normally done by 6AM when achievable. You can also go to WGAL 8 and WGET/WGTY/WHVR for information. If it is snowing heavily the night before, or the forecast is for heavy snow the call is easier. When the event happens in the area of 5-6am in the morning with changing condition, with a forecast for clearing, it is much more difficult. We try our best to make the right call; but just ask any weather anchor if they always get it right? In the end, it is incumbent for each of us to recognize and determine what course of action we take driving and walking based on our own judgement.

HR Update

Please be sure to check your portal next week for all of the heart healthy activities planned for the month of February "American Heart Month". There is a contest with great prizes and ways to reduce stress, do simple exercise and move more, and pay better attention to the foods and drinks we consume.

Don't forget to wear something RED on Friday February 7th to commit to paying better attention to your heart in the month of February.

A few activities will only take place at the Courthouse or the Human Services Building. If you physical work in another location, please feel free to attend at either location with your Supervisor's permission.

IT Update

The Information Technology Department has several key IT specific projects scheduled to be completed in 2020. These projects focus primarily on technical and security enhancements to ensure the organization has a reliable, stable, and secure network. All the IT specific projects will benefit departments in various ways, some more directly than others. A short list of the projects includes migration from on-premises exchange email system to cloud based Microsoft Office 365, replacement of current anti-virus software to more advanced solution, data center fire suppression improvements, County website rebuild, firewall replacement,

and web filter replacement with new cloud-based solution. There will also be enhancements to various sensors used to scan and inventory key data and security points on the network. All the projects listed will be completed in parallel with department request-



ed projects throughout the year. As introduced in 2019, project governance will continue to be used to score and prioritize department requested projects. The purpose of this is to ensure IT resources are being used to work on the most important projects for Adams County. This provides an equitable approach towards project management and will continue to provide department directors an opportunity to present their projects prior to scoring by the committee.

The End

An ice-covered yard makes for interesting dynamics for a Golden Retriever puppy who was experiencing snow and ice for the first time. The snow was the easy part as Bailey bounded

around trying to capture snowflakes in her mouth. The ice was a different story with no green grass in sight. It is hard to communicate to a 7-month puppy that they could tear ligaments or break a leg streaking around on the ice. The total ice cover also makes for interesting potty dynamics. The ice also negated getting a whole lot of exercise in a short period of time by streaking around and fetching the ball. Here's wishing for sunshine, warmer temperatures and green grass so Bailey and I can sit on the front yard bench, play ball and survey the neighborhood.

On Saturday I was all set to head to the *Heidlersburg Fire Company Oyster, Beef & Shrimp Dinner*. Normally weather does not slow me down, as I am the guy with 4-WD that challenges the weather to keep me home; but the extremely icy conditions on Saturday did make me pause. After having my son check Facebook to see if the dinner was still happening (and it was), Kathy made the decision for me that we were not driving to Heidlersburg with the icy conditions. Sometimes common sense does prevail. With Heidlersburg in the rearview mirror until February, the *Cashtown Fire Company Community Fair* is looming large with turkey and oysters on Thursday, February 6 and chicken and waffles and oysters on Friday, February 7. I have been going to the Cashtown Fair before I could walk since my grandmother Edna Kuhn ran the kitchen. Later in life, I enjoyed going with my parents and taking my in-laws and children. See you at The Fair! Also check out Buchanan Valley Fire Departments monthly *Sea Food Feast* featuring crab legs, shrimp, fried clams, chicken and fresh cut French fries. So, head to the Valley for the feasts that are normally held the 1st Saturday of each month.

On Friday, *Dancing With The Local Stars* as usual was an extremely entertaining evening at the Majestic Theater. Adams County has a lot of local talent. The event supported two great local organizations: Gettysburg YWCA and Adams County Arts Council. Hats off to the local dancers and their partner/choreographers, the judges and everyone behind the scenes that makes it happen. On Saturday January 25 at 7:30 the Majestic Theater is hosting the Martin Luther King Jr. event *We Shall Over Come*. The program features African American Music Traditions to commemorate the 40TH anniversary of the celebration. Tickets are free with advance tickets from the Majestic Theater are available and advised. Go on a *Reading Adventure* with your children and grandchildren at Gettysburg National Military Park. Every Saturday at 11AM in the Visitor Center the stories will focus on Abraham Lincoln for children 4-11. This is a great opportunity for kids that like to read and parents that want their children to read and help nourish a love of history.

No matter what you do get out there and experience all the historical, recreational, agricultural, natural and historical opportunities that beautiful Adams County has to offer!

