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*from*  
*Adams County*

written by: Commissioner Randy Phiel

August 16, 2024

## In this issue...

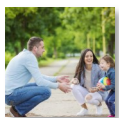
### Page 2

Commissioner/Solicitor  
Receive State Recognition  
Probation Internship  
Agreement Signed with  
Mount St. Mary's  
Sach's Mill/Ike Bridge  
AAARF Agreement Revisions  
Approved to Benefit  
Community



### Page 3

Auxiliary Tax Appeal Board  
Appointed  
The End



## ***CCAP Summer Conference Sets New Attendance Record***

We know we love Adams County – but so do a lot of non-residents! For the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in 6-years, the CCAP Summer Conference attendance record was broken when the conference was held in Adams County last week. In 2018 attendance of 500 set a new record. That record was surpassed last week when 550 county commissioners, chief clerks, county council members, county administrators, solicitors and their guests attended the 4-day conference based at Gateway Gettysburg. The summer conference moves around the state rotating each year between east, central and west. With many counties vying for the event each year, the location is ultimately determined by membership vote 5-years in advance. What was even more stunning was that 64 of Pennsylvania's counties were represented.

We did get a lot done - but we did have some fun! During non-session hours, beside side trips to many Adams County attractions, activities included Beyond the Battle Museum & Events

# Congrats!

Center,  
an evening at the NPS  
Visitor Center, a guided battlefield  
bus tour before going to the Seminary Ridge  
Museum where attendees got to go up in the Cupola, a tasting/  
music event at Big Hill Cider, skeet shooting and an unofficial golf event. Thank you to  
Destination Gettysburg, several area businesses and staff that assisted us in creating very popular  
attendee gift bags featuring the *Best Tastes of Adams County*.

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## Commissioner & Solicitor Receive State Recognition

Adams County Commissioner Randy Phiel and Solicitor Molly Mudd received state-wide recognition at the CCAP Summer Conference Awards Banquet. Phiel received the *CCAP Pennsylvania County Commissioner of the Year Award*. Mudd received the *CCAP Pennsylvania Solicitor of the Year Award*. Both the Commissioner and the Solicitor complimented and recognized family, friends, and co-workers, past and present, for being a significant part of their awards.

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## Probation Internship Agreement Signed with Mt St. Mary's

At Wednesdays public meeting the Board of Commissioners voted to approve an Academic Internship Agreement with Mount St. Mary's University. This Agreement provides that qualified students enrolled at Mount St. Mary's may intern with the County's Probation Services for the purpose of furthering their criminal justice studies and obtaining academic credit. Internships are also a methodology to enhance recruiting with the opportunity to evaluate candidates. Adams County currently has an internship agreement with Shippensburg University and at the meeting the Board voiced their support for expanding these opportunities as appropriate.

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## Sachs Mill & Ike Bridge Cameras

Adams County owns Sachs Mill Bridge. Can you even imagine it not being there? Sachs Mill Bridge is an historical, beautiful, and beloved symbol of Adams County! Unfortunately, it has had its share of vandalism, littering and other inappropriate behavior for decades. I am acutely aware of that having worked in law enforcement for the NPS for 30 years. Several years ago, in an attempt to prevent, deter and document bad behavior, Adams County and a consortium of local entities came together for labor and materials to install a dusk/dawn light and a camera. The camera is monitored by Adams County and the electric is supplied by GMA.

At Wednesday's public meeting an agreement was approved to allow Verkada, Inc. to install outdoor mounted cameras to be positioned at the Sach Mill & Eisenhower (Iron Bridge) for a period of 30 days at no cost to the County. During that period IT & Security will monitor the quality of the product and report back to the Board. Being proactive to safeguard and preserve these County landmarks is important!

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## AARF Agreement Revisions Approved to Benefit Community

Where many other counties kept their entire American Response & Recovery Act funding to cover their allowed COVID expenses, the Adams County Board of Commissioners chose to set aside a \$5M portion for significant community benefit projects. After a thorough scoping, evaluation, conformity and ranking process by staff and community residents, 15 Adams County applicants were chosen for their significant projects. Sometimes after being selected dynamics to the original application can change that are allowable. At Wednesdays public meeting the Board approved revisions for 3 entities. Th benefit to our community by these 3 non-profits listed below, are an example of the benefit the Board was seeking.

The first was a Subrecipient Agreement for the Adams Response & Recovery Fund ("ARRF") with East Berlin Area Joint Authority. This Agreement allocates \$1,000,000 in ARRF grant funding for the purpose of investing in the expansion of water and sewer infrastructure for the Borough of East Berlin and Hamilton Township.

An amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement for Adams Response and Recovery Fund (ARRF) with Gettysburg Combined Area Resources for Emergency Shelter (CARES). This Amendment amends the scope of CARES's original project proposal under the August 23, 2023, Subrecipient Agreement allocating \$368,900.00 for conversion of the third floor of the St. James Lutheran Church into a seasonal homeless shelter. The modified scope will include health and safety features for the homeless shelter, to include air purifiers, humidifiers, no-touch soap dispensers, and security cameras, and the purchase of a building to be converted into a multi-unit temporary "next-step" supportive housing solution for the County's unsheltered population.

The last item was an Amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement for Adams Response and Recovery Fund (ARRF) with Buchanan Valley Fire Department (BVFD). This Amendment amends the scope of BVFD's original project proposal under the November 1, 2023, Subrecipient Agreement which allocated \$250,000.00 for upgrades to their fire station. The modified scope will include upgrades to emergency vehicles to be purchased through the COSTARS network.

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## Auxiliary Tax Appeal Board Appointed

It's that time again – Tax Appeal Time in September! The Adams County Board of Commissioners hear all Commercial and Clean & Green appeals, while residential appeals are normally heard by an auxiliary board of resident peers. Commissioners approved the following appointment to the 2024 Auxiliary Tax Appeal Board:

Barbara Underwood, Cumberland Township; Barbara Walter, Butler Township; William Arrington, Cumberland Township; Lisa Moreno-Woodward, Mt. Joy Township, and the appointment of Barbara Walter as a substitute member of the primary Adams County Board of Assessment Appeals, in the event of an absence or recusal of one of its members. Thank you to these residents for their service and careful consideration of each appellant's proceeding.

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*The* **End**

- Family Evening in the Park. This evening, 4-6, Gettysburg Rec Park. Games, crafts, music, car and motorcycle display, food trucks, ice cream and community organizations with displays and answer questions. This is a family event sponsored by area churches.

- Gettysburg Brewfest & Trail 5k Run/Walk. Historic Daniel Lady Farm, Hanover Road. This Saturday. Trail Run/Walk 12:00. Brewfest gates open 1:30 – 6:30pm. Forty beers/ciders, 3 live musical groups, living history, house /barn tours. Go to: [www.gettysburgbrewfestandtrail5k.com](http://www.gettysburgbrewfestandtrail5k.com)

- Adams County Farmers Market Young Entrepreneurs Day. Saturday morning at Gettysburg Rec Park. Don't miss this annual kid vendor event. Support our future business leaders + stock up on fresh peaches, corn, and tomatoes.
- Celebrating 150 Years of New Oxford. Join Adams County Historian Tim Smith as he details the rich history of New Oxford during their 150TH Anniversary. This Saturday 11-12 at ACHS, Biglerville Road.
- Living History Reenactors: 71st Pennsylvania Infantry. Saturday, August 24 & Sunday, August 25. Pennsylvania Memorial.
- Home Food Preservation Pressure Canning. Penn State Extension. September 4, 5-7PM. Will be held at Adams County Ag Center, Old Harrisburg Road. Cost is \$15 and registration is required. Contact Penn State Extension at 1-877-345-0691.
- Adams County Farm Bureau Picnic. Sunday, August 18, 1PM, at York Springs Lions Pavilion. Bring your favorite dish. Chicken provided. \$5 donation.
- Gettysburg VFW Kids Free Movie Night. Saturday evening 6-8PM. Disney's Rocket Man movie! Free hotdogs, chips and drink. All are welcome!
- Hamiltonban Music in the Park. Sunday, August 18, 5-7PM. Hamiltonban Park, Bullfrog Road. Last concert of season with Cumberland Shakedown. Free ice cream cones. Call 717-253-7395.

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!