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NEIGHBORS

AUG 2025



From Coal Mines to Monuments

Meet
Gary Casteel

INSIDE

ADAMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'S
85TH ANNIVERSARY

THIRSTYPALOOZA RETURNS

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PUBLICATION TEAM



Jake Schultz
Publisher



Sara Hoch
Assistant Publisher



Jennifer Schultz
Publisher's Assistant



Sharon Dieter
Community Liaison



Jill Rickle
Content Coordinator



Meagan Schmitt
Designer



Carla B. Long
Contributing Photographer



Aysë Stenabaugh
Contributing Writer



Sharon Dorn
Contributing Writer

ADVERTISING

Contact: **Jake Schultz**

Email: jschultz@bestversionmedia.com Phone: 410-603-4458

Contact: **Sara Hoch**

Email: shoch@bestversionmedia.com Phone: 717-476-1468

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Dear Gettysburg Neighbors

It's hard to believe August is already here! It seems only a moment ago that grads walked across school stages, accepting their diplomas. But there's still a bit of summer left, so squeeze every drop of fun out of it! Get outside, spend time with friends and family, and create memories to cherish.

Although it is sad to see summer end, I also feel a little anticipation at this time of year. A new season is coming, which means new beginnings and fresh starts!

Our Gettysburg Neighbors team extends a warm welcome to our new designer, Meagan (Megg) Schmitt! Having someone so talented join us is exciting enough, but knowing she calls Gettysburg home makes it even more special. There's something wonderful about working alongside those who share our love for this amazing community, and we can't wait for you to get to know Megg through her contributions to the magazine.

Each month, we get to feature residents in order to help you get to know your community a little better. This month, you'll meet Gary Casteel, a talented sculptor whose work is intertwined with the history of our town. I thoroughly enjoyed learning more about him and was fascinated to discover that one of the artists behind our monuments lives right here among us. Don't miss his inspiring story!

If you're interested in being featured in an upcoming issue of the magazine, please reach out to me. I'd love to chat about how easy the process is, and also to connect you with our amazing photographer, Carla B Long.

We're delighted to welcome our new sponsors - A Massage to Remember, Jersey Mike's Subs (Gettysburg), Precision Trades & Roofing, and Historic Gettysburg Adams County (HGAC). And as always, thank you to all of our amazing sponsors! Because of them, this magazine is possible, and we're so grateful for their continued support.

Enjoy this month's edition of Gettysburg Neighbors!

Jill Rickle
Content Coordinator



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To learn more about becoming an expert contributor, contact Jake Schultz at: jschultz@bestversionmedia.com or 410-603-4458.



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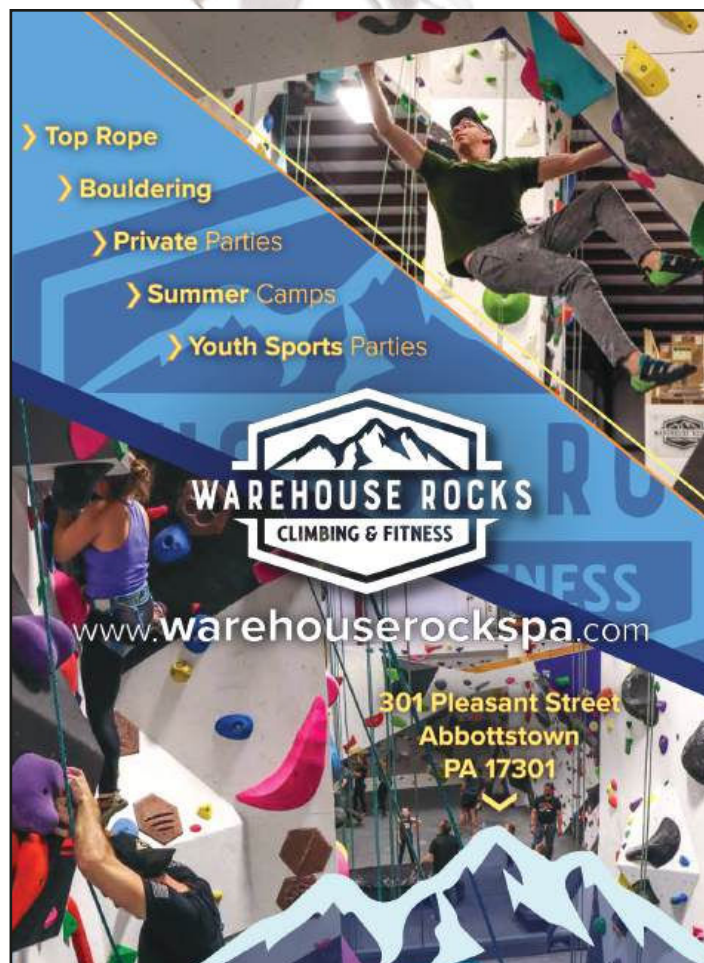
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Get Ready to Rock:

ThirstyPalooza Returns This August

SUBMITTED BY KEVIN KNOUSE

Mark your calendars, music lovers and beer enthusiasts – ThirstyPalooza is back and better than ever! From August 22-24, the rolling hills of Adams County will come alive with three days of incredible live music, delicious food, and family-friendly fun.

This outdoor music festival has become the highlight of summer in our community, and it's easy to see why. Picture this: you're lounging on a blanket under the open sky, cold drink in hand, while talented local bands fill the air with everything from rock anthems to acoustic melodies. The beautiful outdoor stage, perfectly nestled among Adams County's scenic landscape, creates an intimate yet expansive atmosphere that makes every performance feel special.

The festivities kick off Friday afternoon with live music that continues straight through Sunday evening. Friday and Saturday nights are particularly electric, featuring some of our region's most talented local bands ready to rock the stage well into the night. But the music is just the beginning – Saturday and Sunday bring food vendors serving up festival favorites, plus activities that'll keep the whole family entertained.

Kids (and kids at heart!) can bounce their energy out on inflatables, test their aim at the dunk tank, and participate in various games and activities throughout the weekend. It's the perfect blend of laid-back relaxation and active fun that makes ThirstyPalooza special for attendees of all ages.

What sets ThirstyPalooza apart isn't just the incredible lineup or the stunning venue – it's the heart behind it all. This festival embodies the spirit that makes Adams County such a




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special place to call home. The organizers are passionate about enhancing our community's leisure and festive experiences while bringing together people who appreciate the simple pleasure of live music on a lawn.

The event beautifully combines two great loves: farming and brewing. Located right on a working family farm and orchard, ThirstyPalooza offers a unique escape from the bustling downtown atmosphere of nearby Gettysburg. Here, you can truly kick up your feet and soak in the relaxed, rural charm that defines our corner of Pennsylvania.

Beer lovers will be especially excited about Friday's annual ThirstyPalooza beer release – a special brew crafted just for this celebration that perfectly captures the spirit of the weekend.

While ThirstyPalooza is all about good times, it's also about giving back. Throughout the weekend, funds are raised for Four Diamonds and several other local charities, proving that great music and community spirit can make a real difference in people's lives.

One of the best things about ThirstyPalooza? There's no dress code, no expensive tickets, and no pretense – just come as you are and ready to have a great time. While tables and chairs are provided, many attendees love bringing their own lawn chairs and blankets to create the perfect spot for their group.

Whether you're a longtime festival veteran or a first-time visitor, ThirstyPalooza welcomes everyone with open arms. It's geared



toward beer lovers, music fans, families, and anyone looking to experience the authentic, welcoming spirit of Adams County.

So grab your friends, pack a blanket, and get ready for three days of music, memories, and community connection.

ThirstyPalooza isn't just an event – it's a

celebration of everything that makes our local community so special.

Thirsty Farmer Brew continues to be a cornerstone of Adams County's craft beverage scene, combining traditional brewing excellence with the authentic farm-to-glass experience that locals and visitors have come to love. Their commitment to quality and community shines through in every pint, making them the perfect hosts for this annual celebration.

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SUBMITTED BY ALIX RILEY

When it comes to furnishing your home, quality matters—and in the heart of East Tennessee, England Furniture has been proving that point since 1964.

In today's fast-paced world of quick fixes and disposable everything, finding furniture that's built to last can feel like searching for a needle in a haystack. But tucked away in the quiet foothills of East Tennessee, England Furniture has been revolutionizing the furniture industry with a simple philosophy: make it well, make it fast, and make it right here in America.

The England Furniture story began in 1964 when three brothers—Charles, Eugene, and Dwight England—set out with a mission that went beyond just building furniture. They wanted to create meaningful employment for the proud and hardworking people of Appalachia. Six decades later, that commitment to community and craftsmanship continues to drive everything they do.

What sets England apart isn't just their American heritage—it's their obsession with detail. Every frame starts with 3/4" and 7/8" frame-grade plywood,

reinforced with American hardwoods. The perpendicular joints are interlocked for maximum strength, creating a foundation so solid they can confidently offer a lifetime warranty on every frame they build.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of England Furniture is their rapid delivery model. In an industry where custom orders typically mean months of waiting, England has cracked the code on speed without sacrificing quality. They deliver custom pieces in 28 days or less.

With over 500 fabrics and leathers to choose from, customers can create something truly unique for their homes. From performance fabrics like Revolution™ and Live Smart™ (perfect for busy families) to luxurious leather options, the selection ensures there's something for every lifestyle and aesthetic preference.

England's commitment to comfort is evident in their multi-tiered approach to seating. They offer up to four different comfort levels on every piece, including their innovative Coil Enhanced Foam (CEF) cushions. These cushions feature double-cone springs encased in urethane foam, providing both the comfort of foam and the durability of springs—backed by a 10-year warranty.

For those seeking even more support,

England's Frame Coil Core system adds tornado-shaped springs strategically positioned under the seating area. It's this attention to engineering and comfort that has caught the attention of La-Z-Boy, which acquired England as an independent division in 1995.

What truly impresses about England Furniture is their understanding of how people actually live. Their self-healing zippers mean you'll never have to deal with a broken zipper again—just unzip and zip it closed to repair the seal. Ventilation grommets allow cushions to breathe, reducing stress on seams and fabrics. These aren't flashy features, but they're the kind of details that make a difference in daily life.

The company also excels in versatility. Whether you need a sleeper sofa for surprise guests (available in twin, full, and queen sizes with three different mattress options), a power recliner for ultimate relaxation, or a custom sectional to fit your unique space, England has engineered solutions that work.

In an era where warranties often come with fine print longer than the user manual, England's warranty structure is refreshingly straightforward: lifetime warranty on frames, 10 years on seat cushion foam, five years on springs and mechanisms, and comprehensive coverage on all

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Whether you're furnishing a new home or updating a single room, the experienced team at Colony House can help you discover why England Furniture has earned its reputation for quality, comfort, and American craftsmanship that truly stands the test of time.

components. When a company stands behind their products with this level of confidence, it speaks volumes about their build quality.

Choosing England Furniture means supporting American manufacturing and the skilled craftspeople who take pride in their work. It means investing in furniture that's designed to last decades, not just seasons. And perhaps most importantly, it means bringing home pieces that tell a story—of American ingenuity, community



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From West Virginia Mines to A Gettysburg Studio

Meet Gary Casteel

BY JILL RICKLE

PHOTOS BY
CARLA B. LONG

This sculptor's destiny was sealed in fourth grade when he glimpsed Michelangelo's David—now his monumental works grace battlefields and museums across America.

In the shadow of Gettysburg's monuments, where cannon fire once thundered, Gary Lynn Casteel sculpts history—one chisel stroke at a time. From a two-room schoolhouse in West Virginia coal country to national recognition as a master sculptor, Gary's life is as monumental as the statues he creates.

Born in 1946 in the coal country hollows of West Virginia, Gary was the baby of his family with six brothers and one sister. His early years were spent in a modest two-room schoolhouse heated by a wood stove, where outhouses served as restrooms and water came from a hand pump. Despite these humble beginnings, Gary possessed something that would change everything—an unwavering vision of his future.

"I knew what I wanted to be when I saw a picture of Michelangelo's David in the fourth grade," Gary recalls. That pivotal moment would eventually take him from the West Virginia coal mines to the prestigious galleries and battlefields where his works now stand.

From Pick and Shovel to Chisel and Hammer

After attending high school in Kingwood, West Virginia, Gary



worked alongside his father and brothers in the coal mines, blasting and shoveling coal to help pay the local company store bills. When graduation arrived, his father expected him to follow the family tradition and make mining his career. But Gary had different plans.

"My Daddy said I should come down to the mines and get a job as my brothers did," Gary remembers. "I told him I did not want to do that, because I wanted to be a sculptor. Daddy said, 'What the 'hell' is that?'"

With encouragement from his teachers but no money for art school, Gary took a leap of faith that would lead him on an incredible journey. Divine providence seemed to guide his path when he encountered Giovanni and Frederico Pucci of Pietrasanta, Italy—master marble carvers whose family legacy spans generations. "We clicked like farm boys," Gary says of meeting the celebrated sculptors. "I cut marble with them for several months, and later found myself in Italy working with them, creating art pieces for the Papacy!"

Master of His Craft

Gary Casteel never attended any formal art classes, instead he gained experience through working alongside American and European sculptors. This hands-on education with masters of the Renaissance tradition shaped his distinctive style, which captures the classical elegance of European artistry while celebrating uniquely American stories.

His gallery and studio at 789 Baltimore Street in Gettysburg offers visitors a rare opportunity to witness the sculpting process firsthand. Gary welcomes guests to his workspace, explaining the intricate steps involved in transforming an idea into a lasting monument.

"Painting a picture is the easy stuff," Gary explains with characteristic enthusiasm. "Sculpting is a totally different game. The Good Lord gave me the ability to do it all, and I just love doing speaking engagements explaining how one gets to the point I am now in enjoying my life."

History in Bronze

Located right here in Gettysburg, one of Gary's most renowned works is the 1998 equestrian statue of General James Longstreet. Unlike any other monument in the park, it stands at ground level in Pitzer Woods which is located along the southern end of Seminary Ridge. This unique perspective invites visitors to encounter history up close and face to face.

The emotional impact of Gary's work extends far beyond artistic appreciation. During the creation of the Longstreet monument, an unforgettable moment occurred when the general's granddaughter, Jamie Longstreet, visited the studio. Climbing a ladder to



examine the newly sculpted face, she began to cry. Through her tears, she told Gary, "I never thought I would see him alive."

Gary's portfolio includes an impressive array of commissioned works spanning the nation. His sculptures grace locations from the Joint Chiefs of Staff Library at the Pentagon to presidential libraries, and from historic battlefields to veteran memorials. Notable projects include the Kentucky State Memorial at Vicksburg National Military Park and monuments honoring figures from the Revolutionary War through modern conflicts.

Where the Past Lives On

Gary's deep passion for American history, particularly the Civil War era, is evident in every piece he creates. His gallery features monument replicas, works in progress, and historical artifacts that bring visitors face-to-face with the past. Whether creating a life-size veteran's memorial for Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, or crafting collectible historical figures, Gary approaches each project as "a labor of love and dedication."

Gary's commitment as a sculptor extends beyond individual commissions. A portion of proceeds from his monument replica sales supports preservation efforts for the original

monuments here in Gettysburg.

Speaking History Into Life

Gary's talents extend beyond the studio through his speaking engagements at colleges, universities, Civil War round tables, and historical sites across the country. His presentations blend artistic insight with historical knowledge, captivating audiences from Gettysburg College to West Virginia University.

These speaking opportunities allow Gary to share not just technical expertise but also his remarkable personal journey—from a coal miner's son to internationally recognized artist. His story resonates with audiences, demonstrating how determination, divine guidance, and his unwavering vision transformed his dreams into reality.

Today, visitors to Gary's Baltimore Street studio discover more than just an art gallery—they find a living workshop where history takes shape. Visitors appreciate Gary's willingness to spend time with them, sharing his artistic process and the stories behind his works. Young children especially benefit from his patient explanations of sculpting techniques, hopefully inspiring the next generation of artists and history enthusiasts.



Gary's recent projects include Gettysburg's High Water Mark monument replica that sold out quickly due to popular demand, and an ambitious true-to-life sized three-figure monument for Lyons, New York. From those humble beginnings in West Virginia's coal country to his current status as one of America's premier historical sculptors, Gary embodies the power of pursuing one's calling. Now a proud resident of Gettysburg, he continues his mission of preserving American heritage through art that speaks across generations.



Continuing the Casteel legacy, Gary's son, David, operates Valley Arts Publishing, the exclusive publisher of his father's acclaimed works. Located just outside the scenic town of Kingwood, West Virginia—less than 25 miles

from Morgantown—this family-run fine art foundry produces a wide selection of Gary Casteel's Civil War monument replicas, historical plaques, and fine art prints. What began in 2003 as a premier fine art printmaker has grown into a full-service operation offering mold making, casting, and print-on-demand services for artists nationwide. Valley Arts Publishing is proud to offer free shipping within the continental United States, and welcomes both serious collectors and casual enthusiasts to explore its online store, where American history and fine art meet in every piece.

Decades after that fourth-grade glimpse of Michelangelo's David, Gary Lynn Casteel doesn't just sculpt heroes—he's become one in his own right. Through bronze and marble, he's carved his destiny, one story, one statue, one soul at a time.

Gary invites you to visit his studio gallery at 789 Baltimore Street and watch history come alive through sculpture. Visit casteelsculptures.com and/or valleyartspublishing.com for the latest schedule, special exhibits and to explore the store.

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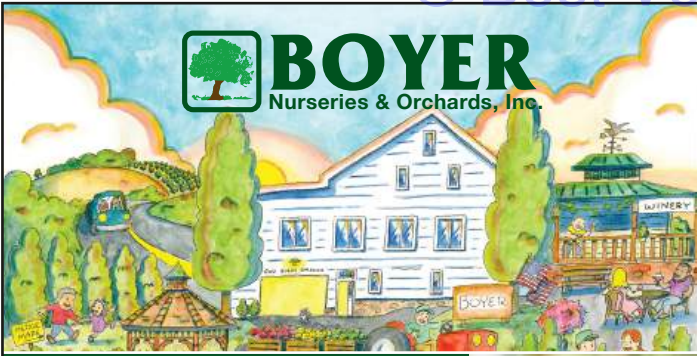
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BY JILL RICKLE

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Powering Through Eight Decades: Adams Electric Cooperative Celebrates 85 Years of Community Connections

BY JILL RICKLE

Gettysburg substation
dedication in 1941



When 65 concerned farmers and rural residents gathered in 1940 to form what would become Adams Electric Cooperative, they had a simple yet revolutionary vision: bring reliable electricity to their neighbors through the power of cooperation. Eighty-five years later, that same spirit of community partnership continues to light up south-central Pennsylvania.

FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS TO MODERN MARVEL

It's 1940 and rural Pennsylvania families are still relying on kerosene lamps and wood-burning stoves while their neighbors enjoy the conveniences of electric power. The Rural Electrification Administration (REA), a federal program, changed everything. Those pioneering founders saw an opportunity and seized it, establishing Adams Electric Cooperative with headquarters in Gettysburg.

The cooperative's first milestone came swiftly. By 1941, they had secured their initial REA loan and began stringing those first crucial miles of power lines across Adams County. What started to serve 543 charter members is now a thriving cooperative powering over 34,700 homes, farms, and businesses across five counties: Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, Perry, and York.

THE CO-OP DIFFERENCE: POWER TO THE PEOPLE

What makes Adams Electric truly special isn't just the electricity flowing through nearly 3,000 miles of power lines—it's the cooperative business model that puts members first. Unlike investor-owned utilities focused on shareholder profits, Adams Electric operates on seven fundamental cooperative principles that prioritize community benefit over bottom lines.

As a member-owned, not-for-profit organization, every

consumer is also an owner, called members, with voting rights in the cooperative's direction. This means decisions are made locally by member-owners who don't just live and work in these communities—they're also the very people receiving the services. When you're both a member and an owner, you have a real stake in making sure things work right for your neighbors and yourself. When Adams Electric invests in infrastructure improvements or community programs, those benefits stay right here at home rather than flow to distant investors.

CURRENT CONNECTIONS: SERVING TODAY'S NEEDS

Today's Adams Electric looks remarkably different from the startup of 1940. The cooperative, still headquartered in Gettysburg (but at a new location), also maintains district offices in Shippensburg, and York, serving a diverse mix of residential, agricultural, commercial and industrial customers. With competitive rates that run about 18% below Pennsylvania's average, Adams Electric proves that the cooperative model delivers both value and reliability.

The cooperative has earned recognition for its commitment to customer satisfaction, recently receiving honors from the American Customer Satisfaction Index. But perhaps more impressive are the community programs that reflect those original cooperative values: Project Helping Hand provides assistance to members facing financial hardship, while the Community Loan Fund supports local economic development. Educational initiatives include high school scholarships, safety demonstrations, and youth leadership programs that inspire the next generation.



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BREAKING BARRIERS: A TRAILBLAZING JOURNEY

Some of Adams Electric's most inspiring progress comes through the courage of employees willing to break new ground. Cathy Waltz, of Littlestown, made history as the cooperative's first female employee to work "outside"—in the field, facing the elements and tackling the demanding physical challenges that come with maintaining rural electrical infrastructure.



Cathy Waltz

Cathy's journey with Adams Electric began on March 14, 1988, when she was hired as a full-time switchboard operator and receptionist. But Cathy had bigger aspirations than answering phones! In 1992, she moved to the warehouse clerk position, gaining valuable hands-on experience with the equipment and materials that keep the lights on.

Her real breakthrough came in 2004 when Cathy transitioned to staking technician—a role that would take her directly into the field alongside the all-male line crews. Cathy found herself working storms in driving rain and bitter cold, staying out in harsh weather conditions for hours on end, and yes, even sleeping in her truck when emergency repairs demanded

round-the-clock attention.

While some might have seen these challenges as hardships, Cathy saw it as an opportunity to prove that dedication and skill matter more than outdated stereotypes. Her willingness to tackle any assignment, weather any storm, and work shoulder-to-shoulder with crews in the most demanding conditions helped pave the way for other women in the utility industry.

When Cathy retired in January 2021 after an incredible 33 years of service, she left behind more than just a stellar work record—she left a legacy of possibility. Her story reflects the broader evolution of Adams Electric itself: an organization willing to embrace change, value all contributions, and focus on getting the job done regardless of who's doing it. Her journey from receptionist to staking technician mirrors the cooperative's own growth from a small rural startup to the sophisticated utility operation serving our community today.

Cathy Waltz proved that dedication and perseverance can power more than just our homes and businesses. They can power change itself.

LOOKING FORWARD: THE NEXT CHAPTER

As Adams Electric celebrates this milestone anniversary, the cooperative continues evolving to meet tomorrow's energy challenges. From embracing renewable energy options to

modernizing the electrical grid with smart technology, Adams Electric remains committed to the same principles that guided those 65 founders in 1940: democratic control, community concern, and cooperation among cooperatives.

The cooperative model that seemed revolutionary 85 years ago has proven its staying power. In an era of corporate consolidation and distant decision-making, Adams Electric remains steadfast in its founding principles of local control and community partnership. As they like

to say, they truly are "The People Behind the Power."

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY POWER

Adams Electric Cooperative's 85th anniversary isn't just a celebration of eight decades in business—it's a testament to what communities can accomplish when they work together toward a common goal. From those first power lines strung across Adams County farmland to today's sophisticated electrical infrastructure, the cooperative has remained true to its original mission: providing reliable, affordable electricity while strengthening the communities it serves.

Here's to 85 years of lighting up lives and powering progress in south-central Pennsylvania. The future looks bright when the power truly belongs to the people.

Adams Electric Cooperative serves more than 32,000 members across Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, Perry, and York counties from its headquarters at 1338 Biglerville Road in Gettysburg. For more information about the cooperative's services and community programs, visit adamsec.coop or call 717-334-9211.

EDITOR'S NOTE

As a retiree of Adams Electric Cooperative, I can personally attest to the incredible sense of purpose that comes from working for an organization truly committed to its community. During my years with the co-op, I witnessed firsthand how our member-focused approach made real differences in people's lives.

What strikes me most about this anniversary milestone is how Adams Electric has never lost sight of those founding principles from 1940. Whether it was responding to storm outages at 2 AM or celebrating a member's new business connection, we always knew we were serving neighbors, not just customers. The cooperative spirit isn't just a business model—it's a way of life that builds stronger communities one connection at a time.

Congratulations to Adams Electric on 85 remarkable years of keeping the lights on and the community spirit strong!



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From 9 to 5:

A Workplace Comedy That Still Punches the Clock

BY SHARON A. DORN



five local and extraordinarily talented actors and crew.

First premiering as a hit film in 1980, the story follows the antics of a business wherein the culture is less than ideal, and not so subtly depicts a bit of reality for the times. The show represented working women's struggles in business and society at the time.

Three smart, capable, female employees (including one new hire) find themselves under the supervision of a chauvinistic boss within a toxic culture. Determined to implement change, they take matters into their own hands to teach their incorrigible boss a lesson. The result is a cultural redirection which leads to much-needed employee empowerment.

However, some not so creative accounting practices are uncovered when the three co-conspirators physically remove the incorrigible boss from the organization in hopes that he will learn the error of his ways. In the end, and on their own, the women go on to create an empowering, more successful business model through cultural change resulting in greater employee satisfaction.

The serious, often exaggerated, and humorous jabs against female employees is not lost in the performance. However, the much needed and sometimes satiric solutions initiated by the three women result in a changed culture, improved employee satisfaction, as well as a stronger bottom line.

To say that this show is dynamic is a vast understatement. The rapid set changes, palpable high energy, enlivening music, powerhouse vocals, and professional acting combine to evoke emotion (and especially for those of us who worked during that era – empathy).

"9 to 5 is the show our community has been asking for", says producing Artistic Director Ryan B. Gibbs. "It's smart, it's hilarious, and full of joy."

For a complete list of upcoming shows, visit totempoleplayhouse.org or call the Box Office at 717-352-2164 or contact Fern-Marie Aames, Managing Director at fmaames@totempoleplayhouse.org

As the 75th Anniversary of The Totem Pole Playhouse's operation continues, Dolly Parton's Broadway hit, 9 to 5, was a smashing success. The show ran through July 6 and with a cast of twenty-

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We Brake for Barns!

HGAC Historic Barns Tour of Gettysburg and Adams County Returns

SUBMITTED BY COLEEN DEE BERRY, HGAC SECRETARY

Travel back in time and enjoy this rare opportunity to visit inside five historic barns near Gettysburg. Kids under 18 are free, so bring your grandchildren – parents bring your kids!

The Historic Gettysburg Adams County Preservation Society's (HGAC) "Historic Barns Tour of Gettysburg and Adams County" will be held rain or shine on Saturday, September 20 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. The tour includes privately owned barns that are not usually open to the public and were not on the Tour last year.

Advance tickets may be purchased on line until September 18 through Eventbrite -- or visit HGACOnline.org and click on the Barn Tour link. Adults are \$35 in advance, and \$40 on the day of the event. All kids under 18 are free, and must be accompanied by an adult. For additional information, contact Steve Boggs at (240) 899-3515 or slboggs@comcast.net.

The tour begins at the historic Round Barn at 298 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. Participants should check in between 10 a.m. and noon, and will receive a booklet and map showing the barn locations on the tour. After exploring the Round Barn and Farm Market, participants can then drive to any barn on the tour, in any order and stay as long as they wish. The tour ends at 4 p.m.

"We hope that parents and grandparents will bring their kids to see inside these great old barns," said event volunteer, Bob McIlhenny.

Each barn will feature activities throughout the day that are fun and educational. There will be a cider press and cider tastings, and demonstrations of timber framing techniques as well as the use of a shaving horse and draw knife. Local artists and crafters will be displaying and selling their art works in the barns. The Panera Tatters will demonstrate tatting and lacemaking, and Civil War living history characters will tell of life in the mid-1800's, when the barns on the tour were built.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the award-winning HGAC Barn Preservation Project and Grant Program which has provided matching grant funding to over 65 owners of historic barns in Adams County, since 2013.



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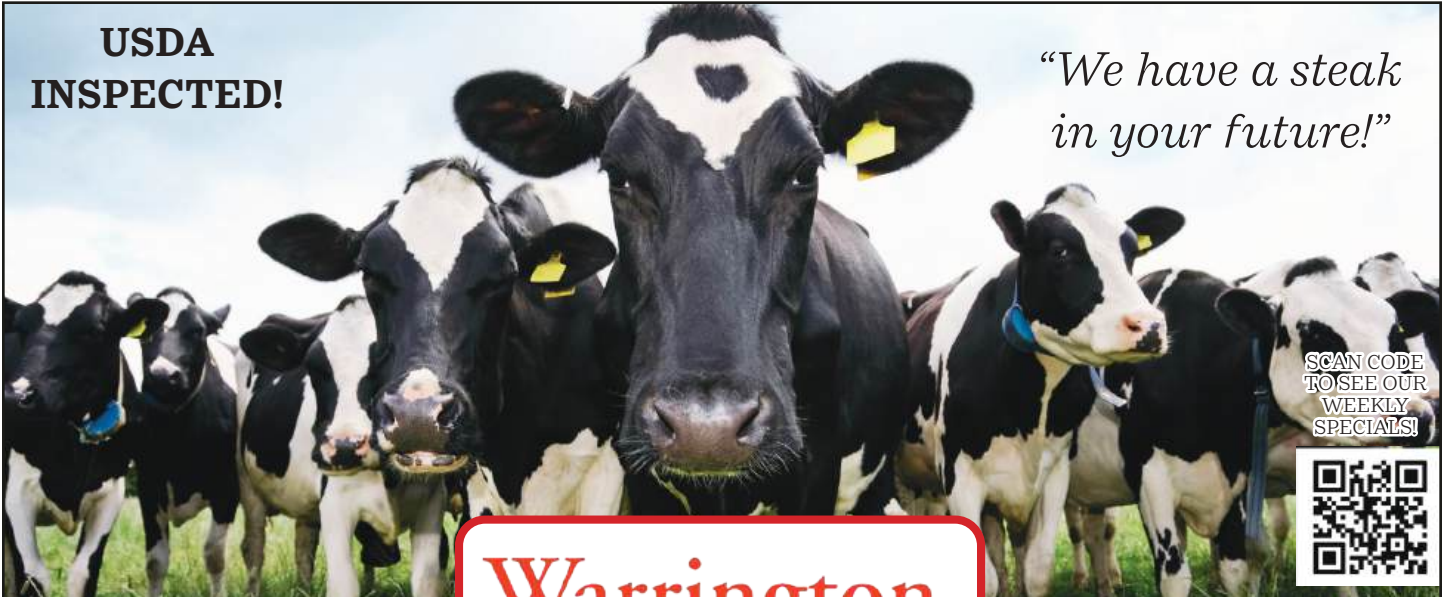
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Land Conservancy of Adams County Announces Multiple Completed Land Preservation Projects

SUBMITTED BY CYNTHIA BUSHEY



The last six months have been an extremely busy time for the Land Conservancy of Adams County (LCAC) with a number of easement closings ensuring the protection of agricultural beauty for coming generations.

The 83-acre property of Sara and Jamey Tatman in Cumberland Township borders Marsh Creek and is nearly surrounded by other preserved properties. It is half-woods and half pasture, accommodating their new family home as well as horses, goats, pigs, alpacas, highland and longhorn cattle, chickens, and guineafowl. Owner Sara Tatman feels strongly about preserving the land – “We see nothing but farmland being turned over to residential and other developments. We want to be among the select few who preserve farmland in this area.”

“We had significant help to get this conservation easement to the finish line,” according to Sarah Kipp, LCAC’s land conservation director. She said funding was put together from the Adams County Community Foundation’s Giving Spree, as well as a grant from the county’s Green Space Grant Program and a donation from the American Battlefield Trust.

In the heart of Adams County’s extensive fruit belt, Boyer Nurseries and Orchards has preserved 159 acres in two conservation easements in Franklin Township. The easements connect to 900 acres preserved a decade ago and complete

the preservation of ‘The Home Farm’ with over 1,000 acres now permanently preserved! Rainfall and springs on Boyer’s property drain to Marsh Creek, providing drinking water for Gettysburg residents. “We know there are a lot of natural springs and vernal pools in the woodland behind the farm and it’s an important water resource, so limiting development in this area was really important to us”, said Emma Lower, a fifth-generation co-manager.

The Land Conservancy purchased both easements on Boyer’s orchard land and forest with funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service’s Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, the Adams County Green Space Grant Program, and LCAC’s own funds raised through the Adams County Community Foundation’s annual Giving Spree.

Dave Salisbury, LCAC president, “We thank these private landowners for entering into protective agreements with our organization, thereby demonstrating their vision for the future.”

In the 30 years since its founding in 1995, the organization has worked with local landowners to preserve more than 13,800 acres in the county through 197 separate easements. The Land Conservancy of Adams County is a fully accredited, member-supported nonprofit land trust that works to preserve the rural lands and character of Adams County. For more information about the Land Conservancy, visit PreserveAdams.org.



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Fresh & Local: Your Guide to Gettysburg's Farms, Markets & Restaurants

COMPILED BY JILL RICKLE

There's something special about enjoying food that's fresh, local and grown with care right in our own backyard. In and near Gettysburg, we are fortunate to have access to an incredible network of local farms that provide the community with fresh, seasonal produce, fostering a stronger connection between the people who grow our food and those who enjoy it.

Here's all you need to know about the farm-to-table movement and how local farms and other food-related businesses are helping to nourish our community.

What is Farm to Table?

Farm-to-table refers to the direct supply of fresh produce, meats and other products from local farms to restaurants, farmers' markets and even your own kitchen. The focus is on sustainability, quality and supporting local agriculture, ensuring that food is grown and consumed as close to home as possible. In Gettysburg, this movement has been growing rapidly, bringing healthier, fresher options to the table while celebrating our rich agricultural heritage.

Meet the Local Farms

Several outstanding farms in the Gettysburg area are leading the charge in providing fresh and seasonal produce to our community. These agricultural gems are keeping our tables abundant with the finest local offerings:

Boyer's Nursery & Orchard stands as a cornerstone of our agricultural community, offering an impressive selection of fresh fruits, seasonal produce, and beautiful plants. Their commitment to quality and sustainable growing practices has made them a go-to destination for families seeking the freshest seasonal bounty.

Historic Round Barn brings both history and exceptional farming together in one remarkable location. This iconic structure houses operations that provide our community with farm-fresh goods while preserving an important piece of our local heritage. Visitors can experience both the charm of yesteryear and the freshness of today's harvest.

Hollabaugh Bros. has been a trusted name in our area for generations, specializing in premium fruit production and seasonal offerings. Their dedication to traditional farming methods combined with modern sustainable practices ensures that every piece of produce meets the highest standards of quality and taste.

K & J Farm Market serves as a vibrant hub where community members can access an incredible variety of locally-grown produce, seasonal specialties, and farm-fresh goods. Their commitment to supporting local agriculture while providing convenient access to quality products makes them an essential part of our farm-to-table network.

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Where to Find Local Farm Fresh Goods:

Farmers' Markets: The Gettysburg Farmers Market brings together local growers every week, creating a vibrant community gathering place where you can meet the farmers who grow your food and discover the season's best offerings.

Local Meat & Seafood:

For premium locally-sourced proteins, **Weaver's Butcher Shop** provides expertly-cut meats with a focus on quality and local sourcing. **Warrington Farm Meats** offers farm-fresh options that complement your local produce perfectly. When you're craving fresh seafood, **Rube Crab Shack** delivers the finest catches to complete your farm-to-table dining experience.

Local Restaurants:

Many of Gettysburg's restaurants have embraced the farm-to-table movement, featuring dishes that showcase the incredible produce from our local farms. **Farnsworth House** offers historic dining with fresh, local ingredients that honor both our heritage and our agricultural community. **crEATe@ 48** crafts innovative dishes using seasonal produce from area farms. **Baltimore Hill Creamery** and **Mr. G's Ice Cream** delight visitors with dairy treats. **Hickory Bridge Farm** provides an authentic farm-to-table experience in a beautiful rural setting. **Ragged Edge Coffee** creates the perfect complement to farm-fresh pastries and light fare. **Cashtown Inn** rounds out the scene with meals that feature the best of what our local farms have to offer, creating memorable dining experiences that celebrate our agricultural community.

How You Can Get Involved:

Shop Local: Make it a weekly adventure to visit our farmers' markets, stop by farm stands and seek out restaurants that feature farm-to-table dishes. Every purchase supports our local agricultural community and brings the freshest flavors to your table.

Volunteer or Visit a Farm: Many local farms offer volunteer opportunities, farm tours, or educational programs perfect for families wanting to learn more about where their food comes from and connect with our agricultural heritage.

Spread the Word: Share your love of local produce with friends and family, post about your farmers' market finds on social media, and help grow our community's commitment to supporting sustainable agriculture. Together, we can ensure that Gettysburg's farm-to-table movement continues to flourish for generations to come.

Our local farms are more than just places where food is grown – they're the heart of our community's commitment

to sustainability, quality, and connection. By supporting these incredible local operations, we're not just nourishing our bodies with the freshest possible food; we're strengthening the bonds that make Gettysburg such a special place to call home.



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CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

Special Olympics Athletes of the Sport

SUBMITTED BY JILL STONER, PUBLIC RELATIONS

Special Olympics Team Adams coaches of each sport choose an athlete at the end of the season to be recognized as the "Athlete of the Sport." Here are the four outstanding recipients from our athletics, tennis, swimming, and basketball programs, highlighted through heartfelt reflections from their dedicated coaches.

Daniel Rudy is new to the sport of athletics this year. He has shown a positive attitude and a willingness to learn and improve in the sport. Daniel is kind to everyone and is usually seen with a smile on his face. He has been a pleasure to coach! Congratulations, Daniel!

Congratulations to Aubrey Pace! This was Aubrey's third season playing tennis, and she continues to show improvement. Aubrey makes good contact on her volleys at the net, and she is getting better at tossing the ball for her serves. Aubrey attends practice regularly and has only missed a couple of practices all season. She's quiet and could easily be overlooked if you aren't paying attention, but her coaches notice that she always does what is expected and tries her best!

Congratulations to the 2025 Swimming Athlete of the Sport, Cole

McIlwee. Cole has shown tremendous growth in his swimming over the past year. Always shivering, but always with a smile, he has especially improved by consistently swimming on top of the water instead of underneath. Cole loves to race with volunteer Gabe, and it showed when he competed at the Central Spring Sectionals Competition and beat all his own times! He swam a true Gold Medal performance in all three races: the 25-yard Freestyle, 25-yard Backstroke, and 50-yard Freestyle. We look forward to having Cole represent the TEAM ADAMS CANNONBALLS in future competitions! Keep up the positive spirit and "Just Keep Swimming!"

Coaches agreed that Ethan Laughman is deserving of the Athlete of the Sport award for basketball because of his excellent work ethic. He is well-focused and gives his best no matter what is asked. Ethan has always been a good defensive player, but he realized he could help his team by working on his offense. So he started going to a local park to practice and gain confidence in his shooting ability. Ethan is a thinker and asks very good questions. He seems to be a quiet guy, but when you get to know him, you appreciate his great sense of humor. Ethan is compassionate and respectful toward his teammates, his opponents, and his coaches.

These four remarkable athletes exemplify the true spirit of Special Olympics through their dedication, perseverance, and positive attitudes. Daniel, Aubrey, Cole, and Ethan have not only excelled in their respective sports but have also inspired their teammates and coaches with their commitment to growth and sportsmanship. Congratulations to all our Athletes of the Sport - you make our community proud!



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Mason-Dixon Clay Busters:

Building Champions On and Off the Field

BY JILL RICKLE

From humble beginnings to national competition, this local youth shooting program hits the mark with character development and community spirit.

It began with just 11 young athletes and a passion for clay target shooting. Now, the Mason-Dixon Clay Busters program has evolved into a powerhouse team that serves youth from multiple counties and states, developing not just skilled marksmen but confident young leaders.

More Than Just Hitting Targets

For the uninitiated, clay target shooting might seem mysterious. Athletes aim at clay targets—often called “clay pigeons”—launched into the air at varying angles and speeds. It’s a sport that demands precision, focus, and remarkable self-control.

“It’s fast, fun, and requires incredible concentration,” explains a team coach. “Every target presents a unique challenge, testing both physical skill and mental focus.” But what makes this program truly special goes far beyond marksmanship. Young participants develop discipline, responsibility, and a deep respect for safety protocols. The team environment fosters camaraderie where athletes support each other through victories and disappointments alike.

Safety First, Always

For parents who might hesitate at the mention of youth shooting sports, the program’s emphasis on safety provides reassurance. Before handling any equipment, every athlete undergoes comprehensive safety training. The program maintains strict protocols during all practices and competitions.

“Clay target shooting is actually one of the safest youth sports available due to these rigorous standards,” notes a veteran coach. “We reinforce safe habits constantly—it’s the foundation of everything we do.”

This commitment to safety has helped dispel common misconceptions about the sport. Many families join with no prior firearms experience and find themselves embraced by a supportive community dedicated to positive youth development.

Transformative Impact

The changes observed in participants tell the real story of the program’s value. Athletes consistently demonstrate growth in confidence, focus, and responsibility—qualities that extend into their academic and personal lives.

Success stories abound within the team’s history. Nervous beginners have developed into national champions. Others have earned collegiate scholarships. Perhaps most meaningful are the quiet victories: shy teens finding their voice or experienced athletes mentoring newcomers.

“We’ve seen real maturity and personal growth,” shares a longtime volunteer. “Many of our athletes become more confident, focused, and responsible—both on and off the field.”

Community Connections

The program thrives through strong community partnerships, with Glen Rock Shooting Club serving as the team’s home base and strongest supporter. This relationship has been instrumental in making it possible for hundreds of young



athletes to discover their passion for shooting sports.

Families and volunteers remain deeply involved in every aspect of the program. Local businesses and sponsors contribute to events that bring the wider community together while raising awareness about youth development and firearm safety.

Looking Ahead

Now in its 19th year, Mason-Dixon Clay Busters continues to evolve through the dedication of its volunteer coaching staff. The program faces the positive challenge of growth—maintaining its strong foundation of mentorship and sportsmanship while expanding opportunities for more young athletes.

The team will compete at the SCTP National Team Championships in Columbus, Ohio, on July 19-20, 2025, representing our community on the national stage.

Families interested in learning more can visit masondixonclaybusters.com or contact masondixonclaybusters@gmail.com. No experience is necessary—just a willingness to learn and become part of an exceptional team that’s building champions in sport and in life.

Editor’s Note:

As this inspiring story goes to print, I would like to acknowledge Roger Beardsley, who along with his wife founded the Mason-Dixon Clay Busters in 2006. After 13 dedicated years directly leading the program, Roger and his wife have transitioned to administrative and support roles, handing the future of this exceptional youth program to the talented team of volunteers highlighted in this article. Roger’s vision and commitment as an ATA and NRA Certified Shotgun Coach, NRA Certified Rifle Instructor, and NRA Range Safety Officer have created a lasting legacy that continues to impact young athletes throughout our community.



Calendar of Events

If you have any events you want to be featured in the future, please send them to jrickle@bestversionmedia.com

Please note: Event details may change after publication. We recommend confirming times, locations and details directly with event organizers.

Fri., Aug. 15

Gettysburg Eagles Golf Tournament

@Quail Valley Golf Course, 900 Teeter Rd., Littlestown, PA 17340

Don't miss out on a fun-filled day on the course — all for a great cause! Proceeds from the tournament benefit Adams County Office for Aging and support the Eagles' work in the community.

Time: 8:00 AM shotgun start

Cost: \$80.00 per golfer

More Info: acofa.org

Sat., Aug. 16

Annual Littlestown Good Ole Days

@Crouse Park, Littlestown, PA 17340

Enjoy a day of community fun. Food trucks and various vendors plus a bounce house, petting zoo and various other activities for the kids.

Time: 8:00 AM

More Info: communitymedia.net or

Facebook - Littlestown Good Ole Days

Sat., Aug. 16

To Kill A Mockingbird - Cinemas Under Stars

@Valentine Hall, Seminary Ridge, Schmukey House lawn, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Sponsored by Gettysburg Film Commission and shown on their 30 foot wide screen.

Live music Faith Noel; Food Truck Euro Bites; Drink Truck Bantam Coffee; This event is free to the public. Bring a chair/blanket and BYOB.

Time: Music & Food begin at 7PM;

Introduction & Film begins at sundown

Cost: Free

More Info: gettysburgfilmcommission.org

Sun., Aug. 17

The U.S. Army Band

@Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Enjoy music by The U.S. Army Concert Band with Col. Bruce R. Pulver leading a captivating performance featuring Galante's Sailing with Whales. Experience the majesty of the deep and the wonder of these gentle giants brought to life through vibrant musical storytelling.

Time: 3:00 PM

Cost: Free

More Info: gettysburgmajestic.org

Sat., Aug. 16

Flower Arrangement Class

@Hollabaugh Bros., 545 Carlisle Rd., Biglerville, 17307

Grab some friends for a flower arrangement class taught by Mattie from Matching Buds. Participants will pick out a vase, cut their own flowers, and learn how to make a beautiful flower bouquet with flowers from the flower patch.

Time: 9:30 AM

Cost: \$20.00

More Info: destinationgettysburg.com

Sat. Aug. 16

Gettysburg Trail 5K & Brewfest

@Daniel Lady Farm, 890 Hanover Rd., Gettysburg, PA 17325

The Trail 5K covers 3.1 miles on stone farm roads, grass farm paths, and through farm woods, exclusively on the Historic Daniel Lady Farm's 200 plus acre property. Then grab a brew at the 3rd Annual Gettysburg Brewfest. Sample over 40+ beer, cider, and canned cocktails throughout the event and enjoy live music from Nick Mich, good food, as well as house & barn tours.

Time: 5K starts at 8:30 AM and brewfest begins at 3:30 PM

Cost: Tickets for 5K - \$45.00. Brewfest tickets start at \$53.47 - discounted tickets available for designated drivers and combo tickets.

More Info: gettysburgbrewfestandtrail5k.com or danielladyfarm.com

Sat., Aug. 16

A Soldier's Journey Home

@Boyer Cellars, 405 Boyer Nursery Rd., Biglerville, PA 17307

Boyer Cellars 2nd annual fundraiser with live music, good food courtesy of Arendtsville Community Fire Company, Screaming Bambino Cellars wines & ciders, and more. Bring your own chair.

Time: 3:00PM

More Info: boiernurseries.com or Facebook





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Mon., Aug. 18

Fused Glass Spoon Rests class

@Adams County Arts Council, 125 S. Washington St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Students will make two spoon rests.

Choose your colors and create your own design, all with glass! Each piece will get fused together by the instructor, Linn Wichowsk, off site and will be ready for pick up 2 weeks after the class.

Time: 6:00 PM

Cost: \$52/\$58.00 member/non-member

More Info: adamsarts.org

Tues., Aug. 19

Paint like a President

@Gettysburg National Military Park Museum & Visitor Center, 1195 Baltimore Pike, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Join the Gettysburg Foundation paint night focused on U.S. Presidents. Our own former Gettysburg resident, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, was known to paint in his free time to relax, and he was not the only president to do so. The event will begin with a 30-minute history program that is open to all. Tickets are required for the paint night experience portion of the programming that will focus on one of President Eisenhower's own paintings. Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, catered by Battlegrounds Hospitality, are offered as part of the paint night experience.

Time: 4:00 PM history program; 5:00 PM paint night

Cost: History program is free: Paint night \$50.00

More Info: gettysburgfoundation.org

Wed., Aug. 20

Educational Speakers Series - Bo Brinkman

@G.A.R. Building, 53 E. Middle St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Historical Gettysburg Adams County Preservation Society (HGAC) presents writer, actor and director Bo Brinkman, and founder of the Gettysburg Film Commission, will give listeners an advance

look his newest project: "A Gettysburg Christmas 1863," which will recount the first Christmas after the historic battle.

The film is a follow-up to his "Gettysburg Christmas" movie filmed in Gettysburg in 2023. Fans of the 1993 film "Gettysburg" will know Brinkman from his role as Major Walter Taylor.

Time: 7:00 PM (doors open at 6:30)

Cost: Free

More Info: hgaonline.org

Fri., Aug. 22 - Sun., Aug. 24

Thirstypalooza

@Thirsty Farmer Brew Works, 290 Cashtown Rd., Biglerville, PA 17307

Kicking off Friday afternoon, live music continues straight through Sunday evening. Friday and Saturday nights are particularly electric, featuring some of our region's most talented local bands ready to rock the stage well into the night. Saturday and Sunday bring food vendors serving up

festival favorites, plus activities that'll keep the whole family entertained.

Time: varies by date

More Info: thirstyfarmer.com

Fri., Aug. 22

Royally Bashed: Murder at Ridgerton Park @virtual event via Zoom

An interactive murder mystery, Hosted by the Adams County Library, where everyone is a suspect, even you! It combines the excitement of Clue with the imagination of theatre. Who is responsible for Lord Bertram's death? Did someone murder him for his money? Or did the butler do it? The game is afoot, both upstairs AND downstairs - so watch out! The killer may even be you!

Time: 7:00 PM

Cost: Free - registration required

More Info: adamslibrary.org



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Sat., Aug. 23 - Sun., Aug. 31

67th Annual Steam Show

@Williams Grove Historical Steam Engine Association, 1 Steam Engine Hill, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Featuring - Friends of Massey. Activities include horse & tractor pulls, model railroad, vendors, demos, steam engines, gas engines & antique tractor displays, parades, train rides, live music, consignment sale and more. For specific days and activities- check the website. More Info: wghsea.org

Mon., Aug. 25

Home Food Preservation: Water Bath Canning

@Penn State Extension Adams County, 670 Old Harrisburg Rd., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Discover the fundamentals of safe and effective home food preservation during this hands-on, two-hour workshop designed for beginners and seasoned canners alike. The session offers timely guidance on water bath and atmospheric steam canning.
Time: 10:00 AM
Cost: \$15.00
More Info: extension.psu.edu

Thurs., Aug. 28

Soldiers, Sculptors & Monuments

@Carroll Valley Library, 5685 Fairfield Rd., Fairfield, PA 17320

Join Denny Forwood, Licensed Battlefield Guide, as he discusses soldiers, sculptors, and his favorite monuments of the Gettysburg Battlefield. Ages 16+.
Time: 6:30 PM
Cost: Free - registration required
More Info: adamslibrary.org

Sat., Sept. 6

Community Day

@Hollabaugh Bros., 545 Carlisle Rd., Biglerville, PA 17307

Join the first ever Community Day to celebrate Hollabaugh's 70 wonderful years. This day will feature many new things, including free wagon rides from 10:30am-1:30pm, a dunk tank with local celebrities, a pie eating contest, music, and more. Also featured is the well-loved Butterfly Release at 1pm *you must register to release a butterfly*.
Time: 11:00 AM
Cost: Free
More Info: hollabaughbros.com

Sun., Sept. 7

21st Annual Summer Picnic - Land Conservancy of Adams County

@Boyer Nurseries & Orchard, 405 Boyer Nursery Rd., Biglerville, PA 17307

It's certain to be a fun day for the whole family. The event will include a traditional potluck dinner - bring a dish to share and your own place settings. The Land Conservancy will provide delicious Kennie's Fried Chicken, water, tea, lemonade, and plenty of community spirit.
Time: 4:00 PM
Cost: Free - RSVP required
More Info: perserveadams.org

Sat., Sept. 13

2025 Historic East Berlin Fall Fest

@East Berlin Community Center, 405 North

Ave., East Berlin, PA 17316

Over 30 local artisans will be onsite. All items are handmade by the artisans. Painted wooden items, chainsaw creations, homemade candy, soaps, personalized items, and antique reproductions are just a few of the vendors attending. Inside is a Book Sale in the gymnasium and the other vendors.
Time: 8:00 AM
More Info: communitymedia.net

Sat., Sept. 13

Thurmont Main Street Plein Air

@Thurmont Main Street, 11 Water St., Thurmont, MD 21788

This fun event brings artists of all levels together to paint a subject matter outside and pick up some painting tips.
Time: 9:00 AM
More Info: thurmontmainstreet.com

Sat., Sept. 13

Brake the Rake: Surprising Ways to Winterize the Garden - Hybrid Workshop

@online virtual or Olewine Nature Center, 100 Wildwood Way, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Don't put your garden to bed—let it rest wild and full of life. In this timely webinar, Penn State Master Gardener Kevin Kelly will share practical ways to prepare your landscape for winter while supporting the ecosystem just outside your door. Discover simple, low-effort techniques that protect birds, nurture beneficial insects, and improve soil health.
Time: 9:30 AM
Cost: \$10.00 virtual or in-person
More Info: extension.psu.edu

Sun., Sept. 14

Pirate School: Sea Dreams

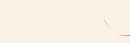
@Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Pirate School: Sea Dreams is a madcap, swashbuckling solo show created and performed by veteran New York actor David Engel. Set to an original cartoon-





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inspired musical score, complete with sound effects, Pirate Professor Billy Bones teaches the finer points of lighthearted mischief and offers up zany lessons on how to stand, talk, sing and laugh like a boisterous buccaneer, all while promoting good manners, polite behavior and social courage.

Time: 11:00 AM or 2:00 PM

Cost: \$15.00

More Info: gettysburgmajestic.org

Mon., Sept. 15

Abstract Paint & Pour Bowls

@Adams County Arts Council, 125 S.

Washington St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Using frit (silica and fluxes fused at high temperature to make glass) you will create four unique 6" bowls. You will mix and pour paint colors of your choice to guide and swirl into an abstract pattern onto your glass bowls. The results are beautiful and uniquely yours. No experience necessary. Bowls will be fired off-site and returned to you in a few weeks.

Time: 6:00 PM

Cost: \$60/\$66.00 member/non-member

More Info: adamsarts.org

Sat., Sept. 20

HGAC's Historic Barns Tour

@Round Barn & Farm Market, 298

Cashtown Rd., Biglerville, PA 17307

(starting point)

Join Historic Gettysburg Adams County Preservation Society (HGAC) and travel back in time to enjoy this rare opportunity to visit inside five historic barns in and around Gettysburg. This family-friendly tour includes privately owned barns that are not usually open to the public. Enjoy special activities at each barn. After exploring the Round Barn and Farm Market, participants can then drive to any barn on the tour, in any order and stay as long as they wish. Additional information on page 18.

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: \$35.00 per adult in vehicle in advance; \$40.00 day of event. Kids 18 & under are free.

More Info: hgaonline.org;

destinationgettysburg.com or Eventbrite

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The original part of the house was built in 1810, followed by the brick structure in 1833. The house sheltered Confederate sharpshooters during the three-day conflict, one of whom it is believed to have accidentally shot 20 year-old Mary Virginia "Jennie" Wade, the only civilian who died during the battle. More than 100 bullet holes pock the walls. Following the battle, the house served as a hospital.



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Big Brothers Big Sisters of South-Central PA

Honored with 2024 Big Brothers Big Sisters of America Agency of The Year Award

SUBMITTED BY MARY MURPHY, VP
OF DEVELOPMENT

Big Brothers Big Sisters of South-Central PA has been recognized as a Big Brothers Big Sisters of America (BBBSA) Agency of the Year Award Winner for program and team excellence in 2024. Out of more than 230 agencies across the country, BBBSA selected Big Brothers Big Sisters of South-Central PA as one of four affiliate organizations to receive this top honor.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of South-Central PA received the 2024 Agency of the Year Award in the Mid to Large Agency affiliate size category on June 12th at the BBBSA National Conference. The award was given in recognition of the agency's 2024 accomplishments including serving 1,320 youth, the greatest number served in a single year across the past two decades; the acquisition of a neighboring affiliate, increasing their service area from 5 to 7 counties; development of the region's only Youth Leadership Summit; and quality of program services.

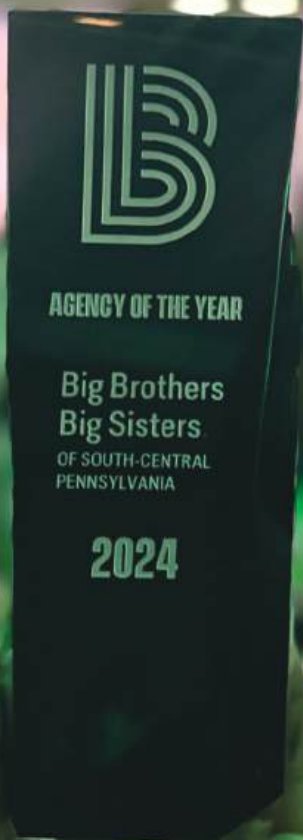
"We are deeply honored to be recognized as Agency of the Year. This achievement is a direct reflection of the unwavering dedication of our entire team: our passionate staff, committed board members, and the extraordinary volunteers who give so much of themselves. We're equally grateful to the parents and guardians who trust us, to our corporate and community partners and to our generous donors, whose belief in our mission fuels everything we do. This recognition belongs to our entire BBBS community, and together, we are making a lasting difference in the lives of young people."

Big Brothers Big Sisters of South-Central PA was also recognized at the BBBSA National Conference as one of 40 organizations to receive the Growth Award for program excellence in 2024. For close to 45 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters of South-Central PA has been dedicated to advancing program growth and quality services across the organization, making a lasting impact on the lives of young people. Today, the affiliate creates and supports one-to-one mentoring relationships, helping build self-confidence and emotional well-being and empowering young people on a path to graduate with a plan for their futures and a mentor whose impact can last a lifetime.

About

Big Brothers Big Sisters of South-Central PA

Big Brothers Big Sisters of South-Central PA, formerly known as Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Capital Region, creates and supports one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. For over 40 years, BBBS of South-Central PA has kept its promise by expertly crafting and maintaining compatible mentoring matches between Littles (youth) and Bigs (mature volunteers) throughout the South-Central PA region. Our commitment includes using evidence-based best practices to achieve personalized outcomes and supporting matches throughout the mentoring relationship (one to ten years). Contributions in all forms are vital to fulfilling the agency's mission. BBBS of South-Central PA is a 501(c)(3) charity, registered with the PA Bureau of Charities, and an affiliate of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. For more information, visit the BBBS of South-Central PA website at capbigs.org.



Faith Directory

Gettysburg Foursquare Church

328 W Middle St, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-5410, www.gb foursquare.com

Trinity United Church of Christ

60 E. High Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-7266, www.gettysburgtrinityucc.org

Lighthouse Baptist Church

80 Apple Avenue, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-6983
www.lighthousebaptistgettysburg.org

Unitarian Universalist Church

136 S Stratton Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-2920, www.uugettysburg.org

Memorial Baptist Church SBC

1096 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-2898, www.memorialbaptistpa.org

Prince-of-Peace Episcopal Church

20 W High Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-6463
www.prince-of-peace-gettysburg.diocpa.org

Gettysburg Church of the Nazarene

1110 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-3209, www.gettysnaz.org

First Baptist Church

1015 Chambersburg Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-2564, www.fbcgettysburg.net

Living Hope Presbyterian Church

155 Early Avenue, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-7157
www.livinghopegettysburg.com

Christ Lutheran Church

30 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-5212, www.christgettysburg.org

Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church

25 W High Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-3919, www.stfxcc.org

St. James Lutheran Church

109 York Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-2012, www.stjamesgettysburg.com

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church

208 Baltimore Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-1235
www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org

Gettysburg United Methodist Church

30 West High Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-3032, www.gettysburgumc.org

Round Hill Evangelical Presbyterian Church

7362 Church Road, Crossroads, PA 17322
717-993-6643, www.roundhillepc.org

United Lutheran Seminary

61 Seminary Ridge, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-338-3000
www.unitedlutheranseminary.edu

Bethel Mennonite Church

2335 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-420-5655, www.bmcgettysburg.church

Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church

1865 Knoxlyn Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-642-5332, www.lmcpcc.org

Gettysburg Church of the Brethren

1710 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-5066, www.gettysburgcob.org

Gettysburg Orthodox Christian Mission

1871 Gettysburg Village Drive
Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-219-3785, www.gettysburgoca.com

Gettysburg Seventh-day Adventist Church

1495 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-6522, www.getsda.org

Gettysburg Baptist Church

95 Fairview Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-337-1160, www.gbcchurch.com

Swift Run Foursquare Church

225 New Chester Rd, New Oxford, PA 17350
717-624-1070, www.swiftrunchurch.com

Gettysburg Quaker Meeting Glatfelter Lodge

Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-624-7272
www.bym-rsf.org
Search: Gettysburg Quaker Meeting

St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church

1095 Church Road, Orrtanna, PA 17353
717-677-8012, www.stignatiusofloyola.org

Freedom Valley Church

3185 York Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-624-3411, www.fv.church

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

1170 Kohler Mill Road, New Oxford, PA 17350
717-688-4297, www.churchofjesuschrist.org

York Springs Global Methodist Church

840 Trolley Road, York Springs, PA 17372
717-528-4314, www.yorkspringsgmc.org

Great Conewago Presbyterian Church

174 Red Bridge Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-337-3954
www.greatconewagopresbyterianchurch.org

St. John Lutheran Church

13 E. Main St., Fairfield, PA 17320
717-642-5822, www.stjohnfairfield.net

If you would like your faith organization included in our directory please email Jennifer at jenniferschultz@bestversionmedia.com

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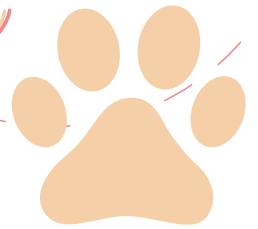
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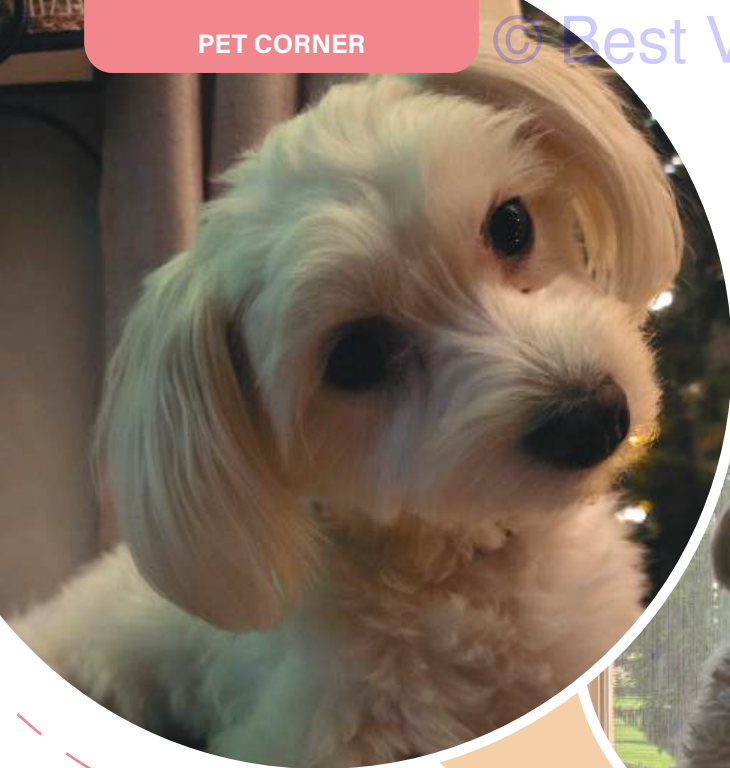
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Meet Adorable Winnie



SUBMITTED BY MEGAN MILTON

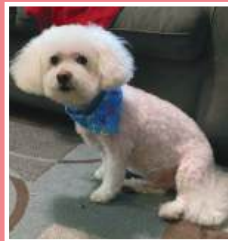
Meet my little love Brahnwen, "Winnie". She is a 2 and a half year old Maltese/Bichon mix. She is an absolute sweetheart. She loves to play with her toys, especially a toy she's had since she was a baby which is no more than fabric at this point, she plays tag with the cat and she loves to sit at the window and bark at passersby. She is a cuddle bug and very empathetic. She hates when mommy cries, or daddy sneezes, she has to make sure we are ok. Her favorite snacks are cheese and chicken. She is my absolute best friend and I don't know what i would do without her.



Where's Casper

BY JAKE SCHULTZ

Casper



Each month Casper will be hidden somewhere here in *Gettysburg Neighbors* magazine. You need to find him! Who is Casper? Casper is the friendly Bichon of the Schultz family. Casper loves people, loves cuddling, loves pizza crust, duck jerky and playing fetch.

The randomly chosen winner can choose a \$25 Gift Card to one of our local participating business sponsors.

Good luck!!

Email your answers to Jenn at:
jenniferschultz@bestversionmedia.com

**We will only be accepting answers until August 27th.*

Congratulations

June's winner, **Laura Smith.**
Casper could be found on page 22.

Share your pet's story with us!

Want your pet featured in an upcoming edition of *Gettysburg Neighbors*? Please email Jill Rickle at: jrickle@bestversionmedia.com, and include:

- Your name
- Your pet's name
- Your pet's favorite activities, treats, toys
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MAKE YOUR OWN FAIRY GARDEN

By Brittany O'Reilly

Create Your Fairy Garden

Find the perfect spot for your fairy garden. This can be on a deck, patio, or out in the yard under a favorite tree or in a rock garden. Place your potting bowl in your selected location and fill three-quarters of the way with potting soil.

Map out your fairy's landscape by using rocks to make roads and glass beads to make stepping stones and pathways. Use moss to fill in the spaces between your chosen fairy decor, which could include a little home, a bench, or even a fairy swing. Plant any optional small plants or succulents around the fairy's yard to create a lush environment. Make sure to water the fairy garden to keep everything green.

Once the garden is complete, add small solar lights or fairy lights to create a magical final touch.

Putting together a fairy garden can be a fun and creative activity in the summer months. Kids love getting their hands a little dirty and creating something unique and magical. Let your imagination shine, and find a spot on your patio or deck for this tiny habitat!

You Will Need

- Medium to large potting bowl (for potted plants)
- Potting soil
- Glass beads
- Stones of various sizes
- Moss
- Small solar lights
- Small fairy decor from a hobby store
- Optional small plants or succulents



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Bison Pumps – The Water Filter Dilemma

SUBMITTED BY MINDI CULP

While the answer to this question is still evolving, the current answer may go something like this:

There are many filter options for water treatment. One of the best we've found and recommended to customers is the Berkie Water Filter. It is a stainless steel canister that you pour water into at the top. The water drains out a spout valve at the bottom. It IS expensive, though, around a couple hundred dollars.

If you want a filter that will screw onto the spout of your Bison hand water Pump, you could use an RV-style water filter. After one year of use, toss it and install a new one. They are much less expensive, probably around the \$20 range. The only problem with a filter on the spout is that it applies back pressure on the packing gland. The pressure gets worse as the filter gets dirty.

As this is a recurring question, the team at Bison is researching the best methods and ways to incorporate the filters into our pumps.

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Peach Tea Bread

BY DOROTHY ERNST,
THE HOLLABAUGH FAMILY COOKBOOK

Ingredients:

- 2 1/2 c. flour
- 1 c. sugar
- 1 T. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 2 c. finely chopped fresh peaches
- 1 T. lemon juice
- 1/3 c. vegetable oil
- 1/3 c. milk
- 2 lg. eggs
- 2 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 c. chopped walnuts or pecans

Directions:

Heat oven to 350°. Grease 9x5 loaf pan. In large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, and nutmeg. In med. size bowl, combine peaches and lemon juice. In a separate bowl, combine oil, milk, eggs, and vanilla. Add oil mixture to flour mixture and stir just until dry ingredients are moistened. Do not over beat. Fold in peaches and nuts. Spoon into greased pan. Bake for about 60 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Allow to come to room temperature before slicing.

Note: *This is very moist and delicious! Sprinkle with powdered sugar if you would like.*




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Kindness Worldwide Inc. Launches “Sports ScEnEs” Initiative with “Pack the Park for Kindness”

SUBMITTED BY KEVIN SMITH, FOUNDER

Collaboration with White Rose Leadership Institute and York Revolution Professional Baseball to be a model for kindness-themed sports events

See the Good. Be the Good. Go the Extra Mile!

Kindness Worldwide Inc. formed as a grassroots collaboration to unify communities and ecosystems globally around the worthy and nurturing aspects of kindness, and White Rose Leadership Institute, known for initiatives that drive lasting local change including Give Local York, York County's biggest day of giving, are joining forces yet again in an exciting alliance with the York Revolution, an American professional baseball team that is a member of the Atlantic League, an independent “partner league” of Major League Baseball. “Pack the Park for Kindness” will mark the August 7th inaugural launch of Kindness Worldwide's “Sports ScEnEs” initiative consistent with its vision “to create a culture of kindness in communities throughout the world.”

All are invited to join their ecosystem peers to amplify the growing Revolution of Kindness Worldwide! A portion of the ticket price will be applied to a new innovative Kindness Prize to reward the kindness of participating organizations in Give Local York's vast nonprofit ecosystem and those that best embrace the spirit of Kindness Worldwide's signature initiative, Kindness Week Worldwide, during its annual celebration November 8 – 15, 2025. Tickets can be purchased by visiting www.kindnessworldwide.org

KindnessWorldwide.org

“As I approach everything in life, I incorporate a collaborative spirit in leveraging impact through a 10x stance and a legacy perspective,” stated Kindness Worldwide founder Kevin Smith. “Given its unifying properties, sports is a wonderful means to bring people and communities together through an ethos of kindness. I know the heart of York, PA and know in my heart they'll show up in large numbers to make a powerful statement to the world that a ‘culture of kindness’ is possible and long overdue. If something so magical can happen here, it can happen anywhere and everywhere.”

Custom game-worn caps adorned by members of the York Revolution baseball team will be auctioned in support of the initiative, and the first 1,000 fans in attendance will receive commemorative t-shirts. Kindness will be infused throughout the fan experience with multiple surprises, including uplifting messages of kindness by prominent community members and York-area police departments issuing Kindness Citations to fans “caught in the act” of being kind. The magic of the evening will also be captured for the feature film *For Such a Time as This* that will uplift the hearts of all and showcase true stories of the powerful impact simple acts of kindness and their vast ripple effects can have.

“We're excited to be an early pioneer of the Kindness Worldwide movement by

showcasing the best of Atlantic League baseball and the best of our community to the world,” stated Nate Tile, York Revolution's Vice President of Business Development. “We intend to create a one-of-a-kind game experience that has people talking long after the final out and empowered to ‘go the extra mile’ to be kind and lead by their example.”

“At Give Local York, we've witnessed York's vibrant culture of kindness and seen the benefits of leading with kindness firsthand,” stated Lisa Barshinger, White Rose Leadership Institute's Executive Director. “The power of kindness combined with a collaborative community spirit are a superpower that brings out the best in ourselves and each other for the betterment of all. We're thrilled to be a part of such a special community celebration. Regardless of the final score, with kindness everybody wins.”

ABOUT KINDNESS WORLDWIDE INC.

Following an act of kindness between two strangers on Good Friday morning 2023, Kindness Worldwide Inc. formed as a designated tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organization with a vision “to create a culture of kindness in communities throughout the world.” Kindness Worldwide is engaging with like-minded brands eager to be visible in supporting this meaningful vision.

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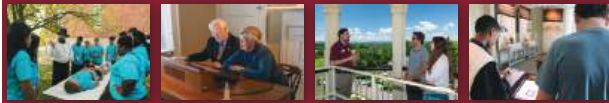
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