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NEIGHBORS

SEPT 2025

Driven by Passion Dr. Rita Tempel



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HELLO
September

Dear Gettysburg Neighbors

Happy September! This month conjures the excitement of a new school year, the sound of a crisp apple at first bite, and a subtle shift in the air that makes the world feel suddenly fresher.

As you may know, each month we feature a local resident or family. Our mission is to help you get to know who's living down your block, up the street, or around the corner. We believe featuring the personalities and events that make up this community is incredibly important, and we hope you do, too.

This month, you'll meet Dr. Rita Tempel. I truly enjoyed getting to know more about her, so be sure to check out her article and find out why she says, "I'm having the time of my life!" You'll also be able to find articles on topics such as technology and dentistry with Gettysburg Dental Associates, meet Servants and their outreach programs and much more throughout this month's edition.

Our team loves providing you, our readers, with stories of local community members. If you know of a family or individual who might be interested in being featured in future issues, feel free to send our team an email. I can't wait to get to know more of the families that make up this community, and your help is greatly appreciated in continuing to make *Gettysburg Neighbors* succeed!

Welcome to our new expert contributor, Country Soul Music Magazine. As always, thank you to our amazing expert contributors and sponsors who help bring the stories, events, and connections to our readers' doorsteps each month! 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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What Rising Interest Rates Really Mean for Buyers and Sellers

BY LOREE FOSTER

Interest rates. They're in the headlines, they're in your inbox, and if you're thinking about buying or selling a home right now — they're definitely on your mind. But what do rising mortgage rates really mean for the real estate market? How do they affect buyers, sellers, and the overall pace of a transaction? Whether you're ready to make a move or just trying to make sense of the news, here's what you need to know — in plain English.

First, What's Going On With Rates?

Mortgage rates had been climbing due to inflation concerns and broader economic shifts. Currently they are fairly steady. The Federal Reserve doesn't set mortgage rates directly, but when they raise the federal funds rate (which influences borrowing costs across the board), mortgage rates tend to follow.

In short? It's now more expensive to borrow money than it was several years ago — and that has ripple effects on real estate across the board.

IF YOU'RE A BUYER...

Rising rates mean your monthly mortgage payment could be higher for the same priced home compared to last year — even if home prices haven't changed.

Let's say:

You were eyeing a \$500,000 home when rates were around 4%.

At 7%, your monthly principal and interest jumps by several hundred dollars.

That said, it's not all bad news:

- **More inventory:** As the market cools slightly, there may be less competition — meaning fewer bidding wars and more room to negotiate. Negotiating home sale contingencies and inspections are definitely possible using win-win terms.
- **More time:** Gone are the days when homes flew off the market in 24 hours. You'll likely have more breathing room to make smart decisions.



• **Creative financing:** Many lenders are offering rate buydowns, adjustable-rate mortgages, or seller-paid incentives to offset today's rates.

• **Bottom line for buyers:** Focus less on the rate, and more on the monthly payment that fits your lifestyle. If the right home comes along and the numbers work, don't let fear of rates keep you from your next chapter.

IF YOU'RE A SELLER...

You might be wondering, "Will rising rates hurt my home's value?" Not necessarily — but they may affect your buyer pool and days on market. Here's why:

• **Affordability has shifted:** Buyers' purchasing power drops as rates rise, meaning someone who could afford your price point last year may now be looking lower. According to the Realtor Association of York and Adams County (RAYAC) our

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MLS statistics show, for example, that the price of homes has increased by 6% in the Gettysburg School District from the first half (January- June) of 2024 to the first half of 2025. Yet, the amount of sales has decreased between the same two time periods by 12%. For Hanover/South Western School districts, prices has increased 11% (2024-2025), yet the amount of sales have not decrease.

- **Longer listing times:** Homes aren't selling quite as fast — and pricing strategy matters more than ever. Today's buyers are more cautious and expect value. The average days on market (DOM) for York and Adams County over the past 3 months are approximately 22 days for homes listed between \$200,000 and \$500,000.
- **Motivated buyers are still out there:** People still move for jobs, family, lifestyle, and life changes. A well-priced, well-presented home will still sell — just maybe not with 10 offers over asking. All homes sell, if the pricing is accurate!
- **Bottom line for sellers:** Be realistic, flexible, and prepared to negotiate. Price strategically from the start, highlight your home's unique features, and lean on your agent to guide the process with up-to-date market insights.

What It Means for the Market Overall

We're moving away from the ultra-fast, ultra-competitive market of the past few years into something more balanced. And that's not necessarily a bad thing.

Yes, rising rates create headwinds. But they also bring opportunity:

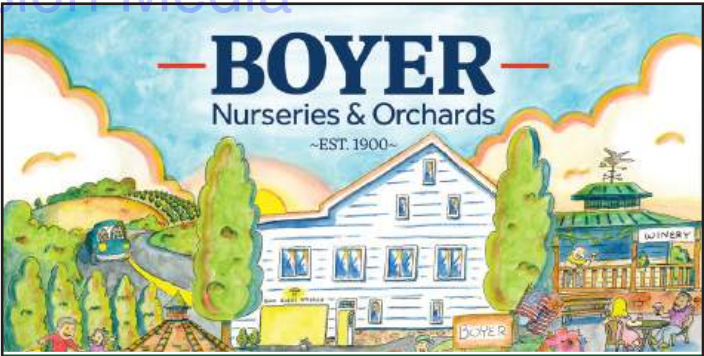
- More stability in pricing
- More negotiation power for buyers
- More realistic expectations on both sides

This is a market for informed, intentional buyers and sellers — and with the right strategy, there's still plenty of success to be found.

Final Thought

Whether you're upsizing, downsizing, or just watching the market, remember this: real estate is personal. It's about timing, goals, and what makes the most sense for you — not just headlines.

So if you're feeling uncertain about what rising rates mean for your situation, reach out. I'm here to help you navigate it all with clarity, confidence, and a steady hand.



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Navigating the End of Windows 10 Support

BY AYSË STENABAUGH

As Windows 10 reaches its tenth anniversary, Microsoft is ushering in the end of its support lifecycle, prompting users to consider their next move in a rapidly shifting digital environment. For some, Microsoft's Extended Security Updates (ESU) may offer a temporary safety net; for others, upgrading hardware to meet Windows 11 requirements or investing in a new device could be the more practical path forward. Whether your priorities lie in performance, security, or long-term compatibility, this article will help guide you through the available options and equip you to make a decision that fits your unique needs.

Why is support for Windows 10 ending?

Microsoft is ending support for Windows 10 because it has reached the end of its planned life—10 years after its release. This means it will no longer get updates that fix bugs or protect against security threats, making continued use risky. Microsoft is focusing on newer systems like Windows 11, which are built to handle today's technology and offer stronger security features. If you're still using Windows 10, now's the time to look at your options and decide what works best for you.

Extended Security Updates (ESU) give users a paid way to continue receiving critical security updates for up to three years after Windows 10 support ends. Users can opt in when attempting to run Windows Update—if eligible, a prompt will appear offering extended updates. However, if your device is behind on updates or struggling to complete them, you may not see this option. It's important to note that ESU pricing for individual users increases each year: starting at \$30 in the first year, doubling annually, and ending after three years. After that, users will need to upgrade to Windows 11 or move to another supported operating system to stay protected.

Upgrading hardware is only a viable

option if your device can support the minimum system requirements for Windows 11. This includes a compatible CPU, at least 4 GB of RAM, and 64 GB of storage—though more is recommended for better performance. Most systems built in the last five years already meet these standards, but older devices may require hardware upgrades or full replacement to qualify.

Before upgrading hardware, it's important to assess the current condition of your device. If components are already showing signs of failure—such as frequent crashes, overheating, or slow performance—attempting an upgrade may not be worth the risk. Installing new parts into a failing system can lead to compatibility issues, wasted costs, or even complete system failure. In some cases, aging hardware may not support newer components reliably, and the effort to upgrade could result in more downtime and frustration than simply replacing the device. A thorough evaluation of your system's health can help you decide whether an upgrade is feasible or if replacement is the safer, more cost-effective path.

Replacing your device is often the most straightforward path forward when it comes to transitioning from Windows 10—especially if your current system is aging, incompatible with Windows 11, or already showing signs of wear. But it's not a decision to make lightly. While it may be tempting to grab whatever gets you back online quickly, short-term fixes can lead to long-term frustrations if the device doesn't support your future workflow, performance expectations, or security needs.

When choosing a new device, think beyond the basics: consider what kind of tasks you do, how much storage and processing power you'll need over the next few years, and whether portability, battery life, or upgrade potential matters to your lifestyle or business. Investing in a device that

aligns with your long-term goals can save you money and reduce tech stress down the road.

If you're unsure what specs or features are right for you, consulting with a trusted IT professional or retailer can help you make sense of the options. They can help identify your priorities and steer you toward a solution that fits—not just today, but well into the future.

With Windows 10 support officially ending in October 2025, every user, whether casual, professional, or enterprise—will need to begin planning their next steps. There's no one-size-fits-all solution; whether you extend support temporarily, upgrade compatible hardware, or invest in a new device, the key is making a decision that supports your long-term needs—not just what gets you by today. Waiting too long could leave your system vulnerable, or force rushed choices later. If you're unsure what path is best, consulting a trusted tech professional can help you navigate your options and ensure your next move is secure, cost-effective, and future-ready.



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Quick Tips for a Safer Home During Fire Prevention Week - October 5-11, 2025

COMPILED BY JILL RICKLE

Each year during Fire Prevention Week, we're reminded that simple habits can make a big difference in keeping our homes and families safe. Use this checklist to reduce fire risks—especially with today's common devices powered by lithium-ion batteries. Keep these easy reminders handy all year long!

Home Safety Checklist

- ✓ Test smoke alarms monthly
- ✓ Replace smoke alarm batteries yearly
- ✓ Plan and practice two escape routes from every room
- ✓ Charge lithium-ion batteries only with manufacturer-approved chargers
- ✓ Keep batteries away from flammable items when charging
- ✓ Dispose of damaged or swollen batteries safely
- ✓ Never leave cooking unattended
- ✓ Keep flammable items away from stovetops and heaters
- ✓ Maintain a 3-foot "safe zone" around heaters and fireplaces
- ✓ Use sturdy candle holders and extinguish candles before leaving room

For more tips, visit www.nfpa.org or contact your local fire department.

Disclaimer: This checklist provides general fire safety tips and is not a substitute for professional advice. Always follow local fire codes and consult your fire department for specific guidance.

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RESIDENT FEATURE

From Dentistry to Driving *Dreams:* How Dr. Rita Tempel is Embracing Life, Smiles, and the Open Road



BY JILL RICKLE | PHOTOS BY CARLA B. LONG

Dr. Rita Tempel has always had a talent for changing lives—one smile at a time. As the founder of Gettysburg Smiles, she's built a reputation for meticulous artistry in dentistry, a deep sense of patient care, and a career grounded in excellence. But if you think that's where the story ends, think again.

These days, Rita isn't just transforming smiles—she's stepping into a whole new chapter of life that includes horsepower, sunsets on the water, and a much-anticipated new role: grandparent.

"I'm entering a season that's all about joy, fun, and welcoming the next generation," Rita says, her smile radiating the same confidence and contentment she inspires in others every day. "I'm going to be a Nonna—that's Italian for grandmother!" she beams. "I can't wait!"

After building her practice from scratch, raising two sons, and achieving impressive professional milestones many only dream of, Rita is intentionally carving out space for fun and adventure. She's living proof that it's never too late to start fresh—or go fast.

These days, if you don't catch her at her beautiful dental office on York Road, you might find her out on the water, behind the wheel of her 2024 Corvette C8 Z51 (affectionately known as "Stetson"), or on the road to her next fishing spot.

Rita's story begins in the suburbs of Reading, Pennsylvania, where she grew up as the daughter of immigrants who came to America with very little and worked hard for every opportunity. Her mother came

from Germany and her father from Italy. They met while attending night school to learn English.

"They came here with almost nothing, but they worked hard, saved, and built a life," Rita says. Her father worked as an electrician at Dana Corporation, while her mother was a waitress. From them, she inherited her strong work ethic and deep appreciation for resilience—qualities that would carry her far.

She earned her Bachelor of Science from Albright College and went on to receive her Doctorate of Dental Surgery from the University of Maryland's Dental School in 1993. From there, she served in the U.S. Army, first at Fort Meade in Maryland and later at Fort Carson in Colorado, treating soldiers and developing her clinical skills.

After her military service, she balanced part-time private practice work while raising her two sons. In 2005, she took a leap of faith. Renting one operatory in another dentist's building in Gettysburg, she launched her own practice from scratch.

"It was just me and my assistant, Megan," Rita recalls. "We did it all ourselves and slowly added more team members as the practice grew. She's still with me today, and I feel incredibly lucky to have had someone so loyal and talented by my side from the very beginning."

"That one room quickly turned into two, and as we continued to grow, I realized I needed a space of my own," Rita says. Within a year, she purchased and completely renovated a property at 2018 York Road, transforming it into a modern dental office known



for its beautiful cosmetic work and comprehensive care.

Over the years, Rita has cultivated a practice defined by excellence, integrity, and a personal touch. Her approach is simple: treat patients the way she would want to be treated. "I offer my patients what I'd want in my own mouth," she explains. "I use the best materials, work with master ceramists, and take time to explain options so they can make informed decisions."

Rita's commitment to excellence is evident in her accomplishments. In 2020, she became one of just over 400 dentists worldwide to earn accreditation from the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry—a prestigious distinction that involves a rigorous, multi-year process including clinical case submissions, a four-hour written exam, and a challenging oral board. She remains the first and only dentist in both Adams and York counties to currently hold this title. She also earned Diplomate status with the American Board of Dental Sleep Medicine, further expanding her skill set to include treating patients with obstructive sleep apnea with custom dental appliances.

"I love what I do," she says. "There's nothing like seeing a patient look in the mirror and truly love their smile after a transformation. There are tears of joy, hugs, and so much gratitude.

Dr. Tempel receiving American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry accreditation.





the Freedom Boat Club, completed beginner through advanced boating courses, and now confidently navigates waterways in Maryland, Delaware, the Carolinas, Florida, and even California.

Along with boating, Rita has embraced another longtime passion: fishing. “I’ve been fishing for as long as I can remember,” she says. Whether it’s on the bay, a quiet river, or out in open water, casting a line has become one of her favorite pastimes. “I absolutely love fishing,” she says. “It’s relaxing and exciting all at once. You never know what’s on the other end of the line until you reel it in.”

Her other new thrill? Driving fast cars—especially her own. Earlier this year, Rita attended the renowned Ron Fellows Corvette Driving School near Las Vegas, where she learned advanced performance techniques while tracking high-speed vehicles through the desert. Now, she puts that training to use behind the wheel of Stetson, her 2024 Corvette C8 Z51. With its powerful engine, sleek design,

Smile makeovers are my favorite and most rewarding procedures.”

Rita also gives back to the profession. She currently serves on the AACD’s Accreditation Written Exam Committee and has coached fellow dentists through the process of becoming accredited themselves. Her leadership and mentorship continue to inspire others in the field.

With her sons now grown and her professional accomplishments firmly in place, Rita is making time to explore personal passions that had long taken a backseat.

For starters, she’s discovered a love for boating—something she grew up around but never fully experienced. “I grew up on a motorboat, but girls didn’t drive back then,” she says. “Then when I got married, my husband drove the boat. Later, when my sons were old enough, they took the wheel. Now, it’s my turn.” Rita joined



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and track-ready handling, Stetson isn't just a car—it's a symbol of freedom, confidence, and the excitement Rita is embracing in this new chapter of her life. "I'm having the time of my life," she laughs. "It's empowering."

Rita lives in a peaceful Gettysburg neighborhood, where she enjoys breathtaking views from her back porch, visits from deer, cardinals, and blue jays, and quiet evenings surrounded by nature. Though she's currently without a dog—something that's rare for her—she's loved several over the years, from mixed breeds of rottweiler and goldens to a hound mix from the pound to her cherished Italian Greyhound. "I travel so much now that it's not the right time for a dog," she says. "But one day, I'll have another."

Family and friends remain at the heart of Rita's life. Her eldest son, Matthew Antonini Tempel, works as an Aviation Maintenance Technician with Helicopter Applicators in Gettysburg. His wife, Emily, is an Intervention Specialist at Fairfield Area Elementary School. Her younger son, Michael, is currently pursuing a career in baseball. She treasures the friendships that continue to fill her days with laughter, good stories, and simple joys.

Whether she's crafting smile makeovers, exploring new waters, racing along country roads, or preparing for her first grandbaby's arrival, Dr. Rita Tempel is a woman on a mission to enjoy life!

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BY BRANDI SAUERS, MARKETING

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Hanover® Architectural Products ventured beyond its namesake roots in 2006 with the purchase of the former Pfaltzgraff building in Thomasville, strategically located along Route 30. This expansion significantly increased paver production, allowing us to meet the growing demand in both commercial and residential markets. Recognizing the importance of direct interaction with homeowners and design professionals, we've now established a second Residential Design Center to better serve our community.

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PAWS, PATIENCE & PURE LOVE:

Lola's Forever Family

SUBMITTED BY GAIL SERFASS

Lola came to us 5 weeks after we lost our 11-year-old Maddie dog on July 4th, 2022. Maddie was Ken's four legged shadow, since being a puppy not even yet weaned from her mother, and losing her ripped his heart into pieces. Though distraught from her loss, he heard her voice telling him to pass along all the love still left for her in a rescue who needed it.

After searching Petfinder, and selecting 24 dogs, Ken had to winnow it down to one, and Lola won every round due to her origin story. Ken calls her his rescue angel, saying she rescued him far more than we rescued her.

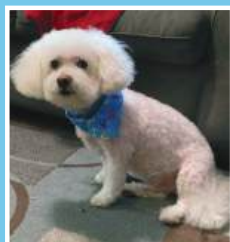
Lola is a German Shepherd mix with Pomeranian. You can see it in her beautiful face, that's the GSD, and in her ginger flowing coat, that's the Pom. She also has the spunky attitude of most Poms as well.

Her trouble began when she was 5 weeks old, having been attacked by a large dog that shattered her bottom jaw and broke her top jaw. She had to have her bottom jaw wired for 30 days. She didn't let it stop her one bit. She still tried to chew things she wasn't allowed to have. Since having

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 September 27th.*

Congratulations

July's winner, **Cameron Francis**.
Casper could be found on page 16.

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:

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the wire removed Lola's tongue hangs out a bit to the left side since her cuspid there was lost in the jaw repair. Incredibly, it does not affect her in any way, she is a sloppy drinker like most every GSD with a perfectly formed jaw. Kudos to the vet who did her surgery.

Unfortunately, she was not properly socialized in her fostering period, this being demonstrated in her incessant warning barking at most everybody outside of the two of us she would meet, creating the impression of a feral junk yard dog more than a house pet. We knew this would take patience to overcome, and went to work on that with Lola from the first day home.

She's been our baby since August of 2022, and our bond has only grown more strongly as we spend as much time with her as possible, showering her with love and attention, indulging her love to being outside, and taking nightly walks around Gettysburg where she takes in the scents on her route and leaves "pee-mail" for other dogs she smells along the way.

As our bond has grown, her level of trust in us is clear in how she is much less inclined to bark defensively at house guest or others we meet on the street, and has matured into her life with us, knowing she is cared for, and loved as the little princess she is to us.

Many say with rescues that it's done in "threes". Three days, three weeks, three months, until the dog is comfortable in your home. We grew through each milestone giving her the time and love to settle, and in August we will be at three years, and KNOW Lola is home for good with us.

We wouldn't want it any other way.



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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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Servants: Improving Lives One Home at a Time

BY SHARON A. DORN

Tucked away in Red Lion, Pennsylvania is an incredible community resource serving York, Lancaster, and Adams Counties – Servants. A simple name with an astonishing outreach, Servants serves residents in three contiguous counties: York, Lancaster, and Adams with services designed to provide residents with Healthy Homes, Safer Homes, and as a result, Healthier Lives.

Now celebrating its 25th Anniversary, Servants CEO, Trent Davis, says “Together we’ve seen the joy of older adults who can move freely in their homes after years of confinement, the relief of parents knowing their children are safe, and the renewed pride of families in their homes.”

Servants is more than a home repair organization—it is a crusade of compassion, faith, and transformation. Through their work in providing critical home repairs, staff along with volunteers change lives through emotional and spiritual support to those in crisis as well.

My tour of the massive 16,000 square foot warehouse, adjacent to their offices, included lumber storage, painting supplies, flooring, and so much more at the ready to not only

change homes but more importantly, to build relationships, transform lives, provide hope, and build stronger communities!

Mary's Story

Living with and caring for her aging mother, Mary's home had become unsafe. A steep and crumbling wheelchair ramp made it difficult for her mother to get outside, the floors sagged dangerously, plumbing issues piled on stress, and she could barely manage.

That is when a team from Servants stepped in. Their mission is not just about fixing houses – it is about restoring hope. The team rebuilt the wheelchair ramp, repaired plumbing issues, and secured weakened floors. More than that, they brought care, compassion, and dignity.

“They didn’t just fix things, said Mary – they saw me and ensured that I would not have to carry this situation alone anymore.” Her story is one of many unfolding across York, Lancaster, and Adams Counties where aging homes and limited incomes leave too many neighbors stuck in unsafe living conditions.

The Power of Partnerships

With trusted and growing referral partnerships—including Penn Medicine, WellSpan, and UPMC—Servants also collaborates with Veterans Affairs and advocacy organizations, “lifting the dignity of homeowners”, according to Todd Spahr, Director of Operations and Impact with Servants. Further, these vital relationships go a long way in keeping people out of Emergency Centers. “Volunteers and Project Managers take great pride in the work they do”, according to Todd. For them, it is not just a matter of replacing stairs or a deck...it is about changing and empowering people's lives.

Process for Projects

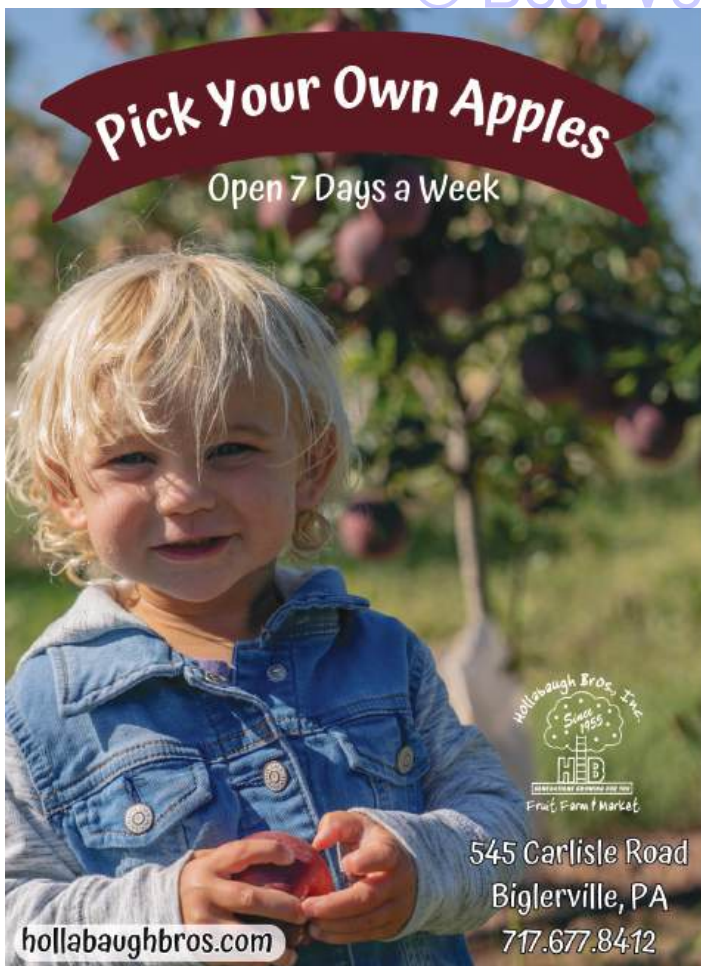
In 2024 alone, and with a staff of only 11 and 550 volunteers, Servants made a staggering 500 repairs in



189 homes. Here is how the process works. A simple phone call from a homeowner results in a conversation with a staff member at Servants who conducts a brief phone assessment. Following this, a member of the staff visits the home to assess the need (oftentimes there are more needs than originally requested). A work plan is then developed which includes a budget for materials, staffing/volunteer requirements, and a schedule for the homeowner's approval. Currently, requests focus on the needs of homeowners in York, Lancaster, and Adams Counties. And speaking of volunteers, the youngest is 8 years old and the eldest is 83 years young!

Project managers are experienced professionals in their respective fields and oversee projects from start to finish. They rely on an algorithm to prioritize projects. Safety concerns, not only for the residents but also for the staff and volunteers, are of the utmost importance. To learn more, please visit servants.org or call 717-378-0336.





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- 4 c. apple juice**
- 4 c. French vanilla
creamer**
- 2 c. milk**
- 8 cinnamon sticks**

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FALL FAVORITES

Your Guide to Gettysburg's Autumn Adventures

BY JILL RICKLE

There's something unmistakably special about September in Adams County. As the summer crowds thin and the air turns crisp, locals know the best experiences are just getting started.

Whether you're looking to fill a weekend with apple picking and corn mazes or you're ready to relax with cider and self-care, here's your guide to soaking in the season—Gettysburg style.

APPLE SEASON IN FULL SWING

The start of September signals the beginning of apple season in Adams County—and no place celebrates it quite like Hollabaugh Bros. Fruit Farm & Market, Boyers Nurseries & Orchard, or Historic Round Barn & Farm Market, to name a few. Their orchards and apple seasons open mid-September and run through mid-October. While you're there, browse the market for homemade pies, pastries, ice cream, or local produce—it's a one-stop shop for fall flavors.

And of course, don't forget to mark your calendar for the National Apple Harvest Festival, returning October 4-5 and 11-12. The festival blends live music, orchard treats, crafts, and hayrides in the heart of apple country—and all proceeds benefit local charities.

MAKE THE MOST OF FALL WEEKENDS

If you're craving some classic autumn adventure, Fields of Adventure in Aspers has it all. This family farm opens mid-September weekends through early November with a corn maze, pumpkin picking, hayrides, giant slides, a petting zoo, and even a zipline. It's a guaranteed hit with kids and adults alike.

And for an unforgettable fall photo op, schedule a tour at Quarry Critters Alpaca Ranch in Littlestown. You can meet

and feed the alpacas, explore the on-site fiber gift shop, and learn more about how their cozy fleece products are made—just don't forget your camera.

AUTUMN SHOPPING & HIDDEN GEMS

September is the perfect time to refresh your home for the cooler months. Head to Colony House Furniture to explore warm textures, rich fall tones, and furniture pieces built to last. Budget Blinds - Dillsburg, Chambersburg & Gettysburg is ready to help transform your window coverings in time for cooler weather.

If you're in the mood for a truly one-of-a-kind find, stop by Gettysburg Jewelry Repair for custom pieces or to breathe new life into vintage favorites.

A SEASON FOR SELF-CARE

As the pace slows, it's the perfect time to prioritize wellness. Studio Elysian, located in downtown Gettysburg, is a modern salon offering cuts, color, nail services, and more. Whether you're in need of a refresh or prepping for family photos, their team brings style and calm in equal measure.

As fall colors present a perfectly colored natural backdrop, schedule your family photos with The Journey is the Life photography. The golden hour light filtering through amber leaves creates that magical glow every parent dreams of capturing, while the crisp autumn air keeps everyone comfortable during outdoor sessions. From candid moments of children jumping in leaf piles to elegant family portraits against scenic historic backdrops, fall offers endless possibilities for creating memories that will grace your mantle for years to come.

Looking to unwind after a long week? A Massage to Remember offers a full menu of services designed to help you de-stress and reset—because taking care of yourself is always in season.

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Five Easy Fall Road Trips from Gettysburg

COMPILED BY JILL RICKLE

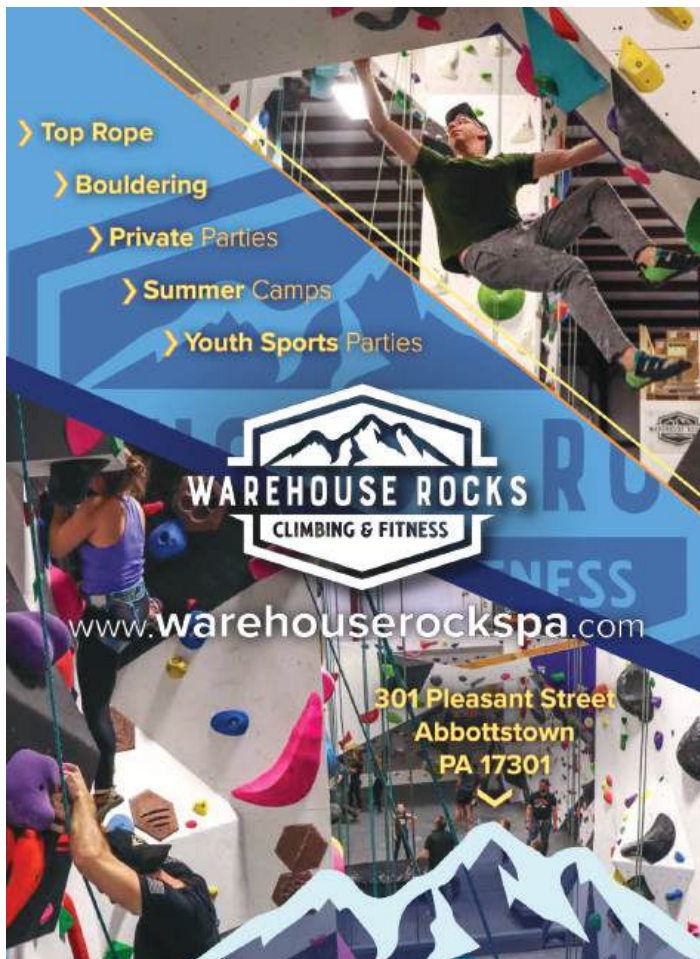
CELEBRATE THE SIMPLE THINGS

With average highs in the mid-60s, September is one of the best months to explore Gettysburg. Take a stroll along the Sachs Covered Bridge, plan a trail ride with National Riding Stables, or just grab a cone from Baltimore Hill Creamery or Mr. G's Ice Cream—sweater weather doesn't mean ice cream season is over.

This fall, lean into the moments that matter: picking apples with your kids, laughing through a hayride, or discovering a new favorite shop downtown. Because here in Gettysburg, the heart of the season is found not in the hustle, but in the harvest.

Did you do something special this past month? We'd love to see your photos! Did you discover the perfect fall activity or host an unforgettable event? We want to hear all about it!

Share your memorable moments with our readers by emailing us at jrickle@bestversionmedia.com. Whether it was a cozy pumpkin patch visit, a spectacular Halloween party, or a hidden gem you stumbled upon, your experiences could inspire others in our community. Don't forget to include those wonderful photos that capture the magic of your special moments!



Within Two Hours, Worlds Away

Sometimes the best way to appreciate home is to leave it for the day—and come back with fresh eyes (and maybe a car full of cider and antiques). Fall is the perfect season for a quick escape, and Gettysburg's location makes it easy to explore charming towns, winding backroads, and historic gems, all within two hours.

1. Frederick, Maryland – 45 minutes

A short drive south brings you to this colorful, walkable city. Stroll along Carroll Creek Park, explore the shops and art galleries, and enjoy lunch at one of Frederick's farm-to-table restaurants. September and October often bring street festivals, live music, and craft fairs. Don't miss the Civil War Medicine Museum for a fascinating glimpse into medical history.

2. Harpers Ferry, West Virginia – 1 hour 15 minutes

Where the Shenandoah meets the Potomac, Harpers Ferry combines natural beauty with deep history. Hike part of the Appalachian Trail, browse quaint shops, and wander the historic Lower Town. The fall foliage here is breathtaking, especially when viewed from Jefferson Rock.

3. Hershey, Pennsylvania – 1 hour 20 minutes

Chocolate lovers, rejoice. Beyond Hersheypark, the town offers The Hershey Story Museum, beautiful botanical gardens, and tasting flights at the chocolate lab. In autumn, the surrounding farmland glows with harvest colors—perfect for a scenic drive before heading home with a sweet souvenir.

4. Lancaster County, Pennsylvania – 1 hour 30 minutes

Rolling farmland, horse-drawn buggies, and endless farm markets make Lancaster County a feast for the senses. Stop at Central Market in downtown Lancaster for local treats, then take the backroads through Strasburg or Intercourse for handmade quilts, fresh-baked pies, and roadside pumpkin stands.

5. Catoctin Mountain Park, Maryland – 1 hour

For leaf-peeping and outdoor adventure, Catoctin is a must. Trails range from easy strolls to more challenging climbs, and overlooks like Chimney Rock reward you with sweeping autumn views. Pack a picnic—or warm up afterward in nearby Thurmont with a hearty diner meal.

Tips for the Perfect Day Trip:

- Leave early to maximize daylight and beat crowds.
- Pack layers—fall weather in the Mid-Atlantic changes quickly.
- Keep cash on hand for roadside stands and small shops.
- Don't forget your camera; these drives are pure postcard material.

Fall Craft: Mason Jar Candle

By Erin Vander Weele

Decorating with candles in the fall can give a warm and relaxing ambience to a room. This easy candle craft is a fun way to add a touch of fall colors and light to your home.

What you'll need:

- Glass mason jar (with smooth sides all around)
- Dry leaves or artificial leaves
- Mod Podge (water-based glue/sealer)
- Sponge brush
- Electric tealight candle
- Twine

Directions:

1. Use a sponge brush to cover a thin layer of Mod Podge around the outside of the mason jar where you will place the leaves.
2. Begin placing leaves onto the mason jar and brush Mod Podge over the leaves until the edges completely stick to the jar. Spread additional layers if needed. Let dry for a few hours.
3. Tie twine around the top of the jar as a finishing touch.

Place a tealight candle in the center of the mason jar and enjoy all the glowing fall colors.



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What the Tech? How the Latest Dental Technology Benefits You

SUBMITTED BY ABBEY RHODES

The dentistry field has remarkably transformed thanks to newer, cutting-edge technology. Gone are the days of uncomfortable impressions, lengthy procedures, and uncertain treatment outcomes. Dental technology has ushered in a new era of precision, convenience, and patient-centric care. Learn how the latest dental technology, including digital scanners, 3D printing, intraoral cameras, and digital dentures, is revolutionizing the dental industry and benefiting patients in unprecedented ways.

Digital Scanners

Digital scanners have replaced traditional dental impressions, allowing for quick, painless, and highly accurate results. These scanners create 3D models of teeth used for various dental procedures, including veneers, crowns, bridges, Invisalign treatments, and even dentures. At Gettysburg Dental Associates, we use the iTero digital scanning device for more precise and comfortable treatments, resulting in a better, more comfortable experience.

3D Printing

With 3D printing technology, dentists can design and fabricate custom dental appliances, like crowns, bridges, and aligners, with unparalleled precision. This technology reduces turnaround times and ensures a perfect fit, enhancing patient comfort and treatment effectiveness. Additionally, 3D printing has made it possible to create dental models and surgical guides, improving the accuracy and efficiency of procedures like dental implants.

Intraoral Cameras

Intraoral cameras are small, handheld devices that provide real-time images inside the mouth. These cameras allow dentists and patients to see the condition of the teeth and gums up close, including areas of decay, cracks, breaks, fractures, and other intra-oral problems. They also promote transparency and trust between dentists and patients, as treatment recommendations stem from clear, visible evidence.



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Invisalign & General Dentistry



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Digital Dentures

Digital dentures are a game-changer for patients in need of denture replacements. Traditional dentures often require multiple appointments and adjustments. With digital dentures, we streamline the process. Digital impressions and 3D printing technologies enable us to create custom-fit dentures that are more comfortable and aesthetically pleasing. Patients experience improved speech, chewing function, and overall satisfaction with their dentures.

Teledentistry

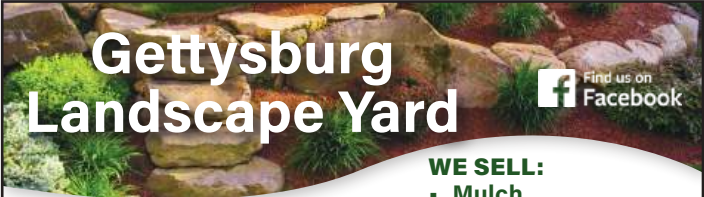
Advancements in digital technology have also given rise to teledentistry, allowing patients to consult with their dentists remotely. These virtual check-ups are especially beneficial for individuals with busy schedules or limited access to dental care and/or transportation. Teledentistry allows dentists to assess oral health concerns, advise, and prescribe medications through secure video consultations. Patients can receive timely guidance and support for their dental issues without needing in-person visits.

Enhanced Diagnostics

Modern dental technology has significantly improved diagnostic capabilities. Digital X-rays, for instance, reduce radiation exposure while providing high-resolution images for accurate diagnoses. Cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT) scans offer detailed 3D views of oral structures, aiding in treatment planning for complex cases. Early detection of dental issues through these technologies can lead to more conservative and effective treatment options, ultimately benefiting patients' oral

health.

These latest dental technologies have ushered in an era of patient-centric care, where comfort, precision, and efficiency are paramount. Patients can now enjoy quicker, more accurate treatments and greater involvement in their oral health journey. As technology advances, Gettysburg Dental Associates and the future of dentistry promise even more innovations to enhance patient care and overall dental well-being. Embracing these advancements is not just a step forward; it's a leap toward a brighter, healthier smile.



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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.

Sun., Sept. 7

Cornhole Tournament

**@Gettysburg Rec Park, 545 Long Ln.,
Gettysburg, PA 17325**

Join Gettysburg Area Baseball/Softball League for a round-robin tournament fundraiser. Bring a chair & canopy.

Time: Signups at 12:00 PM & bags fly at 1:00 PM

Cost: \$50.00

More Info: Facebook- Gettysburg Battleground Cornhole or Gettysburg Area Baseball/Softball League

Sat. Sept 13

Fall Glass Pumpkin Floral Design Class

**@Butterfly Blooms Flower Shop, 7 S.
Queen St., Littlestown, PA 17340**

Learn the art of floral design in this Fall

Glass Pumpkin Floral Design Class, where you will create a unique centerpiece using a glass pumpkin vase and Fall flowers. All materials and step-by-step instruction are provided as well as light snacks & drinks.

Time: 1:00 PM | Cost: \$40.00

More Info: butterflybloomsflowershop.com

Tues., Sept. 16 & Oct. 7

Lunch & A Show

@Hickory Bridge Farm, 96 Hickory Bridge Rd. Orrtanna, PA 17353

On Sept. 16 enjoy lunch with entertainment by local icons known as Forever Young featuring music through the years. On Oct. 7th, enjoy a hip-shaking rock n roll good time luncheon featuring Taylor Brown portraying Elvis Presley. Both lunches will include a 2 entree meal of Roasted Pork

with Apple dressing & Oven Fried Chicken.

Time: 11:00 AM | Cost: \$47.95 inclusive

More Info: hickorybridgefarm.com

Wed., Sept. 17

Tastes of the Garden: Re-Think Your Salad

**@Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Rd.,
Gettysburg, PA 17325**

Discover how easy it is to grow cool-season greens and root crops, extend your harvest, and create fresh meals—perfect for gardeners, cooks, and anyone who loves homegrown flavor.

Time: 6:00 PM | Cost: \$15.00

More Info: extension.psu.edu



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visitfrederick.org

Fri., Sept. 19

7th Annual Gateway to the Cure Golf Classic

@Maple Run Golf Course, 13610 Moser Rd., and Thurmont Community Park, 19 Frederick Rd., Thurmont, MD, 21788

Calling all golfers! Enjoy 18 holes at Maple Run Golf Course, lunch at Thurmont Community Park, and cool awards—all benefiting The Hurwitz Breast Cancer Fund.

Time: 7:30 AM check-in and team photos; 8:30 AM shotgun start; 1:00 PM lunch and awards

Cost: \$400.00 / foursome

More Info: thurmontmainstreet.com

Fri., Sept. 19 & Sun. Sept. 21

Civil War Tactical Reenactment Event

@Daniel Lady Farm, 1008 Hanover St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

See information pinned on our bulletin board.

More Info: danielladyfarm.com

Fri., Sept 19 & Sat., Sept. 20

PA Tea Festival

@The Rosemary House, 120 S. Market St., and Sweet Remembrances Tea Room, 118 S. Market St., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

The festival features 24 tea vendors, tea

tastings, lectures on tea, live music, garden tours and more. This two day event is Pennsylvania's only beverage festival dedicated exclusively to tea.

Time: 9:00 AM

Cost: \$15.00 in advance & \$18.00 day of event

More Info: teafestpa.com

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 (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.

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

Sat., Sept. 20

Night Climb

@Warehouse Rocks, 301 Pleasant St., Abbottstown, PA 17301

Take your Saturday night to new heights with Night Climbing. Bring your own headlamp or rent one. Either way, it's going to be a party. Event is held the 3rd Saturday of every month.

Time: 7:00 PM

More Info: warehouserockspa.com

Sat., Sept. 20

Mostly Broadway

@Gettysburg Community Theater (GCT), 49 York St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

At this annual concert, Founding Executive/Artistic Director, Chad-Alan Carr, and friends will sing some favorites that are Mostly Broadway, while Chad also announces the new 2026 season line up of plays and musicals at GCT. This concert benefits the GCT Scholarship Funds: The Taylor Zimmerman Memorial Scholarship and the Betsy & Hank White Memorial Scholarship Fund for GCT.

Time: 7:00 PM | Cost: \$25.00

More Info: GettysburgCommunityTheatre.org or destinationgettysburg.com

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Sun., Sept. 21

Coffee with a Historian

@Gettysburg Lincoln Railroad Station, 35 Carlisle St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Join historian Lewis Trott for a discussion on "All Things Gettysburg 1863" over a cup of coffee. Now is your chance to ask a historian what you have always wanted to know about Gettysburg in 1863. The one-hour history discussion takes place under the covered pavilion. Coffee and tea will be provided. Seating is limited and ticket reservations are required.

Time: 9:00 AM | Cost: \$12.50

More Info: gettysburgfoundation.org

Sun., Sept. 21

2nd Annual Dakota Dixon Ride

@John Wright Restaurant, 234 N. Front St., Wrightsville, PA 17368

Benefiting a local 'kiddo' and their family who is fighting pediatric cancer. There will be food trucks, vendors, and raffles.

Time: Registration starts at 10:00 AM.

Kickstands up at 11:30 AM

Cost: \$20.00 per rider/driver & \$10.00 per passenger

More Info: Facebook page - Dakota's Army

Sun., Sept. 21

34th Adams County Heritage Festival

@Gettysburg Rec Park, 545 Long Ln., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Celebrate the diverse cultural traditions that make up our community featuring

music, food, and the arts with performances that represent American roots, Ukrainian, Latino/a, and African American traditions. Food vendors on site offer a large variety of cuisines and booths display artifacts representing various cultures and show traditional crafts in action. Other booths will include craft vendors, exhibits by local nonprofits, and children's art activities.

Time: 12:00 PM

More Info: icpj-Gettysburg.org

Sun., Sept. 21

Thirstoberfest Home Brew Competition

@Thirsty Farmer Brew Works, 290 Cashtown Rd., Biglerville, PA 17301

Bring your best home brew and see if you have what it takes to come out on top.

The competition is free to enter. Winner will get to brew beer with host and receive a free sixteen of their beer to take home.

Time: 3:00 PM

More Info: Facebook - Thirsty Farmer Brew Works

Wed., Sept. 24 &/or Thurs., Oct. 9

Cancer Survivorship Education Series

@virtual by WellSpan

Virtual education class to help survivors better understand life and their bodies after cancer treatment. The sessions also

provide the opportunity for discussion and sharing with other cancer survivors.

09/24 - The Importance of Integrative Care During and After Oncology Treatment.

10/09 - Spiritual Fitness. Register at wellspan.org/events and the zoom link will be sent to those registered.

Time: 09/24 at 12:00 PM and 10/09 at 2:00 PM

More Info: healthyadamscounty.org

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Wed., Sept. 24 or Thurs., Oct. 9

Processing 101 - Characteristics & Skirting Alpaca Fibers

@Quarry Critters Alpaca Learning Studio, 580 Basehoar Rd., Littlestown, PA 17340

A beginners guide to processing alpaca fleece. Learn the favorable characteristics and how to get started cleaning this fleece.

Time: 11:00 AM | Cost: \$30.00

More Info: quarrycrittersalpacas.com

Sat., Sept. 27 & Sun., Sept. 28

Pippinfest

@Fairfield Borough, Fairfield, PA 17320

Enjoy a cherished annual arts and crafts festival featuring crafts, music, and mouthwatering treats—where history meets hometown charm, and there's something for everyone to enjoy!

More Info: pippinfest.com

Sat., Sept. 27

Carlisle Brass Band Concert

@George Spangler Farm & Field Hospital, 488 Blacksmith Shop Rd., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Enjoy the Carlisle Brass Band in concert performing brass band music and sharing a repertoire of marches and patriotic selections. Bring your lawn chairs and drive directly to the property and park on-site. The gate opens at 2:30 p.m. for visitors to explore the meticulously renovated and restored original buildings at the historic site.

Time: 3:00 PM concert starts

Cost: Free

More Info: gettysburgfoundation.org

Mon., Sept. 29

Charitable Planning with Retirement Assets: Practical Tools & Timely Insights

@Gettysburg Library, 140 Baltimore St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Are you curious about how retirement assets can play a role in charitable giving or estate planning? Representatives from Kampstra Wealth Management and the Adams County Community Foundation will explain practical ways to align your financial goals with the causes you care about. You'll leave better informed and better prepared, whether for your own planning or to support someone else's journey. Registration Recommended.

Time: 1:00 PM | Cost: Free

More Info: adamslibrary.org

Tues., Sept. 30

Philip Thomson - live music

@St. James Lutheran Church, 109 York St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Enjoy music by pianist Philip Thomson who has toured throughout Europe and the US and broadcast on radio and TV across North America plus the Netherlands. His playing has been praised for its virtuosity, accuracy, brilliance, and tone quality.

Time: 7:30 PM

More Info: gettysburgcca.org

Fri., Oct. 3

Experimental Mixed Media Workshop

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

Mixed media is a type of artwork that combines different media or materials into one piece. Join award-winning experimental artist, Sue Marrazzo, as she shares her love of color theory through mixed media design and composition. You will be guided in this step-by-step workshop, to create an original mixed media painting while learning about design and specialized mixed media art techniques and painting intuitively. Supplies provided.

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: \$130.00 member/\$143.00 nonmember

More Info: adamsarts.org

Fri., Oct. 3 & Sat., Oct. 4

Eisenhower: This Piece of Ground

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

Tony Award winner John Rubinstein (Pippin, Children of a Lesser God) stars as President Dwight D. Eisenhower in this new American play by Richard Hellesen and directed by Peter Ellenstein. The play is a candid and fascinating fictional eavesdropping on President Dwight D. Eisenhower at his Gettysburg, PA farm. Experience this new critically acclaimed work in the town that Eisenhower called home and in the theater that he regularly attended.

Time: Friday at 7:30 PM & Saturday at 3:00 PM

Cost: starts at \$35.00

More Info: gettysburgmajestic.org



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Sat., Oct 4 & 11 and Sun., Oct. 4 & 12

Apple Harvest Weekends

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

Nothing screams fall more than the annual National Apple Harvest Festival. Although not the location of the National Apple Harvest Festival, stop by the market for in-market sampling, warm apple crisp, apple backed goods, local artisan craft vendors and bins of fresh-picked apples. Enjoy a signature Apple Cider Donut Milkshake or an apple cider slushie on the drive home. If you have a favorite bakery item, be sure to call and order ahead of time.

Time: 12:00 PM

More Info: hollabaughbros.com

Sat., Oct. 4th

Fall Real Pumpkin Floral Design Class

@Butterfly Blooms Flower Shop, 7 S.
Queen St., Littlestown, PA 17340

Enjoy a hands-on floral design class where you'll create a stunning Fall arrangement using a real, uncut pumpkin as the base. All materials and instruction as well as light snacks and drinks are included.

Time: 1:00 PM

Cost: \$50 per person

More Info: butterflybloomsflowershop.com

Sat., Oct. 4

Buddy Walk

@Gettysburg Rec Park, 545 Long Ln.,
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Join the ARC of York & Adams Counties for a fun day celebrating and supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in our community.

Time: 2:30 PM

More Info: Facebook event, email jgray@theatcyorkadams.org or call 717.846.6589

Sat., Oct. 4

Ladies Climbing Night

@Warehouse Rocks, 301 Pleasant St.,
Abbottstown, PA 17301

Join other ladies for a fun filled night of community and climbing. Work through boulders and/or top climbs together. share tricks, tips, and insights in a fun and positive environment.

Time: 5:00pm | Cost: \$12.00 Day pass

More Info: warehouserockspa.com

Sat., Oct. 4 thru Sun., Nov. 2

Fall Harvest Days

@Ashcombe Farm and Greenhouses, 906
W.Grantham Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Ashcombe Artisan Market - Celebrate the first weekend of Fall Harvest - held in the event field, by enjoying a variety of local vendors. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. More details to come. Check the website for details.

More Info: ashcombe.com

Wed., Oct. 8, 15 & 29

Beginning Weaving on a Rigid Heddle Loom

@Quarry Critters Alpaca Learning
Studio, 580 Basehoar Rd., Littlestown,
PA 17340

You will learn step by step how to weave while feeling comfortable about asking questions. Class size is 4. Small and cozy. It will be a very safe learning environment.

Time: 1:00 PM | Cost: \$185.00

More Info: quarrycrittersalpacas.com

Sat., Oct. 11 & Sun., Oct. 12

Blaze for the Bravery Fiery Fall Festival

@The Barn Resort, 75 Cunningham Rd.,
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Fiery Fall Festival featuring Chili Pepper competition with live music, chili championships, wing eating contests, pie eating contests, vendors, and more. It's a family friendly fall festival with a kids play zone, a buffet, and music. Cheer on local first responders as they compete.

Time: 11:00 AM

More Info: destinationgettysburg.com or blazeforthebrave.weebly.com



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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.gbchurch.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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Team Adams Shines at Special Olympics Summer Games

SUBMITTED BY JOY WEIKERT



Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities with cognitive delays. These events provide continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in sharing gifts, skills, and friendship with the world.

Summer Games is one of several events where Special Olympics athletes in Pennsylvania gather to compete against other athletes from across the state. For many sports, athletes must earn their ticket to Summer Games by placing well in their division at qualifier events held in the spring. Special Olympics PA trains close to 16,000 athletes,

but only about 2,000 get to attend Summer Games. Therefore, when an athlete finds out they're able to go, the news is accompanied by excitement and celebration!

Summer Games is held at Penn State University for three days in early June each year. Competition takes place in athletics, basketball, equestrian, golf, gymnastics, softball, swimming, and tennis. Months of hard work and dedication in training are rewarded as athletes are cheered on and supported during competition by more than 750 trained coaches and 1,000 enthusiastic volunteers.

This year, Team Adams took 27 amazing athletes in athletics (track & field), basketball, swimming, and tennis. They were accompanied by 19 dedicated coaches and volunteers. For many, this is an event they look

forward to all year!

This year's journey to Happy Valley began with a 7:15 a.m. departure from Gettysburg on Thursday, June 5. Despite the early time, most of the delegation was bright-eyed and bushy-tailed in their Team Adams tie-dye shirts as they boarded the Wolf's charter bus. Andrew, one of the athletes' favorite Wolf Bus Lines drivers, greeted everyone with kind words and a friendly smile while proudly wearing the Team Adams t-shirt he was given last year! By mid-morning, the group was lugging suitcases, pillows, and sports equipment into Hastings Hall on the massive and beautiful main campus of Penn State University.

For three days, the athletes swam, threw, jumped, ran, dribbled, and

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swung their rackets with strength and control. There were wins and losses. Happy tears and sad tears. Everyone put many miles on their legs as they walked about campus. In addition, the outdoor sports had to contend with rain showers. However, thanks to the availability of indoor facilities, all events were able to be held.

The athletes learned patience and flexibility in dealing with last-minute schedule changes due to weather. For a group who largely thrives on routine and set schedules, this was huge! It's hard enough to be away from home, sharing a dorm room, and eating food that's not like the food at home. Then throw in weather uncertainty, and the stress of it all can take its toll. Fortunately, Special Olympics coaches and volunteers are prepared to handle challenges such as these—to help minimize stress for the athletes, offer support and encouraging words, and provide quiet time when it's needed.

As usual, Opening Ceremonies on Thursday night got the athletes revved up with uplifting music, inspiring words from a variety of people, and the much-anticipated arrival of the torch. Hearing and seeing the police officers and motorcycles bring in the torch and light the cauldron is quite moving and always leaves a lasting impression!

The competition was fierce and the days were long. However, there were many opportunities to unwind when not competing. Olympic Village offered cornhole, bingo, crafts, snacks and drinks, a dunk tank, a petting zoo,

and more. In addition, a trip to the Berkey Creamery is a "must" every year for Team Adams!

Sports Fest and the Victory Dance also provided a nice break from competition. Somehow, many athletes mustered enough energy to dance for three hours on Friday night after one and a half days of competing! The YMCA and the Chicken Dance are two of Team Adams' favorite dance songs, among many, many others.

One of the highlights of attending a state event such as this is seeing friends and familiar competitors from other parts of the state. This year was no exception. High-fives, hugs, and smiles were abundant throughout the three days as athletes and coaches reconnected with people they hadn't seen in a while. The special bonds

that are formed are truly priceless and everlasting.

For the ride home, athletes proudly wore the medals and ribbons they had earned. Minds and muscles were spent, but hearts were full. Listening to the quiet chatter, it's safe to say that Team Adams is already looking forward to the next competition!

Special Olympics is ALWAYS welcoming new athletes, coaches, and general volunteers. Generous sponsors and donors play a big part in keeping Special Olympics completely free and accessible for all athletes. If you would like to learn how you can get involved with Special Olympics PA Team Adams, please email soacinformation@gmail.com.



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Breaking Barriers and Building Community: Stephanie Moore Brings Adaptive Sports to the Forefront

BY JILL RICKLE



When Stephanie Moore moved to South Central PA in 2022, she brought a bold vision for change. A lifelong athlete with an unstoppable spirit, Stephanie is on a mission to ignite the adaptive sports movement here in our community.

Originally from Maryland, Stephanie's athletic journey began in childhood, where she played alongside able-bodied peers. But by high school, her opportunities to compete were taken away—"out of fear of injury," she explains. So she stepped back from sports entirely. It wasn't until decades later, at the age of 40, that she decided to reclaim her athletic identity. What started as a quest for better health quickly turned into something bigger.

"I attended an adaptive sports fair and found out about all kinds of adaptive sports," she recalls. "I tried many—cycling, basketball, tennis, field hockey, rowing, and boxing." While boxing quickly became her passion, it was wheelchair tennis that she ultimately stuck with. "I love playing tennis and teaching others how to play," Stephanie says. And she's not just talking about playing casually—this year, she's participating in a wheelchair tennis

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demonstration at none other than the U.S. Open.

But perhaps the most groundbreaking part of her journey so far came in the boxing ring. Stephanie made history in 2023 with the first-ever adaptive boxing exhibition match in the United States, followed by a second one in 2024. The sport is now on its way toward becoming a Paralympic event, thanks in part to the work of Stephanie's coach and community.

Still, her heart is set on sparking change right here in our community. "There are no adaptive sports nearby," she states bluntly. The nearest programs are hours away—in Chester County or Philadelphia. But rather than see this as a barrier, Stephanie sees opportunity. "We need coaches—those who already know the sports and how to teach them. I'm more than willing to meet with anyone interested in learning how to coach adaptively."

Stephanie currently trains at the Junior Tennis Champions Center in College Park, Maryland, where she puts in rigorous weekly sessions.

At home, she supplements her training with cardio, strength training,

and hand-eye coordination drills. It's a disciplined lifestyle that's brought confidence, purpose, and a deep connection with a network of adaptive athletes across the country. "They are the community I never knew I needed," she says.

But that community could, and should, exist here too. Stephanie dreams of launching adaptive tennis and boxing programs in our local area—two sports that are already equipped with potential facilities and coaches in the area. "Boxing is one of the oldest Olympic sports. There's no reason it shouldn't be a Paralympic sport too. And I believe South Central PA could help lead the charge."

Stephanie has a clear message for

anyone hesitant to try adaptive sports: "If I can start over at 40, anyone can. Development takes time. Just get in there and do your best."

Her ultimate hope? That our community will step up and embrace adaptive athletics—not just as a feel-good initiative, but as an essential, inclusive part of our local sports culture. "Get behind this endeavor," she urges. "There are athletes here who would benefit. We just need to get it started."

To follow or connect with Stephanie, visit her on Facebook at Stephanie Moore. She welcomes conversations with anyone interested in learning more or getting involved in adaptive sports locally.



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FOUR ACTORS, 100 CHARACTERS, PURE THEATRICAL MAGIC!

BY SHARON A. DORN



enhancements, leveraged by the actors on stage, seamlessly transformed the mood. Over 22 local crew, designers and technicians brought visual magic to life. Razor sharp innuendos, sarcasm, and rapid-fire costume changes, ala Hitchcock, punctuated the dialogue and could

have been easily missed if you weren't paying close attention.

Masterfully directed by Broadway veteran, Clayton Phillips (5 Broadway Shows, 4 national tours) along with Ryan B. Gibbs, Totem Pole Playhouse's Producing Artistic Director, this play kept audiences guessing throughout its satirical, thrilling plot. The four extremely talented actors included Damon Bonetti, Mallory Hawks, J.B. McLendon and Nicholas Wilder - all members of Actors Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States. The set included train stations, moors, and manors -- often changing in a matter of seconds.

So, you ask, what did The 39 Steps have to do with the wacky exploits of the cast? And what did the missing part of a finger mean? We're still trying to figure that out - perhaps

you had better luck if you caught the show. If you love satire, this live masterpiece kept audiences in stitches throughout the performance.

The 39 Steps was a classic, sarcastic, spy spoof which has received multiple awards including two Tony Awards and has been performed in live theatres worldwide. If you loved Hitchcock and his uncanny use of innuendos, you would have loved this play!

Don't worry if you missed this summer's spectacular production - Totem Pole Playhouse continues to bring world-class entertainment to our community throughout their season. Be sure to check their upcoming performances and mark your calendars for more theatrical magic ahead!

For information about future shows and tickets, visit www.totempoleplayhouse.org or call the Box Office at 717-352-2164.



Continuing in its 75th Anniversary Year, the Totem Pole Playhouse located in Fayetteville, Pennsylvania once again delivered an outstanding performance this summer. With a cast of only four extremely talented actors, their performances included 100 different characters! The 39 Steps continued the Playhouse's tradition of excellence for a total of 12 performances that ran through July 27.

Based on a novel by John Buchan and a classic film by Alfred Hitchcock, the original The 39 Steps film was released in 1915. Later, Hitchcock's film of the same title was released in 1935. Today, there is even a fictional, digital adaptation called The 21 Steps as well as a TV adaptation -- each demonstrating the timelessness of this infamous story.

The background set was simple. However, amazingly quick and oftentimes humorous set



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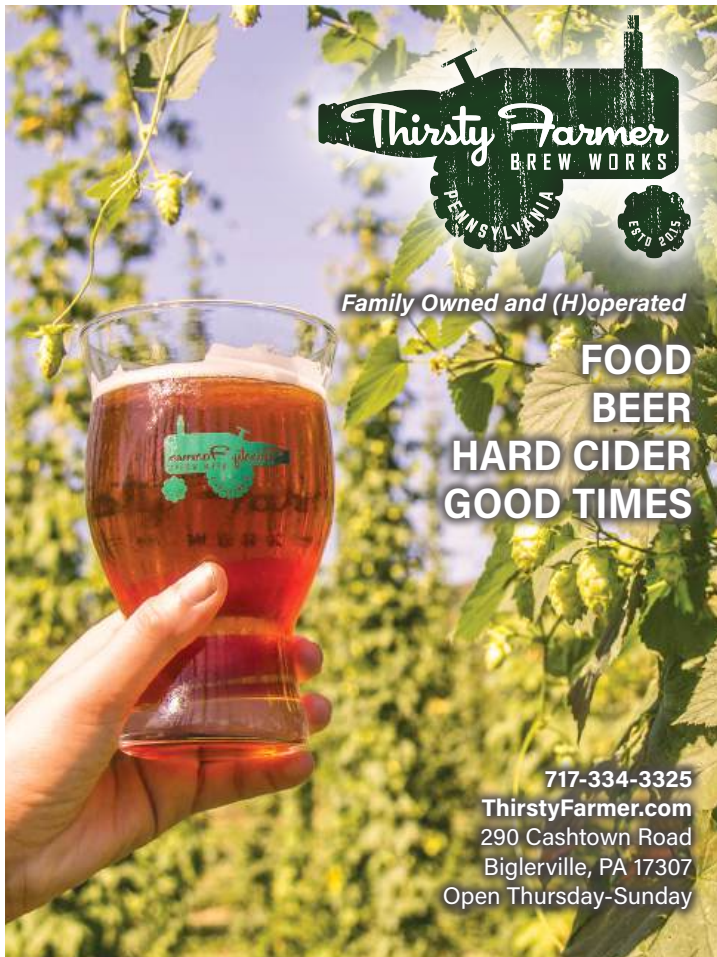
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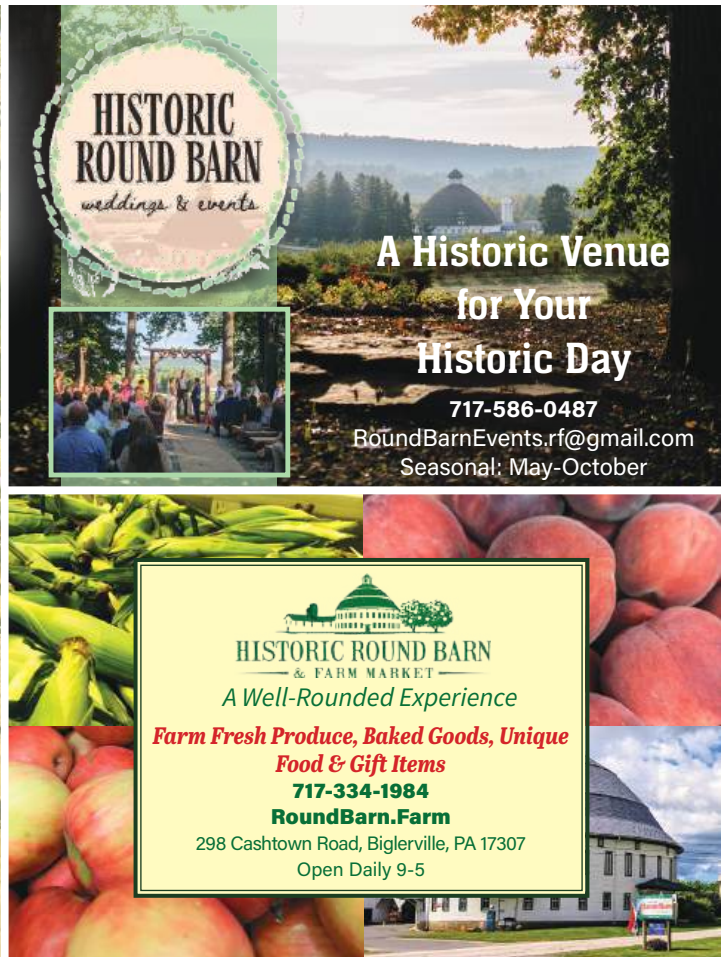


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