



GETTYSBURG

Pennsylvania

... HISTORIC CROSSROADS

**Borough
Newsletter**

**Volume XV
Issue 2**

**Fall/
Winter
2023-2024**

Borough Council

Mayor

Rita C. Frealing

First Ward

Wesley Heyser
Patricia Lawson

Second Ward

Christopher Berger
Matthew Moon

Third Ward

John Lawver
Judith Butterfield

At-Large

Chad-Alan Carr

Borough Manager

Charles R. Gable

Important Numbers

Borough Hall

(717) 334-1160

Police Department

(717) 334-1168

Emergency

911

After Hours

Non-Emergency

(717) 334-8101

Public Works

(717) 334-4666

GMA

(717) 334-6738

GARA

(717) 334-2028

GBSWA

(717) 334-1160
ext. 238

Message from the Mayor's Desk

A Message from Mayor Rita C. Frealing

Whew! Where did Spring and Summer go? With the clear and crisp autumn weather embracing the spirit of the harvest, it's a great time to reflect on some events from the past two seasons.

April

In April, the NEW Adams County Historical Society Museum opened - This museum provides a conversation of the rich history of Gettysburg and the surrounding communities in Adams County. The Vita School Kids Day on April 29th was a day of fun. It was inspiring to see the curiosity and enthusiasm of the students. A proclamation was declared for Gettysburg Earth Day 2023. That event was held at the United Lutheran Seminary Chapel. I also welcomed the Braver Angels to their 3rd Annual Convention, the first in Gettysburg. The group is striving for change in our country by having people from across the political spectrum come together, to talk and to listen to one another.

May

The Gettysburg Joint Veterans Memorial Day Commission coordinated a ceremony to compliment the parade including crew members of the USS Gettysburg marching to The National Cemetery where the Memorial Day program was held. The program and parade featured Grand Marshall Christy Lucas, CEO of Roots for Boots, and Keynote Speaker Dr. Harold Kushner. Ms. Lucas founded Roots for Boots to meet the current needs and future challenges of military families. Dr. Kushner is a retired Colonel from the U.S. Army Medical Corps and was a prisoner of war during the Vietnam War. It was an honor for our Borough to honor their work and service to this country. May also celebrated local high school scholars at the Adams County Community Foundation's Annual Breakfast.

June

The 7th annual Gettysburg Pride Fest was held from June 2nd - June 4th. Pride Fest was a well-attended celebration of Gettysburg's commitment to strive for community-wide diversity and inclusion. Gettysburg also celebrated Juneteenth with a parade and programs developed by Indigenous Glo. I had the honor of attending Harrisburg's Juneteenth celebration with Governor Josh Shapiro and Lt. Governor Austin Davis at the State Museum. Additionally, I spoke at Cross Keys Village's Juneteenth program. During the later days of this Summer, I was one of the speakers at Gettysburg College's First-Year Walk and welcomed incoming college freshmen to the borough. The walk is a Gettysburg College tradition allowing new students to walk through the streets of their new community and travel close to where Lincoln gave his historic *Gettysburg Address*. The annual [See Mayor - Contd. on Page 2](#)



Mayor Rita C. Frealing

Important Dates

Halloween Parade

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

(Rain Date: October 25, 2023)

(Street Dance/Costume Party on Lincoln Square - 6 PM)

Halloween Trick-or-Treating

Tuesday, October 31, 2023 (6 PM – 8 PM)

General Election Day

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

(Polls Open 7 AM - 8 PM)

If anyone needs special accommodations when attending any Borough meeting, please notify the Borough Secretary at least five (5) business days prior to attending the meeting. Call (717) 334-1160 ext. 240.

Mayor – Contd. from Page 1

Mayor Rita C. Frealing presents a proclamation to Dr. Norman & Mrs. Carolyn Nunamaker acknowledging their contributions to the Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra and to the rich culture of the Borough of Gettysburg

(Photo Credit: Burt Danielson)

Heritage Day Festival took place and again our area's rich and diverse cultural heritage was honored and celebrated. It was an honor to present Dr. Norman & Mrs. Carolyn Nunamaker with a proclamation celebrating their 25 years with the Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra (GCO). Dr. and Mrs. Nunamaker are founders of the GCO. Dr. Norman Nunamaker served as music director and conductor for 25 years while Mrs. Carolyn Nunamaker served as Administrator. The proclamation was presented at a retirement reception honoring their service.

Ambitious Tree Planting Efforts Continue

From David Rice, Chair - Shade Tree Commission

This fall the Borough will plant another twenty trees to add to the twenty that it planted this spring. In some recent years, the Borough has removed more trees than it planted. Happily, the pendulum has swung back the last couple of years. This year fewer than a half-dozen trees will be removed.

The Borough's recent planting efforts have been focused on York Street. York Street, even more than Carlisle, Chambersburg, or Baltimore Streets, was practically denuded by the loss of its Bradford pear trees to disease during the past decade. Having learned the lesson as did many other municipalities of the pitfalls of over-planting a single species, the Tree Commission has chosen a much more diverse selection recently to include Zelkova, Japanese Lilac, Locust, Ginkgo, and Cherry. (Although the Bradford pear was not successful as a street tree, it has proved all too successful as an invasive species along the byways of the county.)

The Borough's Shade Tree Commission, like the Borough itself, is wrestling with the issue of trees and sidewalks. How do we balance the conflicting priorities of public safety and financial reality against the benefits of a green urban canopy? It's a very tough issue, currently under discussion. The Shade Tree Commission's budget includes monies to prune and remove street trees, but not to fix sidewalk even though it is often less expensive to fix a heaved sidewalk than to take down a large tree. According to Borough code, it is the responsibility of adjoining property owners to make the repairs - but, more-often-than-not, those fixes have remained undone. The Commission is hoping for more options to address the issue, but that may require an ordinance change by the Borough.

A shout-out to Robbie Harbaugh and his crew in the Public Works Department. Even though the crew is staffed at lower levels than it used to be, they have managed to do a great job planting the trees that the Tree Commission has chosen and keeping them watered during the hot, dry summer months! Many thanks!



One of 9 Cherry trees planted in the Borough in 2023

Employee Spotlight

From Kara Riethmaier - HR Coordinator



Paige Stewart

Paige Stewart joined the Borough of Gettysburg's Department of Planning and Historic Preservation as an intern in August 2023. Ms. Stewart is currently a senior at Biglerville High School and aspires to study Urban Planning during her University education. Ms. Stewart was inspired to go into the Urban Planning field because of her class on Human Geography, where she learned how human society has evolved in planning the growth of its boroughs, townships, and cities. When Ms. Stewart has free time, she enjoys playing with her cats, throwing pottery and baking.

Gettysburg's Parking Enforcement Officers perform routine parking enforcement throughout the Borough in accordance with the established rules and regulations governing both



Mario Casciotta

parking laws and the Borough Code of Ordinances. Mario Casciotta joined the Borough of Gettysburg's Parking Department as a part-time Parking Enforcement Officer in July 2023. Mr. Casciotta is excited to be working for the Borough. When not on duty, Mr. Casciotta enjoys playing with his cat, working on his car, and spending time with family.

School Bus Safety

From Robert Glenny – Chief of Police



Now that fall has arrived and school started a few weeks ago, the police would like to remind residents to watch for school buses loading and dropping off students. State law requires that motorists stop for buses that have the red flashing lights illuminated as they are loading and off-loading students. The section reads as follows:

"the driver of a vehicle meeting or overtaking any school bus stopped on a highway or trafficway shall stop at least ten feet before reaching the school bus when the red signal lights on the school bus are flashing and the side stop signal arms are activated. The driver shall not proceed until the flashing red signal lights are no longer actuated. In no event shall a driver of a vehicle resume motion of the vehicle until the school children who may have alighted from the school bus have reached a place of safety. The driver of a vehicle approaching an intersection at which a school bus is stopped shall stop his vehicle at that intersection until the flashing red signal lights are no longer actuated."

The only time vehicles do not have to stop for buses with their red lights illuminated is if they are travelling in the opposite direction on a physically divided highway. Operators convicted of violating this section are fined \$250.00 plus applicable costs and their operator's license is suspended for 60 days. Our most precious resource is our children. Please use the utmost caution when driving around school buses and schools.



Gettysburg Welcome Center (GWC)

From Skip Hockley – Board Member (MSG)
Gettysburg Welcome Center Committee Chair

happened within our town's boundaries during those three days in July of 1863. While the main battle was occurring all around our town in the fields and wooded areas, the town residents were huddled in their homes and businesses. As the battle raged on, the town was occupied and liberated many times over those early days of July. Now, 160 years later we hope to broaden the awareness of the impact on Gettysburg and the town's story of the events during the battle.

With the help of the National Park Service and artifacts provided by the Gettysburg Foundation and Adams County Historic Society, we want to tell our story and also provide a "central point" for visitors to Gettysburg. The project site is located within the Baltimore Street Pathway and will provide key information as a connection between Gettysburg College, Gettysburg Train Station, David Wills House, and Soldiers National Cemetery. In a coordinated effort between many local organizations, including Destination Gettysburg, National Park Service, Gettysburg Foundation, and Town Tour Guides, Main Street Gettysburg has a vision to broaden the experience for our visitors. With attractions such as the Shriver House offering a rare glimpse of residents' experiences during the battle, we hope to expand access to untold stories.

The location of the **GETTYSBURG WELCOME CENTER** at 340 Baltimore Street is a key area for visitors to garner information, centrally located between Lincoln Square and Steinwehr Avenue. We want to connect the

The **GETTYSBURG WELCOME CENTER** is a "Legacy Project" for Main Street Gettysburg, as we work to share our story of what



Image Courtesy of:
Crabtree, Rohrbach, Inc.



Save the Date:
December 1 - 3,
2023

Want to be notified of local
emergencies?

Sign up for E-Alerts

It's easy! Click on E-Alert on the
Borough's home page and select
the types of alerts you want.

www.GettysburgPA.gov

Coming to the Majestic Theatre
this Holiday Season



A movie filmed on
location in Gettysburg:

a gettysburg
CHRISTMAS

See GWC - Contd. on Page 4

GWC -
Contd. from Page 3

areas of interest and their various stories, so that our guests experience the impact leveled on our townspeople. We also want to provide sorely needed public restrooms, as many people walk our streets and pathways.

The building will be new construction, approved by HARB to keep with the local architectural values of Gettysburg. The structure will be a two-story structure with a main lobby/gathering area on the first floor and offices and a meeting room on the second floor. During the battle, the site was the Winebrenner Tannery, and attention will be given to this untold history of the property.

At present, we have had the privilege of Congressman Joyce sponsoring our "Project" for Federal Funding. Senators Casey and Fetterman have also endorsed the request. Later this fall we hope to have a positive outcome from the FY2024 appropriations committee so that construction can start in early 2024. We have also presented a proposal to the America250PA Commission for state funding with the support of our State Representative Dan Moul.

The land is owned by the Borough of Gettysburg, which has also generously given initial funds to support the project. A project of this kind must amass funds for the construction, ongoing maintenance costs, outfitting and operations. Main Street Gettysburg is participating in this year's Adams County Community Foundations upcoming "Giving Spree" on November the 9th. Main Street Gettysburg will be identified as number 65 and all donated funds will be restricted for the GWC. Additional opportunities will become available to provide donations through various planned upcoming events.

This is truly a rare opportunity to participate in creating and contributing to a Gettysburg "LEGACY PROJECT." We encourage everyone to support Main Street Gettysburg in any way possible. Our pride in Gettysburg and the story we tell will be remembered for generations of future businesses, residents, and guests to our little town of Gettysburg. We appreciate your support of the **GETTYSBURG WELCOME CENTER!**

Contribute to the Gettysburg Welcome Center

at the Adams County Community Foundation's Annual Giving Spree or by calling (717) 337-3491.



Giving Spree

MSG
#65

November 9, 2023

MSG
#65

ACCFGivingSpree.org

DESIGN



Architectural renderings by Connor Phiel



CRABTREE, ROHRBAUGH & ASSOCIATES
ARCHITECTS

Public Works Projects*from Bradley LaBure – Public Works Foreman***Fall Brush Pick-Up**

Fall brush pick up will take place Monday, October 30th – Friday, November 3rd. Public Works will go around town twice that week picking up brush only. Please do not mix leaves and grass clippings with brush. Grass and leaves can be dropped off at the Public Works building located at 457 East Middle Street. Place brush along the curb (*not in the street*), or along alleys. If there are any questions regarding brush pickup, please call the DPW at 717-334-4666.

**Leaf Pick-Up and Street Sweeping**

The Public Works crew will begin street sweeping leaves along the curbs beginning in November. As the leaves begin to fall more rapidly and residents rake their leaves into piles, the Public Works Department will go around town collecting the leaves. Place the piles of leaves along the curb (*not in the street*) or along the alley. Please do not mix brush in with the piles of leaves. Leaf collection will continue until the end of the year.

**Winter Means Snow and Ice**
SNOW/ICE CLEARING TIPS

1. Clear a minimum of 30 inches wide on sidewalk.
2. **Do not** throw snow into the street.
3. **Do not** pile snow near a fire hydrant or within 5 feet of a storm drain.
4. **Do not** push snow out of parking lots and across the street. Snow should be piled somewhere within the parking lot.
5. Apply sand or similar anti-skid if ice cannot be cleared.
6. Products using urea or calcium chloride are less likely to harm sidewalks.

Legion Alley and Gilliland Alley

Legion Alley (*Baltimore Street to South Washington Street*) and Gilliland Alley (*Water Street to Delap Avenue*) will be resurfaced this Fall.

GMA Implementing New Billing Structure*from Mark Guise – GMA Facilities Manager*

Starting January 1, 2024, Gettysburg Municipal Authority (GMA) will be implementing a new water billing structure. This new billing structure will also include a rate increase. Currently, customers pay a minimum fee which includes a usage allowance, along with charges for usage above that minimum allowance. This new structure will consist of a fixed service charge. This fixed service charge will be based on meter size using American Water Works Association (AWWA) meter ratio and/ or housing units. This AWWA meter ratio schedule can be found on our website www.GettysburgMA.com. Additionally, a usage fee will be applied for all water used. Average customers will see about \$20 increase in their quarterly bill.

Inflation is a key factor in this increase as chemicals, energy, and construction costs rise. Additionally, ongoing system upgrades and capital improvements play a significant part in the increase. Capital improvements are needed to repair and replace infrastructure such as pipelines, motors, valves etc.

The Gettysburg Municipal Authority carefully manages water rates and works hard to ensure fair and affordable rates for all customers, including residential, commercial, and industrial.

Water rates and structures are designed so all customers pay fair share based on water consumption and use of system. Additionally, GMA will no longer be using postcards for our bills, so keep a look out for our newly formatted bills which will be delivered to you in an envelope.

**Comprehensive Borough-Wide Rezoning***from Nicholas Redman – Vice Chair
Gettysburg Planning Commission*

Greetings from the Planning Commission! In addition to our standard work reviewing subdivision and land development plans, the Planning Commission has been working hard on a full rezoning of the Borough. This is a yearlong process that will ultimately lead to a new zoning map, new ordinances around land use within each zone, and a few changes to related ordinances. Which areas of Gettysburg should be more residential? Where should we

See Zoning - Contd. on Page 7

Nychthemeron: 24-Hours on Seminary Ridge

from Peter C. Miele – Executive Director
Seminary Ridge Museum & Education Center


Fall is in full swing at the Seminary Ridge Museum and Education Center, Gettysburg's Premier Museum. Don't you want to see some sleep-deprived historians in their natural habitat? Join us on November 3rd and 4th for our third annual 24-Hours on the Ridge: Gettysburg's Only Nychthemeron Museum Experience! In conjunction with the Adams County Community Foundation's annual Giving Spree, our goal this year is to raise \$15,000 for current operations and \$10,000 for our endowment. We have a FULL schedule already planned: On Friday, November 3rd, we will host a special *Addressing Gettysburg!* live broadcast, followed by a return (for the first time since 2014!) of our Luminaria on the Ridge. Friends may join us overnight for a historical movie marathon among the exhibits in the Museum. On Saturday, November 4th, we will host an open-house reception in the historic Schmucker House, followed by exclusive tours of the Schmucker Hall basement. Throughout the day, we will welcome speakers: Garry Adelman, Ashley Luskey, Rich Condon, and others to share their research. Visit www.SeminaryRidgeMuseum.org/events/24-hours for more information as we finalize the schedule. And by the way, "nychthemeron" means "24-hour period."

This fall, we are hosting our inaugural "Fall Fridays on the Ridge" series. Each Friday, between September 22nd and early December, we will host a special talk or event, either in-person or via Zoom. This is a fantastic way to keep in touch with our friends near and far, and present some of our staff's exciting new research into the nation's defining moment. For a schedule, visit www.SeminaryRidgeMuseum.org/events.

Join us for the 3rd Annual

24 Hours on the Ridge

Gettysburg's Only Nychthemeron* Museum Experience!



11.3.23 – 11.4.23
5:00pm – 5:00pm

In support of Adams County
Community Foundation's Annual
Giving Spree

SEMINARY
RIDGE
MUSEUM
& EDUCATION
CENTER

Living Historians
Film Screenings
Cupola Tours
...and much more!

Special Guest Speakers
Outdoor Luminaria

*It means a period of 24 consecutive hours!

Historic Buildings Require Care

from Debra English – Senior Staff to HARB
Historic & Environmental Preservation Officer

If you own a historic property in Gettysburg, you've heard of HARB. HARB is the Historic Architectural Review Board that is set in place to review façade changes, rehabilitation and maintenance for the structures located within the Historic District. The HARB, and the Historic District Ordinance it oversees, are in place to help protect our town's unique historic architecture, our quality of life, the livability of our community, and the value of our properties. The Historic District Ordinance was enacted over fifty years ago to protect our architectural heritage and beautiful town for generations to come.



Peeling Paint on an
Historic Structure in
Gettysburg

See HARB –
Contd. on Page 7

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION (HRC)

from Janet Morgan-Riggs, HRC Chair

Established in 2021, the Borough Human Relations Commission (HRC) is charged with the implementation of the Borough's antidiscrimination ordinance. This ordinance prohibits discrimination based on race, color, sex (including

sex assigned at birth, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and gender transition and/or transgender), religion, religious creed or belief, ancestry, national origin, familial status, marital status, age, veteran status, mental or physical disability or handicap, or the use of service or assistance animals or the handler or trainer of such service animals.

ALL ARE
CREATED EQUAL



Artist: Wendy Allen
Lincoln Into Art
www.LincolnIntoArt.com
329 Baltimore Street

The HRC provides information and education to residents, businesses, employers, and institutions about their rights and responsibilities under the antidiscrimination ordinance. In addition, the HRC facilitates the mediation of complaints of discrimina-

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Contd. on Page 16

Zoning –
Contd. from Page 5

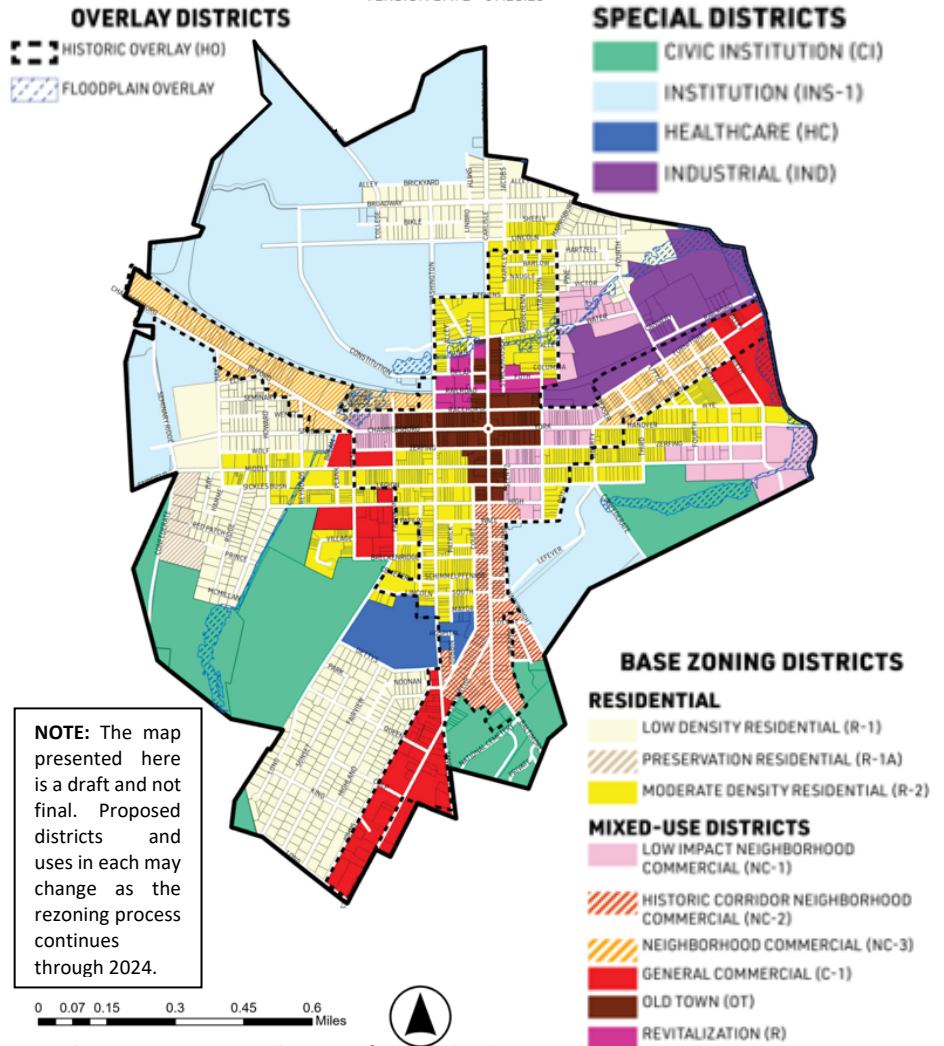
encourage commercial growth? These are the types of questions that we will need to answer during the rezoning.

A working group consisting of members of the Planning Commission, Borough employees, community members, and business owners was created to lead this process. The working group has been focusing on character areas around Gettysburg, grouping sections of town with similar looks and similar existing uses. Building off of those character areas, we have created a preliminary zoning map and description of each new area.

We want the public's comments to be an integral part of this process and want to hear from you. Our monthly Planning Commission meetings are open to the public and the rezoning process will be on every agenda until it is finished. Additionally, we are holding a town hall meeting on Wednesday, October 18th at 7:00 PM in the Sterner Building at Gettysburg Area Recreation Park (GARA). What do you think of the preliminary map? What do you think of existing land uses around Gettysburg? What parts of town should stay strictly residential and what types of homes should be allowed? Whatever you are thinking, we want to hear it! The Planning Commission schedule, and the preliminary rezoning map, can be found on the Borough's website.

BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG WORKING DRAFT FUTURE ZONING MAP

VERSION DATE - 09.28.23


HARB –
Contd. from Page 6

Historic structures do require extra care, and that care costs money. However, EARLY maintenance is a key to keeping those costs under control. If you own a home or business in the historic district, please walk outside and look at your front façade. Is there paint peeling, shutters in disrepair, windows needing maintenance, a roof leak, a door frame requiring attention? The maintenance list can go on for any building, new or old; and if there is evidence that care is needed, NOW would be the time to actively restore those problem areas. Areas of decay will spread throughout your structure if not maintained on a regular basis. In the long run it will save you money to complete regular maintenance versus having to complete major repairs once minor items have gotten out of hand. Proper maintenance and care of our unique buildings have a direct economic impact on our community, both our residential and commercial activities.

Responsibility for maintaining buildings and planning for their long-term survival rests solely with property owners. Let us make this “the year” to renovate and revitalize some of our beautiful buildings. It is amazing what a difference applying a fresh coat of paint, repairing damaged woodwork, reconditioning historic windows or restoring shutters will make to your home or business.

Most façade improvements will require a Land Use (LU) / Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) application. Please contact the Borough office at 717-334-1160 ext. 238 or via email at Permits@GettysburgPA.gov with any questions regarding permitting and HARB processes.



Replacement Windows for an Historic Structure in Gettysburg

CANDIDATE'S CORNER

Tuesday, November 7, 2023 is General Election Day in the State of Pennsylvania. Locally, there are four offices up for election in the Borough of Gettysburg: One Council Member from each of the Borough's three wards and one Council Member at-large collectively elected by all three wards. Each elected office serves a term of four years. Each candidate was asked to provide responses to three questions regarding pressing and difficult issues currently facing the Borough. Responses to these questions are printed here, verbatim, with no edits. Candidates provided their own pictures and adhered to strict word limits in their answers. Questions asked:

- 1) **Many sidewalks in the Borough are broken and heaved, creating safety hazards to pedestrians, and placing the Borough in potential legal jeopardy for not being ADA compliant. One possible plan for dealing with crumbling, deteriorating sidewalks is to have the Borough repair/replace them and then bill the property owners for work done on their behalf. If it is shown that this would create a difficult financial burden on some property owners, would you support this action? If yes, why? If no, what would you do to fix dangerous, non-compliant ADA sidewalks?**
- 2) **A plan for the proposed development in the property just north of the railroad tracks between Stratton and Carlisle Streets (known as the Gettysburg Station site) has been submitted and includes both residential and commercial establishments. Please comment on the appropriateness of such an ambitious project in the heart of historic downtown Gettysburg.**
- 3) **History buffs have been critical of the prevalence of satellite dishes in the Historic District. Explain whether you agree with this sentiment. If you do agree, how would you address the problem. If you do not agree, why?**



Chad-Alan Carr
Democrat – (Incumbent)
Office Sought – Borough Council
(At-Large)

- (1) Our historic town has many sidewalks that need repair/replacing due to safety hazards and some that are not ADA compliant at all. Many of these sidewalks take a beating every year with the millions of

tourists that visit Gettysburg. Our historic tourist town full of restaurants, shops, and more deserves to have the cleanest and safest sidewalks for residents, our workforce, and tourists alike. After all, Gettysburg is the grandest small town in America. Let's start acting like it and show it as well. I know it may be an unpopular opinion, and not what the Borough Code currently states, but I do not agree that the financial burden of replacing/repairing sidewalks should be the property owner's expense. The sidewalk is a public right of way and therefore should be the responsibility of the Borough to repair/replace. Many of the sidewalks in question have been damaged by trees that were planted by the Borough not the property owner. The Borough mandates what can and can't be placed on the sidewalks, not the property owner, and therefore it is public right of way and should be maintained, repaired, and replaced when needed for safety and ADA reasons by the Borough itself. The Borough government is more able to get grants for such repairs while most property owners

See Carr –
Contd. on Page 9



Kelly Kaiser
Republican
Office Sought – Borough Council
(At-Large)

- (1) Historic tourism is the signature industry of our town. People come from all over the United States to walk the hallowed grounds of the battlefields of Gettysburg and through a

town steeped in our country's history. Having safe and accessible sidewalks is imperative to the success of our town. Allowing sidewalks to fall into disrepair is a risk for the property owner and borough. Therefore, all sidewalks in the borough should be inspected to ensure they are in good repair and traversable. If a home or business owner's sidewalk is not in good condition, they should be provided with a notice listing the estimated cost of repairs if completed by the borough or the option to complete the repairs themselves or with a private contractor. I think it is reasonable to allow ninety days' notice to complete these repairs. I completely understand and appreciate that this can be an unexpected financial expenditure for individuals, so I think the borough should offer a financing program to allow individuals to budget for this expense over a time, my initial thought would be twelve months. I would recommend that the borough assist individuals by providing a list of local contractors willing to complete the sidewalk remediation

See Kaiser –
Contd. on Page 9

*Carr –
Contd. from Page 8*

cannot. I do understand that there may be a tax increase that would have to be discussed and considered in order to handle this type of change to have the Borough be responsible rather than the property owner. I think it is worth looking into for the longevity of our historic town.

- (2) I support the new plan for this lot based on the plans and renderings I have seen so far. It has gone before various leaders in our community with emergency planning, storm water, planning, etc. The plan has also been reviewed by the Adams County Economic Development Corporation. We have a housing shortage in Gettysburg, and certainly not enough affordable housing. I believe that when this new apartment complex opens, some current tenants at other locations in and around Gettysburg will choose to move into these newer apartments, which will in turn open up some current housing inventory in our area that is more affordable to folks looking for affordable housing.

I feel it is vital to our town's success that we have more housing available for our service industry to be able to live in town. A tourist town must have a thriving service industry. We are fortunate to have that, but we must have more housing opportunities for them to maintain that success. If developers were promoting affordable housing, I would be all for it. Instead, we have what developers are willing to put their money into. I think, with careful oversight, we can have a win-win with this project. Additionally, the commercial development for more green space and even a new road through the entire lot connecting Stratton and Carlisle will be thought through quite thoroughly. There is no doubt the new site will not please everyone, but we must continue to look forward and not be afraid of change. It was wonderful to have the Farmer's Market at this lot, but now the market is thriving in its new location at our Rec Park. Change can sometimes be a good thing.

- (3) I know a few history buffs, so I asked them how they felt and none of us know anyone that is critical of satellite dishes in the historic district. While we certainly have lots of rich history here, a few ghosts (so I am told), and lots of history tours given constantly downtown, satellites are also a part of our modern way of life. If folks want the historic district to be more like 1863, then all the telephone poles would have to come down and we would have to fill the streets with gravel.

What bothers me a lot more than satellite dishes are the dozens of "ghost poles" left standing (and some leaning and close to falling) throughout town. These old poles with old lines standing next to new ones need to be removed as they just clutter and are not safe, especially if one falls on your house or parked car. There are over 40 in the Borough and some have been here for a decade. Once an electric company replaces the wires on the pole to a new pole the old pole should be removed, but can't due to other utility companies using the pole and not replacing/removing wires. I am hopeful and grateful that State Reps Ecker and Moul have expressed their interest in supporting House Bill 1619 to take care of these "ghosts" of Gettysburg. As for satellite dishes, they do not bother me, but bring on the Broadband ASAP!

*Kaiser –
Contd. from Page 8*

project to borough specifications. By allowing individuals the option to choose to make the repairs themselves or contract with a private business or the borough, they can control the price of these repairs.

- (2) I understand and support the need for redevelopment to support the evolving needs of the community, however, keeping the historic character of our town is paramount. With proper consideration and planning, a new community development with mixed use residential and retail can be established that will not detract from the history of our town. The most important step in this process, as mentioned above, is planning. I think it is imperative that all plans are reviewed by the borough and community stakeholders to ensure that they are comfortable with the proposal before development. Working together collaboratively will ensure that this project meets the needs of our entire community. Adding new retail opportunities is very important to attracting visitors that will ultimately spend money in our community and contribute to our revenue. Since tourism is our single largest business in Gettysburg, we need to do as much as possible to ensure any new development in line with our heritage. This is how we keep our borough and tax base strong.

*See Kaiser –
Contd. on Page 10*

**Kaiser –
Contd. from Page 9**

- (3) Keeping the historic character of Gettysburg is of the utmost importance to our community. Tourism is our number one industry, so we must retain the historical nature of our town. Satellite dishes detract from the historic architecture of the buildings in our town. When you live in a historic district, you make a commitment to be a steward to our shared history and maintain the integrity of the buildings and our community. Understanding that people want to enjoy modern conveniences such as cable, there are many other ways to access television without using satellite dishes. My recommendation would be to send notice to those with satellite dishes and provide them with ninety days to remove it and select an alternative cable provider. I would recommend that the borough provide a list of alternative cable providers to residents in order to assist in the transition and make it as easy as possible.



**Kierstan Belle
Democrat
Office Sought – Borough Council
Ward 1**

- (1) If the problem is “sidewalks in the borough are dangerous and non-compliant with ADA requirements” then a possible pathway to a solution can be

mapped out by identifying specific causes and effects of the problem. ADA compliance resources tell us “maintenance projects and repairs of small sections of sidewalk are exempt from ADA requirements. However, new construction and alteration projects trigger full ADA compliance. The alteration must comply with ADA requirements to the maximum extent feasible.”

The most common causes of sidewalk damage come from soil conditions, sewage pipes, and tree roots. Although the law does require property owners to share the responsibility of maintenance to the sidewalks abutting their lots, we must be careful with where we place financial burden on both the property owners and the borough. I believe property owners should only be responsible for sidewalk damage when caused solely by their property. Possible solutions to mitigating costs include grants and community participation.

The Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program established by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), has \$5 billion allocated until 2026 for local initiatives installing pedestrian safety enhancements (aka sidewalks). These grant funds can also be used for feasibility studies, technology, and implementation.

The borough could also incentivize property owners to share the responsibility of maintenance. A fund could be managed by various borough entities and some homeowners. Property owners could contribute a percentage of their income to the fund on a monthly basis, an equal percentage. Could be annually matched by the borough,

**See Belle –
Contd. on Page 11**



**Peter Bales
Republican
Office Sought – Borough Council
Ward 1**

- (1) I have owned two properties in Gettysburg, and understand that certain responsibilities and duties come with

that. The sidewalks are part of the streetscape, and both their visual and functional utility must be kept within local guidelines. As long as the criteria of what constitutes a crumbling or deteriorating sidewalk is clearly stated and agreed on by members with the community’s input, I would support the owner being financially responsible for this cost. One caveat to that is, if a borough owned tree has created the deterioration; the responsibility should then fall on the borough for repairs. The borough should have a list of at least three to five contractors that the owner can receive multiple quotes from, in the pursuit of competitive pricing and labor. If the owner is under hardship, the borough will pay for the repairs and set up a twelve to eighteen month plan for the owner to reimburse the borough, free of extra fees.

- (2) In my view, the architectural integrity of the historic district in Gettysburg needs to take center stage with this project. The proposed height of the building is not inline with the downtown aesthetic, it should not exceed forty-eight feet. Also, the addition of 186 apartments will have a dramatic effect on downtown, including but not limited to parking, traffic, and infrastructure. Architecture should be built

**See Bales –
Contd. on Page 11**

*Belle –
Contd. from Page 10*

and then property owners could apply to have the cost of sidewalk repairs alleviated by the fund. Community block grants are also available for these types of municipal needs.

- (2) Our borough's families need childcare. Our borough's residents need affordable homes. Our borough's children need more exploratory recreational options; further providing them with the skills they'll need, to become assets to the communities they live in, and potentially migrate to. The developer of this project compared the borough's economy to that of a big city in order to justify the construction of this project. The rent in these units will always be market driven and he didn't even know who he foresaw living in these units. I know because at a Planning Commission meeting I asked him. New construction in the borough should elevate the town's function, help preserve its existing district, and be a communal benefit to the townspeople. This project in the heart of historic downtown Gettysburg is highly inappropriate.
- (3) It's 2023. The abundance of wireless connections constrains me from advocating for the purposeful existence of satellite dishes.

*Bales –
Contd. from Page 10*

with the purpose to compliment and uplift it's natural and structural surroundings; that is not what the Gettysburg Station will accomplish.

- (3) The Historic District should be held to the highest aesthetic standards. It's attractiveness and functionality are both vital to promote tourism and create a warm and inviting atmosphere for residents and visitors alike. The satellites in question are often haphazardly installed without regard for their historical surroundings. I would support the relocation of satellite dishes to the rear of properties, ensuring they are not visible from the public right of way. I would also approve the removal of any old satellites or dead wires, left behind by former residents.



Matthew Moon
Democrat – (Incumbent)
Office Sought – Borough Council
(Ward 2)

- (1) I understand that the borough is faced with a difficult financial question as it pertains to the repair of sidewalks. As a taxpayer and person of modest income, if I were suddenly slapped

with a substantial bill for the sidewalks in front of my house, I do not know how I would meet that obligation. The population of the borough has not seen its income keep pace with the cost of living over the past 5 years, and handing expenses to people who are taking home less than they were in 2019 is not viable. Similarly the borough, whose funding is largely extracted from those same taxpayers, cannot afford to repair everything that needs attention either. The estimates currently are in the millions for all of the concrete that needs addressed.

Obviously, there must be some form of cost sharing model implemented. We must always remember that Gettysburg is a direct entitlement community, with greater that 40% of population at or be-

*See Moon –
Contd. on Page 12*



Shelley Knouse
Republican
Office Sought – Borough Council
(Ward 2)

- (1) As a resident and property/business owner of a historic building in the first block of Chambersburg Street, the maintenance of sidewalks in our pedestrian-friendly

town is a priority for everyone's safety as well as being welcoming to visitors. Our ordinance clearly states the property owner's responsibility and the Borough's recourse if the sidewalk is not maintained. Unfortunately, what is not clearly outlined is who has fee simple sidewalk ownership and therefore maintenance and liability responsibilities. I would propose getting relevant community professionals & residents together on a task force and collaborating with them to determine the best plan forward. This task force should include a representative from all angles of this complex issue to ensure transparency and representation of all facets of our community. It's time to clear up the confusion while not adding additional costs to the Borough.

*See Knouse –
Contd. on Page 12*

*Moon –
Contd. from Page 11*

Low the poverty line. How can we in good conscience approach those neighbors, or even those just above that income level, with massive bills for municipal infrastructure? If the borough pays for these same repairs out of pocket, incurring costs in the millions, or tens of millions of dollars, that expense too is passed on to the taxpayer, and from there to the renter as well.

At the end of the day, we will all have to share these expenses. I hope the borough staff will continue to work to find the funding model where the property owner does and can take responsibility for damaged walks, as required by the ordinance, but where the borough can help mitigate those costs in a meaningful way. We have moral and legal imperative to make sure our streets are walkable and accessible.

- (2) Gettysburg has a number of overlapping problems. We have a very low vacancy rate amongst our rental housing inventory, a shortage of available store frontage for new and expanding business interests, a lack of ability to invest in all of the varied infrastructure projects we would like to, and in the middle of it all, undeveloped, dilapidated, or underutilized parcels. The parcel in question has been a political football for the better part of a decade, and finding someone to redevelop it has been a joint undertaking between the Borough, the County, the School District, and the Economic Alliance. With the amazing assistance of people like Robin Fitzpatrick, we were able to finally find a developer who wants to work here within the confines of our ordinance, and has made a concerted effort to come up with a modern design that meets most of the criteria that the Borough specified it would want almost a decade ago. The developer in question was almost scuttled by COVID, when funding streams dried up, but has stuck with this project, and now that development dollars are flowing again, he has returned to this project in good faith.

Gettysburg is all about balance. We must balance preservation with modernization, the needs of the business community against the needs of the resident, locals versus visitors. The preliminary drawings and development plans that have been discussed publicly address so many of these needs. It details 180 new rental units, new retail space, underground parking, green space, a revamped transit center, infrastruc-

*See Moon –
Contd. on Page 13*

*Knouse –
Contd. on Page 11*

- (2) Gettysburg Borough is 1.5 square miles full of historic buildings and rich history. The Station project proposed by the Staten Island developer is too high reaching for Gettysburg. Unfortunately, the problem started in 2018 when the Borough Council amended an ordinance to allow a seven-story building to be built on the site. The project as proposed will overcrowd the land with the tallest building casting shadows over the existing neighborhood and creating view-shed issues for the National Military Park. There is inadequate parking provided for the users of 186 apartments and commercial and retail spaces. Additionally, the height will likely be problematic for the Fire Department and safety devices like standpipe systems that are required on high-rises in cities is likely not addressed in our current codes. Water resources became crucial this summer with the Borough asking us to conserve. Gettysburg, the site of the turning point of the American Civil War should not become urbanized and lose its historic character.

There is presently a task force re-zoning the entire borough and this type of urban revitalization is being suggested in other locations. If this project continues, it is important that residents come together as a community working with HARB and the Planning Commission to mitigate the infrastructure, parking, traffic, and overcrowding that comes with urban development. This site should be developed to bring additional vitality to the center of town and to realize additional commerce and tax revenue. However, intense urban style development currently proposed does not belong in our small footprint and needs protected in future development.

- (3) Purchasing a building or home in the historic district comes with additional responsibilities of preservation. I had the misfortune to have purchased a building beside an absentee owner who would not entertain working with me to make necessary improvements between our properties that were creating many flooding issues to mine. When a local resident purchased the property from the absentee owner, I was finally able to complete necessary steps to “clean up” our properties including many wires leading no-where. Community is

*See Knouse –
Contd. on Page 13*

*Moon –
Contd. from Page 12*

ture to assist the Inner Loop project as well as the Racehorse Alley parking structure (a much needed elevator), quiet rail crossings, and more. As long as the developer continues to work within the confines of the ordinance, I for one welcome it.

- (3) Gettysburg Borough is a bucket list destination for history buffs. People come here from all over the world to see a legendary destination. When they get here, they get to see a preserved battlefield and a robust history culture. They also see a modern municipality where people work, and shop, and raise our kids. We must always strive to find the balance between preserving the history that makes us that destination, while also working to ensure that this remains a vibrant place for the resident to live.

Having a historic district and a Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) serves more than one purpose for the borough. In addition to preserving the attraction for the visitor, it puts us at the top of the list for state grants for much of what we do and seek state assistance for. With only 4000 taxpaying residents, state funding for our infrastructure improvements is imperative, and a modern, well-kempt infrastructure is also required for us to meet the needs of visitors and residents.

Being a rural location, the options for TV and internet providers are limited. Satellite provides an affordable option for many of our residents. There are areas where cable service is not available, and for some it is cost prohibitive. The Design Guide and HARB work with residents to try and preserve the historic streetscape, to ensure that that visitor experience is authentic. There will always be properties that have unique characteristic that prohibit the placement of a dish at the rear of the building, so there will be exceptions where those dishes will be visible. We cannot be in the business of telling our neighbors that they are not allowed to have an affordable internet and TV service in their homes, so sometimes, we must strike a balance and compromise.

*Knouse –
Contd. from Page 12*

being good neighbors to each other and working together to create solutions that are good for everyone. I would approve of any ordinance that requires more careful care of the beautiful buildings and homes by requiring satellite dishes to be removed and placed to the back of buildings.



**Alisha Sanders
Democrat**
Office Sought – Borough Council
(Ward 3)

- (1) It is unacceptable for the Borough to risk the potential for litigation by failing to meet ADA compliance measures so the crumbling and heaved

sidewalks and curbs should be repaired as soon as possible. Sidewalk maintenance is a burden we face as property owners and it's necessary that we assume part of the costs of those repairs. However, while some owners budget for home or building repairs, the costs to repair and replace a sidewalk most likely would not be included in that budget. It is important that the Borough notify and regularly communicate to property owners about the potential costs so they can have input and perhaps create a budget to account for the costs. And do so well in advance of any repairs. No property owner should be

*See Sanders –
Contd. on Page 14*



**Brian Hodges
Republican**
Office Sought – Borough Council
(Ward 3)

- (1) As a business and home owner in Gettysburg, I care deeply about our community and want to give my time back by serving on borough council. I want to work for

the common good of the citizens of Gettysburg, and will always put the taxpayer first. Public safety is a top priority of mine, so the sidewalk repair issue is important, and has been talked about for years. The borough ordinance currently states the homeowner is 100% responsible for sidewalk upkeep and repairs. With home ownership comes responsibility. If the borough finds that a sidewalk needs to be repaired, it should notify the homeowner, who can then choose to have someone do the work for them, or they can have the borough make the repairs. If the homeowner can prove hardship for the costs, the borough

*See Hodges –
Contd. on Page 14*

*Sanders –
Contd. from Page 13*

saddled with a large bill in which they have little to no control or insight. The Borough must first determine which property owners need financial assistance and develop a cost-sharing plan to mitigate the financial burden on those owners.

- (2) Gettysburg is an historic town surrounded by a national military park on which there will never be residential or commercial development. I think that the proposed development is what our town needs to remain economically viable and residents should ultimately consider the benefits that this development will bring to Gettysburg. Yet I understand the concerns of some residents who believe that the project will take away from the look and the feel of the downtown area, create a traffic nightmare, and not provide much-needed affordable housing.

While I'm excited to see this blighted property take on a new life, I think that the developers must take into account these public concerns and not simply dismiss them. To do so takes time, transparency, deliberation, and discussions with stakeholders and other affected residents in the Borough.

- (3) Growing up in Gettysburg I've seen quite a few changes in the Historic District in the past four decades. Change is an inevitable part of the growth of our community. As a history buff myself, I've always enjoyed the places in our community which have been nevertheless preserved or in some cases restored to their original beauty. If I were a property owner in the Historic District, I would most likely not use a satellite service. However, for many people satellite services/dishes are a necessary and sometimes more affordable way to access information and television. While the Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) cannot restrict a property owner's use of satellite dishes, it can continue to regulate the size, height, permit, and placement of satellite dishes and perhaps recommend an ordinance that would require owners (or the satellite service companies) to remove the satellite dishes should they pose a safety hazard on the property or if the satellite dishes are no longer in use. Honestly, I think most property owners are reasonable people who when given enough information about the concerns might consider changing services altogether or at least moving the dish if it is an eyesore.

*Hodges –
Contd. from Page 13*

should make a one year payment plan for the costs to be paid back. If the sidewalk repair is caused by a street tree planted and owned by the borough, the cost of repairs should be paid by the borough, not the homeowner.

- (2) When my wife, my Mother and myself decided to relocate to Gettysburg from New England and purchase the Brafferton Inn Bed and Breakfast, the oldest deeded house in Gettysburg, we were drawn to the wonderful and charming historic downtown property. In the 18 plus years we have owned the inn, we have developed a loyal clientele that visits Gettysburg for our history and shares our respect for what the Gettysburg community has carefully protected and shared with visitors for generations. What we have learned about the Gettysburg Station Project would undermine what visitors come here to experience. Although I have not seen a final proposed design, the overall size of the modern buildings proposed by an out of state developer will overwhelm the center of downtown Gettysburg's Historic District and the streetscape that we work so hard to maintain. I am challenging the development because the project proposal does not show any respect for the historic nature of Gettysburg, which is the core of our identity as a community. 186 apartments in the location will overwhelm the area, including Lincoln Square with traffic and it is unknown if our infrastructure will be able to accommodate the increase in residents. The project will not only change the look of Gettysburg but will forever change Gettysburg as a quiet small town. I hope the project can be stopped. If it cannot, we residents must work with our HARB and Planning Commission professionals and come together as a community to mitigate the damage to our historic town and homes.
- (3) As noted in question number 1, with home ownership comes responsibility. If you purchase a home in our Historic District, the responsibility increases so we can protect our historic nature. HARB has worked diligently on coming up with an ordinance to have satellite dishes on homes and businesses be placed on the back of properties, instead of being an eyesore on the street side. Some rental homes have multiple dishes as tenants move out and another moves in. I will approve any ordinance that requires satellite dishes to be removed as such from the streetside in our Historic District. The borough can send out 30 day notices for the homeowners to get the required work done from their satellite provider.

WHERE DO I VOTE?

★ WARD 1

Gettysburg Fire Department
Community Room (Rear)
35 North Stratton Street

★ WARD 2

Gettysburg College Union Building (CUB)
242 West Lincon Avenue

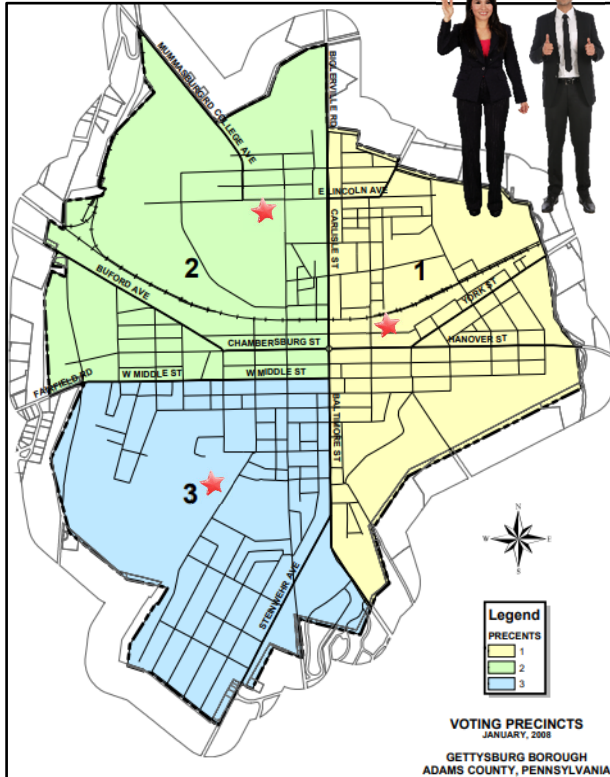
★ WARD 3

Gettysburg Area Recreation Authority
(GARA)
Charlie Sterner Building
545 Long Lane

Election Day

Tuesday,
November 7th,
2023

Polls Open from
7:00 AM
to
8:00 PM



A Place for All Seasons!

from Karl Pietrzak – President & CEO
Destination Gettysburg

Like many others, Destination Gettysburg is welcoming the cooler temperatures and feelings of fall throughout Gettysburg and Adams County. The local tourism community anticipates this “second season” as an opportunity to invite visitors from throughout the Mid-Atlantic to escape for a few days and enjoy everything our

community has to offer:

beautiful scenery, delicious fall food, fun events and an abundance of ways to enjoy the crisp fall weather. And while June and July have historically been the busiest months for overnight visitation to Adams County, our fall season, specifically October, is gaining ground. Our five-

Gettysburg Garden Club Annual Christmas Greens & Gourmet Gifts Sale Coming Soon

from Sandy Schwartz, Publicity Chair
Gettysburg Garden Club



Gettysburg Garden Club members are a familiar presence at Lincoln Square. Drivers passing by honk horns and give a thumbs up as they clean the square in preparation for summer plantings. Horns honk again when club members remove or cut back plantings and spread mulch in preparation for winter. Keeping florals in Lincoln Square and nearby hanging baskets is a labor of love, a delightful aesthetic that residents and visitors enjoy. Yet doing so takes funds.

The club’s annual Christmas Greens and Gourmet Gifts Sale benefits the Lincoln Square Flower Gardens and scholarships for Adams County college students majoring in horticulture-related fields. This year’s sale is Saturday, December 3rd, 2023 from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. at the Gettysburg Fire Hall, 35 North Stratton Street. As in previous years, the community can expect the same range and quality of handcrafted arrangements created by members. Cash, credit cards, or checks are accepted.

There will be wreaths, swags, candles, and large to small table arrangements. All decorations have natural greens from the yards and farms of club members and the community. In addition, delicious gourmet selections for humans, dogs, and cats will return with the same taste that customers enjoy each year. The sale is a perfect way to kick off the holiday season. Arrive early and browse through the wide range of selections – items sell out quickly.

A project this large can always use extra hands. The Gettysburg Garden Club welcomes new members and volunteers. Attend monthly meetings featuring a guest speaker, learn from the club’s master gardeners, and make new friends. Questions about the sale? Contact Joan Horak at (717) 357-5615, or visit the Gettysburg Garden Club Facebook page. The Gettysburg Garden Club is a 501(c) (3) organization affiliated with the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania and National Garden Clubs, Inc.



See Seasons –
Contd. on Page 16



**HRC –
Contd. from Page 6**

tion related to employment, public accommodation, and housing and commercial property in the Borough. However, we cannot facilitate mediation unless a complaint has been brought forward to us! Information about how to file a complaint can be found on the HRC's web page <https://www.gettysburgpa.gov/human-relations-commission-hrc>.

Our commission currently consists of members: Janet Riggs (chair); Taurean Moses (vice chair); Janelle Wertzberger (secretary); Pastor Caleb McClure, and Scott Hancock (alternate). Any of us can be reached through the HRC web page, and we are happy to answer questions and provide support when someone is thinking about bringing a complaint forward.

The HRC holds public business meetings on the first Thursday of every other month at 5:15 PM in Borough Hall, and we welcome opportunities to share information about our work. We have distributed informational brochures to various community organizations, spoken at public forums, and most recently shared information at this year's Heritage Festival. If you or a group you belong



Pennsylvania Human Relations
Commission www.PHRC.gov

to would like
information about
what we do, please
feel free to be in touch.

Barrels to Borough and Adams County residents. Each barrel will hold 58 gallons of water or one 8-year-old child!

Rain barrels will allow water to be collected from your downspouts from your roof top flow during a rain event. Water is collected and stored for later use, allowing residents to water their gardens and lawns during dryer days as needed. A single rain barrel can conserve up to 1300 gallons of water each year. The Borough has sponsored three rain barrel workshops with over 133 attendees conserving over 172,900 gallons of water. This will reduce the water on our roadways, reduce the amount of flooding, save money on your water bills by conserving rainwater for your garden and lawns, and allow a slower infiltration rate to regenerate our ground water table. Additionally, by allowing the water to slow the flow through your garden and vegetated lawn area, rain barrels will filter the water before it reaches the Chesapeake Bay versus charging down our roadways (impervious surfaces) picking up oils and contaminants flowing into our storm drains to our waterways.

The Rain Barrel Class was such a well-received event that I want to thank all those who attended to make our community a better place to live. GBSWA will sponsor another class in the Spring of 2024, so keep an eye out for our Spring newsletter for more details. Please visit our website at www.GettysburgPA.gov for more information on MS4. THANK YOU! Debra English, Director of Historic and Environmental Preservation

Rain Barrels Conserve Water

from Mike Malewicki, Chair
Gettysburg Storm Water Authority

Part of the Gettysburg Borough Stormwater Authority's (GBSWA) MS4 program requirement is public outreach. How do we engage our residents to understand and appreciate our stormwater program. Promote rain barrels! Using rain barrels can bring residents together to support our program, the environment, and your bank account. We have initiated a program to distribute either at a low-cost or FREE rain



Peter Griffioen Proudly
Displays His Self-Made
Rain Barrel



Griffioen Family Fun
Making a Rain Barrel

**Seasons –
Contd. from Page 15**

year average occupancy rate places October second behind only July. Businesses and employees throughout our business community rely on these busy months to bolster sales and increase revenue. This visitor spending is also important for tax revenue for local, state and federal governments, ranging from sales and lodging taxes to amusement and fuel taxes.

This year, the fall season will usher Gettysburg right into the 160th Anniversary of President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, and then into the ever-growing holiday season when the business and residential community come alive in holiday spirit with decorations, events and holiday attractions.

Gettysburg truly is a place for all seasons, and visitors are recognizing that experiences can drastically differ from season to season leading to more reasons to visit more than once a year.

More Important Dates
Remembrance Day Parade

Saturday, November 18, 2023
(1 PM)

Tree Lighting Ceremony

Friday, November 24, 2023
Lincoln Square
(5:30 PM)

Gettysburg Christmas Festival

Friday, December 1, 2023
(4 PM) to
Sunday, December 3, 2023
(5 PM)

Accessibility & Affordability of Public Transit

from Rich Farr – President & CEO
RabbitTransit

Public transit is closer to home than you may think! RabbitTransit offers



multiple forms of transportation throughout Gettysburg and beyond.

- **Fixed Route Service:** RabbitTransit serves Gettysburg through several fixed routes that connect residents and tourists to major destinations throughout the community. Park once and let us do the driving! Learn more at <https://www.rabbittransit.org/schedules/gettysburg/>. Cash fare is only \$1.00 one-way, and passes cost even less when you purchase them using the Token Transit smartphone app. To download the Token Transit app, visit: <https://tokentransit.com/app>. Seniors (65+) ride free with a registered Free Fare ID Card!
- **Gettysburg-Hanover Connector:** Do you want to travel from Gettysburg to Hanover, but don't know where to start? RabbitTransit has a solution for that! Ride any Gettysburg fixed route bus to the Gettysburg Transfer Center, and from there catch a ride to Hanover on the GHC! Individual one-way cash fare is \$1.60, or less if purchased through the Token Transit smartphone app. Just like other fixed routes, seniors (65+) ride free! Find the GHC's full schedule at <https://www.rabbittransit.org/schedules/gettysburg-hanover-connector/>.
- **Shared Ride Service:** Unlike fixed route service, Shared Ride (a.k.a. Paratransit) provides consolidated trips between travel origins and destinations during limited hours and specific areas. Use Shared Ride for trips to the doctor, a job or other life-sustaining service. If Shared Ride sounds like a fit for you, the first step is to submit an application. **Conveniently apply online by visiting** [www.rabbittransit.org/Shared Ride/How to apply](http://www.rabbittransit.org/SharedRide/Howtoapply). All Shared Ride trips require a reservation, which may be made by calling RabbitTransit Customer Service at 1-800-632-9063, or by visiting www.FindMyRidePA.org. Find more information at www.rabbittransit.org/shared-ride/.
- **RabbitEXPRESS:** Planning a day out in the city, or need a ride to work? RabbitTransit's commuter service, RabbitEXPRESS, operates the Route 15N bus, which provides multiple round trips on weekdays between the Gettysburg Park & Ride located at Gateway Gettysburg, and Harrisburg. Destinations include the State Capitol Complex, Harrisburg Amtrak Station, Farm Show Building, HACC (Harrisburg Campus) and the Harrisburg International Airport (via RabbitTransit Capital Region Route 7). Regular fares range between \$3.50 and \$5 one-way. Visit www.rabbittransit.org/rabbitEXPRESS/ for more information.

Save money, save gas, and help your community do the same! If you're looking for a job, RabbitTransit is hiring! Visit <https://www.rabbittransit.org/jobs> to view open positions in the area.

Gettysburg College

from Bob Iuliano – President
Gettysburg College

During our Reunion Weekend this past summer, more than 1,200 alumni spanning nearly 60 class years returned to campus to celebrate the past and ambitiously look to the future. One such alumna was Evelyn Fluck Babylon, proud member of the Class of 1948. She was honored at our annual Reunion Collation and it was clear that Evelyn's passion for her alma mater is as fervent as ever, even 75 years after her graduation day! The collective energy and enthusiasm shown on that June weekend was inspiring. It is a testament to our commitment to Gettysburg College's mission and continued success. It also underscores that our College is more than a place to learn and grow over the course of four years. The connections our students form to the College and to each other are enduring.



See College –
Contd. on Page 18

Code Enforcement – A Day in the Life

from Peter Griffioen – Code Compliance Officer

- 0800 - Arrive at the office and head to the planning room;
- 0815 Determine my priorities based on voicemails and emails. I put any complaint received on the top of my priority list and schedule a site visit. I also generate a list of previous violations that are near or at the deadlines provided.
- 0815 - Prepare for residential rental inspections by ensuring that the property owners have completed the necessary documentation and taken care of invoices for the inspection fee. Print off a checklist for each inspection and pack them up on my bike.
- 0900
- 0800 - I take off on the bike and ride around the square and work outward. I take advantage of the opportunity to speak to borough residents and property owners. I have valued my interactions with residents and never miss the chance to wave to the crew in front of the cigar shop and ring my bell to the gar-
- 1000

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Contd. on Page 18

College –
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Of course, our students likewise form intimate connections with the people and town of Gettysburg, including through our annual First-Year Walk, access to museums and the National Military Park, community service and outreach, concerts and performances, and so much more. Our location, indeed, is paramount to the consequential education we provide.

Through our new Strategic Direction (www.gettysburg.edu/plan), we have outlined a number of initiatives to propel our College forward to its 200th anniversary in 2032. One important initiative centers around our desire to strengthen student civic mindedness, intercultural fluency, and place-based learning. We will achieve this only with your help, through partnerships with organizations in and around the Borough.

Our students have a great deal to offer our local community—and much to learn from your professional experience and mentorship. I look forward to exploring these opportunities for partnership with you in the coming months. Thank you for your continued support and partnership!

Enforcement –
Contd. from Page 17

den club tending to the plantings on Lincoln Square.

- 1000 - I meet the property owner for this morning's inspection. I ensure that the rental property is following the guidelines set forth in the International Property Maintenance Code (2015). During my inspection I found a smoke detector with a dead battery. I ensure that the property owner and/or tenant understand the importance of smoke detectors by requesting that no one sleeps another night on the property until the detectors are working. This property owner runs to a local store, grabs some batteries later and texts me a picture of it in working order.
- 1100 - Now that I have the inspection complete, I continue patrolling the borough. I find a homeowner with grass violation. I use a warning ticket to give them the first notice. The warning states that, *"any grass or weeds or any other vegetation whatsoever not edible or planted for some useful or ornamental purpose to grow or remain upon the premises so as to exceed a height of eight inches."* I give the property seven days to remove the violation. If the violation is present after seven days, I mail a second notice via certified mail and first-class mail (two separate mailings) to the property owner. I give the property owner a compliance date and follow up.
- 1300 - Speak with a local business to remind them to keep dumpsters closed, contained, and clean. I check the condition of the



See Enforcement –
Contd. on Page 20

Monday-Thursday

FREE

Holiday Parking 3 Hour Max Limit

Monday after Thanksgiving through New Year's Day

Valid only at meters with signs posted

Borough TidBits – Random Borough Trivia

Lincoln Square Named in 1950

Minutes of Special Meeting held March 20, 1950

The meeting was called to order by President Oyler with the following members present: Messrs: Weiser, Teeter, Shealer, March, Hummelbaugh, Hartzell and Shank.

The special meeting was called for the purpose of enacting or otherwise disposing of ordinances to be presented as directed at the meeting held March 6, 1950.

Moved Mr. Hummelbaugh, seconded Mr. Shank the Ordinance repealing the ordinance entitled "an ordinance prohibiting the installation of storage tanks of inflammable liquids of more than 50 gallons within adscribed area" AND the ordinance amending and ordinance prohibiting the installation of tanks for the storage of inflammable liquids of more than 2000 gallons each, limiting the number of installations, by limiting the location thereof be adopted as read. Motion carried.

Moved Mr. Teeter, seconded Mr. Hummelbaugh the ordinance to amend an ordinance regulating traffic and parking AND an ordinance prohibiting other than one-way traffic on certain streets be approved as read. Motion carried.

Moved Mr. March, seconded Mr. Hartzell the Ordinance designating the naming Center Square as Lincoln Square be adopted as read. Motion carried.

Moved Mr. March, seconded Mr. Shealer, Council adjourn. Motion carried.

(approx)
Anna B. Dracha, secretary

May 17, 1822

First ordinance adopted requiring the paving of sidewalks.

December 23, 1834

Ordinance adopted prohibiting cellar doors from being open after dark.

February 17, 1845

First ordinance adopted requiring snow removal.

August 4, 1941

Gettysburg Recreation Board was established.

August 1958

Courthouse outdoor water fountain removed.

April 1967

Borough Council Meetings were changed from 1st Monday of each month to 2nd Monday of each month.

May 1967

Traffic light on top of the hill at the intersection of West Middle Street and West Confederate Avenue installed.

From 1863 to 1993 to Legacy

from Jill Sellers, President & CEO
Main Street Gettysburg



Jill Sellers

that forever altered the way we perceive history and the art of storytelling in cinema. "Gettysburg", directed by Ronald F. Maxwell, marks its 30th anniversary this October. Its impact resonates across the nation and around the world, but most profoundly within the hallowed grounds of Gettysburg.

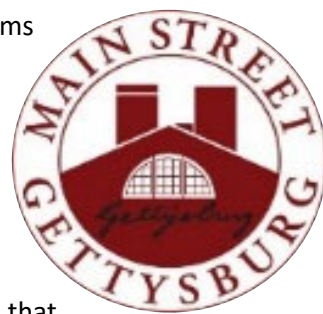
"Gettysburg" was not merely a movie; it was a transformative experience that spurred a renewed interest in Civil War history, motivating individuals to delve into historical accounts and engage in intellectual discussions. It served as a catalyst for tourism to Civil War sites, with Gettysburg hosting millions in the pilgrimage.

"Gettysburg" is a testament to the power of storytelling and character development. It pays tribute to the unwavering courage and profound sacrifices of those who stood and fell on this battlefield. The film remains acclaimed as one of the most historically accurate films of American history and offers invaluable context to contemporary audiences. It is set apart by its remarkably balanced view of both the Union and Confederate perspectives. It transported audiences back in time, humanizing historical figures, and immersing us in the chaos of war. We intimately experienced the epic struggle that unfolded on these very grounds. "Gettysburg" was not just a movie; it was a reenactment.

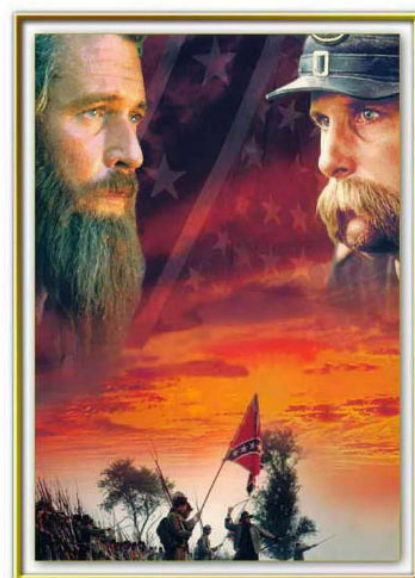
Its following remains as robust as ever, prompting us to come together to celebrate its 30th anniversary October 13-15, 2023. Saturday is sold out. Tickets to the new Director's Cut of "Gettysburg" are available for Friday, September 13th, which Ron Maxwell will also personally introduce. Unique opportunities include movie screenings, autograph sessions, special tours, memorabilia displays, and director and actor panels. Three decades of perspective will richly add to the discussion!

Main Street Gettysburg takes immense pride in co-hosting this extraordinary weekend of commemorative events. All aspects of this event are attributable to our community partners: *Journey Through Hallowed Ground*, *American Battlefield Trust*, *Gettysburg Foundation*, *Adams County Historical Society*, and *Seminary Ridge and Center*. Thirty years later, "Gettysburg" serves as a poignant reminder that history is not a distant, abstract concept but a legacy that continues to shape our and enlighten new generations. We invite you to explore event information at www.hallowedground.org/events and join us to reflect, learn, and celebrate.

Please contact me anytime to talk about this and other ideas: (717) 337-3491, or jsellers@mainstreetgettysburg.org.



JEFF DANIELS TOM BERENGER MARTIN SHEEN



GETTYSBURG

The Diamond, the Square, or the Circle? 1860 - 1960

Since its earliest days, the square of Gettysburg has been the epicenter of activities, parades, celebrations, public events, and presidential visits. At the time of the Civil War, the center of Gettysburg was known as the Diamond. No longer used, this reference appears in the earliest records of the town. With the removal of the original courthouse from the square in 1859, the large open plaza in the town became popularly known as the Town Square. But with the addition of a circular medium in the center of the town, many started to refer to the space as the traffic circle. As the town grew into the thriving community that it is today, the lots in the center of town were occupied by many hotels, businesses, and restaurants. These twelve historic photographs from the collections of the Adams County Historical Society show how the center square of Gettysburg has developed over the years.

See Square –
Contd. on Page 20



**Enforcement –
Contd. from Page 18**

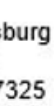
dumpsters to see how they are being kept. If there is bird waste and trash scattered, it may mean that the property isn't keeping things closed and/or overflowing. I remind them of the ordinance and expectation to keep animals away and trash where it belongs.



- 1400 - Schedule additional needed inspections, complete
1700 all paperwork regarding inspections and violations, and other office duties. Off for the day at 1700hrs, but head back in to patrol for guided walking tours (ghost tours) in the evening around dusk.

**Square –
Contd. from Page 19**

1. Beginning in 1804, the Adams County Courthouse stood in the center of the square. Thaddeus Stevens, the famous abolitionist and Congressman, argued cases at this site during his time practicing law in Gettysburg. This photograph was taken shortly before the building's demolition in 1859.
2. Taken in the square, this photograph shows Chambersburg Street shortly after the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863. The prominent brick building on the left side of the view is George Arnold's clothing store.
3. This 1880s view looking south on Baltimore Street shows the stores of John L. Schick and George W. Spangler.
4. Taken circa 1910, this photograph shows the newly-created circle in the center of town. This was put in place to guide the flow of traffic due to the recent invention of automobiles. The view looks north toward what was then called the Hotel Gettysburg, as well as Carlisle Street. The train station, still standing, can be seen in the distance.
5. This 1913 photograph; ACNB Bank shows how the building was decorated for the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.
6. Taken a few years after the previous view, this photograph shows the ACNB Bank with early automobiles parked outside.
7. Taken on November 11, 1918, this photograph shows citizens of the town in the square celebrating the end of World War One, Armistice Day.
8. Taken near Christmas in 1936, this photograph shows how longer exposure times for photographs produced a blurring of the headlights from cars passing through the square.
9. This 1938 photograph illustrates how congested traffic was in the square during the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.
10. This photograph shows a parade that was held in honor of the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg in 1938. Note the pre-World War Two tanks in the foreground.
11. An aerial photograph of the Square taken circa 1960.



Borough of Gettysburg
59 E. High Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325

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LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER**Recycling is Required for Residents, Businesses, and Institutional Organizations!**

Gettysburg Borough is an Act 140 mandated community requiring recycling by both residents and businesses. After securing their own personal contract for trash and recycling through Waste Management, residents can obtain recycling bins from the Borough offices and place them curbside. Landlords must supply recycling opportunities for their tenants. Businesses have options for recycling. It is highly recommended that business owners contract with the Borough's contracted waste hauler for recycling. Other options are also available. The Borough's contracted hauler and the Adams Rescue Mission will collect business recycling in the Borough and report the weight of the materials collected to the Borough. If another hauler is selected, it is the business owner's responsibility to report the weight of the materials to the Borough on an annual basis. This applies to businesses (retail and otherwise), hotels and B & Bs, and restaurants as well as those municipal and institutional organizations that are located within the Borough.



Under the Borough's most recent contract with Waste Management, Inc, brush and yard waste will be picked up curbside each year in late October. Brush must be bundled with twine or wire in lengths no greater than 36 inches. Residents of the Borough may bring yard waste and/or leaves to the Public Works Building any time and drop them at the clearly marked areas.

2024 Special Event Recycling Dates**Electronic Recycling Event**

Saturday, April 20, 2024

Paper Shred Event

Friday, May 17, 2024

