

Summer, 2012

# Gettysburg

BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

## Council Welcomes Charles (Chuck) Teague

.Our newest member of Borough Council grew up in a Pennsylvania town much like Gettysburg. It was Chuck Teague's interest in history that brought him to Gettysburg, first as a college student at Gettysburg College, then many times as a visitor and, finally, to build his "retirement " home on E. Middle Street. While he is retired from law, military, and pastorate (He has a law degree from Cornell and a Masters of Divinity from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.) he has been very active in the community.



Chuck served over 7 years as a Chaplain for the Gettysburg Police Department and several years on the Interpretative Committee of Main Street Gettysburg overseeing waysides and helping to inaugurate the Licensed Town Guide program. In addition to his active participation in numerous historical organizations and activities, he is active with the Gettysburg Ministerium, a lead facilitator for the County Children and Youth Family Group Decision Making program, and a life member of the American Legion Post 202. He is currently a seasonal Interpretive Ranger at the National Military Park.

Chuck was one of 5 residents of Ward 1 who applied for consideration to fill the Council seat vacated when Alice Estrada moved from the Borough. The other candidates – Scot Pitzer, Susan Cipperly, Wesley Heyser and Phillip Goble - all presented excellent credentials and a desire to serve the community. It was a difficult decision for Council to choose just one.

Chuck's goals for the Borough include continuing improvement in the quality of life for our citizens, a vibrant business economy, continued historic preservation and rehabilitation, a close working relationship with other community groups, and frugality in budgeting. He plans to "work to see our town become an even better place in which to live, to work, to recreate, and for others to visit". Congratulations Chuck!

### Borough Council

#### **Mayor:**

William Troxell

#### **First Ward:**

Michael Birkner  
Rebecca Brown  
Charles Teague

#### **Second Ward:**

Kyle Leinbach  
Claire Lewis  
Jacob Schindel

#### **Third Ward:**

John Butterfield  
Susan Naugle  
Graham Weaver

#### **Borough Manager**

Florence Ford



## Announcements

### **Important Numbers:**

Borough 334-1160  
Police Dept. 334-1168  
Emergency 911  
After Hours  
Non-Emergency  
334-8101  
Rec Park 334-2028  
Highway Dept. 334-4666  
GMA 334-6738

## *Announcing 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Meeting*

Review the Preliminary Master Site Plan Design for the Gettysburg Area Recreation Park

**Tuesday, June 19, 2012**  
Stern Building at Rec Park • 6:30 PM

**See Page 4 for project details!**

*In accordance with ADA guidelines, if anyone needs special accommodations when attending any Borough meeting, please notify the Borough Secretary (334-1160 ext. 240) at least five (5) business days prior to attending the meeting.*

## Around the Borough

### NOW YOU CAN ACCESS THE BOROUGH WEBSITE WITH YOUR SMART PHONE

Introducing our new QR (Quick Response Code). It's a fast and easy way to keep in touch with your borough government and get the information you need.

[www.gettysburg-pa.gov](http://www.gettysburg-pa.gov) made easy!

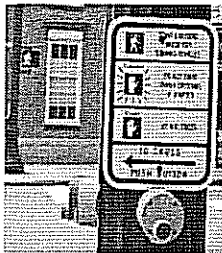


### First Friday 2012

- July 6 GARMA Allstars
- Aug 3 2012 Local Produce
- Sept 7 Apples
- Oct 5 Salsa on the Square
- Nov 2 Salute the Troops
- Dec 7 Cookie Walk

[www.gettysburgretailmerchants.com](http://www.gettysburgretailmerchants.com)

### PUSH THOSE BUTTONS!



The installation of new walk buttons at our traffic signals was a significant safety upgrade. Unfortunately, they often go unused. The "walking man" light is an important signal to vehicles as well as pedestrians. The "countdown" helps the pedestrian compare his or her speed to the seconds remaining. The "stop hand" tells the pedestrian he/she is likely not speedy enough and should not cross.

Some signals automatically activate the "walking man" and "countdown" and some do not. Pushing the button is the only way a pedestrian can change the signal to stop traffic at some intersections. Make a habit of pushing those buttons at all crossings to start the countdown to a safe crossing.

### Meet Officer Weikert

Patrol Officer Larry Weikert has spent a total of 26 years with the Gettysburg Police Department- the last 9 years as a full-time officer. For 17 years, he was a part-time police officer while serving as the borough's full-time Code Enforcement Officer. In between he spent one year with the Cumberland Township Police Department during which he completed training at the Police Academy.



Officer Weikert grew up in the Borough and refers to himself as a "Borough Brat". His ties to the Borough go back to his dad who retired from the Borough's Highway Department (now Public Works). He has seen a lot of changes in the Borough from his days as a kid, not all of them positive. Larry is justly proud of his other service to the community in addition to his police work. He served as Chief of the Gettysburg Fire Company for 10 years and used his firefighting knowledge and skills to investigate numerous area fires. Officer Weikert and his wife Renee have two sons, ages 15 and 27 and a daughter age 22.

### CVB Clean-up



Carl Whitehill from the Convention and Visitor's Bureau leads volunteers from local tourist related businesses as they clean sidewalks along Chambersburg Street. More than 25 volunteers were involved in the cleanup of Gettysburg's major thoroughfares. The May 10 clean-up was part of National Travel and Tourism Week activities. You can help too! Contact Susan Naugle at 334-1142 and join From the Ground Up for Monday morning clean-ups

### DON'T MISS

**FALL DOWNTOWN ANTIQUE SHOW**  
45<sup>th</sup> Semi-Annual

Saturday September 22, 2012  
7:00 am to 4:00 pm

*Lots to see, lots to buy, food, fun  
in downtown Gettysburg*

**OPENING SOON!**

*New Transit Center on Carlisle St. set to begin operation in June.*  
**FREEDOM TRANSIT IS NOW FREE!**

## Celebrating Historic Preservation

At the May Council meeting, Gary Shaffer, Chair of the Borough's Historic Architectural Review Board, recognized the preservation efforts of the owners of 20 Borough properties. Mr. Shaffer praised the recipients for, not only their commitment to preservation, but their commitment to the future of the community. His remarks to honor the recipients of the 2012 Preservation Awards are worth repeating.

"It has been said that communities are a work of art. While that artwork may take different forms, a town is most definitely a fabric woven through the commitment, sweat, labor and love of the citizens that live and work there. And just like all works of art, the town tells a story. Someone looking at the community can tell how a town feels about itself. One can discern whether it is prospering or struggling, rebounding or rescinding, cared for or could care less."

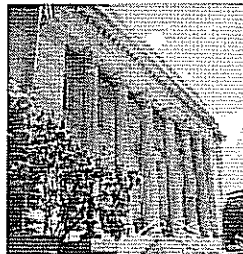
"We are struggling now to try and protect some of our modest structures in the historic district from demolition. However, our efforts to legislate to preserve and protect our community can have only limited success. No legislation can accomplish what is best accomplished through the devotion of the citizens to their community, the care of the citizens for their neighbors, and an inherent respect for the rule of law."

These properties, all within our historic district, represent many different approaches to preservation. Some are new structures, while others represent meticulous restoration of original details. Two represent a commitment to the Borough following two devastating fires. Others use paint as a simple, but effective, way to highlight architectural details. All reflect an attention to detail that contributes to the fabric of the community for future generations of residents and visitors.

Careful restoration is a "gift" to the community. We thank all the recipients for their gifts and their devotion to community.

### A Building to be Proud Of

Have you stopped to admire the Adams County Library lately? The recent removal of years of grime has exposed the beauty of the granite walls, columns and stairs. It is like no other building in Gettysburg. Later this year, look for sidewalk repairs and new trees. The Library is one of quite a few buildings in Gettysburg undergoing a "sprucing up" in time for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year. These efforts, large and small, say a lot about the pride in community of Gettysburg's citizens and property owners.



#### Certificates of Exceptional Merit

125 S. Washington St  
*Adams County Arts Council*  
 38 W Middle St  
*Lisa Portmess and Harry Stokes*  
 140 E Middle St  
*Cladius and Maxine Willis*  
 140 Carlisle St  
*Orchard Development*  
 110 Chambersburg St  
*Jacob Schindel and Philip Schindel*

#### Certificates of Merit

326-334 S Washington St  
*Randy & Amy Nail*  
 232 W Middle St  
*Cherj Ultrinek*  
 124 N Stratton St  
*Scott Hill*  
 300 N Stratton St  
*Linda Zhea*  
 116 Chambersburg St  
*Steven Sexton*  
 252-254 Chambersburg St  
*Maria & Kazimierz Pukowik*  
 54-56-58 Chambersburg St  
*Ernest & Linda Kranias*  
 264 S Washington St  
*Rebecca Fissell*  
 266 S Washington St  
*Karen Fouchie*

#### Certificates of Honorable Mention

43 Breckenridge St  
*Earl & Betty Steinour*  
 338 S Washington St  
*Edward and Bonnie Huggins*  
 168 York St  
*Dorothy Nimemaker*  
 163-165 York St  
*Twin Bridges Farm LLC.*  
 233 N Stratton St  
*Marianne Larkin*  
 143 Carlisle St  
*Annsan Partnership*

### Partnerships Key to Biser Trail Upgrades

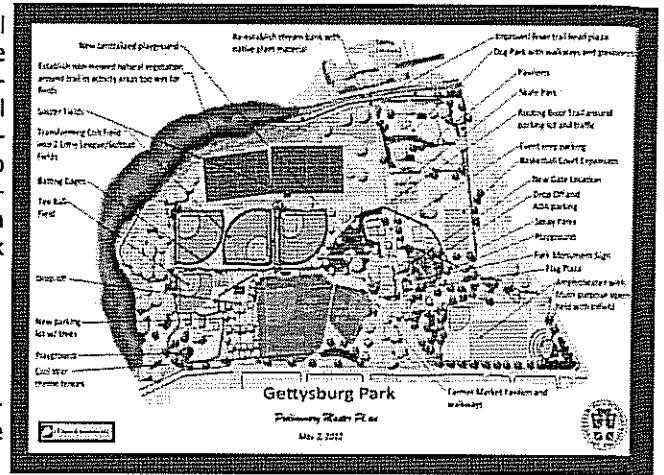
One of the most popular features at Rec Park is the Biser Fitness Trail. The one-mile trail is great for walking, running, pushing the baby, walking the dog or learning to ride a bike. In September, work will begin to widen a section of the trail from West Street to the parking area at Queen Street to more safely accommodate both pedestrians and cyclists using the Gettysburg Inner Loop Bicycle Trail. The \$72,000 project is made possible by contributions from community partners - The Gettysburg Hospital (\$21,500), the Elm Street Program (\$1,000) and Healthy Adams Bicycle Pedestrian, Inc. (\$500) - and a grant from the South Mountain Partnership (funded by the PA Dept of Conservation and Natural Resources) in the amount of \$11,500 to cover materials. The Borough's Public Works Department will provide the labor for construction of the improved trail. Watch for future announcements about events related to completion of the trail work.

**Preliminary Park Design on the Web  
COMMENTS PLEASE!**

In partnership with the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Borough is developing a Master Site Plan for The Gettysburg Area Recreation Park. In March, the Borough and consultant James Sauer of J.T. Sauer Associates held a very successful public meeting – the first of three meetings to discuss future improvements to Rec Park. More than 50 area residents gathered to review sketches of park designs and share ideas. Many more residents have visited the consultant’s website to vote and comment on their favorite plan. We now have a preliminary design for the Park and we want to know what you think!

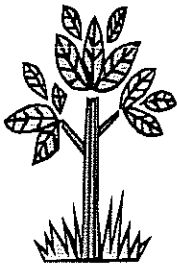
**Log on to the Borough’s website at  
[www.gettysburg-pa.gov](http://www.gettysburg-pa.gov)  
and click on “Master Plan for the Rec Park”.**

Through this link you can review project information and the Preliminary Plan. Click on “Phasing Plan” to see how the park can be transformed in future years as grants and funding become available. Click “Input and Feedback” and answer a poll question and send comments to the consultant. The poll question will change every couple of weeks, so keep checking to provide your input. With your help, the consultant will develop a final plan that will reflect the needs of the community. Once completed, the plan will include cost estimates that will help the Borough set reasonable priorities and seek funding for improvements.



**The second Public Meeting to review the Preliminary Plan will be held on Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at 6:30 pm at the Sterner Building at Rec Park.**

**Interested in Helping to Improve Rec Park? CHECK THIS OUT!**



**Plant a Tree at Rec Park**

**You can help** with improvements to the popular Biser Fitness Trail at Rec Park. Thanks to community partners The Gettysburg Hospital, Elm Street / Olde Getty Place, Healthy Adams Bicycle Pedestrian, Inc. and a grant from the South Mountain Partnership, the Borough will widen a portion of the trail to safely accommodate both bicycles and pedestrians.

**Your contribution will be used to purchase and maintain native species trees along the Biser Trail.**

**\$125 Buy a Tree or \$75 Share a Tree or \$25 Nourish a Tree**

*(Nourish a tree will purchase a 20 gallon, reusable tree gator to help sustain the tree in dry periods.)*

**Plant a Tree at Rec Park**

**YES, I want to help beautify Rec Park by planting trees along the Biser Trail.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>\$125</b>	<b>for one native species tree</b>	<b>X</b>	_____	<b>= \$</b>	_____	
				<b>No. of trees</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>\$75</b>	<b>for half a native species tree</b>			<b>= \$</b>	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>\$25</b>	<b>for one tree gator</b>	<b>X</b>	_____	<b>= \$</b>	_____	
				<b>No. of gators</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>\$_____</b>	<b>Other contribution</b>			<b>= \$</b>	_____	
<b>Total Contribution</b>						<b>= \$</b>	_____

**Donor Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Donor Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Trees will be planted in the fall of 2012. Make checks payable to The Gettysburg Area Recreation Park, 59 East High Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Your contribution is tax deductible.**

## Streets, Sidewalks, and Alleys

### Micro-surfacing Our Way to Better Streets

Later this year and in future years you may wonder why the Borough is paving what looks like a perfectly good street while a street in much worse condition is neglected. It is all part of our new "pavement management philosophy". The goal of the Borough is to maintain all streets in good to excellent condition. To accomplish this, it is important to prevent the streets already in good condition from deteriorating any further. And, it may mean allowing our "fair" streets to deteriorate to poor condition before we invest in a costly rebuild.

The paving you see may be a surface treatment called micro-surfacing. Micro-surfacing is the application of a thin coat of asphalt resurfacing material that is formulated to cure quickly. Traffic can typically return within one hour. It will fill ruts and correct surface irregularities; and it looks great. It is not intended as a crack treatment, so you may see Borough crews filling cracks before a street is micro-surfaced. Micro-surfacing is much less expensive than regular paving projects that often require base repair. It can stretch the life of a street an additional 6-8 years. For every \$1 spent on preserving a good street, \$6 to \$10 is saved in future rehabilitation costs.

An evaluation of our streets in 2010 estimated that only 8% of our streets and 21% of our alleys were in good or excellent condition. We have a long way to go to reach our goal, but we have a plan and micro-surfacing will help get us there.



### What the New Bicycle Law Means in the Borough

Earlier this year, new rules went into effect, impacting how motor vehicles share the road with bicyclists. The law is designed to increase the margin of safety for bicyclists and give law enforcement and the motor vehicle driver clearer guidance on sharing the road. With increasing gas prices, more drivers are dusting off those bicycles for short trips. Here are few highlights that apply to the Borough:

- Bicyclists must keep to the right unless unsafe to do so under certain conditions. In the Borough that could mean moving out into the lane to avoid sunken storm grates, glass or debris. This provision is not new but is getting greater emphasis.
- The new law allows the cyclists to take a lane position he or she deems safe or to "control the lane" while maintaining an appropriate speed. This provision is very helpful in the Borough with our narrow streets and parked cars. A major in-town hazard is the opening of car doors into the cyclist's lane. Getting "doored" can be dangerous and deadly! "Controlling the lane" is also essential for safely navigating Lincoln Square. Otherwise, other drivers have no clue where the cyclist is going.
- Motor vehicles must now allow at least 4 feet of clearance when passing a bicycle. The vehicle can cross the center line to pass but must have good sight distance and cannot pass within 100 feet of an intersection.
- Motor vehicles are prohibited from turning abruptly in the path of a bicyclist. This "right hook" occurs when a motor vehicle makes a right turn in front of a cyclists going straight at an intersection. Drivers should stay behind the bicycle until it clears the intersection.
- Bicyclists do not have to move off the roadway to allow vehicles to pass as long as the cyclist is traveling at a reasonable speed for a bicycle.
- Safety is also the responsibility of the bicyclist. Bicycles are vehicles under the Vehicle Code and riders must obey all traffic control devices. Ignoring traffic signals and blowing through stop signs is unsafe and illegal.

**"Share the Road"** applies to both motorized vehicles and bicycles and makes for a much safer ride for everyone!

*Adapted from "New bicycle safety law goes into effect today: Share the road" by Joe Stafford, York Daily Record*

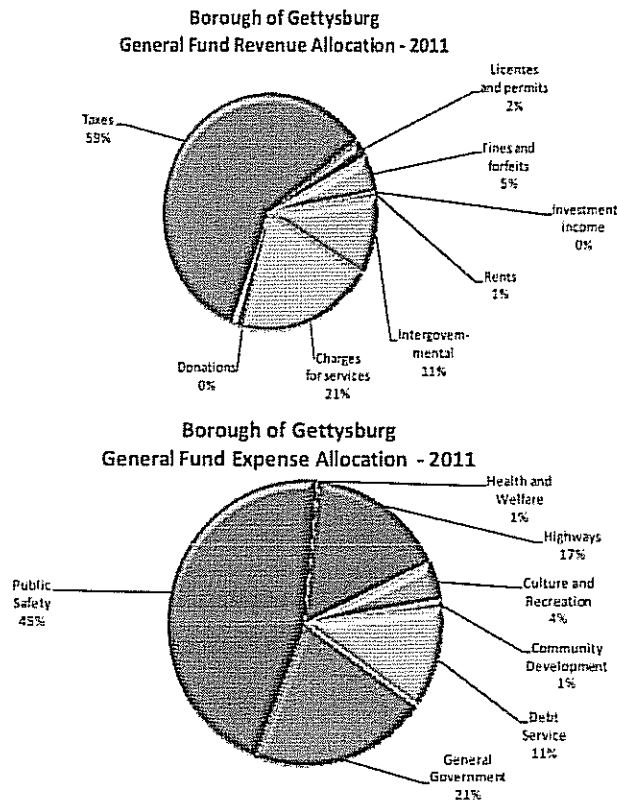
## 2011 Audit

The Finance Committee heard from the Borough's audit team on the state of the 2011 financial statements and annual audit report. The report received the highest opinion from the auditors of Smith Elliott Kearns & Company. A copy of the financial statements can be viewed on the Borough's web page at [www.gettysburg-pa.gov](http://www.gettysburg-pa.gov).

The General Fund ended the year with a \$105,221 surplus. The highlights that resulted in this surplus were due to the charging of outside entities for Borough labor, using bond proceeds cash for the purchase of a new truck instead of general fund cash and a one time allocation from the Commonwealth of PA of Act 205 funds that are used to make the annual contributions to full time employee pension accounts.

There were significant major projects completed during 2011. Steinwehr Avenue Safety Project was completed and was funded mostly by a federal highway grant. The renovations of the Borough Hall were completed and equipment was replaced for the Public Works Department and the parking garage.

The graphs below show what percentage each revenue source contributes to the General Fund and what percentage of those revenues are used by each department:



## Commercial Recycling Requirements

The Borough has had great success with our residential recycling. Most residents participate in Waste Management's recycling program. The rewards have been a "greener" community, lower trash removal rates and incentive payments that come back to the Borough from the state. The Borough's recycling ordinance also requires businesses, commercial and institutional users to recycle. This includes recycling by property owners who have rental units in the Borough.

Commercial, municipal and institutional establishments are required by law to recycle aluminum cans, high-grade office paper (white paper, bond paper and computer paper) and corrugated paper, empty bottles and jars, plastic (the numbers 1 through 7 on the bottom of the item) and newspapers. This does not include non-container glass, plate glass, automotive glass, light bulbs, blue glass, porcelain and ceramic products. Other materials, as allowed by their hauler, may be recycled.

Businesses are not required to use the services of the Borough's residential hauler, Waste Management, and may contract with another hauler permitted by the Borough. However, businesses must report their recycling tonnage to the Borough by February 1 each year. If a business contracts with Waste Management, Inc., the tonnage will be reported to the Borough. If a different hauler is used, it's the businesses' responsibility to obtain the tonnage from their hauler and report it to the Borough. Business owners or managers are expected to notify tenants, employees and customers of the details of the recycling system as it applies to their establishment.

## CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD SEAT

The Borough is seeking a civic-minded volunteer to fill a vacant seat on our Code Enforcement Appeals Board. The 5-member board meets, as needed, to hear appeals of decisions made by the Borough's code enforcement contractor, Commonwealth Code Inspection Service, related to the proper maintenance of properties within the borough. Members of the board must be a resident property owner of the Borough. Preference will be given to applicants with experience in construction, building trades or property management. Members are appointed by Council for 5-year terms.

Interested residents may contact Sara Stull at 334-1160 ext 240 for additional information or to request a Borough Volunteer Application.

## What's New at the Rec Park?

### What's Happening at Rec Park

- June 11-14** Volleyball Camp for 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders  
*At Gettysburg Senior High Gym \$45*
- June 3** Summer Sunday Concerts begin 7pm  
*At the Park Amphitheater FREE*
- June 26-30** Fireman's Carnival - Fireworks Friday June 29 at 11pm  
*rain date June 30*
- August 13-17** Strawberry Hill Environmental Camp at Rec Park –  
*See details below*
- Sept. 16** Adams County Heritage Festival  
*Noon to 5 FREE*
- Dec 1** Gettysburg Garden Club Christmas Greens Sale

*For more information about events or to schedule an event or rent a meeting room or pavilion, call Rebecca at Rec Park at 334-2028. Rentals are not available during the week of the Fireman's Carnival.*

### Sunday Concert Series June - Aug 7pm

- June:** 10 Tall in the Saddle  
17 Gettysburg Big Band
- July:** 8 Shippensburg German Band  
15 Shanna Rae  
22 Wilson & Jolin  
29 Apple Core Band
- August:** 5 Voxology

*FREE! Bring lawn chairs or blankets. In the event of inclement weather, concerts are held in the Charlie Sterner Recreation Building.*

#### COLLABORATING

Doing what works in Adams County

### Gettysburg Alternative Sports Park Now Open

Supervised hours for the Skate Park are Tue-Thurs 4-6, Fri 6-9 (under the lights) and Sat and Sun 2-6. Summer hours begin June 11. Summer hours are Wed-Thur 5-8, Fri-Sat Night Skate 6-9:30 and Sun 4-6. The Sports Park will be closed during the Fireman's Carnival and during rain, thunder and lightning, a heat index of over 100 or a heat advisory. For more information about memberships and hours and park rentals contact Collaborating for Youth at 338-0300 ext 20.

## STRAWBERRY HILL BRINGING CAMP TO BOROUGH RECREATION PARK!

August 13 - August 17.

Since 1986, Strawberry Hill has encouraged children to connect to nature, to conserve and protect the environment, and to become wise stewards of the earth's natural resources. Strawberry Hill's summer camps are unique in their focus on the natural world. This year Strawberry Hill is bringing their camp to Rec Park during the week of August 13 to August 17!



Summer Nature Adventure  
Camps for Kids

Camps provide an educational and fun experience for kids ages 4 to 15: Chickadees (Ages 4&5), Salamanders (Ages 6&7), Dragonflies (Ages 8&9), Red-tailed Hawks (Ages 10-12), and Black Bears (Ages 13-15). 4 and 5 year olds attend half-day camps from 9:00 AM-12:00 noon, \$110 for Members, \$150 for Non-members. 6 through 15 year olds attend full-day camps from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM, \$180 for Members, \$220 for Non-members. Children who are residents of the Borough will pay the Member Rate. Pre- and post-care is available.

Contact Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve at (717)642-5840 for information and camp registration forms. Full details and forms are also available online at [www.strawberryhill.org](http://www.strawberryhill.org).



**Borough of Gettysburg**  
**59 E High Street**  
**Gettysburg PA 17325**  
**717-334-1160**

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*Committed to effective and efficient public service*

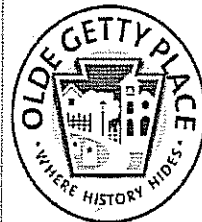
**Gettysburg Garden Club**



Members of the Gettysburg Garden Club braved a rainy Monday morning to plant the center island in Lincoln Square. The planting of the square has been a project of the Club since 1965. Staff from the Pub provided refreshments for a much-needed break.

**News from *Olde Getty Place***

*Olde Getty Place*, Gettysburg's Elm Street Neighborhood, is getting a mini facelift! Construction will soon begin on South Washington Street, between Breckenridge Street and South Street. New sidewalks and period street lamps will be installed. Work should be completed by June 5<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, there are plans for two pocket parks, one on the corner of High and Franklin Streets, and the other at the corner of Breckenridge and Franklin Streets. Both parks will include benches and trash receptacles. Four other trash receptacles and 3 additional benches will be placed throughout the neighborhood.



Gettysburg United Methodist Church is coordinating an *Olde Getty Place* picnic and BBQ to be held on June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Rec Park beginning at 6:00pm.

Facade Improvement grant money is available to homeowners in the target neighborhood. If you would like more information about *Olde Getty Place*, contact Stephanie McIlwee at 717-334-1518 ext 229 or at [smcilwee@adamscha.org](mailto:smcilwee@adamscha.org)