



Shop the best
in
Gettysburg

Scan here to
browse our Online
Shopping Listings!



Gettysburg Connection



FREE! Holiday Shopping Issue

News, Culture, and Arts From Adams County, PA
Find us online @ gettysburgconnection.org



Charming Meadow Mushrooms - Page 4
Gettysburg Majestic Turns 100 - Page 12
Fairfield Carmelites - Page 15

Contents

3-Gettysburg Parking Guidance
4-Charming Meadow Mushrooms
5-Holiday Shopping Guide
6-Gettysburg History
9-Fall/Winter Cultural Arts Calendar
10-Fall/Winter Fun and Activities
11-Live Music Scene
12-Gettysburg Majestic Theater Turns 100
13-Lincoln Will Return to Gettysburg in 2026
14-Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S.
15-Fairfield Carmelites



SCAN HERE
We're online!
So many more stories



Advertiser List

Ameriprise Financial- p. 13	Julieta Booz for School Board- p. 11
Apple Bin Grill & Bakery- p. 6	Lark Gifts- p. 5
Body and Soul Silversmith- p. 5	Mt. Top Ministries- p. 11
Create @ 48- p. 10	Music Gettysburg!- p. 4
Daryl Sipe- p. 15	Patriot Rail- p. 13
Destination Gettysburg- p. 14	Rita Frealing for Mayor- p. 2
Farmstead Butcher- p. 11	Rock Top Bookshop- p. 5
Fresh Boutique- p. 5	Royer for Judge- p. 16
Gettysburg Community Theatre- p. 7	Suzanne Christianson- p. 12
Gettysburg Lodges- p. 9	Taylors Trading Post- p. 5
Gettysburg Majestic Theater- p. 4	Thomason's Herb Farm- p. 5
Gettysburg Recreational Authority- p. 10	Timmins on Buford- p. 14
Gettysburg's Best- p. 12	Totem Pole Theater- p. 3
Gettysburg YWCA- p. 3	Tripwire Aviation- p. 13
Hollabaugh Bros. Fruit Market- p. 5	Wellspan Health- p. 8



Paid for by Friends of Rita Frealing for Mayor.



Re-Elect
Rita Frealing
For Gettysburg Mayor

A MAYOR FOR EVERYONE • ONCE MORE WITH FREALING

- Gettysburg Native
- Penn State Law Degree
- Experienced Incumbent
- Supports Gettysburg Police
- Engages With Residents
- Attends State and Local Events
- Creative Thinking
- Promotes Equity
- Supports Local Businesses
- Honors Gettysburg History

Gettysburg Parking Guidance



Downtown Gettysburg is definitely worth visiting -- it's full of opportunities for shopping and dining, and you can even take in a movie or a

show. So don't let parking deter you. You'll rarely have trouble parking. But realize you

might need to walk a couple of blocks. Unless you are a Gettysburg resident, and unless you park in the parking garage, your metered parking will be limited to three hours in one place.

Meters are easy to use. There are over 300 of them in the business district around the Gettysburg Square. If you drive a bit around the blocks near the square you'll almost certainly find an open metered space.

The meters on the square and within one block of it are the most expensive, \$2.00 per hour. Meters more than one block from the Square are \$1.50 per hour, and you need only walk one block.

If you're in a non-metered space farther from the Gettysburg Square, parking is free but you are limited to two hours unless you have a permit.

You can use the parking app to pay at the

meters, and you can also use nickels, dimes and quarters. You'll need 16 quarters to park for two hours near the square, however. Many locals keep a stash of quarters in their car. You can also pay on the Pay by Phone app. View each meter for more detailed information.

Parking Tips:
There is a parking garage, located at 74 East Racehorse Alley, just behind the Gettysburg Hotel between Carlisle Street and North Stratton Street where you can park all day and not worry about the three-hour limit.

And the parking garage rates are cheaper: only \$1.00 per hour. The garage requires head-in only parking, and you must park within the lines of one space.

There is no grace period for borough meters, and they are enforced. If your

time is expired, you will likely get a ticket.

How to pay a ticket:
If you do get a ticket for overtime parking, it's really not that expensive. Tickets are \$25 if they are paid within one week; \$40 after that.

Payment can be made online at www.gettysburgpa.gov, or you can send a check or money order, payable to "Borough of Gettysburg," to the Gettysburg Borough Office: 59 E. High St. Gettysburg, PA 17325

There is also a dropbox at the borough office where you can leave your check.

It's easy to park in Gettysburg, but consider walking or cycling when you can.

Park carefully, drive safely, and please enjoy your visit to Gettysburg.

Join the Party!

TOTEM 75 POLE

1950 2025

ELVIS PRESLEY JERRY LEE CARL PERKINS JOHNNY CASH

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET

CHRISTMAS

December 3—14, 2025

Majestic Theater

Gettysburg

www.gettysburgmajestic.org

717.337.8200

***Area Premiere!**

Discover Gettysburg: Eat, Explore, Shop!

Find Your Passion: Search the Best of Gettysburg!

Restaurants

Activities

Shopping

Confections

Craft Beverages

the **Y** YMCA

The Y Is Here for You, Gettysburg!

Swim Lessons Where learning to swim began

Aquatics & Group Fitness Stay active your way

Great Fitness Facilities For every age & stage

Child Watch – Free for Members

NEW Youth Center A safe, fun space for kids & teens

Join – Be, Belong, Become.

www.hanoverymca.org

Charming Meadow Mushrooms



On a quiet stretch of Adams County countryside, John McGrain and Mel Murphy have built something unexpected inside a converted shed and a basement. Charming Meadows Mushrooms is a thriving gourmet mushroom farm that supplies restaurants, farmers markets, and community-supported agriculture programs across the region.

What began as a backyard hobby inspired by an article in “Mother Earth News” has grown into a full-time enterprise. McGrain credits Murphy’s mother with sparking the idea. “She gave me an article about growing mushrooms in your backyard just for yourself, and I thought it was fascinating,” he said. “We started with a few beds in the woods, and then it just got out of hand from there.”

McGrain’s background in the restaurant industry, where he endured grueling hours during the height of the pandemic,

played a role in shaping the business. “I was one of two people keeping the restaurant open, working open to close every day,” he recalled. “Meanwhile, the mushroom thing was becoming a possibility. It felt like a way out.”

In 2022, the pair officially launched their farm. They quickly scaled from producing 10 or 20 pounds of mushrooms weekly for one restaurant to more than 300 pounds each week, serving eight to ten restaurants and three farmers markets. Their products now appear on menus at restaurants across Adams County.

Inside their operation, science and craftsmanship meet. The farmers cultivate roughly ten mushroom varieties, including oysters, lion’s mane, chestnuts, pioppinos, and specialty hybrids like king blue. The work is meticulous: sterilizing grain spawn in pressure cookers, mixing oak sawdust and

soybean hull pellets into six-pound blocks, steaming them in a converted walk-in cooler, and finally inoculating the blocks with mushroom cultures under sterile conditions.

“It’s trial and error,” McGrain explained. “There’s no one right way to grow mushrooms. You get the basics, then keep experimenting until it works.”

The process requires both precision and patience. Some varieties, like oysters, can be ready in two weeks, while shiitakes may take up to three months. Each block can yield several flushes before it is “spent.” Even then, the used substrate is recycled to local farms as compost, ensuring nothing goes to waste.

Specialty mushrooms are having a cultural moment. Once viewed as niche, they are increasingly embraced by chefs, health-conscious con-

sumers, and even those reducing meat in their diets. “They give you that meatiness to a dish, and they’re packed with protein, vitamins, and beta-glucans,” McGrain said. Research suggests the mushroom market in the U.S. is set to outpace the general economy severalfold by 2030.

The farmers have also begun selling powdered mushroom blends and dried products, extending shelf life and appealing to customers who prefer to add mushrooms to smoothies, rubs, coffees, or soups without dealing with texture. “Not everyone likes the feel of mushrooms,” McGrain laughed. “The powders give them the health benefits without the chew.”

The Gettysburg area has embraced the farm’s offerings, especially through the Adams County Farmers Market. “Mushrooms are one of the only fresh things people can really get in the winter,” said McGrain. “They’re a fall and winter food, and restaurants love that.”

At the market, the farmers trade products with neighboring stands, creating a circle of support among small producers. “We’ll swap mushrooms for vegetables or cheese,” McGrain said. “It’s good community building. We get what we need, and they get fresh mushrooms.”

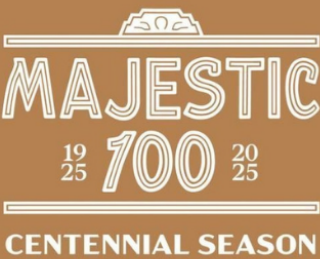
Running a mushroom farm is labor-intensive

and relentless. Harvesting happens twice a day, every day, and maintaining sterile environments requires constant vigilance. “It’s like dairy farming,” McGrain said. “You can’t ever really leave.” Still, he finds satisfaction in the rhythm. “I grew up in a working family. Long days are nothing new. But the goal is to eventually bring someone on to help manage the farm so I can focus more on the business side—and maybe take a day off.”

Four years into market sales, the pair is optimistic about the future. They plan to expand their production capacity, invest in better equipment, and continue experimenting with new varieties. They also hope to grow their partnerships with restaurants and explore value-added products like mushroom jerky.

“The market is only expanding,” McGain said. “People are curious, they want to try new things, and mushrooms fit perfectly into healthier, more sustainable diets. We’re excited to keep growing with that.”

For now, their farm remains a place where science, sustainability, and community come together—one block of oak sawdust and one flush of mushrooms at a time.



CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF FILM, THEATRE, MUSIC, AND DANCE
Centennial Gala
Featuring Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and Natalie MacMaster
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14 AT 6:00 PM



In our 5th decade of bringing free concerts to the community. Click here or visit www.musicgettysburg.org for a concert schedule.

Holiday Shopping Guide

Family Owned Farm Market Featuring:
Fresh Produce • In-House Bakery • Ice Cream
Pick Your Own • Family Fun Events • Farm Tours
And So Much More!

70 YEARS

hollabaughbros.com
717.677.8412
545 Carlisle Road • Biglerville, PA

HOLLABAUGH BROS. SINCE 1955



Celebrating 70 Years • 1955-2025

The Special Place For That Special Gift

Body and Soul
Silversmith Gettysburg
www.bodyandsoulgettysburg.com

Shop while living the experience of an operating old-time silversmith jewelry studio!

Rings, pendants, bracelets, and earrings in contemporary designs, with natural gemstones and a ton of passion!

461 Baltimore Street | Gettysburg, PA 17325 | 717-624-6261





LARK
A MODERN MARKETPLACE
On the Square in Downtown Gettysburg



TAYLOR'S TRADING POST
Since 1974
SPORTING GOODS STORE



Your Local Source for Reloading Supplies and Ammunition

- ✓ Ammunition ✓ Reloading Supplies ✓ Bullets ✓ Primer ✓ Powder
- ✓ Scopes ✓ Slings ✓ Holsters ✓ Knives ✓ Tactical & Hunting Optics
- ✓ Shooting Accessories ✓ Gunsmithing Services ✓ Antique Firearms

730 Upper Temple Road • Biglerville, PA 17307 • 717-677-8513



FRESH BOUTIQUE



A distinctive, personalized shopping experience in the heart of downtown Gettysburg!

28 Chambersburg Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325
717.253.2144 | Freshboutiquei.com



Rock Top Book Shop

Specializing in Used & Rare Books on Arts & Crafts and Military History.
www.rocktopbookshop.com | Facebook: Rock Top Book Shop and Bindery in Cashtown PA

1215 and 1229 Old Route 30, Cashtown, PA 17310 | (508)-835-4393 | Tue - Sat • 10am - 5pm



SHOW THIS AD BEFORE CHECKING OUT AND RECEIVE

10% OFF

YOUR ORDER!
Expires 12/31/25

Rock Top Book Shop



CHRISTMAS IN THE COUNTRY

November 7th - 9th & November 14th - 16th, 2025 | Fri-Sat 10-5 & Sun 12-5

Thomason's Olde Tyme Herb Farm
170 Stoney Point Road • East Berlin, PA
717-624-1527

Our two shops are decked out for the holidays with special gifts and delightful owners!

The Bobbi Becker Gallery
230 Group Mill Road, New Oxford, PA
717-624-4953

Gettysburg History



As a history-loving boy, Gettysburg History President and CEO Andrew Dalton couldn't have imagined it.

"There I was sitting in a room with Ken Burns, Martin Sheen, and Susan Eisenhower," Dalton said. Burns is the world-renowned filmmaker whose works include the groundbreaking documentary *The Civil War*. Sheen is an actor whose roles have included playing General Lee in the movie *Gettysburg*. And Eisenhower is the granddaughter of Dwight D. Eisenhower, a WWII general, and president of the United States. All three were recent participants at the Gettysburg Film Festival.

"I had to take a moment and say to them, 'This is such an honor,'" Dalton recalled. At that moment, Burns could have replied with a thank you and left it at that, but he didn't. Instead, he said to Dalton, "No, honestly, it's an honor to be with you here. All the work that you've done has made a huge difference."

"It was a surreal moment," Dalton said.

Not yet 30 years old, Dalton has harnessed his love of Gettysburg history and history itself to achieve some remarkable things. As the president and CEO of Gettysburg History, formerly known as the Adams County Historical Society,

he has overseen the establishment of a new facility, which includes the Beyond the Battle Museum. The museum was named by USA Today as the best new museum in the country.

Then there is the film festival, an idea developed by Dalton and local filmmaker Jake Boritt, with the enthusiastic support and collaboration of Burns. The festival celebrated its third year this past spring and is the only one in the nation dedicated to historical films.

The fireproof, climate-controlled structure opened its doors in 2022. In addition to the Beyond the Battle Museum, the facility also includes the Dr. Charles H. Glatfelter Research Room and Archives, which preserves over 5,000 square feet of historical materials. During its first year, the museum and history center welcomed more than 30,000 visitors and hosted more than 50 events.

The idea of the museum was to tell the whole story of Adams County's history. "The museum is about the history of the place and the people, and it includes the battle, but goes beyond that," Dalton said. "We can use Gettysburg as a way to look at all American history."

Dalton's interest in Gettysburg history never wavered. As a child, he

loved setting up perfect renditions of the battlefield with toy soldiers on the floor. "By middle school, I would go to the visitor's center and buy books at the gift shop," he said.

One of those books was Bradley Gottfried's "Brigades of Gettysburg". "It took me about a year and a half to read the whole thing," he said. "The book is literally organized by each brigade. I would carry it around with me at school. I remember my friends teasing me about it, 'Why are you reading this giant book?' they asked."

Within that book was the account of a young girl, Amelia Harmon, whose house was burned down by the Confederates. "Her farm would have been right around the corner from my house," Dalton said. "It lit a spark. And I became obsessed with understanding how the battle unfolded in my neighborhood."

Dalton says he felt a connection with the young girl. "She was about my age when this happened. So, I found her account, and I remembered reading it; my imagination ran wild, visualizing what she was talking about. I could see it through her eyes. I went down a multi-year rabbit hole trying to find

out everything I possibly could."

That rabbit hole would lead to the publication of Dalton's first book, "Beyond the Run: The Emanuel Harmon Farm at Gettysburg," when he was only 16 years old.

It was during these years that Dalton was also becoming well acquainted with the local historical society. "I had never been in an archive. There were shelves upon shelves, extending as high as I could see, filled with records, boxes, and artifacts. It just blew me away."

Then there were the people he encountered, like Tim Smith, a longtime licensed battlefield guide and the author of books and articles on the conflict. "The first time I really went in to do research, my mom took me, and Tim was at the desk," said Dalton. "I was starstruck."

By the time he was in high school, Dalton was volunteering at the historical society and went on to join the staff as an employee in 2016. While volunteering, he would be tasked with going through the same boxes that had so amazed him on his first visit.

One day, Dalton discovered something very special: An original program from President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address with personal business accounts scribbled on it by the original owner. There are only a handful of copies of the program in existence, with the Smithsonian having one. And now the Beyond the Battle Museum has one too.

At the museum, Dalton points to the exhibit of the program with great pride. "I like the fact that it has the numbers scribbled on it," he said. "Paper was not easy to come by back then. It tells a story."

After graduating from Gettysburg College in 2019, Dalton, who majored in

both political science and history, was contacted by Adams County Historical Society Director Ben Neely, who had decided to take another job and leave his role as executive director. He asked if Dalton would step in for him on a temporary basis. "I was thinking just a month or so," said Dalton. The board would take Neely's advice, and Dalton would go on to be named as permanent executive director and later CEO and president of ACHS. At the top of the list of initiatives for Dalton was a new home for ACHS, which was then located in a Victorian house ill-suited for its needs.

There had long been a discussion about finding the historical society a new home. "I didn't come up with the idea," says Dalton. However, "Andrew would push it past the finish line," said Neely.

Building a new facility would require money, and that meant fundraising. "I had no experience with this," Dalton said.

The campaign raised \$12 million, and the facility broke ground in 2021.

On top of the new facility and film festival, the historical society earlier this year assumed ownership and management of the Shriver House Museum, which tells the story of one family's experience before, during, and after the Battle of Gettysburg.

Plans are also being made for the new Hopkins House Museum — Gettysburg's first museum devoted entirely to Black history.

"Gettysburg History is the banner under which all of this lives," says Dalton of the projects, events, and initiatives that have taken place recently, as well as those which may take place in the future.

By Lisa Gregory

Photo by Rick Gregory



Comfort Food Classics

Savor homestyle hot breakfasts and hearty lunch favorites.

You're table awaits!

624 Arendtsville Road • Biglerville, PA 17307 • 717-677-4141



The Rocky Horror Show LIVE on stage!
 7pm October 2-4, 9-11, 16-18, 2025

ACCFGivingSpree.org
 4-7pm November 6, 2025

Home For The Holidays Concert
 7pm November 28, 2025
 2pm November 29, 2025

Improv Show
 7pm October 25, 2025

Ben Jones Brass
 7pm November 22, 2025

Disney's Alice In Wonderland jr.
 December 5-21, 2025

Season Tickets
 & Flex Passes
 Available

Celebrating our 18th year! The 2026 Season!



January 16-February 1, 2026



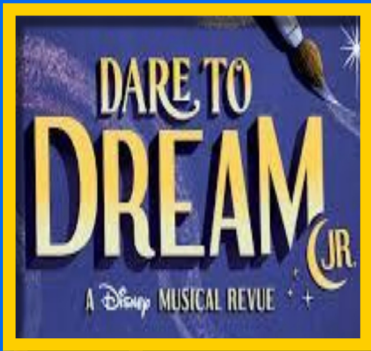
February 20-March 8, 2026



May 1-17, 2026



July 17-August 2, 2026



August 14-30, 2026



October 1-17, 2026



November 6 --
 December 20, 2026

info@GettysburgCommunityTheatre.org 717-334-2692
 49 York Street, Gettysburg PA 17325

Limited Seating! Order tickets in advance online!

www.GettysburgCommunityTheatre.org



With pain, it's personal. Get back to *you*.

Living with pain doesn't just change what you do.
It affects who you are.

And while it's ***your*** pain, ***we*** take it personally. Our board-certified, fellowship-trained doctors have the skills and expertise to treat a wide range of conditions. Plus, we're leading the way with innovative treatments like the Intracept procedure for low back pain. All close to home.

So let's help you back to yourself.
Because your pain isn't your identity.



WellSpan.org/Pain

Fall/Winter Cultural Arts Calendar

October

October 1 – 31 - Chinese Art Exhibits @ Schmucker Art Gallery, Gettysburg College www.gettysburg.edu/gallery

October 3 from 5 – 7 pm – First Friday Art Exhibition Opening @ Adams County Arts Council www.adamsarts.org

October 3 at 7 pm – Poetry First Friday @ Ragged Edge Coffeehouse www.theraggededgecoffeehouse.com

October 2 – 18 at 2 and 7 pm – The Rocky Horror Show Live @ Gettysburg Community Theatre www.gettysburgcommunitytheatre.org

October 3 at 7:30 pm and October 4 at 3:00 pm – Eisenhower: This Piece of Ground @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

October 5 at 4 pm – Jeremy Huw Williams, Welsh Baritone @ United Lutheran Seminary www.musicgettysburg.org

October 5 at 5 pm – The Best is Yet to Come (French film) @ Majestic Theater Cinema One www.gettysburgmajestic.org

October 6 at Noon and 7 pm – National Theatre Live: Inter Alia @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

October 7 at 6:30 pm – The Mask You Live In (Documentary) @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

October 9 at 7:30 pm – Sunderman Conservatory Orchestra String Concert @ Majestic www.gettysburgmajestic.org

October 11 at 7 pm – Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital @ Christ Lutheran Church www.christgettysburg.org

October 12 at 5 pm – She had a Dream: Young, Tunisian, and Black (French film) @ Majestic Theater Cinema One www.gettysburgmajestic.org

October 17 at 8 pm – Caroline Shaw and So Percussion, featuring Ringdown @ Majestic www.gettysburgmajestic.org

October 19 at 5 pm – The Animal Kingdom (French film) @ Majestic Theater Cinema One www.gettysburgmajestic.org

October 20 at Noon and 7 pm – Great Art On Screen: Sculptor Jago @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

October 24 at 8 pm – Gettysburg College Choir Concert @ Christ Chapel www.gettysburg.edu/sunderman

October 27: Improv Show @ Gettysburg Community Theatre www.GettysburgCommunityTheatre.org

October 26 at 4 pm – Keystone Brass Quintet @ United Lutheran Seminary www.musicgettysburg.org

October 26 at 5 pm – Pacifiction (French film) @ Majestic Theater Cinema One www.gettysburgmajestic.org

October 27 at Noon and 7 pm – Great Art on Screen: Frida: Viva La Vida www.gettysburgmajestic.org

October 28 at 7:30 pm – Trio Confero @ St. James Lutheran Church www.gettysburgcca.org

October 30 – November 2 – Little Women: The Musical @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

November

November 1 at 7:30 pm – Little Women – The Musical @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

November 1 – 30 – Chinese

Art Exhibits @ Schmucker Art Gallery www.gettysburg.edu/gallery

November 2 at 2 pm – Little Women – The Musical @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

November 3 at 12 and 7 pm – Great Art on Screen/ Lotto and Berenson: Crossed Destinies @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

November 7 y 5-7 pm – New Art Exhibits/Reception @ Adams County Arts Council www.adamsarts.org

November 7 at 7 pm – Poetry First Friday/Poet Matt Hohner @ Ragged Edge Coffeehouse www.theraggededgecoffeehouse.com

November 7 at 8 pm – Sunderman Conservatory Wind Symphony Concert @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

November 9 at 2:30 pm – Jules Young, Tenor Voice Recital @ Schmucker Recital Hall www.gettysburg.edu/sunderman

November 14 @ 6 pm – Centennial Gala-Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and Natalie MacMaster @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

November 14 at 8 pm – Sunderman Sings Voice Area Recital @ Schmucker Recital Hall www.gettysburg.edu/sunderman

November 15 at 7 pm – Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital @ Christ Lutheran Church www.christgettysburg.org

November 16 at 8 pm – Sunderman Conservatory Jazz Ensemble Concert @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

November 21 at 8 pm – Sunderman Conservatory Symphony Orchestra @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

November 22 at 4 pm – Philadelphia Bronze (handbell choir) @ United Lutheran Seminary www.musicgettysburg.org

November 22/23 from 10 am-5 pm – Foothills Artists Studio Tour in the Fairfield Valley

November 27 7 pm- Ben Jones Brass @ Gettysburg Community Theatre www.GettysburgCommunityTheatre.org

www.foothillsartists.net

November 28 at 7 pm – Home for the Holidays Piano Cabaret @ Gettysburg Community Theatre www.GettysburgCommunityTheatre.org

November 30 at 7:30 pm – Advent Vespers @ United Lutheran Seminary www.musicgettysburg.org

December

December 1 at 12 and 7 pm – Great Art On Screen/ Painting the Soul of the 20th Century: Pellizza Da Volpedo @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

December 3 – 14 – Million Dollar Quartet Christmas @ Gettysburg Majestic www.gettysburgmajestic.org

December 3 – April 11 – “Images of Women in Art” Exhibit Opening @ Schmucker Art Gallery www.gettysburg.edu/gallery

December 5 from 5 – 7 pm – New Art Exhibition/Reception @ Adams County Arts Council www.adamsarts.org

December 5 at 7 pm – Poetry First Friday/ Jeanne Griggs @ Ragged Edge Coffeehouse www.theraggededgecoffeehouse.com

December 5 at 7 pm – Tuba Carol Fest / Tree Lighting @ Lincoln Square www.gettysburgbrassband-festival.org

festival.org

December 5 – 21 – Disney “Alice in Wonderland” @ Gettysburg Community Theatre www.GettysburgCommunityTheatre.org

December 5 at 7 pm – Gettysburg Choral Society Christmas Concert @ United Lutheran Seminary www.gettysburgchoralsociety.org

December 5 at 8 pm – Gettysburg College Choir Concert @ Christ Chapel www.gettysburg.edu/sunderman

December 6 at 3 pm – Gettysburg Choral Society Christmas Concert @ ULS www.gettysburgchoralsociety.org

December 13 and 14 at 3 pm – Gettysburg Civic Chorus Christmas Concert @ Gettysburg Area Middle School www.gettysburg-civicchorus.org

December 14 at 7 pm – A Christmas Offering Concert @ United Lutheran Seminary www.musicgettysburg.org

December 19 and 20 – A Gettysburg Christmas(-film) @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

December 31 from 7 – 10 pm – New Year’s Eve Open House @ Christ Lutheran Church www.christgettysburg.org

December 31 at 10 pm ‘til Midnight – New Year’s Eve Celebration in Downtown Gettysburg



Your Historic Happily Ever After

Wedding Ceremonies, Receptions & Lodging all in one place

After party bonfires, rehearsals & brunches too!

From beginning to end, we will ensure your wedding day is perfect!

www.thelodgesatgettysburg.com (717) 642-2500



Fall/Winter Fun and Activities



As the leaves change, visitors look forward to the fall festivities and holiday traditions that make their Gettysburg getaways monumental.

It's no surprise that the site of the bloodiest battle of the Civil War has been called one of the most haunted places in America. From multi-hour ghost hunting adventures to not-so-scary walking tours, visitors will find a range of ways to explore the spooky side of Gettysburg.

Visitors can round out the experience by staying in a historic inn known for its hauntings or gathering around the campfire to tell stories under the stars.

Make sure to save time for leaf peeping on the

battlefield as you walk in the footsteps of history at Gettysburg National Military Park.

The Gettysburg Halloween Parade returns Oct. 21, starting at approximately 7:15 p.m. Ghouls, ghosts, and other costumed characters will creep from Lincoln Square to Steinwehr Avenue in this fun-filled family event.

While the weeks surrounding Halloween are the most popular time to embark on paranormal adventures, visitors can find ghost tours available throughout the year.

Fall also marks a time of harvest, particularly for apples. Adams County is the No. 1 apple producing county in Pennsylvania and No. 5 in the U.S.,

according to the 2022 Census of Agriculture.

All things apple are celebrated at the National Apple Harvest Festival, which marks its 60th anniversary in 2024. In nearby Arendtsville at the South Mountain Fairgrounds, festival attendees enjoy apple treats offered nearly two dozen ways, live music, artisan demonstrations, activities for children, a petting zoo and more. The festival is always held the first two full weekends of October, this year Oct. 4-5 and 11-12.

To experience the full breadth of the region's bountiful harvest, sign up for a free digital Adams County Crop Hop passport at AdamsCountyCropHop.com. The passport guides users to

family farms and agricultural attractions where they can pick pumpkins, explore a corn maze, ride horses in the countryside, and more. Check in at each location through the passport to unlock discounts and redeem points for prizes.

As Thanksgiving approaches so does the anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Each year on Nov. 19 this town commemorates Education Day, the day in 1863 when Soldiers' National Cemetery was dedicated. Remembrance Day, Nov. 11, includes the Remembrance Day Parade, when re-enactors don their Civil War attire and march through the streets of Gettysburg to recognize those who fought in the war.

Once the sun sets on Thanksgiving, the holiday season kicks off the next day with the Christmas tree lighting on Lincoln Square. This time of year, chefs serve up festive dishes and drinks, businesses adorn themselves with twinkling lights, and horse drawn carriages clip clop through the streets.

The A Gettysburg Christmas Festival is held the

first weekend in December, this year Dec. 5-7.

The merriment continues throughout the month of December, including through the annual Gettysburg Tuba Carol Fest. Musicians from far and wide gather to perform holiday favorites outside Hotel Gettysburg on Lincoln Square. Visitors are encouraged to sing along at the Dec. 13, 7 p.m. performance.

Eisenhower National Historic Site, home of America's 34th president, opens its doors in December for special Christmas tours of the home where Dwight and his wife Mamie once lived.

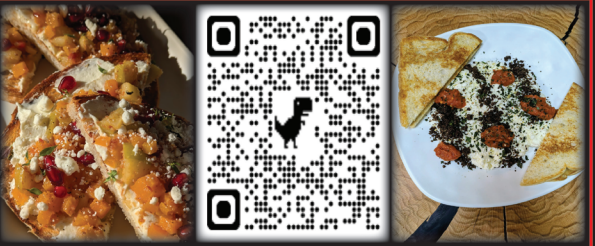
From the fall harvest to the holiday season, Gettysburg and Adams County offer enriching experiences that bring loved ones together to celebrate what matters most. Visit Destination-Gettysburg.com to learn more.

By Mary Grace Kauffman



CREATE
@48
Fresh, Local, Seasonal Cuisine
48 York Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Farm to Fork for Brunch and Dinner





Get easy access to hundreds of stories about Gettysburg and Adams County





Welcome To
GARA
GETTYSBURG AREA
RECREATION AUTHORITY
www.gara-recpark.info

Growing our community with wholesome, safe, and sustainable parks and recreation programs



Live Music Scene



The **Arts Oasis Stage** on the Gettysburg Square is a popular venue for performances by solo artists and bands. Stop by and pull up a folding chair on weekend nights, 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Ploughman also hosts four concerts at the **National Apple Museum in Biglerville**. If you're lucky, you might catch a set from one of the county's most popular bands, *Chuck*

Reid's Orchard and Winery, located at 400 Baltimore Street, hosts live music every Friday and Saturday. The Open Mic with Frank N Bob, Sundays at 2 p.m. is hosted by veteran musicians Frank Davies

Waldo's and Co, a coffee bar and arts studio located at 17 Lincoln Square, Gettysburg, hosts an Open Mic every last Friday of the month, in addition to its artist exhibitions and poetry readings. <https://www.waldosandco.com>

**For a full live music
schedule, please check
our events calendar at
[https://gettysburgcon-
nection.org/live-music-
in-adams-county-pa/](https://gettysburgconnection.org/live-music-in-adams-county-pa/)**



December 19th & 20th
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Live Nativity

Mountain Top Ministries
200 Church Rd, Orrtanna, PA 17353
(717) 334-5430

(Walk through and drive through options)

Come join us for our Annual Live Nativity and experience the true meaning of Christmas!

Gettysburg Majestic Theater Turns 100



Exactly a century ago this Nov. 14, 1,500 people gathered at what was once a vacant lot behind the 183-year-old Hotel Gettysburg building in Lincoln Square. The crowd was there to attend the opening of the newly-built Majestic Theater, designed by prominent Philadelphia architect William H. Lee.

Conceived by Henry M. Scharf, who managed the hotel and later became president of the Gettysburg Times, the Colonial Revival-style venue claimed its home in the town as the largest vaudeville and silent movie theater in South Central Pennsylvania.

The first silent film and vaudeville show at the Majestic began a century of showcasing film, theater, music, dance, and visual arts as the theater grew its imprint on the town.

During the 1950s, then Gettysburg residents Ike and Maime Eisenhower regularly attended shows, and the theater's ballroom served as a meeting place for White House press conferences when the first couple was in residence at their nearby farm.

Later, in 1983, a massive fire destroyed the original Gettysburg Hotel — flames

could be seen over a mile away — and although the theater annex survived, excessive water damage closed it until the following year, when it reopened as a triplex cinema.

Gettysburg College purchased the movie theater, along with the hotel, in 1988 for the purpose of restoring and preserving a historic landmark, revitalizing Lincoln Square, and creating a long-lasting college/community cooperation.

In 2004, the College launched a meticulous \$16.5 million restoration, led by the Majestic's founding Executive Director Jeffrey Gabel. The campaign represented significant investments by Gettysburg College, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania under Gov. Ed Rendell, and a leadership gift from Dave and Jennifer LeVan that inspired thousands of other community members to join the cause.

Beautifully restored with embossed tin ceilings and marble floors, the Majestic reopened in 2005 as an arts venue housing a large proscenium theater with an elevating orchestra pit and balcony seating, two cinemas, an art gallery, a patrons' lounge, concessions on two

floors, and a café named after Mamie Eisenhower.

The College's Sunderman Conservatory of Music uses the main auditorium for rehearsal and performance space, and the Majestic has hosted a variety of public performances there in addition to films and live performances by professional artists in the intimate cinemas.

Gabel — who dubbed the Majestic “the grandest small-town theater in America” — retired after 20 years of dedicated service in January 2024 after programming upwards of 300 concerts, raising more than \$21.7 million in community support, and establishing a \$5.9 million endowment. Gable said that one of his most important accomplishments was producing the widely popular “Who Are We? A Festival Celebrating the Films of Ken Burns” festival, which showcased all nine episodes of the “Civil War” film series in 2023. Burns participated in the three-day festival, engaging in various discussions and question-and-answer sessions with students and other guests. The film festival has continued annually since then.

The theater's current Executive Director, Brett W. Messenger, came on board

a little more than a year ago in time to curate an exciting landmark Centennial Celebration. In the “Majestic 100: 2025-2026 Centennial Season” program, he promises many more once-in-a-lifetime experiences to come.

On Thursday, Sept. 18, the theater began its celebration with a viewing of Charlie Chaplin's “The Gold Rush,” accompanied by the Paragon Ragtime Orchestra.

On the first weekend in October, the Majestic will present two performances of “Eisenhower: This Piece of Ground” — a one-man play set at Eisenhower's Gettysburg farm in 1962. Tony Award-winner John Rubenstein (known for his title role in the Broadway musical “Pippin”) portrays then-former President Eisenhower, reflecting on his life and pondering the definition of greatness.

Adapted from Eisenhower's memoirs and written by Richard Hellesten, the play opened off-Broadway in 2023 in Los Angeles and has been performed in New York, Maryland, and Alaska. On the heels of September's World War II Weekend at the Eisenhower Farm, the play will be performed in Gettysburg, where it is set — in the theater that the Eisenhowers frequented — for the first time.

One hundred years from the day the Majestic opened its doors on Nov. 14 in 1925, the daring Orpheus Chamber Orchestra will perform with Celtic music superstar Natalie MacMaster. A Grammy award-winning ensemble independent of a conductor, the OCO has been described as an experiment in musical democracy (the musicians interpret the score).

MacMaster — a Canadian-born artist who's built an extensive career as a fiddler and step dancer — has multiple Canadian music awards, albums, singles and music videos under her belt. Gala

ticket packages (in addition to tickets to the collaborative performance) are available.

On Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2026, the Centennial Celebration will culminate in a performance of iconic works by the Martha Graham Dance Company — the oldest dance company in the United States, and also anticipating its own Centennial in 2026 — to honor Gabel's legacy of presenting premiere dance artists in Gettysburg.

Founder Martha Graham (1894-1991) was named “Dancer of the Century” by TIME Magazine in 1998, and the program features some of her renowned works as well as the work of dynamic choreographers today. In a special appearance, John Rubinstein will return to narrate Graham's 1944 ballet “Appalachian Spring” and perform Leonard Bernstein's “Simple Song.”

Please visit <https://www.gettysburgmajestic.org> for more information about the Centennial Celebration and other performances and film screenings during the Majestic's 100th season. Tickets are available for purchase online or at the Majestic Theater Box Office, 25 Carlisle Street, (717) 337-8200.

By Judi Seniura





The BEST After School Program *in Gettysburg!*

✓ Parkour ✓ Best Friends ✓ Exciting Games ✓ Leadership Skills
✓ Outdoor Play ✓ Team Sports ✓ Martial Arts ✓ Dance

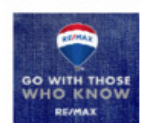
26C Springs Avenue, Gettysburg, PA 17325 | 717-698-5298 | gettysburgafterschool.com



Suzanne Christianson
Realtor®/Owner
302 York Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325
Cell (717) 357-0952 Office (717) 338-0881
SuzanneChristianson@remax.net

Thinking of Buying or Selling?

Give Me a Call!



* My Clients Are the Best Part of My Business *

Take a Ride Into the Past

Gettysburg Rail Excursions

GettysburgRailway.com

EXPERIENCE THE EXCITEMENT OF HELICOPTER FLIGHT WITH TRIPWIRE AVIATION

- Private Battlefield Tours (Custom Package)
- Aerial Tours of Gettysburg, and Adams County Orchard and Wine Country
- Vineyard Tour and Tasting (Custom Package)
- Introductory Helicopter Flights
- Birthday, Anniversary, Wedding Proposal Flights
- Baby Gender Reveals
- Charity Events / Raffle Rides
- Crop Drying and Frost Control
- Aerial Photo Flights/News Gathering
- And More...

staff@tripwireaviation.com X (formerly Twitter) @Tripwire_AV8 TOLL FREE: 888-338-8031

Lincoln Will Return to Gettysburg in 2026



Citizens and visitors to Gettysburg will have an opportunity to walk in President Abraham Lincoln’s shoes and immerse themselves into the 1863 dedication of Soldiers National Cemetery during the event’s 163rd anniversary in 2026.

Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania Board

President Wendy Allen and Gettysburg National Military Park Chief Interpreter Christopher Gwinn said the two organizations are preparing a real-time re-enactment of Lincoln’s historic visit to Gettysburg.

The special event is being billed as Gettysburg’s signature America 250

event. To mark the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, towns and National Parks across the country are being encouraged to host events that highlight their place in American history.

A Lincoln impersonator will arrive in town via steam train on Nov. 18 as

occurred in 1863, Allen said. People will be invited to converge on the town’s square in preparation for the next day’s activities.

The next day, the Lincoln impersonator, people playing his guests, and anyone wishing to join will walk the approximately one mile from Lincoln Square to Soldiers National Cemetery. A ceremony similar to the 1863 event will occur there.

Gwinn said the National Park Service is in full cooperation with the event. It annually supports the Lincoln Fellowship’s Dedication Day Ceremony.

“It’s by far my favorite community event,” Gwinn said. “At the same time, the format is very much like the Bill Murray movie *Groundhog Day*,

where it is the same thing year after year.”

In 2026, Dedication Day will be almost identical to the event in 1863. However, it is unlikely that the person playing American politician Edward Everett will recite the entire two-hour speech Everett delivered before Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address.

Allen said the event will be an immersive experience for guests.

“If Lincoln wants to take a selfie with someone, it’s going to happen,” Allen said.

She also said the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania plans to capture content during the two days that it can share with educational institutions that study the Gettysburg Address.

Chester Springs
Wealth Management Group
A private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC

Ameriprise Financial

1105 Shrivvers Corner Road • Gettysburg, PA 17325 • 717.337.3481

Not FDIC or NCUA Insured | No Financial Institution Guarantee | May Lose Value. Ameriprise Financial, Inc. does not offer tax or legal advice. Consult with a tax advisor or attorney. Securities offered by Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. Member FINRA and SIPC. © 2025 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.

The goals that matter to you matter to us.

- One-to-one financial advice
- Personalized recommendations
- Tax planning strategies
- Retirement planning
- Investment management
- Estate planning strategies

More than an Airbnb and not quite a B&B...

... Just the perfect custom getaway!

Timmins on Buford

"Your Own Gettysburg Address!"

Stay in our family home since 1924. Built by the grandson of famed battlefield photographer, W.H. Tipton. Featuring 4 bedrooms, named for a Civil War figure.

- Walk to downtown Gettysburg
- Optional weekend breakfast buffet or basket
- Midweek specials and off-season rates
- Custom concierge list: (we'll stock fridge or set up tea service)
- Enjoy the excitement of downtown and the suburbs

222 Buford Avenue, Gettysburg, PA 17325
Email: TimminsOnBuford@gmail.com or call 717-968-6037

WELCOME TO GETTYSBURG!

DESTINATION
Gettysburg!
ADAMS COUNTY, PA

DestinationGettysburg.com

Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S.

For more than a decade, Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S. has quietly but steadily offered safety and dignity to people experiencing homelessness.

What began in 2012 as a rotating cold-weather shelter hosted by local churches has grown into a seasonal overnight refuge at St. James Lutheran Church in Gettysburg, with a nearby resource center and daily breakfast program supported by congregations, volunteers, and community partners.

Board chair Paul Stokely said the program was founded after community members noticed increasing numbers of people sleeping on porches and in local parks. "The founders realized there was really nothing set up to take someone in that same day," he explained. "C.A.R.E.S.

was created to fill that gap."

Incorporated in 2013, the organization now houses about 30 nightly guests, including individuals, couples, and families with children. Roughly 85 percent of those served are Adams County residents.

Stokely said many of the shelter's guests are working but still unable to make ends meet in the tight and costly local housing market. "I was surprised by the number of people holding down jobs — some even with two jobs — who just can't scrape it together," he said.

"I thought homelessness meant giving up. But these are people trying every day, and we can help them."

The shelter's operations depend on a small staff, over 100 trained volunteers, and partnerships with churches

and organizations like the Interfaith Center for Peace and Justice.

Volunteers spend the night at the shelter, prepare weekly breakfasts, or help with services such as laundry, transportation, or even haircuts before job interviews. "We have a core group coming in monthly or weekly," Stokely said.

C.A.R.E.S. also maintains a resource center next to St. James, offering laundry, computers, and mail services to help guests apply for jobs or receive official correspondence.

Families, Stokely noted, are especially vulnerable. "The heartbreaking ones are parents with kids. It's disruptive to try to go to school without a stable home, yet the resilience of those children has amazed me," he said.

The nonprofit operates almost entirely on com-

munity support, with no federal funding for the shelter or meals. Fundraisers like church appeals, small-donor campaigns, and the Adams County Giving Spree sustain its programs.

Earlier this year, C.A.R.E.S. purchased a Chambersburg Street house using county funds, which the board hopes to renovate and rent affordably.

Looking ahead, Stokely said the biggest challenges are both structural and generational. Housing shortages and limited federal vouchers keep families in crisis, while the volunteer base is aging. "My wife Sarah and I are among the youngest people helping out, and we need more young people to get involved," he said.

Despite the obstacles, Stokely remains hopeful. "People are amazingly generous.

Over the last two years, we've had more than 600 donors, most of them giving small amounts. That kind of broad support means the most to me," he said. "It shows the community believes in what we're doing—providing shelter, food, and the chance for people to get back on their feet."

For more information, visit gettysburgcares.org, email director@gettysburgcares.org, or call 717-334-4195.

Shop the best
in
Gettysburg

Scan here to
browse our Online
Shopping Listings!

Fairfield Carmelites



On a quiet stretch of farmland near Fairfield, in Adams County, far from the noise of highways and screens, a small community of Carmelite sisters has built a hidden world of silence, prayer, and sacrifice.

The Carmel of Jesus, Mary and Joseph was established here in 2009 within the Diocese of Harrisburg. The sisters live in strict enclosure, following a centuries-old rhythm of prayer and work. Supporting them are extern sisters who manage outside contact and allow the cloistered nuns to remain fully devoted to contemplation. Life inside begins before dawn. At 5:00 a.m. the bell calls the sisters to the Divine Office, followed by Mass and an hour of silent prayer. Meals are taken in silence, accompanied by spiritual readings. The

day alternates between work and prayer—sewing, gardening, cleaning—until Compline ends the evening. Lights are out by 10:30 p.m., ready to begin again.

Contact with loved ones is limited to a week per year, behind a grille in the speak room, with no physical touch. Technology is absent; even heating comes from hand-built masonry stoves. “Life is simple so the sisters’ hearts are free to focus only on our Lord,” one extern explained.

The sisters describe their lifestyle as one of simplicity and detachment. By renouncing conveniences, they believe they can love God and others more purely. “When you are detached, you can see the true beauty of a person,” one said. “Our

hearts are meant to belong entirely to God.”

The Carmel stands on 39 acres of farmland. Construction of the stone buildings has progressed slowly, one structure at a time: the refectory, recreation hall, living cells, and a timber-frame chapel. Donations arrive just as funds seem to run out, which the sisters regard as providential. Yet needs remain urgent. “We are desperately trying to build our novitiate building,” said an extern. “With so many vocations, we need a place for young women to be trained in the Carmelite way of life.”

Behind the walls, the sisters strive to produce what they need. A large vegetable garden, orchard, and dairy animals supply much of their food. Cheese is made from their own

goats and sheep, habits are sewn by hand, and wood is cut for heating. Every sister contributes, whether through cooking, cleaning, animal care, or mending. Special talents, such as knitting or drawing, are encouraged. “If you don’t put in your share, there won’t be food or heat,” one sister noted. “It inspires generosity. Everyone learns, everyone contributes.”

Despite the austerity, interest is growing. Dozens of young women from across the country have inquired—some from as far away as Puerto Rico. The process of acceptance is deliberate: a week-long visit, then a year as an aspirant, followed by several more years of formation before final vows. “What we look for most is conviction and desire,” said one sister.

When communities grow too large, Carmelites found new monasteries. Already this year, sisters from this house have helped establish foundations in Wisconsin and Canada, and others may one day do the same elsewhere.

Though cloistered, the sisters insist their life is profoundly missionary. Every hour of prayer,

every sacrifice of comfort, they say, is offered for the sake of souls everywhere. “We don’t go out and preach,” one extern said. “Our prayers are given to Christ to spend however He sees fit. That is our mission.”

Twice daily, cloistered sisters gather for “recreation,” when they may talk freely. Much of their conversation still circles back to faith, though laughter is welcome. “We are our own family, and we love one another dearly,” one sister said.

The Carmelite sisters of Fairfield continue their slow construction project, stone by stone. The immediate goal is the Novitiate, a place where young women can be trained for a lifetime of prayer. Visitors glimpse only a fraction of this hidden world—the Extern Chapel, the Speak Room—but most of the Carmel remains unseen, dedicated to a rhythm of silence and devotion that has endured for centuries.

“It is proper,” one sister said softly, “that in a world where God is so often forgotten, there are souls who belong entirely to Him.”

Gettysburg Connection is published by Gettysburg Connection Media, LLC PO Box 4101 Gettysburg, PA 17325; web: gettysburgconnection.org; email: editor@gettysburgconnection.org; phone: 717-340-2171.

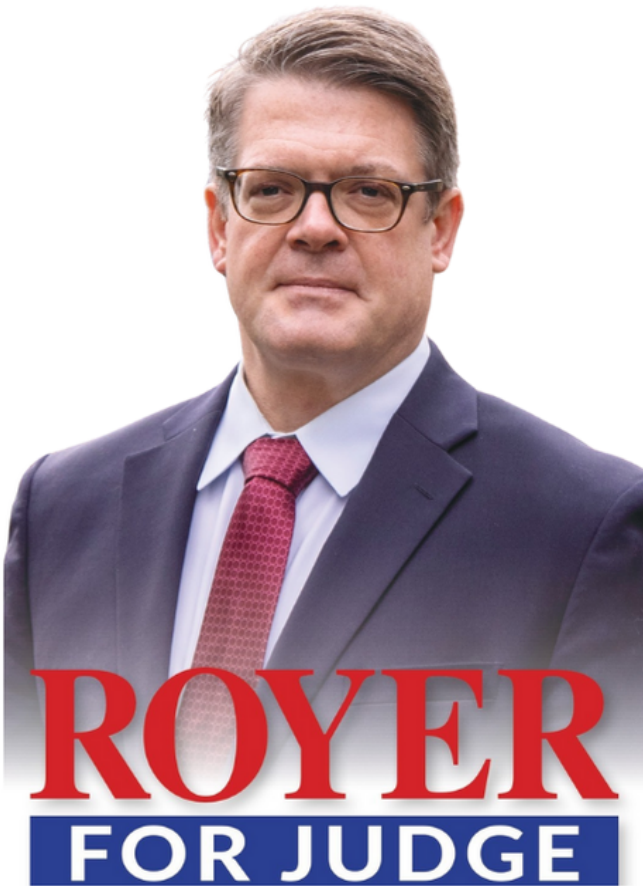
Vision and Audiology Care
for the **Whole Family!**

DARRELL M. SIPE
Opticians and Hearing Aids

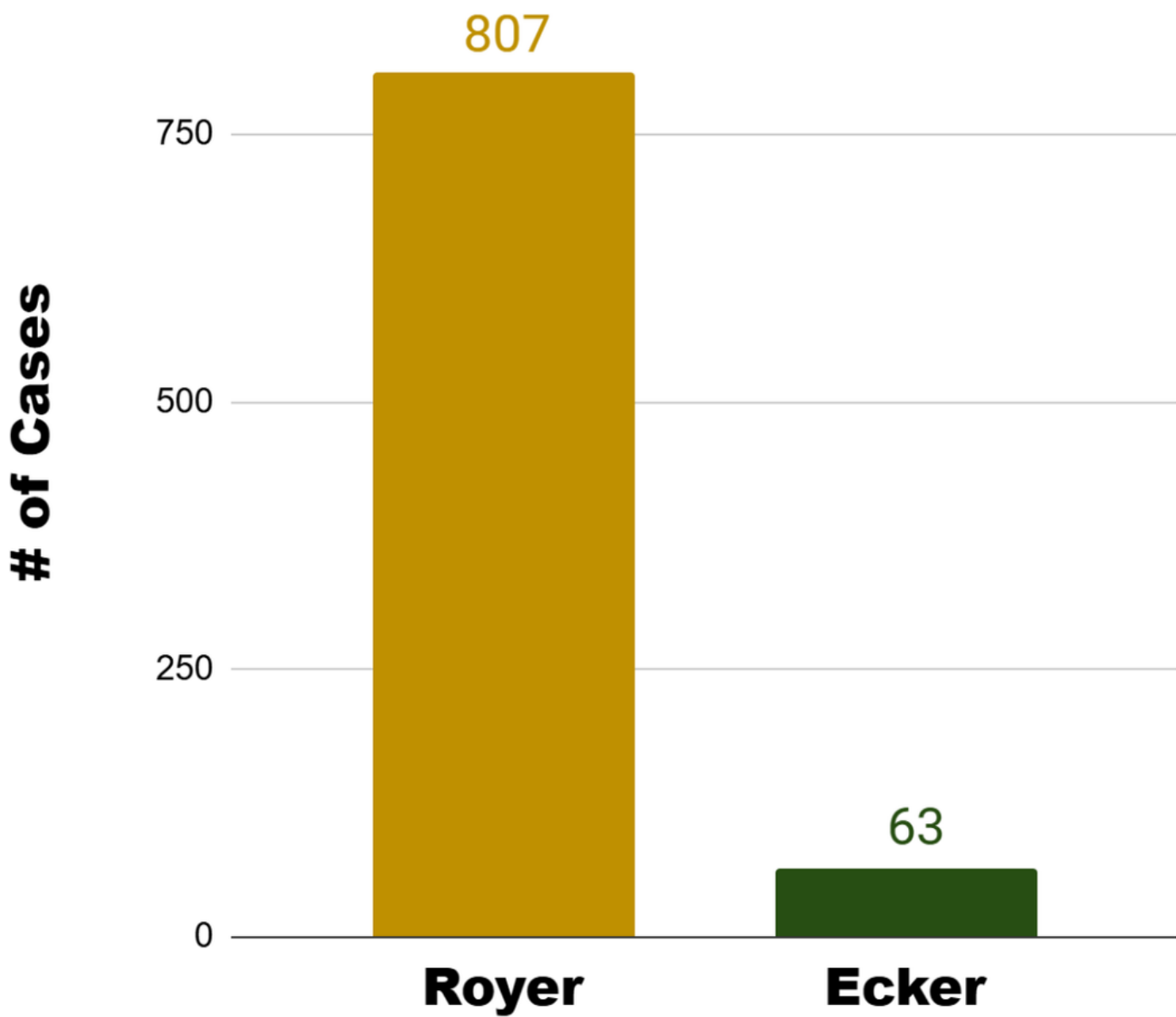
NOW OPEN
39 N. Washington Street • Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-400-5558

**EXPERIENCE
MATTERS!**

**Vote Paul Royer
on November 4**



**Adams & York County Court Cases
Criminal, Civil, and Family
2000 - July 2025**



Source: Unified Judicial System (usj.us/gov); Does not include dependency & juvenile cases which are not publicly available.
Authorized by Royer for Judge Committee; Paid for by Kenneth O'Bryant.