

Gettysburg Connection



FREE! Spring Issue, 2025

News, Culture, and Arts From Adams County, PA
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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.

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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 nickels, dimes and quarters at the meters. But you'll need 16 quarters to park for two hours near the square. 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 drop-box 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.



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Food to Fork: Create @ 48



Nestled in the historic charm of Gettysburg at 48 York St. less than one block from Lincoln Square, Jason and Nicole Suski's new restaurant, *Create @ 48*, has brought a fresh twist to farm-to-fork dining.

Create @ 48 offers an intimate and unique dining experience that's winning over locals and visitors alike. With a focus on quality, fresh ingredients, and personal connections, their vision is redefining what it means to dine out in our small town.

"We started the business during the pandemic," Nicole explained. "Initially, we were catering and hosting in-home dinner parties, offering a formal dining experience right in people's homes. But we've always dreamed of hav-

ing our own brick-and-mortar location."

That dream became a reality when they found their current space in a Civil War building in Gettysburg. The building, perfect for their concept, spoke to Chef Jason, who is not only a culinary mastermind but also a Civil War enthusiast. "When we learned it could be zoned for a restaurant, we had to make this happen," Jason shared.

"We're all about quality over quantity," Nicole said. "With only 24 seats, reservations are highly recommended. We've had to turn people away and it felt terrible."

Open from Thursday through Sunday, with plans to expand to Wednesdays, the restaurant expects to feature two seating windows – 5:00 pm to

6:00 pm, then 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

For those seeking a private experience, the space can be reserved for exclusive events.

Operating in a historic building comes with its quirks. Open flames are not permitted, but with Chef Jason's 30+ years in the kitchen, he is able to adapt to any situation.

"Almost everything we serve is fresh, local, and seasonal, with a few choice high-end international ingredients that Chef has come across during his travels," Nicole emphasized. "Our menu is small, but every dish is crafted to perfection."

The restaurant's commitment to local ingredients shines through in their partnerships with dozens of regional suppliers. Dishes like chicken liver paté tartine, oyster mush-

room gnocchi, braised beef short rib melt, and Wagu tartare highlight the best of what the area has to offer. Many dishes are titled with the local supplier that provides the raw materials.

The front bay window will soon house an herb garden filled with edible flowers and microgreens, further emphasizing their farm-to-table ethos.

"We're very proud of where we live," said Nicole. "We want both locals and visitors to appreciate the fresh, local produce and learn about our suppliers."

Nicole, who runs the front of the house, takes pride in creating a welcoming atmosphere. "I love getting to know our regulars on a first-name basis," she shared. "We want every visit to feel special, with fond farewells that leave a lasting impression."

The restaurant's BYOB policy, with no corkage fee, adds to the relaxed yet upscale vibe. Portions are generous, and while the menu is limited, the ever-changing offerings ensure there's always something exciting. "If you don't find something you love this week, chances are you'll find something to knock

your socks off next week," said Nicole. "This town reminds us so much of Charleston, South Carolina, where Jason and I met," said Nicole. "The local history, the horse and carriage rides — it's the perfect place for us. We're thrilled to be here and to share our passion with this community."

So whether you're a local or just passing through, make a reservation and prepare for an unforgettable culinary journey. Just don't forget to bring your favorite bottle of wine!

Dining at CrEATe @ 48? Please tell them, "I read about you in the Connection."

Learn more about Gettysburg

Visit our Community Bulletin Board



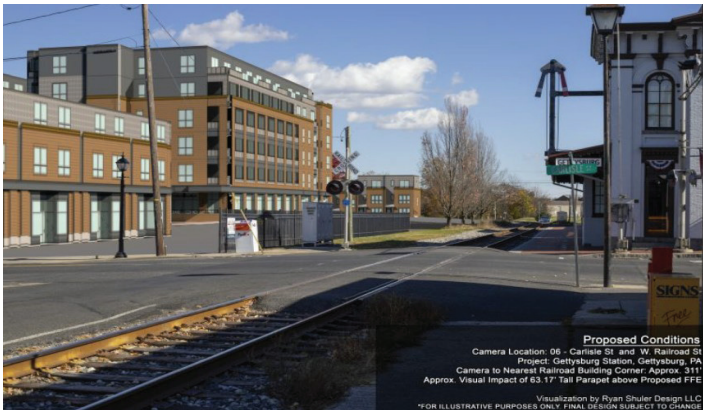


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Proposed Building Creates Controversy



At the time of the Battle of Gettysburg, a two-acre site between Carlisle and North Stratton Streets, next to the historic Lincoln Train Station, was home to hardware stores, lumberyards and other commercial uses that needed rail service to transport goods and materials.

The area saw action during the battle as Confederate troops led by Jubal Early burned rail cars there. The station also served as a field hospital, and many wounded soldiers were transported home via this rail line.

In 1863, Abraham Lincoln arrived at the station the day before he delivered his world-famous Gettysburg Address.

By the early 2000’s there were only a

few modest buildings left on the site – a homeless shelter and a books and antiques shop. An abandoned gas station faced Carlisle Street.

These buildings were demolished when commercial development on the site seemed likely, and the vacant site served as a home for the Adams County Farmers Market for several years.

Over the past decade, the Gettysburg Borough Council has worked to find a developer for the site.

In 2018, the council narrowly approved a zoning variance that would allow a taller building of 72 feet on the property, and a developer purchased the site. The developer plans to build a 6-story apartment building with retail

space on the first floor.

But some residents want more consideration about the design before the building, which will change Gettysburg’s landscape, is built. Currently, the Gettysburg Hotel is the tallest building in the borough.

A citizen advocacy group, “Save Historic Gettysburg,” has been formed. The group has circulated a petition to stop the building which has been signed by over 1,000 people, and yard signs opposing the project are springing up around town.

“The site holds a powerful significance, both nationally and internationally; its reputational value is priceless,” said a Save Historic Gettysburg spokesperson.

“Our concern is that it be a net positive rather than a net negative for the borough, and the height of the building is a negative. Tourism – our #1 economy -- could be

negatively affected,” she said.

The group is also focused on the exterior design. “It could be more attractive; It’s a very modern looking plan,” said the spokesperson.

TCH Development Co. LLC was the only developer among a number of interested parties that followed up. The design will include a bicycle trail and underground parking.

The site sits only yards from the historic train station and concerns have been raised about traffic flow, green space, storm-water runoff, and reclaiming historical artifacts.

Another difficulty is that a recently-constructed bus station must be moved to make way for the proposed building. “The transit center has the only handicapped restrooms in the area. Where will visitors go?” asked a Gettysburg resident.

Residents have noted that Gettysburg is already densely populated, with over 4,000

people per acre, and adding more residents would only worsen existing traffic problems. The borough council says the project is necessary to increase housing options in the borough, but a housing study has not been done and residents have questioned the need for more housing downtown.

The Gettysburg Historical Area Review Board, charged with assuring new construction meets the goal of historical appropriateness, has approved the project but there has not yet been a final design from the developer.

The Gettysburg Borough Planning Commission will begin considering the project in the next few months. Residents will ask for a cost-benefit analysis, a housing study, and a traffic study before a final decision is made.

One of three buildings in the proposed ‘Gettysburg Station’ project.



Save Historic Gettysburg!

Borough Council has approved a proposed 7-story apartment building which will impact traffic, infrastructure, and the character of Gettysburg. Ensure your voice is heard; advocate for a development plan that aligns with the values and needs of our community. Visit www.SaveHistoricGettysburg.com to learn more and to sign a petition that calls for Borough Council to reconsider this decision.

Together, we can make a difference to preserve the unique charm of Gettysburg.



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Adams County Farmers Market



Nestled in the heart of historic Gettysburg, the Adams County Farmers Market (ACFM) has flourished into a cornerstone of the community since its founding in 2008.

Today, the market is recognized as a leader among regional farmers markets, drawing attention even from major metropolitan markets eager to learn from its successful model.

More than just a place to shop for fresh produce, the market has become a vital economic driver and a powerful force for

food accessibility in the community.

Market visitors can browse an ever-expanding array of offerings, from fresh fruits and vegetables, mushrooms, and hummus to locally crafted goat cheese. Breads and sweet treats from local vendors add to the market’s appeal. Food trucks and coffee carts provide convenient options for a quick bite or a warm beverage, with more exciting additions expected in the coming season.

But ACFM is more than a marketplace — it’s also a community hub that fosters connections through special events and activities. This year’s highlights

include a Fairy Festival, a Homesteading & Sustainability Expo, a Pollinator Festival, and the highly anticipated Zucchini Grand Prix.

The Summer Music Festival on Memorial Day weekend is another must-attend event, held at the market and the rec park bandstand.

One of the defining characteristics of ACFM is its commitment to ensuring that fresh, healthy food is accessible to everyone, regardless of income. The market’s innovative food assistance programs have made it

a standout in Pennsylvania.

Through the SNAP Double Dollars initiative, food stamps are doubled, allowing lower-income shoppers to stretch their benefits further. Additionally, ACFM participates in the Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP), which benefits lower-income seniors and families enrolled in the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program. Impressively, ACFM doubles FMNP benefits, maximizing their impact for those in need.

Perhaps the crown jewel of these efforts is Healthy Options, a unique program developed in partnership with the Gettysburg Hospital Foundation, Healthy Adams County, and the Food Policy Council. This initiative serves individuals who fall into the “food gap” — those who do not qualify for SNAP or other assistance programs but are still food insecure. Healthcare providers and agencies refer individuals to the program, which currently has a waiting list

due to its success and demand.

The numbers speak volumes. In 2024 alone, 212 people used the Double Dollars program, 324 lower-income seniors benefitted from FMNP, 316 moms utilized WIC assistance, and Healthy Options served approximately 779 individuals and families, including many Spanish-speaking households.

These initiatives do more than just provide food; they create sustainable revenue streams for vendors, reinforcing the market’s economic foundation. “Food programs are the underpinning of the market’s success,” one market organizer noted.

Beyond commerce, the market has served as a launchpad for many small businesses, allowing vendors to establish their brand and, in some cases, even open brick-and-mortar shops.

Mark your calendars! The Opening Day of the 2025 Adams County Farmers Market is Saturday, April 26th, from 8 AM to 1 PM.

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Gettysburg Pride 2025

The 9th Annual Gettysburg Pride Weekend will be held May 30-June 1, 2025.

Official events for the weekend include a dance party at Waldo’s on Friday, May 30th.

The large outdoor Pride Fest will be held Saturday, May 31st on Lincoln Square, with over 50 different vendors, participation from all-loving/affirming inclusive local churches, and many small business restaurants, bars, and shops sponsoring the event.

Premiere level sponsors are WellSpan Health, Field & Floor FX, and Graphcom, as well as UPMC and Phoenix Counseling.

Sunday, June 1st will be the official Gettysburg Pride Drag Brunch which will be held at one of Gettysburg’s newest restaurants, The Sign Of The Buck. Many activities during Gettysburg Pride Weekend are free admission, and the full detailed schedule will be available at www.GettysburgPride.org.

Gettysburg Pride Inc. is an official non-profit 501c3 organization reg-

istered with the IRS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and their Bureau of Charitable Organizations, as well as Guide Star.

“We achieve our goals through organizing community events which include education, advocacy, awareness for the LGBTQ+ community and our allies”, says Chad-Alan Carr, Gettysburg Pride Inc Co-Founder/President. “Gettysburg Pride Fest is always a lot of work just for one day, but thankfully the Gettysburg Pride Inc volunteers and the many business sponsors and donors make it all worth it.”

In the summer of 2017, a few friends were sitting around wondering why Gettysburg didn’t have a Gay Pride event yet like much of the country has had since Gay Pride began in 1970 after the NYC Stonewall Riot of 1969.

A small group of gay residents of Gettysburg decided to organize a bar crawl even though they only had two weeks to plan. They thought maybe a dozen people would show up and it would be a fun night to celebrate together. Over

80 people filled the bar at Hotel Gettysburg’s One Lincoln where the event began in June 2017. Pride flags, glow in the dark necklaces, and lots of smiles with friends old and new filled many local bars as the crowd walked around historic Lincoln Square with Pride.

Each year since, Gettysburg Pride Fest grows larger with a full weekend of events of all kinds including education/outreach programs, free rapid HIV testing and counseling, NYC style piano bar cabaret, a pride march on Lincoln Square, vendors, Drag brunch, dance parties, and more. Many businesses in town sponsor Gettysburg Pride Fest each year and cover downtown in pride rainbow flags that show attendees that they are supportive and that they are a safe place where all are welcome.

Gettysburg Pride Fest 2025 will be held May 31st on Lincoln Square with over 50 vendors, live music, and also educational opportunities from professionals on topics such as health, faith, and even how to be a better ally. Former Mayor Ted Streeter proclaimed

June as Gettysburg Pride Month in 2019, and Mayor Rita Frealing has proclaimed June as Gettysburg Pride Month 2022-2024.

Thanks to Borough of Gettysburg Manager Charles Gable, the Public Works Department, Mayor Frealing, Chief Glenny, and Gettysburg Borough Police Department for their planning, there will be a fun and safe Pride March on Lincoln Square on Saturday afternoon with a popsicle social and Glitter Blessing at the end of the march at the Unitarian Universalist Gettysburg on Stratton Street.

“I support our Gettysburg Borough Police Officers”, said Carr, “and have all my trust in them that they will keep everyone safe. I am happy to have them even more involved this year with Gettysburg Pride Fest planning and I am confident in the security measures that they have made for a successful and safe community event. As always though I encourage everyone to be smart, look both ways before crossing at crosswalks, and do not just step into the

street into traffic. It is going to be a busy town just as it is every summer in Gettysburg.”

Information on sponsorship and advertising opportunities to be in the official Gettysburg Pride Fest 2025 program is available at www.GettysburgPride.org

Gettysburg Pride Inc encourages all local businesses and residents to get involved and show everyone where they can go to be loved and accepted for who they are. Gettysburg Pride is always the weekend after Memorial Day Monday. Gettysburg Pride hopes to see everyone smiling and having a fun safe time in the grandest small town in America with the biggest heart, where ALL are welcome, and ALL are created equal!

Mission Statement: To inspire diversity, equality, and inclusion in our community by providing opportunities for education and awareness of LGBTQ+ and Allies.

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9th Annual Gettysburg Pride Fest

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Lincoln Square
www.GettysburgPride.org

Gettysburg Pride Inc's mission is to inspire diversity, equality, and inclusion in our community by providing opportunities for education and awareness of LGBTQ+ and Allies.





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Learn more at [WellSpan.org/Cancer](https://www.wellspan.org/cancer)

Spring Cultural Arts Calendar

Here, thanks to the hard work of Gettysburg Resident Gail Jones, is a curated list of some of the many cultural arts events occurring in Adams County in the next months. We are blessed to have so many opportunities.

We’re looking forward to seeing y’all there.

Gettysburg First Fridays
March 7; April 4; May 2; 5 to 7 pm @ Downtown Gettysburg
Art exhibits, poetry readings, shopping, and more.

March

March 1 through April 12 – The Art of Travel @ Schmucker Art Gallery
This exhibition, directed by Professor Yan Sun and curated by students, explores the theme of travel through Eastern and Western art and features prints, paintings, carvings, and photography.

March 1 at 7:30 pm – NYChillharmonic @ Gettysburg Majestic Theater
NYChillharmonic is a Brooklyn-based 18-piece progressive-rock orchestra led by Sara McDonald. The music fuses multiple genres including

rock, pop, classical, and jazz while sonically embracing unconventional textures, arrangements, and harmonies. Tickets: \$39/\$29/\$24.

March 15th 7pm @ Gettysburg Community Theatre
Miss Gettysburg Scholarship Competition

March 20 – 22 at 7:30 pm; March 23 at 3 pm - Josephine: A Burlesque Cabaret Dream Play @ Gettysburg Majestic Theater
Experience this award-winning one-woman biographical musical that combines cabaret, theatre, and dance with actress Tymisha Harris.

March 23 at 4 pm - Harp and Organ Recital @ United Lutheran Seminary Chapel
Harpist Elizabeth Asmus joins Cathy Elkiss, the seminary organist.

March 27 at 7:30 pm – Valerie June: Owls, Omens and Oracles @ Gettysburg Majestic Theater
Singer-songwriter Valeri June headlines the 2025 public concert in the Ann McIlhenny Harward Program for

Culture and Music at Gettysburg College.

April

April 4th - 7pm @ Gettysburg Community Theatre
Welcome To The 60’s Piano Bar

April 5th - 7pm @ Gettysburg Community Theatre
Broadway Teens Concert

April 8 at 7:30 pm – ensemble 132 @ St. James Lutheran Church
The Gettysburg Community Concert Association presents this American collective of soloists and chamber musicians.

April 11 and 12 at 7:30 pm – An Evening of Comedy and Music with Isabel Hagen @ Gettysburg Majestic Theater
Isabel Hagen will host and headline an evening cabaret showcasing local talent.

April 13 at 4:00 pm - Passion Sunday Vespers @ United Lutheran Seminary Chapel
Music Gettysburg presents the Schola Cantorum directed by Dr. Steven Folkemer, with

a service of Evening Prayer

April 25 – May 11 Disney’s The Jungle Book – KIDS @ Gettysburg Community Theatre
The jungle is jumping with a jazzy beat in this popular show.

April 27 at 4:00 pm - Gettysburg Children’s Choir @ United Lutheran Seminary Chapel
Music Gettysburg hosts the spring concert for this talented group of young people.

May

May 2 at 7:30 pm – 360 ALLSTARS @ Gettysburg Majestic Theater
BMX, basketball, breakdancing, acrobatics, drumming and more!

May 2 – 11 – The Jungle Book – KIDS @ Gettysburg Community Theatre
The jungle is jumping with a jazzy beat in Disney’s classic.

May 8 – 11 – Gettysburg Film Festival @ Adams County Historical Society
The Gettysburg Film Festival will return with a focus on the legacy of World War II. Internationally acclaimed filmmaker Ken Burns

will open the four-day festival,

May 11 at 4:00 pm Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra @ United Lutheran Seminary Chapel
The Chamber Orchestra performs their spring concert with solo violinist Peter Sirotin

May 15 – 18 – Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival @ Granite Hill Camping Resort
Since 1979, presenting top-notch Bluegrass music and a great place to bring the entire family.

May 24 11 am to 8 pm – Summer Music Festival @ Gettysburg Rec Park
A day featuring live bands, local food & drinks, and shopping from amazing vendors. Free admission, free parking. All proceeds benefit the rec park’s Live Music & Arts Program.

by Gail Jones.

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New GARA Director Plans for the Future



Long-time Gettysburg area resident Al Moyer has been named as the new Executive Director of the Gettysburg Area Recreation Authority (GARA) effective October 8, 2024. He was selected by the Board of Directors from over twenty applicants for the position.

Moyer is a retired public school educator/administrator, collegiate administrator/professor and a current member of the Gettysburg Area School District Board of Directors. He is an avid tennis player and a proud father and grandfather. He and

his family have been regular users of the Gettysburg Rec Park.

“I’m very excited to take on this position of GARA Executive Director,” said Moyer. “My family and I have a real passion for the Rec Park. We spend a lot of time there. I appreciate all that’s been done to make this a valuable community resource and I look forward to leading GARA into the future. The Board of Directors and I have some great ideas for growth and develop-

ment.”

Moyer is interested in meeting with local community leaders and organizations regarding how GARA can work with and partner with them toward keeping the rec park and GARA integral parts of the community.

Moyer can be reached at info@gettysburgrecpark.com (717-334-2028).

Gettysburg YMCA Has a New Director



For Lisa Pratt, the new Executive Director of the Gettysburg branch of the Hanover Area YMCA, the “Y” is more than a community center—it’s a way of life.

Having been part of the Hanover Area YMCA for 25 years, Pratt said she understands the vital role the Y plays in shap-

ing young lives and strengthening community bonds. “My kids grew up in the YMCA culture. I know what the Y did for them,” she said.

“I truly understand what our young people are getting out of it, and I want to ensure they have even more opportunities to con-

tribute to the world. The YMCA community helps people thrive and to become socially responsible.”

Pratt will be at the helm of substantial changes to the former YWCA going forward.

The Hanover Area YMCA has long been a pillar in the Hanover area, serving branches in North Hanover, South Hanover, and Littlestown. With the recent dissolution of the Gettysburg YWCA and a takeover by the Hanover YMCA, their mission will be expanded.

Pratt said that although they are separate organizations, the YMCA shares many goals with the YWCA.

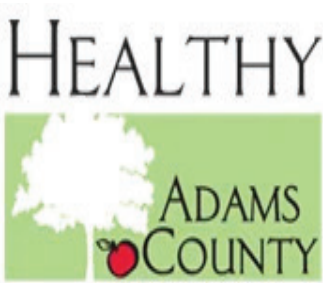
“We have a shared mission—providing opportunities for people of all ages to grow and connect,” Pratt said. “Our goal is to continue being a resource that strengthens our community and supports programs for all”

One of the most anticipated changes is the introduction of a “ChildWatch” program, which allows parents to leave their children in supervised care while they exercise or take classes.

The YMCA is also expanding its offerings for youth, including the creation of a youth center where children can engage in activities in a safe and welcom-

ing environment.

Perhaps the most noticeable changes in the next months will be significant renovations of the facility. The upcoming improvements will begin with painting and lighting updates indoors, and an outdoor landscaping project to resolve issues of water intrusion on the east side of the building. The work will enhance accessibility and create a more inviting atmosphere for members and guests.



Springtime Fun and Activities



Spring is a time of rebirth, and with it comes renewed energy to explore all that Gettysburg and Adams County have to offer. After a long, cold winter, it's the perfect time to get outdoors and experience this lively area.

Every spring, thousands of acres of fruit trees awaken from their winter slumber as blossoms emerge in a breathtaking landscape surrounding Gettysburg. Petals paint the rolling hills in hues of white and pink that fall to make way for the apples, peaches, pears, cherries and other delectable fruits. These orchards, spanning nearly 20,000 acres, comprise the Adams County Blossom Belt.

From the blooms of Gettysburg National Military Park, the Blossom Belt extends to Gardners in the north, Orrtanna in the west, and Fairfield in

the south. Destination Gettysburg created the Adams County Blossom Belt, which includes a map that guides visitors and locals alike to these beautiful blossoms. Along the way, travelers will discover family farms, markets, places to eat, shop, stay overnight, and special events, too.

April 26 will be a busy day in Adams County, with several springtime events on the calendar. The National Apple Museum will hold the Adams County Apple Blossom Festival, while Hollabaugh Bros. family farm and market will host its Spring Blossom Event just down the road. Attendees can expect to find delicious food and fun activities for the whole family.

Also this spring, Hollabaugh Bros. will hold the first Bruce Hollabaugh 5K Memorial Run on April 13. The race honors a beloved

family member and will benefit the endowment fund established in his memory. Stretch your legs after a long winter as you run past blooming trees knowing you are supporting a good cause.

For runners who want to go the distance, the Gettysburg Festival of Races offers a marathon, half-marathon and 5K April 26 to 27. Just outside the battlefield, the course winds through wooded back country roads, past fields and farms, crossing the historic Mason-Dixon line and back. The weekend also includes a health and fitness expo with local vendors.

Even after the blossoms fade, visitors can explore the best of the Adams County countryside with the help of the Adams County Crop Hop digital passport. This free resource guides users to farms, markets, and agricultural attractions

available through the warmer months. Visit AdamsCountyCropHop.com to sign up starting May 5, check in at each location through the passport to unlock discounts, and redeem points for prizes.

Those driven by the desire to immerse themselves in the past will find no shortage of history-related happenings this spring. In honor of Women's History Month, World War II American Experience will hold a celebration at its museum on March 8 to honor the contributions of women during this era. Presentations by living historians, special exhibits, guest speakers, an afternoon tea party, and crafts for children are on the schedule.

Eisenhower National Historic Site is set to bring back its Easter Egg Roll on April 19. Inspired by the White House tradition, last year's event included a scavenger hunt and activities for children on the farm where President Dwight D. Eisenhower and First Lady Mamie lived. Children decorated wooden eggs and rolled them on the lawn behind the historic home. Details for this year's event

are still under development.

History-seekers can also look forward to the return of the Gettysburg Film Festival May 8 to 11. This year's event will focus on the legacy of World War II. Internationally acclaimed filmmaker Ken Burns will open the festival on May 8, marking the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (V-E) Day.

If you're looking for a toe-tapping good time, mark your calendar for the Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival May 15 to 18 at Granite Hill Camping Resort. Since 1979, this festival has brought together outstanding musicians for this family-friendly event. Reserve a campsite and make a weekend of your visit as you enjoy the sweet sounds of music floating through the spring air.

And the first-ever Gettysburg Summer Music Festival will kickoff the summer on Memorial Day Weekend at the Gettysburg rec park. The festival includes food and alcohol vendors as well as a day full of bands with a variety of styles.



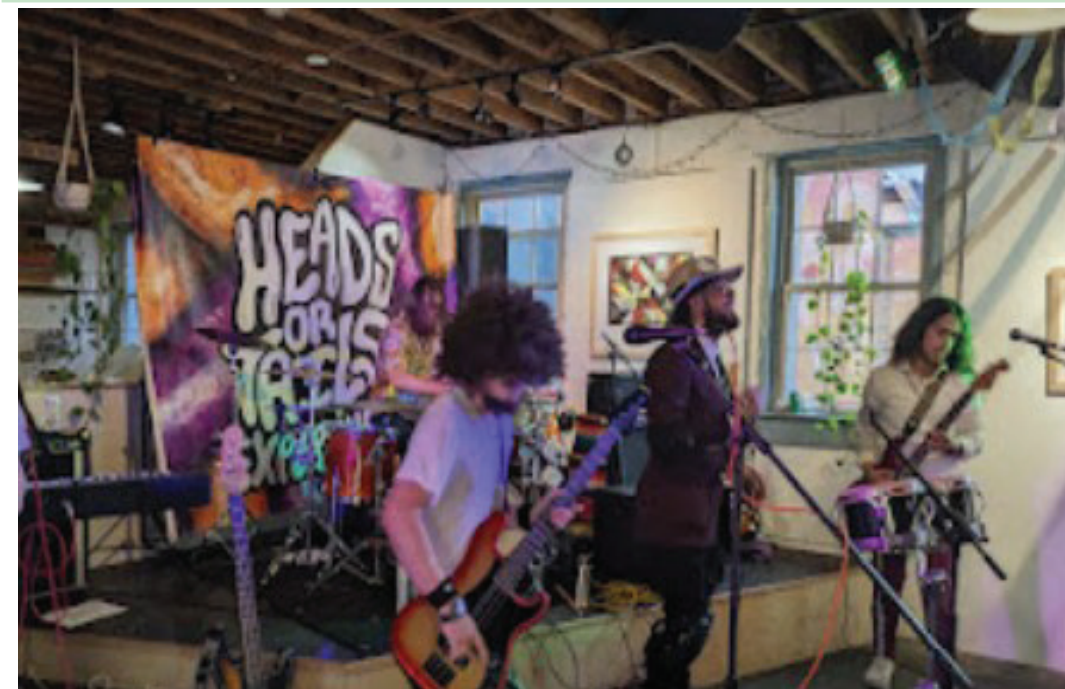
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In addition to the smorgasboard of museums, restaurants, walks, and tours, spring in Adams County also brings a variety of live music opportunities

After a long day of visiting historical sites, hiking, or learning about the Battle of Gettysburg, what could be better than an evening at a local winery, cidery, or brewery listening to live music? Here are a few suggestions:

The Garryowen Irish Pub on 126 Chambersburg Street offers live music each Friday and Saturday from 8-10 pm, featuring traditional and contemporary Irish and Scottish musicians, as well as

local artists of all music genres.

Among the most popular events are the Irish seisiúns on the first and third Sunday each month, where musicians and guests gather around to play (and occasionally, dance to) traditional Irish tunes. <https://garryowen-irish-pub.square.site/music>.

O'Rourke's Family Eatery and Spirits, another popular Irish restaurant and bar, located at 44 Steinwehr Ave, offers live music of all genres every Saturday from 6-9 pm. <https://www.ororkes.com/events.html>.

The Ploughman Cider Taproom on Gettysburg Square features PA-made ciders, beers,

and distilled liquors and hosts a variety of musical events: Open Mic nights on Wednesdays, 6-9 pm; Gentle Thursdays, featuring original music by local and traveling artists, 7-9 pm; and Friday and Saturday nights featuring live music 7-10 pm – both indoors or outside on the Arts Oasis stage. <https://www.ploughmancider.com/events>.

Ploughman is also one of the hosts of concerts at the National Apple Museum in Biglerville, held on the last Friday of the month, beginning April 25 with a set from Chuck Darwin & The Knuckle Draggers.
<https://www.nation->

[alapplemuseum.com/
events/](http://alapplemuseum.com/events/)

A hugely popular venue for performances by solo artists and bands are the performances at the Art Oasis Stage (outdoors) on Gettysburg Square from May through October. Take a walk to the square and rest your legs for a moment in front of the music. <https://adamsarts.org/event-schedule/>

Reid's Orchard and Winery, located at 400 Baltimore Street (right next to Gettysburg's beloved Mr. G's Ice Cream), offers "Cider House LIVE" live music each Friday and Saturday. <https://www.reidsorchardwinery.com/>.

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

The Gettysburger Company, located at 35 Chambersburg Street, periodically offers live music on certain Saturdays. Check online for new events: <https://www.facebook.com/>

thegettysburgercompany/about.

You may also want to explore other live music events in the immediate surroundings of Gettysburg, such as The Mansion House 1757 in nearby Fairfield or Thirsty Farmer Brew Works in Biglerville..

And the first-ever Gettysburg Summer Music Festival will kickoff the summer on Memorial Day Weekend at the Gettysburg rec park. The festival includes food and alcohol vendors as well as a day full of bands with a variety of styles.

For a full list of events and updates, please go to: gettysburgconnection.org/calendar/

by Donate Gardner

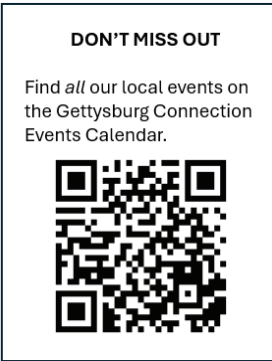
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Find *all* our local events on the Gettysburg Connection Events Calendar.

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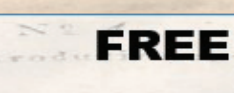
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FREE ★ 28th Annual Gettysburg Brass Band Festival ★

June 4th – 8th, 2025

- ✓ LIVE MUSIC! 21 bands from 6 states on the Pavilion Stage of the United Lutheran Seminary & throughout the town of Gettysburg
- ✓ Lions Club Community Picnic available on-site all weekend
- ✓ Taps Tribute at dusk - from the Battlefield to the United Lutheran Seminary Cupola on Saturday evening

Gettysburg Brass Band Festival, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization. Tax deductible donations can be sent to P.O. Box 3491, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Visit the festival web site: www.gettysburgbrassbandfestival.com



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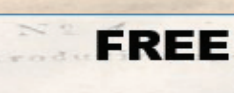




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Weikert's Egg Farm



Weikert's Egg Farm, located at 2559 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg, has been a family affair since its founding. "Weikerts built the farmhouse in 1884," said owner Mahlon Weikert, "Since then the farm's been passed down through family members."

From the first chicken house in 1952 to now, the Weikerts have been perfecting the craft. "My grandfather and my father farmed together... until my grandfather passed in 1993," Mahlon said, "My father and I have been farming together ever since."

Things changed for the farm after Mahlon graduated from Shippensburg University. "In 2005, we decided to direct market our

beef to the customer as well as our eggs, instead of shipping our beef off to another buyer," Mahlon said, "Beef is an equal partner to our eggs now, even if it's not in our name."

Today, the farm operates as a family. "Three generations (are) still tending to the farm today: my father and mother, Allen and Amy Weikert, as well as Tanya and me, and our 3 children, Mason, Jacob, and Faith," said Mahlon.

The Weikert's daily activities reflect a deep commitment to the farm and its customers. "Something that happens every day, no matter what, is we tend to the animals. Seven days a week," said Mahlon. The responsibilities also in-

clude gathering eggs, making deliveries, tending to fields, and assisting customers in their store.

Mahlon said a point of pride is the farm's humane treatment of animals. "A lot of people enjoy that the chickens are cage-free. They see the sun come up and set every day. They have access 24/7 to food and water."

Direct customer interaction is a cornerstone of the business. "I think what makes our farm different from some farms is that we get the privilege of selling directly to the customer," said Mahlon. Tanya Weikert adds, "We have a large loyal local support of people I see returning every week, every other week, that I get to know. We also have

the customers that come from New York, Pittsburgh, Virginia, Maryland, and New Jersey." Mahlon nods in agreement, saying "That's what's really neat for Tanya and me – the fact someone would come back and keep us in mind... It makes the hard work more worthwhile."

In addition to eggs, Weikert's Egg Farm has grown to accommodate many different preferences. "You can stop by the store and buy a single cut of beef or a whole quarter. While our roots are always Weikert's Egg Farm, we've grown into selling our own beef, local chicken, and local pork as well."

Despite the changes, the Weikerts cherish their family legacy. "We have the privilege to continue on what my dad continued from his father," Mahlon says, tearing up, "Since my dad did such a good job, we're able to do a good job." Tanya nods, adding, "If it wasn't for the hard work from the generations before us, we wouldn't be able to be here."

Looking to the future, the Weikert family is dedicated to passing on their values and

work ethic to the next generation. "While they play hard, we also work extremely hard, which is some days tiring but very rewarding," Mahlon says.

As Weikert's Egg Farm continues to thrive, it remains a testament to family, innovation, and tradition.

Weikert's Egg Farm is also a vendor at the Saturday morning Adams County Farmers Market (April-October) located at the rec park in Gettysburg.

Visiting Weikert's Egg Farm? Please tell them, "I read about you in the Connection."

By Hannah Campbell, Gettysburg College Intern





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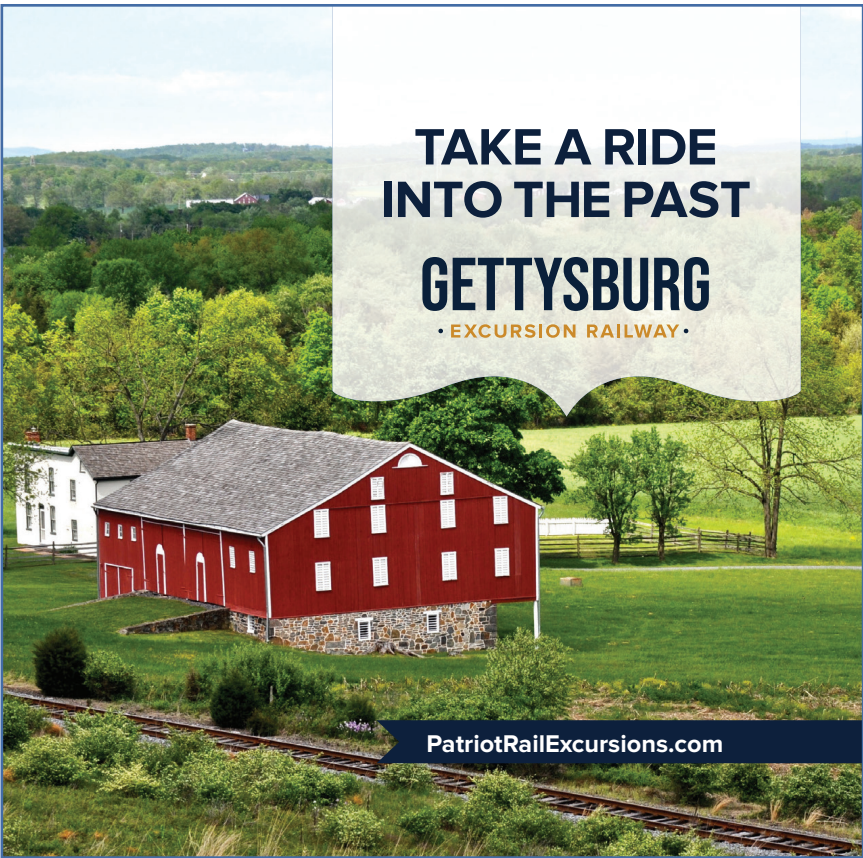


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Love is in the Square



really into each other. You go through the good times and the bad times.”

Frealing addressed the gathered couples before the 2025 ceremony, saying:

For better and for worse;
In sickness and in health;
Love is patient;
Love is kind;
Love bears all things;
Love believes all things;
Love endures all things;
Love never fails.

“I applaud them. They love each other and they love Gettysburg,” said Frealing.

“I am the luckiest person on earth today because not only am I the Mayor of the most welcoming town in the U.S.A., I have the honor

and pleasure of sharing this special occasion with you.”

“It was an honor to be a part of this event that celebrates love. We look forward to keeping this an annual event that is fun for our community and those visiting our community,” said Mark Wherley of Adams County Community Media.

Over 150 couples have renewed their marriage vows over the past two years at the annual “Love is in the Square” ceremonies held on Valentine’s Day weekend in Gettysburg.

The annual event is part of the “Gettysburg Loves Love” program sponsored by Adams County Community

Media and Destination Gettysburg.

In 2024, Gettysburg Mayor Frealing re-married almost 100 couples from the balcony of the Gettysburg Hotel; in 2025 the event was moved inside the hotel and another 60 couples participated.

“Everybody was so happy and so in love,”

said Frealing. “It was a lovely time. You could feel the energy.”

“People do this because they are in love. Some have been married for over 40 years and at least one couple was remarried after 70 years,” she said. “They’ve experienced the commitment and the turmoil of marriage and they are still just



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