

Gettysburg Connection

SPRING 2026 EDITION

NEWS, CULTURE, AND ARTS FROM ADAMS COUNTY, PA • FIND US ONLINE @ GETTYSBURGCONNECTION.ORG

Also in this issue...

Local Apple Farming.....8

Affordable Housing 12

Local Silversmith..... 17

Lutheran Seminary Mystery Solved



A long-standing mystery connected to a Bible ransacked from the Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary during the last days of the 1863 battle has finally been solved.

According to Lutheran Seminary museum Director of Education and Interpretation Codie Eash, his investigation traced the identity of a Confederate soldier whose handwritten inscription puzzled historians for nearly a century.

The story begins in the chaotic days after the Battle of Gettysburg. Samuel Simon Schmucker, President of the Lutheran Theological Seminary and a prominent abolitionist, fled town as Confederate forces approached. When he returned after the fighting, his home and library had been ransacked. Books, pamphlets, and papers were strewn across the yard; at least one appeared to have been partially burned.

Among the damaged belongings was Schmucker's personal Bible.

At some point during or after the occupation of Seminary Ridge, a Confederate soldier retrieved the Bible from the debris and placed it back on a bookcase. Inside the front cover, he left a handwritten note signed "J.G. Bearden."

The soldier wrote, in imperfect grammar: "This is the Holy Bible I pick up out of the

continued, page 2

**TOTEM POLE
PLAYHOUSE
2026**

WWW.TOTEMPOLEPLAYHOUSE.ORG ~ 717.352.2164
9555 GOLF COURSE ROAD, FAYETTEVILLE, PA 17222

SUMMER SEASON

Janis Joplin MAY 29 - JUNE 13	COME FROM AWAY JUNE 19 - JULY 4	OSCAR & FELIX A New Look at The Odd Couple JULY 10 - JULY 25	SOUTH PACIFIC JULY 31 - AUG 16	Secrets of a Lady AUG 20 - AUG 30
---	---	---	--	---

In this issue
ON THE COVER:

Lutheran Seminary Mystery Solved

Features

New Black History Museum.....4
LISA GREGORY
New museum project uncovers stories, preserves community legacy

Adams County Apple Farming8
CHARLES STANGOR
Industry adapts to markets, tastes, and growth

Meet Timbrel Wallace 11
PATTI RESTIVO
Lincoln Square entrepreneur embraces art, family and community in the heart of Gettysburg

Affordable Housing 12
CHARLES STANGOR
Adams County struggles to house its workers

Adams Celebrates US 250th..... 15
COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTORS
Gettysburg to host immersive Lincoln reenactment for America's 250th anniversary

Body & Soul Silversmith 17
COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTORS
Gettysburg silversmith crafts fingerprint jewelry capturing touch in lasting silver

Departments

Parking Guidance.....3

Cultural Arts Listing3

Live Music.....6

Festivals7

Weddings9

Visitor Activities..... 14

Advertiser Index..... 17

Shopping..... 18

Restaurants 19

[yard] and has placed on the case.” Beneath that, Schmucker later added his own pencil comment: that the note was “written by an illiterate but I trust pious Rebel during the sacking of my home and library during the great Battle of Gettysburg.”

For decades, the identity of “J.G. Bearden” remained an unresolved question in Gettysburg lore.

“For a very long time, going back to at least 1926, people tried to figure out who J.G. Bearden was,” Eash said in a recent interview at the museum. “Even with modern tools like Fold3, the National Park Service’s Soldiers and Sailors Database, and Ancestry.com, we just couldn’t come up with anybody by that identity.”

The case began to break a little more than a year ago, Eash said, while museum staff were researching newly loaned artifacts at the Seminary’s Wentz Library across the street from the museum.

“We came up with some other pamphlets that were also written in by Confederate soldiers,” Eash said. “While I was transcribing these ... I realized that most of them, if they were dated at all, were dated July 4.”

That observation led him to examine Confed-

erate regimental rosters present in Gettysburg on July 4, 1863, particularly those of Georgia Brig. Gen. George Doles. In the 44th Georgia Infantry’s register, he found Judson G. Bearden, whose signature on an 1898 Georgia pension record later proved to be “basically a perfect match” with the handwriting in Schmucker’s Bible.

“The final Bearden realization came just a couple months ago in December 2025,” said Eash. “We were finally, after all that time, able to solve the problem.”

He added that while much about Bearden’s life remains unclear, records indicate he was born around 1829, enlisted in March 1862, was wounded at least once, later captured and paroled, and likely lived into the early 1910s.

The discovery has also opened the door to solving a second mystery: Identifying another Confederate soldier who signed himself “Surgeon, CSA” on one of the pamphlets recovered from Schmucker’s library.

“I don’t have a definitive answer yet, but I think I’m about 80 percent of the way there,” Eash said, suggesting the writer may have been Dr. Ab-

ner McGarity, a Georgia physician attached to the same regiment. “I need to do a little more work comparing handwriting.”

Beyond the detective work, the interview highlighted a busy season ahead for the Seminary Ridge Museum & Education Center.

Staff are preparing for an annual rush of schoolchildren from around the area, as well as thousands of visitors over the summer months. Tours of the museum’s historical cupola is a highlight. The musejm is also working with the National Park Service for America’s 250th anniversary in 2026.

“We have lots of irons in the fire,” Eash said, adding that the 250th will likely bring national attention and more visitors to Gettysburg.

The museum recently rotated its gallery exhibits, sending about 40 artifacts back into storage and bringing in roughly 100 new loaned items, including the pamphlets that helped crack the Bearden case.

“We knew of the Bible for years,” Eash said. “But for these smaller pamphlets it might have been the first time in a hundred years anyone had opened them.”

Gettysburg Connection

EDITOR Charles Stangor
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Lisa Gregory
Patty Restivo
Charles Stangor

AD SALES Amy Thomas
GRAPHIC DESIGN-ADS Wes Thomas
LAYOUT DESIGN.....Lisa Cordiano, ChrysaLis Communication Arts

Gettysburg Connection is published by Gettysburg Connection Media, LLC
PO Box 4101 Gettysburg, PA 17325
Visit us online: gettysburgconnection.org
Email: editor@gettysburgconnection.org
Phone: 717-340-2171vFollow us on our social channels!v
[Facebook icon] [Instagram icon] [LinkedIn icon]
[QR code]

Advertisement for Saturday, June 13th 2026 Upper Adams Communities Celebrate America's 250th Anniversary. Includes details about the 1:00 pm 250th Anniversary Parade and 2:00 pm Oaksid Park Events, along with a QR code and contact information.

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.

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.

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.

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.

There is no grace period for borough meters, and they are enforced. If your time is expired, you will likely get a ticket.

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.

Cultural Arts Listing

Gettysburg abounds in culture. From movies to theater to live music, there is plenty to choose from. Here are some suggestions from our culture expert Gail Jones. *Please recheck dates and times, which may change..*

APRIL

April 7 at 7:30 pm – Ivalas String Quartet @ St. James Lutheran Church

April 10 at 8 pm – Sunderman Conservatory Wind Symphony Masterworks Concert @ Majestic heater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

April 11 at 7 pm – Kids on Broadway Concert @ Gettysburg Community Theatre www.gettysburgcommunitytheatre.org

April 11 at 8 pm – Gettysburg College Choir Spring Concert @ Christ Chapel www.gettysburg.edu/sunderman

April 12 at 2 pm – Addressing Gettysburg Live Podcast @ Totem Pole Theater www.totempoleplayhouse.org

April 12 at 3 pm – Gettysburg College Symphony Band Concert @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

April 12 at 4 pm – Mt. Vernon Virtuosi @ United Lutheran Seminary Chapel www.musicgettysburg.org

April 16 – 19 – Tiny Beautiful Things (play) @ Kline Theatre, Gettysburg College www.gettysburg.edu/kline

April 17 at 8 pm – Sunderman Conservatory Symphony Orchestra Concert @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

April 18 and 19 at 2 pm – The Jersey Beach Boys @ Totem Pole Playhouse www.totempoleplayhouse.org

April 18 at 8 pm – Sunderman Conservatory Jazz Ensemble Concert @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

April 22 at 2 and 7:30 pm – Dick Clark's Countdown to the 50's and 60's @ Totem Pole www.totempoleplayhouse.org

April 23 at 2 and 7:30 pm – The Women of Country Music with Katie Deal @ Totem Pole www.totempoleplayhouse.org

April 24 and 25 at 7:30 pm – Sunderman Conservatory Opera: the Merry Widow @ Majestic www.gettysburgmajestic.org

April 25 and 26 at 2 pm – Broadway Showstoppers of the '80's @ Totem Pole Playhouse www.totempoleplayhouse.org

April 26 at 4 pm – Gettysburg Children's Choir @ United Lutheran Seminary Church www.musicgettysburg.org

MAY

May 1-3 – Josie and Grace (Cabaret Dream Play) @ Majestic Theater www.gettysburgmajestic.org

May 1-3 – A Visit with Sally Struthers @ Totem Pole Playhouse www.totempoleplayhouse.org

May 1 from 5 – 7 pm – Art Exhibition and Reception @ Adams County Arts Council www.adamsarts.org

May 1 – 17 – Peter Pan, Jr. @ Gettysburg Community Theatre www.gettysburgcommunitytheatre.org

May 1 at 7 pm – Poetry First Friday Poets M.M. Hafer and J. Wemple @ Ragged Edge Coffeehouse

May 7 at 7:30 pm – Felix Hell, Organist @ United Lutheran Seminary Church www.musicgettysburg.org

May 7-29 from 1-5 pm – Frak-turing the Family: The Printed Art of the Pennsylvania Germans @ Gettysburg College Musselman Library Special Collections www.gettysburg.edu/musselman

May 12 at 7:30 pm – Neave Trio (violin, cello, piano) @ St. James Lutheran Church www.gettysburgcca.org

May 14-17 – 90th Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival @ Granite Hill Camping Resort www.gettysburgbluegrass.org

May 23 - Annual Summerfest Concert @ Gettysburg Rec Park. gettysburgconnection.org/summerfest

May 24 at 3 pm – Gettysburg Choral Society "Celebrate America" @ ULS Church www.gettysburgchoralsociety.org

continued, page 5



New Museum Will Showcase Gettysburg's Rich Black History House

LISA GREGORY

A week before she died in 1980, Verlyn Mason's grandmother, who was originally from Gettysburg, sat down at the kitchen table, tore a piece of paper off a five-pound bag of sugar, and wrote down a list of family names. That list would put Mason on a journey into her own past.

"She had never written down anything about her family," said Mason of her grandmother, Ellen. "It was always verbal. She told us stories about how her mother had 12 children. And how she and her siblings all went to the colored school there in Gettysburg. They were all good writers and good spellers, she always said. She had a sense of pride of who she was and where she came from."

HOPKINS HOUSE GETTYSBURG

After years of research, including visits to Gettysburg, Mason, who grew up in Washington, D.C., and now lives in Severn, Md., discovered that her great-aunt Margaret, her great-grandmother's sister, had married a man named Edward Hopkins. This was further confirmed when "I found a will where a man named Harrigan, which was my great-aunt's maiden name, had left in his will \$25 for Margaret and Edward," said Mason.

And on a sunny day this past October, Mason's journey took her to a gathering at the front of a house at 219 S. Washington St. where Edward and his parents, John, known as Jack, and Julia, once lived. The event she was attending was the launching of a capital campaign to establish a new Black history museum in Gettysburg at what had been the Hopkins home.

"My grandmother would have been thrilled to see what's happening," said Mason.

Gettysburg Black history, long pushed aside, is revealing itself in a powerful way.

And those like Mason are there to witness it. The new museum, slated to open in 2027, will tell the stories of the Black community, said Andrew Dalton, president and CEO of Gettysburg History. Gettysburg History is working with the Lincoln Cemetery Project Association to create the museum.

"There's more to the story of Gettysburg that has yet been told," said Dalton. "We're shining a light on a community that hasn't always been front and center in terms of the way that history is presented in Gettysburg."

Jean Green, president of the Lincoln Cemetery Project Association, added "Our history has almost been obliterated. So, saving this home and being able to tell the whole story through this Black-built home is just incredible," she said.

The 1840s log home will be restored to its original state. "We were excited to learn that it remained intact," said Dalton of the house structure buried beneath years and layers of additional construction.

The museum, with its emphasis on an immersive, multi-media experience, will also include a visitor space for exhibits and a shared office space for two nonprofits working to preserve Black history in Gettysburg.

The S. Washington St. home was purchased by Jack and Julia in 1857 from then-owner, Abraham Brian, believed to have been a conductor for the Underground Railroad. Jack was a long-time respected janitor at Gettysburg College. And his son Edward, the husband of Mason's great-aunt Margaret, served during the Civil War in the United States Colored Troops and became Gettysburg's first Black elected official.

Despite its rich history, though, over the years, the home had gone into disrepair. "It

was a hoarding situation," said Dalton. "All the utilities had been turned off and there was flooding in the basement. And mold, asbestos, bedbugs."

However, the home's historical significance made it too important not to rescue and preserve. "We believe it's the only standing structure in Gettysburg from the Civil War era that was built by Black laborers and owned by a Black family," said Dalton.

Gettysburg History and the Lincoln Cemetery Project Association are working to raise \$2 million to transform the house and construct the museum. Half of that money had already been raised prior to the official launch of the campaign. "This has been the easiest money I have ever raised," said Dalton, who spearheaded and oversees the new Beyond the Battle Museum in Gettysburg.

Green said she thinks she understands why the museum has been so eagerly embraced.

"The Hopkins family represents the strength and determination of Gettysburg's Black community," she said. "But this museum is about more than one family, or even one community. It is about all of us. Because Black history is American history. When we honor one another's stories, we can find strength in what we share."

Long an advocate for local Black history, Green has focused many of her efforts on Lincoln Cemetery, the only surviving Black cemetery in Gettysburg, and its care and preservation. The cemetery, which was recently placed on the National Register of Historic Places, has more than 450 individuals buried there. "Veterans from every war, slaves and freedom seekers," said Green.

So, it is not surprising that when the original logs of the Hopkins House were revealed Green felt a powerful connection to those who had lived there long ago. "I had to touch it," she said of reaching out to an exposed log on a recent visit. "I put my hands on it. And I whispered, 'I am here.' I wanted to communicate to the Hopkins family that we are doing something to preserve our history. That Blacks that lived here were not here in vain. And they will not be forgotten."

Green will be making contributions of her own to the museum through her historical research. Recently, she solved a mystery in the Gettysburg Black community. According to Dalton, there are only two firsthand battle accounts by Gettysburg Black residents. These accounts appear in the book *Battle-ground Adventures* published in 1915. One person was described as a "colored farmhand," while the other was described as a "colored servantmaid." The farmhand would be eventually identified as Isaac Carter, a Virginia slave who came to Gettysburg seeking his freedom. The "colored servantmaid," however remained a mystery.

That is until recently when Green was researching local newspapers and uncovered an article that named the woman. She was Charlotte Carter, Isaac's wife. The discovery, she says, was made even sweeter by her own family ties to the couple. "My grandfather's sister married their son," she says.

Charlotte Carter's name and her story will now be part of the museum, including her recollections of the battle, such as, "We

got down in the cellar, and I crawled way back in the darkest corner and piled everything in front of me. I was the only colored person there, and I didn't know what might happen to me."

Charlotte Carter isn't the only one making herself known. During renovation, the letters W.D. were found inscribed on the outside wall of the Hopkins House, dating to around 1843. According to Dalton, it is believed that the first owner and perhaps the builder of the home was a free Black man named William K. Dennard. "It was an exciting find," said Dalton. And one hidden no longer.

But there would be more discoveries. Among the items found by archaeology student James Duke, as he excavated, was a buried chipped teacup. A small item with much to say about the Hopkins family.

"We traced the cup back to the 1830 to 1860 era," said Duke, a graduate of Gettysburg College who is now attending graduate school at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. "It's a pattern called Lucerne. It is a symbol of middle-class identity. It shows status. It is something they would have used when they were entertaining people in the home, having a tea party or having guests over for tea."

Besides the teacup, oyster shells were also found. "Oysters were a social food," said Duke.

Furthermore, according to Duke, Edward owned an oyster parlor, giving him easy access to this sociable treat.

These finds, said Duke, are a testament to a family who was doing well for themselves and enjoyed gathering with friends and family. The teacup and what it said about the family will find its place in the museum.

But before the work on the current mu-

seum began and items collected, there was a handmade kitchen table built in 1863 and still in use today where the dream of such a museum first took shape. Sitting around that table with her daughters, Jane and Mary Alice, Margaret Nutter would talk about how proud she was of her community and its history.

"She would always say there's a lot of Black history here in Gettysburg. Important Black history," said Jane Nutter. "She would tell us, 'You need to do something about it. Get on it.'"

The two sisters would take that advice to heart. Mary Alice, especially, worked for years to create a Black history museum for the Gettysburg community. A one-room museum was finally established several years ago in the United Lutheran Seminary's Valentine Hall with photos, mementos and even personal diaries. Those items will now become a part of the new museum. Nutter said she has no qualms about doing so and is in fact delighted with the project. "We knew this would be a place that would be permanent and forever," she says.

And as she stood at the podium on that October day when the campaign was launched, Nutter was not alone, she said. "I feel the ancestors here with me," she told the packed audience. "They all lived up and down this street. And they are here."

Mary Alice passed away before the new museum's announcement. Nutter felt her there too. "This was Mary Alice's dream to have a Black history museum in the Third Ward," said Nutter. "But I know she is standing right here with me and smiling. This is a culmination of a dream."

Nutter would not be the only one to speak of the importance of preserving Black history in Gettysburg that day. Actress and playwright Anna Deavere Smith was there to lend her support to the museum. "I grew up coming to Gettysburg as a child and seeing my Aunt Hannah Biggs whose house is not far from here," Smith told the crowd gathered before the Hopkins House.

However, she added that it wasn't until 2014 when she was on the television series Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates Jr., a Harvard historian, that she leaned about her great-great-grandfather, Basil Biggs. A local veterinarian and participant in the Underground Railroad, Biggs helped oversee the disinterment and removal of dead soldiers from their battlefield graves and their reburial in the new Gettysburg National Cemetery.

"I never had heard that story," said Smith. "I couldn't believe it."

Smith is currently working on a play about her family member Basil Biggs. "Let's embrace our history," she told the audience.

As Mason listened to those like Jane Nutter and Anna Deavere Smith speak, she was surrounded by her own family, including her great-granddaughter, Luca, who was three months old at the time. New generations bearing witness to the Black history of Gettysburg.

"We took a picture of my great-granddaughter in front of the Hopkins House that day," said Mason, smiling. "That way when she grows up, she will know that she was there. And that's how you do it. You record your history." 

Cultural Arts Listing

continued

May 29 – June 13 – A Night with Janis Joplin @ Totem Pole Playhouse
www.totempoleplayhouse.org

May 31 at 4 pm – Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra @ United Lutheran Seminary Church
www.musicgettysburg.org

JUNE

June 3, 10, 17 and 24 at 7:30 pm – Summer Classic Movies @ Majestic Theater
www.gettysburgmajestic.org

June 1-13 – A Night with Janis Joplin @ Totem Pole Playhouse
www.totempoleplayhouse.org

June 1-30 from 1-5 pm – Frak-turing the Family: The Printed Art of the Pennsylvania Germans @ Musselman Library Special Collections of Gettysburg College
www.gettysburg.edu/musselman

June 5 at 7 pm – Poetry First Friday @ Ragged Edge Coffee House
www.katygiebenhain.com/firstfridays.html

June 5-27 – Adams County Arts Council 22nd Annual Juried Art Exhibition @ ACAC Center
www.adamsarts.org

June 6 and 7 at 3 pm – Gettysburg Civic Chorus Spring Concert with Flute Flock of Gettysburg @ Gettysburg Area Middle

School www.gettyburgcivicchorus.com
June 10-14 – Gettysburg Brass Band Festival @ United Lutheran Seminary Pavilion/ Town locations
www.gettysburgbrassbandfestival.com

June 12-14 – Barn Art Show and Sale @ G.A.R. Hall
www.HGAConline.org

June 19 at 8:15 pm – Cinema Under the Stars: Glory (1989) @ Gettysburg Rec Park
www.gettysburgfilmcommission.org

June 19 – July 4 – Come From Away (musical) @ Totem Pole Playhouse
www.totempoleplayhouse.org

June 20 – Juneteenth: A Celebration of Black Music @ Majestic Theater
www.gettysburgmajestic.org

June 21 at 4 pm – Tenor Eric Fennell and Guitarist James Day @ United Lutheran Seminary
www.musicgettysburg.org

JULY

July 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 7:30 pm – Summer Classic Movies @ Majestic Theater
www.gettysburgmajestic.org

July 1 – 31 from 1 – 5 pm, M-F – Fraktur: The Printed Art of the PA Germans @ Musselman Library Special Collections
www.gettysburg.edu/musselman

July 1 at 7:30 pm – Summer Classic Movies @ Majestic Theater
www.gettysburgmajestic.org

July 1-4 – Come From Away (musical) @ Totem Pole Playhouse
www.totempoleplayhouse.org

July 4 at 10 am – Flutes on the Fourth @ Hotel Gettysburg

July 4 at 4 pm – A Gettysburg Fourth @ Gettysburg Rec Park

July 10-25 – Oscar and Felix: A New Look at the Odd Couple (play) @ Totem Pole Playhouse
www.totempoleplayhouse.org

July 12 at 6 pm – Singmaster Film Seminar @ ULS Church of the Abiding Presence
www.musicgettysburg.org

July 17 – August 2 – 1776 (musical) @ Gettysburg Community Theatre
www.gettysburgcommunitytheatre.org

July 19 at 6 pm – Kolodner Quartet @ United Lutheran Seminary Pavilion
www.musicgettysburg.org

July 31-August 16 – South Pacific (musical) @ Totem Pole Playhouse
www.totempoleplayhouse.org

Live Music

After a long day hiking, visiting historical sites, or learning about the Battle of Gettysburg, what could be better than a fall evening at a local winery, cidery, or brewery listening to live music? Gettysburg prides itself on its craft beverages and musical offerings.

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. adamsarts.org/event-schedule/.

Bourbon Mill at 4797 York Rd, New Oxford provides live music on Saturday and Sunday evenings as well as karaoke on Sundays: www.facebook.com/p/Bourbon-Mill-100063503563628/

Ploughman Cider Taproom on the Gettysburg Square features PA-made ciders, beers, and distilled liquors. Original live music by local and traveling artists is featured 7-9 p.m. every Thursday evening. Open mic evenings are on Wednesdays, 6-9 pm. www.ploughmancider.com/thetaproom

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 Darwin & The Knuckle Draggers. www.nationalapplemuseum.com/events/

The Garryowen Irish Pub, 126 Chambersburg St., Gettysburg, offers live music every Friday and Saturday from 8-10 pm, featuring mostly traditional and contemporary Irish and Scottish songs. garryowen-irish-pub.square.site/music

O'Rorke's Family Eatery and Spirits, located at 44 Steinwehr Ave., Gettysburg, offers live music on Saturdays. www.ororkes.com/events.html

Big Hill Ciderworks, 338 Georgetown Rd, Gardners. Cidery serving a variety of apple-based beverages and featuring a pizza menu as well as live music events.

Gettysburg Eddie's, at 217 Steinwehr Avenue, presents live music every first and third Thursday.



Honey on the Rocks

Reid's Orchard and Winery, located at 400 Baltimore Street, Gettysburg, hosts live music on Saturday evenings. www.reidsorchardwinery.com

Sign of the Buck, a bar/restaurant at 29 Chambersburg St. Gettysburg, hosts live music on Mondays from 7-9 pm. signofthebuck.com/events/

Screaming Bambino, 101 Nursery Rd. in Biglerville, provides live music in a bucolic apple orchard setting.

Thirsty Farmer Brew Works, located at 290 Cashtown Rd. in Biglerville, provides live music most weekends.



For a full live music schedule, please check our events calendar at gettysburgconnection.org/live-music-in-adams-county-pa/



Relax, Unwind, & Uncork Spring!

Our Products Are Grown and Produced Locally
In Adams County, PA!

400 Baltimore Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325 717-334-7537 www.reidsorchardwinery.com



Rooted In Our Craft

FOOD • BEER • CIDER

- 10 Flagships
- 3 Ciders
- Rotating "Off-Shoots"
- Outdoor Seating
- Live Music

290 Cashtown Road | Biglerville, PA 17307 | 717-334-3325



Enjoy Our Family Distilling Tradition

Located in the historic district of Gettysburg

We make all of our straight moonshine and flavored moonshine right on site from scratch in small batches. Stop in and snag your free tasting at Gettysburg Moonshine Company!

271 Baltimore Street Gettysburg, PA 17325 Email: distillery@gettysburgmoonshine.com (717) 321-5525



Spring Has Never Tasted So Good

Proudly offering our fine wines and hard ciders at a variety of local restaurants as well as our two tasting locations:

Boyer Cellars
405 Nursery Road
Biglerville, PA 17307

Screaming Bambino Vino
47D North Main Street
Chambersburg, PA 17201

We hope you enjoy your visit, Arrale & Bruno Schuler!

Phone: 717-446-1623 Email: screamingbambinocellars@gmail.com

Festivals

From outdoor concerts to farm shows and historic commemorations, there’s always something happening in Adams County that draws a crowd. Here’s our list of 2026 festivals.

May 14 - 17 - Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival. Granite Hill Camping Resort, 3340 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg. Biannual bluegrass festival with top national and regional artists. gettysburgbluegrass.com

May 23 - GARA SummerFest, held at the Gettysburg Rec Park, is Gettysburg Area Recreation Authority’s annual summer music festival with local bands and vendors. 2:30 pm - 8:30 pm. gettysburgconnection.org/summerfest

May 25 - Gettysburg Memorial Day Parade, downtown Gettysburg. One of the oldest Memorial Day parades in the country, honoring military service. www.gettysburgpa.gov/community-events/events/119666

May 29- 31 - Gettysburg Pride, Annual celebration promoting diversity and inclusion with vendors, entertainment, and community engagement. www.gettysburgpride.org

May 30 - 31 - Hollabaugh Bros. Strawberry Festival, at Hollabaugh Bros. Farm, 545 Carlisle Rd, Biglerville, PA 17307. Celebration of the strawberry harvest with pick-your-own, desserts, and family fun. hollabaughbros.com/events

June 5 -6 - Dig My Earth Festival, South Mountain Fairgrounds. A two-day music festival celebrating local talent at the South Mountain Fairgrounds. facebook.com/people/Dig-My-Earth-Festival/100093085437244/?_rdr

June 10 - 14 - Brass Band Festival, Gettysburg College & Lincoln Square, Gettysburg. An annual celebration of brass music with performances from bands across the nation. gettysburgbrassbandfestival.com

June 13 - PA Cider Fest, South Mountain Fairgrounds. Features over 100 ciders from Pennsylvania cideries, food trucks, and live music. www.paciderfest.com

June 26 - 28 - Latimore Valley Fair. Latimore Valley Fairgrounds, 314 Latimore Valley Rd, York Springs, PA 17372. Family-friendly fair with tractor parades, vintage race cars, crafts, and live music. emmr.org/latimorevalley-fair

July 3-5 - Gettysburg Battle Reenactment. Daniel Lady Farm, 1008 Hanover Rd, Gettysburg. Commemorates the Battle of Gettysburg with reenactments, living history, and educational activities. www.danielladyfarm.com

July 4 - Fourth of July at the Gettysburg Rec Park. An Independence Day celebration featuring live music, food trucks, and fireworks. www.gara-recpark.info/

July 9-12 - Gettysburg Bike Week. The Barn Resort, 75 Cunningham Rd, Gettysburg Motorcycle rally with national music acts, historic rides, and community events. gettysburgbikeweek.com

July 11-12 - 71st Annual Blueberry Festival. Located at Hollabaugh Bros. Farm, 545 Carlisle Rd, Biglerville, PA 17307. Celebrating the blueberry harvest with pick-your-own, desserts, music, and family fun. hollabaughbros.com/events

July 18-19 - Annual Gettysburg 19th Century Base Ball Festival. Schroeder Farm, 965 Pumping Station Rd, Gettysburg. The festival features teams playing by 1864 rules with period equipment and uniforms in a family-friendly setting. www.gettysburgbaseballfestival.com

July 21-25 - South Mountain Fair. South Mountain Fairgrounds, 615 Narrows Rd, Biglerville, PA 17307. Adams County’s only agricultural fair with animal exhibits, crafts, food, and entertainment. www.southmountainfair.com

July 22-25 - York Springs Carnival, Located at York Springs Fire Co Grounds, 312 Main St, York Springs. Annual games, food, and family-friendly entertainment. destinationgettysburg.com/event/york-springs-carnival

July 30, 31, & August 1 - August 2 - Bendersville Carnival. Bendersville Fire Co, 144 Park St, Bendersville, PA 17306. Annual carnival with games, food, entertainment, cash prizes, and live bands. bendersvillefireco.com/

August 3 - 8 - Littlestown Carnival. Alpha Fire Co Grounds, Maple Ave & Locust St, Littlestown, PA 17340. Community carnival with rides, games, food, and live entertainment. www.alpha20fire.org

August 13 - 15 - Heidlersburg Carnival. Heidlersburg Fire Co, 2720 Heidlersburg Rd, Gettysburg. Community carnival featuring rides, games, food, and live entertainment. vwww.heidlersburgfire.com

August 13 - 16 - Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival. Granite Hill Camping Resort, 3340 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg. Biannual bluegrass festival with top national and regional artists. gettysburgbluegrass.com



For a full list of festivals, please check our website at gettysburgconnection.org/calendar

GETTYSBURG BRASS BAND FESTIVAL

FREE

29TH ANNUAL GETTYSBURG BRASS BAND FESTIVAL

JUNE 10TH - JUNE 14TH, 2026

LIVE MUSIC FEATURING 20 BANDS FROM 7 STATES ON THE PAVILION STAGE AT THE UNITED LUTHERAN SEMINARY.

GETTYSBURG FILM COMMISSION

Office Location: Schumaker House, 15 Seminary Ridge, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Mailing Address: PO Box 3742, Gettysburg, PA 17325

717-334-0551

FREE Outdoor Movie Night!

Cinema Under The Stars

Saturday, April 25, 2026

Friday, June 19, 2026

Saturday, July 25, 2026

Saturday, August 22, 2026

Bring Chairs, Blankets, and BYOB!

Adams County Apple Farmers Adapt to Changing Tastes

CHARLES STANGOR

For more than a century, Adams County has been one of the nation's most important apple-growing regions. But like many agricultural industries, the county's orchards are adapting to shifting consumer tastes, changing markets, and evolving farming practices.

Today's apple growers say the industry remains strong, but the business of growing and selling apples is very different from what it was a generation ago.

"There's a lot of room for optimism," said Dave Benner, president of El Vista Orchards in Fairfield. "The Adams County apple industry is located within the vast majority of the population of the United States. When you go 300 miles in any direction from Adams County, you have encompassed a lot of people."

That proximity to major population centers, from Philadelphia and Baltimore to Washington, DC, gives Adams County growers an advantage over apple producers in places like Washington state or Michigan, where fruit must travel much farther to reach markets.

The county also benefits from what growers call the "Adams County fruit belt," a climate created by elevation, mountains, and soil conditions that makes the region particularly well suited to growing apples. Severe weather such as hurricanes or tornadoes is relatively rare compared with other agricultural regions.

But while the geography remains the same, the apple business has changed dramatically.

FROM APPLESAUCE TO FRESH APPLES

For much of the 20th century, Adams County orchards were largely built around apples grown for processing—fruit destined for applesauce, juice, and pie filling. Companies such as Musselman's and Knouse Foods helped establish the region's reputation as a processing hub.

"The Adams County fruit industry was developed mainly for the processing apple industry," Benner said.

Over the past several decades, however, that model has shifted toward fresh apples sold in grocery stores, farmers markets, and other direct retail outlets.

"The apple industry has changed to a major production now of what we call fresh market," Benner said.

Fresh apples typically command higher prices than fruit sold for processing, but the shift has also required growers to adapt to consumer preferences and supermarket demands.

Large grocery chains require consistent supply. A single variety must often be available in hundreds of stores at once.

"If you're going to supply a chain store, they need volume," Benner explained. "They're not going to entertain a new variety in one store. They need it across all their stores."

That demand for volume has reshaped the orchard landscape.

FEWER FARMS, LARGER OPERATIONS

Across Adams County, the number of individual fruit growers has declined over the past several decades, even as the overall industry remains active.

Many farms that once operated independently have been purchased by neighboring orchards when families chose not to continue farming.

"If the next generation is not going to carry on the operation, then the farm is up for sale," Benner said.

Often those properties are bought by nearby orchards and incorporated into larger operations. Some orchards today consist of land that once belonged to many smaller farms.

El Vista Orchards itself illustrates the trend. When the corporation was formed in 1960 by Benner's grandfather, father, and uncle, it consisted of three farms. Today the company owns five farms and leases five more that once belonged to other orchard operations.

Other farms have grown in similar ways. In some cases, orchard land has also been lost to development. Benner pointed to residential neighborhoods built on land that once supported fruit trees.

"Forty years ago that was prime apple production," he said of one area where a housing subdivision now stands.

Still, larger farms are not the only way to succeed. Smaller orchards can remain viable by focusing on specialty varieties or direct sales.

A grower with 20 or 50 acres can still operate profitably by selling directly at farmers

markets or roadside stands where prices are higher and customers are looking for unusual apple varieties not found in supermarkets.

FARMERS DIVERSIFY TO STAY COMPETITIVE

Some Adams County growers have expanded beyond traditional orchard sales to reach customers directly.

Ben Wenk, a partner at Three Springs Fruit Farm in Wenskville, said many growers now sell fruit directly at farmers markets throughout the region.

Three Springs Fruit Farm, a seventh-generation family operation that traces its roots in the area to 1818, sells produce at markets in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Philadelphia, while also producing hard cider and operating cider bars in Gettysburg and Philadelphia.

Wenk said these kinds of direct connections with consumers have become increasingly important for fruit growers.

"Just spending the time to attend a farmers market or simply look at where the apples you're purchasing at the grocery store are coming from and making a choice that supports local businesses—it does make a difference," he said.

Diversification has also included growing a wider range of crops. At Three Springs, apples remain the core product, but the farm also grows peaches, berries, vegetables, and other specialty crops for farmers markets.

CHANGING CONSUMER HABITS

While fresh apple sales have grown, demand for processed apple products has declined.

Thirty years ago, Knouse Foods—the region's largest apple processor—purchased roughly 12 million bushels of apples annually. Today the company needs about half that amount to supply its customers.

As demand dropped, processing plants closed. What was once a network of facilities in Adams County and surrounding states has shrunk significantly.



PHOTO: LISA CORDIANO

The plant in Biglerville, for example, closed several years ago after demand declined. At the same time, new apple products have gained popularity. Fresh-pressed cider and hard cider have become a growing part of the market, reflecting changing consumer tastes and helping farmers diversify their businesses. “Fresh squeeze cider... 40 years ago was a drop in the bucket,” Benner said. “Now it’s a big business.”

LABOR CHALLENGES

Labor is another issue orchard owners continue to monitor. Decades ago, many local residents worked seasonally in orchards. Today the workforce is largely Hispanic, including both long-time local residents and workers who come through federal agricultural programs.

“The field workers... most of it has gone from local people 40 years ago to now Hispanic,” Benner said. Many farms now rely on the federal H-2A visa program to bring seasonal workers to harvest apples during the four-to-six-week harvest period each fall. Benner said growers have long advocated for clearer federal policies that would allow long-time farm workers to obtain documentation and legal status. “We’ve been trying to get government for 35 years to come up with a program where we could document these people,” he said.

A RESILIENT INDUSTRY

Wenk said growers also worry about broader economic pressures on the apple industry. Increasing production combined with changing consumer habits has created new challenges for farmers nationwide.

“The industry’s ability to grow apples has never been better,” he said. “But consumption of apples is down.” Despite the challenges, Adams County’s apple industry continues to evolve rather than disappear. The region’s climate, location near large population centers, and generations of farming knowledge continue to support a thriving fruit belt. Families who have farmed the region for generations remain committed to the business. Benner’s sons, now in their late 30s and early 40s, are preparing to become the next generation to run El Vista Orchards. “I’m third generation,” Benner said. “My two sons will be the next generation.” GC

Weddings

Adams County offers a wide range of wedding venues that capture the historic charm and natural beauty of south-central Pennsylvania. Couples can choose from elegant indoor spaces, rustic barns, scenic farm properties, and outdoor settings framed by rolling hills and orchards. Many venues highlight the region’s rich heritage while providing modern amenities, allowing for both classic and contemporary celebrations. Vineyard views, countryside landscapes, and panoramic mountain backdrops are especially popular for ceremonies and photos. With options that accommodate everything from intimate gatherings to large celebrations, Adams County provides a versatile and picturesque setting for weddings in every season.



Say I Do

In Timeless Country Elegance

From micro-weddings to larger affairs, we can accommodate your wishes, and make your dreams come true!
Call us and we'd be happy to provide a tour and help plan your special day!

HICKORY BRIDGE FARM

(717) 642-5261
96 Hickory Bridge Rd • Orrtanna, PA 17353
info@hickorybridgefarm.com



HISTORIC ROUND BARN

weddings & events

Celebrate Your Forever!

- Outdoor/Indoor Ceremony Sites
- Complimentary Ceremony Coordination
- Ceremony Set-Up/Tear Down Assistance
- Complimentary Decorations Available
- Four Day Rental For Wedding Package

298 Cashtown Road, Biglerville, PA 17307
717-423-3235 www.roundbarn.farm



THE BARN RESORT PA.

THE BARN RESORT • 717-334-8000 • 75 Cunningham Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325



THE FARMHOUSE RESTAURANT & CELLAR

75 • 717-334-7580 • 75 Cunningham Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Soon To Be Gettysburg's ...

Premier Resort Destination!

- **Dining** - The Farmhouse Restaurant features a buffet of fresh ingredients as well as an extensive selection of prepared dishes! Cellar75 also offers its own table service menu!
- **Lodging** - Currently under construction on the top three floors of the resort, the hotel will feature more than 65 suites, each with unique amenities!
- **Indoor/Outdoor Events** - Premier location for hosting events of all sizes such as live entertainment, concerts and festivals as well as weddings and corporate events!

Email: sales@thebarnresortpa.com



HISTORIC DANIEL LADY FARM

- Annual Gettysburg Civil War Reenactment
- Seasonal Scout & Group Camping
- Annual Civil War Relic Show
- Gettysburg Brewfest & Trail 5K
- Immersive Group Programs & Tours



DanielLadyFarm.com





The next big thing in healthcare is *you* ♦



♦ Yes, you. See how at WellSpan.org/You



Timbrel Wallace Loves Making Stores

PATTI RESTIVO

Local entrepreneur and creative businessperson Timbrel Wallace — who owns Lark – A Modern Marketplace, Nerd Herd, Oh Man! and Gettysburg Goods in downtown Gettysburg — loves making stores. “It’s really enjoyable to me,” she says. “I love having the ideas, feeling the inspiration, and figuring out what’s going to work.”

Wallace discovered her passion for retail as a designer at Crate and Barrel in Atlanta, Georgia. Born in Vermont, she landed in Atlanta after graduating from Elon University with a degree in Broadcasting to attend a summer internship with CNN. There she met and married Scott Walters, and they resided in Atlanta for several years.

When Wallace’s mom was diagnosed with cancer around 2001, they moved to Pennsylvania (her parents lived in the Biglerville area) and Timbrel pursued starting her own business. At first she hoped to open an antiques store, but Scott and her family convinced her to focus on retail. Her first venture, Smokehouse Crafts, started in a 19th-century stone smokehouse in Littlestown where the Wallaces lived onsite.

The 2008 Financial Crisis led to the closure of that business, and Timbrel decided to take a break until her youngest son, Grayson, was old enough to attend preschool. In 2009, the Wallaces closed Smokehouse Crafts.

LARK GIFTS AND NERD HERD

They canvassed the town for two years before she opened her first Gettysburg store in 2011. She hired her longest standing employee, Heidi Little, and customers enjoyed seeing little Grayson and his mom play “Go Fish” at the counter in Lark Gifts at 40 Baltimore Street.

By 2015, the Wallaces were running out of space at the storefront where Fourcorners Comics & Games stands today; even knocking out a wall and expanding into the adjacent space didn’t fill Timbrel’s needs.

She always liked frequenting the Gettysburg Baking Company at 17 Lincoln Square and remembers gazing through the windows of the large empty space that adjoined the bakery. A Lark customer, Sherry Meyers, assured Timbrel that the owners were nice people who owned a winery and put her in touch with the Hauser family.

Hannah Hauser invited the Wallaces to dinner to discuss their vision. When Chris Lauer (founder of the nonprofit Waldos and

Company) got wind of the concept and came onboard wanting to rent the downstairs space, the Hausers agreed to lease the property that would grow into a “Modern Marketplace” in the heart of Gettysburg.

“It was very personal in a small-town kind of way,” Wallace said.

Lark – A Modern Marketplace opened its doors at 17 Lincoln Square that year. With months left on the Baltimore Street lease, Nerd Herd — inspired and run by the Wallace’s high schooler, Danielle (in tandem with a group of gaming teens who had been meeting in their home basement) — was born.

Its current location at 10 York Street (which opened in 2017) is still manned by students except for a daytime manager. A giant chess board out front beckons foot traffic to the nostalgic shop that focuses mostly on tabletop, board and card games as well as pop-culture novelties like the classic PAC-MAN arcade machine that stands in a front corner.

OH MAN!

Oh Man! (1 Baltimore Street) opened its doors in 2021 during COVID and a particularly difficult family time; Timbrel’s father was struggling with Alzheimer’s disease. The shop stocks a selection of unique “manly” products geared toward beer enthusiasts, outdoorsmen, cooks and musicians. Timbrel remembers the day Scott took her dad into Oh Man!. He said her dad picked up David Byrne’s “How Music Works” and remained absorbed in that book for nearly 20 minutes (music connects with Alzheimer’s victims) — a meaningful memory, she says.

For Wallace, the space that became available had always had a strong “dad vibe” (which is why she fell in love with it); she even used lots of her dad’s outlived belongings and memorabilia as props in the store.

“The store is really all about my dad,” she says.

Anytime they opened a new store in Gettysburg, Wallace says she has always considered what was not represented here and what was financially feasible.

GETTYSBURG GOODS

Thus, in 2023, Gettysburg Goods also emerged at the marketplace connected by an open doorway to Lark when the space became available. There was a time, Timbrel says, when a visitor couldn’t buy a tee shirt



Timbrel Wallace

or even a postcard or magnet downtown. Gettysburg Goods fills that void; it showcases products designed or crafted by local artists and makers to celebrate the spirit of the town with visitors and locals alike.

A variety of locally handcrafted jewelry, tees and artwork can be purchased there.

Mason Dixon Distillery has a Tasting Bar onsite. And handcrafted food items (such as local jams and Gettysburg Olive Oil products) as well as artisan items crafted from wood reclaimed from the Battlefield and other sites (by Gettysburg Sentinels) are prominently displayed.

Wallace says she currently employs 25-30 employees, depending on the season. Heidi Little, who came onboard when the original Lark opened in 2011, says that it’s “just so fun to work here” (at Lark) that it doesn’t feel like work at all.

And Cary from Oh Man! says “there are so many unique things here — it’s always changing; there is always going to be something new every time you come in.”

“I’ve always wanted to be in Gettysburg,” said Wallace. “I’m happy.” 

For more information about her stores and the unique gifts Timbrel Wallace sources from gift shows in Atlanta and New York and from www.faire.com; visit www.larkgifts.com, www.nerdherdgettysburg.com, www.ohmangifts.com and gettysburggoods.com.



Bilingual, Diverse, Exceptional! Now Enrolling!

Learn more at vidacs.org or call (717) 334-3643 to schedule a tour.

¡Bilingüe, diverso, excepcional! ¡Inscripciones abiertas!

Obtenga más información en vidacs.org o llame al (717) 334-3643 para programar un recorrido.



Adams Struggles with Affordable Housing

CHARLES STANGOR

A panel discussion hosted by local advocacy groups in March highlighted rising housing costs and growing affordability challenges in Adams County, as dozens of local advocates and residents gathered to discuss housing insecurity and homelessness.

The event, titled “Housing insecurity: Tracking homelessness and housing affordability at the local level,” featured speakers Leon Reed, who chaired the session, @ Home Coordinator Alana Anderson, and Bill Gilmartin, chairman of the Adams County Housing Authority board. The panel explored the economic forces driving housing costs and discussed possible approaches to expanding affordable housing in the county.

Anderson shared data showing how dramatically housing prices have risen in recent years.

“Last year our median home sale price in Adams County was about \$353,000,” Anderson said. “We’ve had a 91 percent increase since 2015.”

“Those increases mean many residents are increasingly priced out of the housing market.”

Those increases, she said, mean many residents are increasingly priced out of the housing market. “Think about the people who are being left behind — whose incomes have not increased at the same rate,” she said.

Anderson also described her own experience with housing instability while living in California, where she struggled to afford rent on a two-bedroom apartment.

“We could not afford a \$3,200-a-month apartment,” she said. “If my parents hadn’t opened their doors, the reality would have been much bleaker.”

Having family support allowed her to move home and regroup, she said, but many people do not have that option.

Anderson urged residents to become involved in local land-use discussions and planning decisions.

“Please participate,” she said, encouraging people to attend planning commission and zoning hearing board meetings and to engage with organizations working on housing issues.

Reed said Adams County faces additional pressures because of its aging population and the type of housing that will be needed in the coming decades.

“Adams County is not ready” for the expected growth in the number of senior residents, Reed said, noting that more housing options will be needed for older adults who want to downsize or remain in their communities as they age.

He also said community resistance to higher-density housing can make it difficult to create new affordable options. “The general perspective of the area is, ‘We don’t want small houses,’” Reed said.

Gilmartin discussed the role of the Adams County Housing Authority

in providing housing assistance and managing public housing.

The authority currently serves about 900 households, he said, but demand continues to exceed available resources.

“Nationally, one constant is we only serve about one out of four people who are eligible,” Gilmartin said, noting that federal housing assistance programs such as Section 8 vouchers are limited by funding.

Housing affordability is often measured by how much of a household’s income goes toward housing costs. Anderson said recent data shows a large share of residents are spending more than the recommended level.

“Seventy-four percent of renters are spending more than 30 percent of their income on housing,” she said.

Panelists also pointed to broader forces shaping the local housing market. Construction costs have increased sharply in recent years, while Adams County’s desirability and limited land available for development further constrain housing supply.

“Housing construction costs have skyrocketed,” Reed said.

Despite the challenges, speakers emphasized that community engagement and local policy decisions will play an important role in shaping the county’s housing future.

“We need to have conversations about what kind of community we want,” Anderson said. **CC**

Beyond All Boundaries

Precision **YOU** Can Build On!



- Boundary Line Location
- Boundary Survey
- Topographic Survey
- Land Subdivision Survey
- Land Title Survey
- Floodplain Evaluation

- Control Survey
- As-Built Survey
- Construction Stake-Out Survey
- Legal Description Preparation
- Large Format Copying/Scanning
- Courtroom Testimony & Exhibit Surveys



3195-A Biglerville Road • Biglerville, PA 17307

717-677-8588 or 717-334-2488

Email: scottkcj@gmail.com



CHESTER SPRINGS
Wealth Management Group

Member of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC

1000 West Chester Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325
(717) 334-4400

Investment Services
Life Insurance
Annuities
Retirement Solutions

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

Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC is a registered investment advisor. Investment advisory services are provided by Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC, a registered investment advisor. © 2015 Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. All rights reserved.



Local service & great rates

Mike Ball
Gettysburg
Bus: 717-334-4908

[Get a quote](#)





MORE CARE



MORE EXPERTISE



MORE SPECIALTIES

UPMC Expedition Trail Outpatient Center Is Expanding

The advanced specialty and primary care you and your family need is more convenient than ever before with the expansion of services at UPMC Expedition Trail Outpatient Center. Services include heart and vascular, women’s health, lab services, ENT, weight loss and more. **Visit [UPMC.com/ExpeditionTrail](https://www.upmc.com/expeditiontrail).**

20 EXPEDITION TRAIL, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325

UPMC | **OUTPATIENT
CENTER**



Visitor Activities

Gettysburg and Adams County offer visitors an unforgettable mix of history, scenery, and small-town charm. Travelers can walk or drive the Gettysburg Battlefield and explore the National Military Park Museum and Cyclorama. In the evening, ghost tours bring the town’s past to life along its historic streets. Beyond the battlefield, visitors enjoy strolling the shops and restaurants around Lincoln Square, tasting local wines and craft beers, and exploring the county’s rolling farmland and orchards.

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



The Jennie Wade House

Visiting a listing you found here?
 Please tell them you read about it in the
Gettysburg Connection!

Thrift Shoppe
 Fitness Center
 Fitness Classes
 Community Events

Summer Camps
 Child Learning
 Classes
 Facility Rentals

East Berlin Area Community Center, Inc.
 405 North Avenue, East Berlin, PA 17316 | 717-259-8848 | www.ebacc.org

Reach 4 the Stars
 CAMPAIGN FOR THE COMMUNITY
<https://ebacc.org/reach4thestars/>

WELCOME TO GETTYSBURG!

DESTINATION
Gettysburg!
 ADAMS COUNTY, PA

DestinationGettysburg.com

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

Adams Celebrates US 250th

GETTYSBURG CONNECTION

Gettysburg is preparing to take center stage in the nation's 250th anniversary celebrations with a major, multi-day historical reenactment that organizers say will bring Abraham Lincoln's legacy vividly to life.

The main event—titled “Lincoln to Gettysburg Shall Not Perish”—will take place Nov. 18–19 and is being billed as a once-in-a-lifetime immersive experience recreating Lincoln's 1863 visit and the dedication of Soldiers' National Cemetery.

The event is part of the broader America 250 initiative, a nationwide commemoration of the country's founding. Locally, Adams County organizers aim to host 250 events, with this November production emerging as the marquee centerpiece.

“This is where the story of America comes together,” said Carl Whitehill, chair of the America 250PA Adams County Steering Commission. “You can't tell the story of America without Gettysburg.”

The two-day program will transform downtown Gettysburg into a living stage. It begins with a dramatic reenactment of Lincoln's arrival by steam locomotive, followed by a public appearance at the historic David Wills House and an evening of music and historical storytelling in the square.

As night falls, organizers plan to recreate the atmosphere of November 1863, culminating the next day in a full procession along Baltimore Street to Gettysburg National Cemetery, where the dedication ceremony—and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address—will be reenacted.

Actors portraying key historical figures will include Billy Campbell as Lincoln, with scholars and performers filling roles such as Edward Everett and Lincoln's secretary, John Hay.



Wendy Allen, president of the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania, said the goal is not just spectacle, but reflection.

“Above all, it was a day set aside to honor the Union soldiers who gave their lives here,” Allen said, noting the enduring relevance of Lincoln's message of liberty and equality.

Speakers emphasized the event's deeper historical significance, connecting the ideals of the Declaration of Independence to the Civil War and Lincoln's call for a “new birth of freedom.”

Chris Quinn of Gettysburg National Military Park described the reenactment as an opportunity to bridge two defining moments in American history—the nation's founding in 1776 and its preservation in 1863.

“This is an opportunity for each generation to better understand the cost of freedom,” Quinn said.

Local officials expect large crowds and are planning accordingly. Road closures, satellite parking, shuttle systems, and expanded emergency services are all in development as part of a weeklong operational plan surrounding the event.

Borough Manager Charles Gable described the effort using the state's “EPIC” framework—education, preservation, innovation, and commemoration—saying the event will embody all four.

Organizers also stressed accessibility, with accommodations planned for visitors with limited mobility and provisions for weather, including heated tents and indoor programming.

Beyond its historical significance, the event is expected to provide a major boost to local tourism and business. Leaders from Main Street Gettysburg and the Gettysburg Foundation highlighted opportunities to attract visitors from across the country—and encourage them to return.

“Anybody who comes to Gettysburg once will come back again,” said Jill Sellers of Main Street Gettysburg.

The Gettysburg Foundation also noted the broader mission of using the anniversary to expand educational access and digital engagement, ensuring the story of Gettysburg reaches audiences beyond those who can attend in person.

As the United States approaches its 250th anniversary, organizers say Gettysburg is uniquely positioned to host one of its most meaningful commemorations.

“Gettysburg fulfilled what had been promised in Philadelphia,” Allen said.

In November, they hope the nation will return to that promise—standing once again where Lincoln reminded Americans what their country was meant to be. **GC**

Please visit destinationgettysburg.com/america-250th/ to learn more.



Dine at the Best in Gettysburg

Scan here to browse our online dining listing!





Fun-Filled Activities in Gettysburg

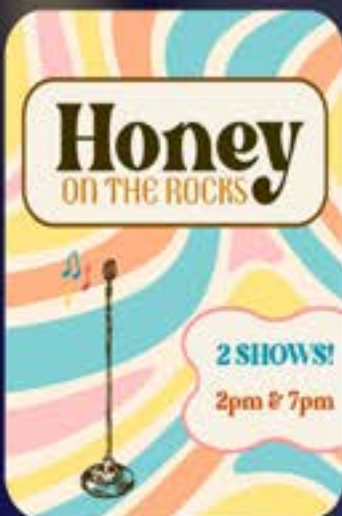
Scan here to browse our online activity listing!



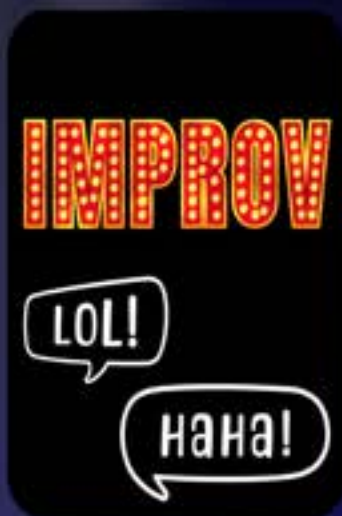


Gettysburg Community Theatre

Find Your Stage Door ... And Open It!



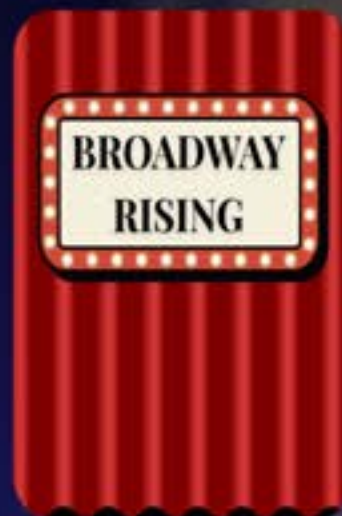
April 18



Apr 25, Sep 19
and Oct 24



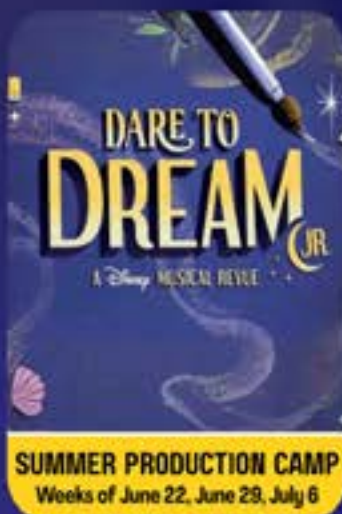
May 1 - 17



June 12 - 13



June 15 - 19



Performances
July 10 - 12



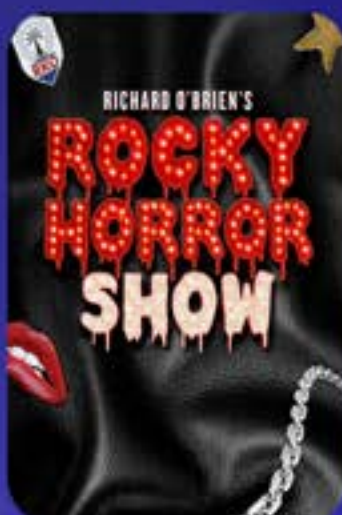
July 20 - 24



July 17 - August 2



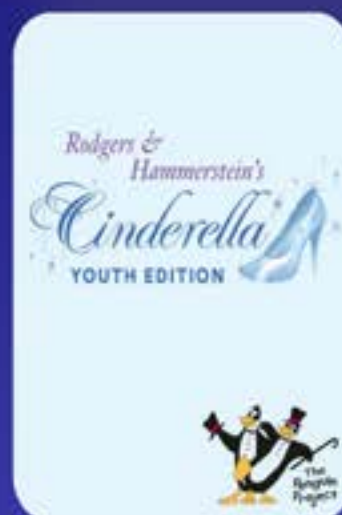
September 19



October 9 - 17



November 27 - 28



December 11 - 20

www.GettysburgCommunityTheatre.org



49 York St. Gettysburg, PA 17325 | info@GettysburgCommunityTheatre.org | 717.334.2692

Limited Seating! Order tickets in advance at gct.ludus.com!

Touched™ Keepsakes at Body and Soul Silversmiths

GETTYSBURG CONNECTION

On Baltimore Street in Gettysburg, in a compact studio that hums with the quiet energy of craft, Body and Soul Silversmith is introducing something both intimate and extraordinary. The shop’s new Touched™ collection transforms a loved one’s actual fingerprint into a fine-silver pendant, preserving a moment of human connection in metal meant to last generations.

The Touched™ pendants, an extension of the shop’s bracelets, reflection charms, earrings, necklaces, and rings, are the latest creations of Marcia Brasini, a classically trained silversmith and gemologist, and her husband Fred, a photographer who documents the studio’s work. Together, they run the shop as both a gallery and a working laboratory of bespoke old-world techniques.

Creating a Touched™ pendant begins not at a workbench, but in a quiet room where Brasini studies a customer’s fingertips. “Every finger is different,” she explained. “Some ridges are delicate, some very shallow. You have one chance to get it right.”

To capture the print, Brasini uses a special wax formula she developed through extensive experimentation. It must be soft enough to record the tiny ridges of a fingerprint, but strong enough to survive the heat and pressure involved in metal casting.

Once the wax is warmed to the precise temperature, the customer presses gently into its surface. If the impression is strong and clear, Brasini begins the next phase: attaching the wax print to a small casting “tree,” a structure that allows several pieces to be cast at once.

The tree is placed into a metal cylinder and surrounded with casting powder, a plaster-like material used in jewelry making. The mixture must be stirred, vacuumed to remove air bubbles, poured with perfect timing, and left to harden for up to eight hours. If any step is off by even a moment, the final casting may fail.

After the investment cures, the cylinder is placed into a kiln where the wax melts out—a stage known as “lost-wax casting.” The kiln cycle is long, slow, and exacting. Temperatures rise in stages to avoid cracking the mold, and Brasini monitors the process closely. “You’re babysitting it,” she said. “It’s alive in there.”

When the mold is finally ready, it is transferred to a vacuum casting furnace where the molten silver is heated with a torch until it becomes a bright,

fluid pool, then drawn into the mold. The metal fills every line left by the fingerprint—even details too small for the eye to detect.

After cooling, the investment is broken apart by hand. Only then does the silver charm emerge, coated in white residue and still bearing the roughness of the casting process. Brasini cleans, shapes, polishes, and finishes each piece herself, often engraving initials or dates on the back.

From fingerprint to final polishing, a single charm can require more than two full days of work.

Brasini trained in South America, studying a range of visual arts before specializing in silversmithing and later gemology. For nearly 20 years, she operated a studio in New Oxford, creating sculptural silver and gemstone jewelry before moving to Gettysburg when her Baltimore Street space became available.

Fred’s photography supports the business visually, but he also serves as the shop’s steady presence—helping customers, documenting new work, and supporting the creative flow of the studio.

Together, they have built a reputation for handcrafted, one-of-a-kind pieces, including a line of Gettysburg-themed charms depicting the drummer boy, messenger, witness tree, and bucktail hat. Each one is carved in wax before being cast in silver.

The idea for Touched™ grew from a long-time customer who suffered a stroke and could no longer fasten traditional earrings. Brasini designed a one-handed earring for her. Later, when the woman was undergoing cancer treatment, her daughter returned asking for a piece engraved with her mother’s signature. That emotional request, Brasini said, “made me realize how much people want to hold onto touch.” 



Advertiser Index

ACE Hardware	18
Antica Napoli.....	19
Beyond All Boundaries	12
Body & Soul Silversmith	18
Cameo’s Drive-In.....	19
Chester Springs Wealth Management	12
Clementina’s Pizza	19
Create @ 48	19
Daniel Lady Farm	9
Deliso Pizza	19
Destination Gettysburg.....	14
East Berlin Community Center	14
Farmstead Butcher.....	18
Fresh Boutique	18
Gettysburg Brass Bands	7
Gettysburg Community Theatre .	16
Gettysburg Film Commission	7
Gettysburg Moonshine Company	6
Gettysburg Majestic Theater	20
Gettysburg YMCA	14
Hickory Bridge Farm	9
Hollabaugh’s Bros.....	18
Lark Gifts	18
Mike Ball - State Farm Insurance .	12
Mr G.s Ice Cream	19
Oh Man!	18
Reid’s Winery	6
Rock Top Book Shop.....	18
Round Barn Weddings.....	9
Screaming Bambino	6
Shanes Sweets	17
The Barn Resort	9
Thirsty Farmer	6
Timmins on Buford	14
Totem Pole Playhouse.....	1
UPMC	13
Upper Adams 250th	2
VIDA Charter School.....	11
Wellspan Health	10

Desserts So Good

You'll Forget to Share!

 Cakes

 Cupcakes

 Cookies

 Pies

 Brownies

 Donuts

A portion of our profits goes towards hospice!



443-821-4536



Shopping

Stroll the historic downtown streets of Gettysburg and you'll find a mix of locally owned boutiques, artisan galleries, and specialty shops offering everything from handcrafted goods to one-of-a-kind gifts inspired by the town's rich history. From unique clothing and jewelry to Civil War artifacts and locally made treats, there's something around every corner.



Lark





LARK
A MODERN MARKETPLACE



On the Square in Downtown Gettysburg

Fresh **Local Meats & More!**



- Gettysburg's only full-service butcher shop
- Featuring pasture-raised & grain-fed meats & dairy
- Our own shop-made bacon, sausages, quick meal starters, and more!

1863 Gettysburg Village Drive, Suite H890, Gettysburg PA 17325 • (223) 255-8074 • Wednesday - Sunday: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm • Closed Monday & Tuesday



THE FARMSTEAD
• BUTCHER •



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!

Rock Top Book Shop



Gettysburg Connection

Your Ad Would Look Great Here!

Reach thousands of Gettysburg-area readers who are ready to shop, dine, and engage locally.

- Promote your business
- Support local journalism
- Get noticed

Advertise with the Gettysburg Connection today!



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



Family Owned Farm Market Featuring:

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

71 YEARS

hollabaughbros.com
717.677.8412
545 Carlisle Road • Biglerville, PA

HOLLABAUGH BROS. SINCE 1955



Generations Growing For You

**615 York Street
Gettysburg
717-398-2400**



EST. **SCHMUCK** 1852
LUMBER CO.

**225 N Railroad St
Hanover
717-637-6616**

Mon-Fri. 7am - 7pm
Sat. 8am - 3pm
Sun. 10am - 3pm

ACE Hardware

Building Products • Windows & Doors
Garage Doors • Kitchen & Bath

Mon-Fri.
7am - 4pm





OH MAN!
GUY GIFTS FOR EVERYONE

On the Square in Downtown Gettysburg



Restaurants

Adams County's restaurant scene is deeply rooted in a farm-to-table tradition, reflecting the region's rich agricultural heritage. Many local kitchens take pride in sourcing ingredients directly from nearby farms and orchards, featuring seasonal produce, locally raised meats, and freshly baked goods that highlight the best of each time of year. From casual cafés to more refined settings, menus offer dishes that celebrate the county's apple harvests, garden vegetables, and regional specialties. The result is a dining culture that feels both grounded and vibrant, where local flavor truly takes center stage.



Clementina's
PIZZERIA & RISTORANTE

Fine Italian Cuisine at Pizza Shop Prices

Delivery, Carry-Out, or Dine-In!

- Specializing in New York style pizzas
- Offering a variety of Italian dinners
- Wine, beer, & liquor available for dine-in
- Beer & adult slushies to-go

1685 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325 www.clementinaspizza.com 717-339-0599






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

Farm to Fork
for
Dinner





CAMEO

Home Cooked
Local Family Dining!

Online Ordering DoorDash Delivery Dine-In/Carry-Out

1425 Carlisle Road, Aspers, PA 17304 717-677-0567





DELISO
PIZZA • PASTA & SUBS

Authentic Family Flavor... Taste The Tradition!

- Large Gluten-Free Selections
- Catering & Party Trays
- Delicious Pizza & Italian Dishes
- Serving Beer & Wine
- Six Packs To Go
- Family Owned

829 Biglerville Road • Gettysburg, PA 17325 717-337-9500





Mr. G's
Old Fashioned
ICE CREAM
Home Made & Soft Serve

Making History, One Scoop at a Time!
A Tasty Gettysburg Tradition!

We offer delicious homemade ice cream, soft serve ice cream, milkshakes & other frozen treats!

Choose From **16** Flavors Daily!

404 Baltimore Street • Gettysburg, PA 17325 • 717-334-7600






ANTICA NAPOLI
NEW YORK STYLE
PIZZA
717-334-2600
www.anticanapolipizza.com



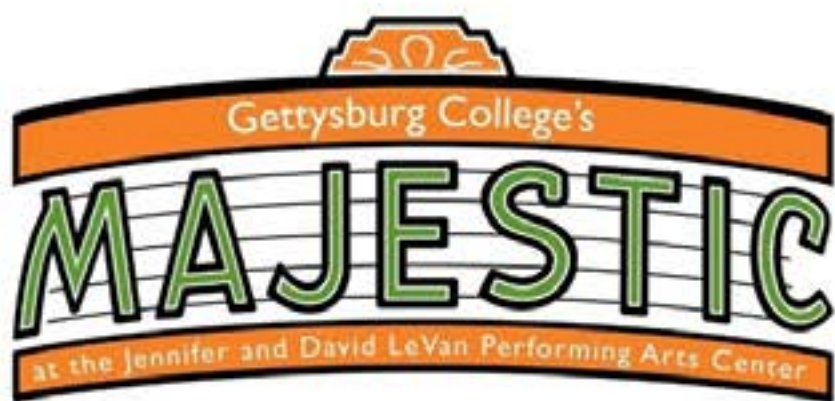
A Slice of Italy
In The
Heart of Gettysburg

We offer pick-up, take out, and dine in!

39 North Washington Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325



The Grandest Small-Town Theater in America



Live Celebrity Series Shows



Sunderman Conservatory of Music Performances



Daily Movie Screenings & Summer Classic Series



Art Gallery Exhibits



WWW.GETTYSBURGMAJESTIC.ORG
BOX OFFICE: 717-337-8200
BOXOFFICEINFO@GETTYSBURG.EDU

Gettysburg College