

GETTYSBURG

NEIGHBORS

MARCH 2026



Leading with a Smile: The Seidel Family

INSIDE...

- GETTYSBURG JEWELRY'S WATCH CARE
- BRUCE HOLLABAUGH 5K & FUN RUN
- ADAMS COUNTY CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

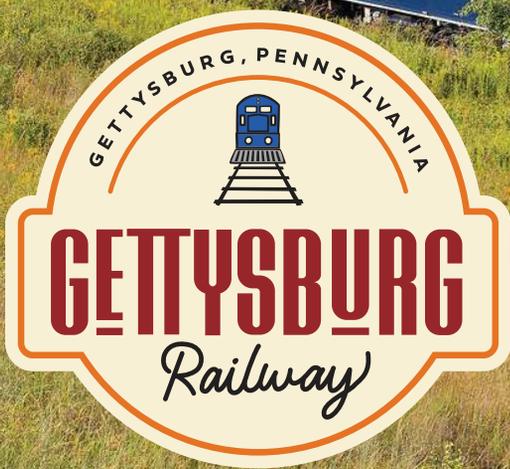
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Community content for May 2026 should be submitted by March 25, 2026.

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Springing Ahead in March

It's officially March, and spring is just around the corner! We look forward to warmer temperatures, blooming flowers, and the luck of the Irish this St. Patrick's Day.

This month, we introduce you to the Seidel Family. Their story is a wonderful tribute to the amazing families found right here in our neighborhood!

This issue is packed with local stories, including an important look at Kidney Awareness Month including the story of a local child awaiting a transplant. You can also find details on the Hollabaugh's 5K and Fun Run, updates from the Adams County Children's Advocacy Center and St. James Early Learning Center, and a delicious pie recipe to celebrate Pi Day.

Expert Contributors Gettysburg Jewelry, Budget Blinds of Dillsburg, Chambersburg & Gettysburg, and Warehouse Rocks share their professional insights and expertise about watch care, trending window treatments and the benefits of kids climbing.

Please join us in welcoming our 5 new sponsors this month: Gettysburg Bicycle & Fitness; Nick's Plumbing; The Second Bloom; Granite Hill Camping Resort; and North Branch Golf Cart Sales & Service.

Finally, we want to extend a sincere thank you to all of our sponsors. This magazine is made possible by their support, which allows us to deliver Gettysburg Neighbors to your mailbox every month at no cost to you. We encourage you to take a moment to browse our Expert Contributor List and sponsors; by supporting these local businesses, you are directly supporting the community we call home.

Enjoy this edition of Gettysburg Neighbors!

Jill Rickle
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Beyond the Wall: The Skills Youth Climbing Builds for Life

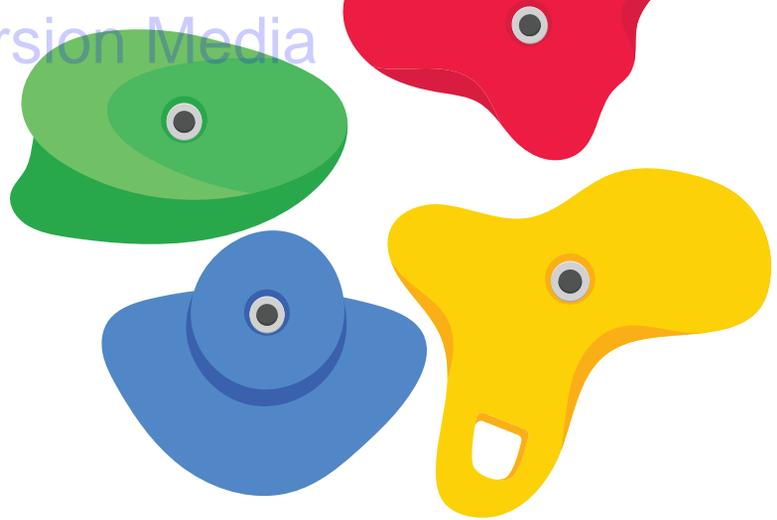
PROVIDED BY JOE REARDON, GENERAL MANAGER

Youth climbing is more than a physical activity—it's a powerful tool for developing lifelong skills. As a sport, climbing uniquely blends strength, balance, focus, and problem-solving, requiring kids to think several moves ahead while managing their bodies in real time. Unlike many traditional team sports, climbing emphasizes personal growth, resilience, and self-confidence, allowing young athletes to progress at their own pace while still benefiting from group instruction and peer encouragement.

One of the most valuable skills climbing teaches is problem-solving under pressure. Each route is a puzzle that challenges climbers to analyze, adapt, and try again when a move doesn't work. This trial-and-error mindset helps kids become more comfortable with challenges and failure—an essential life skill both in and out of school. Climbing also builds mental focus and emotional regulation, as climbers must stay calm, trust their decisions, and push through moments of uncertainty.

Physically, climbing supports full-body strength, coordination, flexibility, and endurance without the repetitive impact seen in many youth sports. It improves grip strength, core stability, and balance while reinforcing safe movement patterns. Just as importantly, climbing fosters confidence and independence. Kids see measurable progress quickly—reaching a hold that once felt impossible or completing a route for the first time—and those victories translate into greater self-belief.

At Warehouse Rocks, youth climbing clubs are intentionally structured to nurture these skills in a safe, educational, and encouraging environment. Skilled coaches guide climbers through age-appropriate instruction, emphasizing proper technique, safety awareness, teamwork, and personal goal-setting. Whether a child is brand new to climbing or ready to advance their abilities, the club format offers consistency, accountability, and positive mentorship.



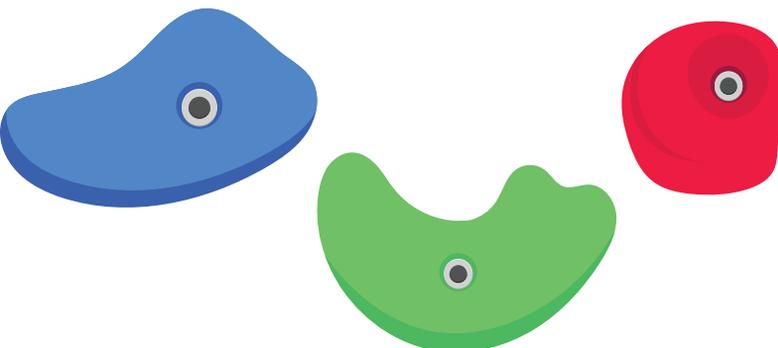
SPRING 2026 YOUTH CLIMBING CLUB INFORMATION

Warehouse Rocks is now booking Spring youth climbing sessions:

- Kids Ascent Climbing Club (Ages 8-14)
Thursdays, 6:00-8:00 PM | March 5 - May 21 | \$350
- Kids Basecamp Climbing Club (Ages 8-14)
Tuesdays, 6:00-7:30 PM | March 3 - May 19 | \$300
- Tiny Tykes Climbing Club (Ages 5-7)
Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30 PM | March 4 - May 20 | \$200

All sessions include rental equipment. Climbing outside of club days is not included.

For full details and registration, visit warehouserockspa.com/kids-club.



Snow Fun!

Remembering Snowstorm Fern



Photo by Dave Diner, Cumberland Township



My daughter, Mae Kint (5) in a snow tunnel we made.
Photo by Julia Freed



Loki & Jax loving the snow.
Photo by Tracy Kern



Ivy (5) & Daisy (4m)
Photo by Meagan Schmitt, Gettysburg Neighbors' designer.

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What's Trending in Window Treatments

Enlightened style cellular shades

BY JADE DAGINO FERGUSON

Living in Central Pennsylvania, we can find homes from 18th-century Colonials and Federalist classics, to simple, sleek and updated farmhouses with black windows and exposed beams; the common thread is timeless architecture that still works for modern life. That's exactly where current window-treatment trends shine: respecting tradition, embracing warmth, and quietly layering comfort and technology.

COLOR TRENDS: WARMTH RETURNS

The biggest shift we are seeing locally is a move away from cool grays and stark whites. Window treatments are warming up, and we all feel better for it. We are all dreaming of warmth after February's brutal cold!

Soft, sun-washed neutrals like oatmeal, sand, warm ivory, and taupe are becoming the new foundation. They pair beautifully with original hardwood floors or trending white oak flooring, painted trim, and the creamy whites often found in Colonial interiors. In farmhouse homes, these tones balance black hardware and reclaimed wood without feeling cold.

Layered into those neutrals are richer, earth-inspired hues:

- Clay, terracotta, olive, and tobacco brown add depth without overpowering a room and provide a cozy backdrop for kitchens and bathrooms, softly contrasting shiny tile, heavystonework and metal hardware.
- Deep greens and moody blues feel

especially at home in dining rooms, libraries, offices, and formal living spaces where tradition welcomes a bit of drama.

- Warm beige and sand tones, mushroom taupe, and light, muted pinks are popular choices for bedrooms to create a calm, restorative environment or a soft, romantic space.

The overall effect is cozy, grounded, and elegant, very much in tune with the rolling landscapes and historic towns that surround us.

STYLE TRENDS: CLASSIC BONES, LIGHTER TOUCH

Layering Is the New Luxury

Layered window treatments are everywhere, and for good reason. Pairing Roman shades with stationary side panels or sheers beneath tailored drapery adds dimension, improves light control, and brings a sense of intention to a room.

Layering works especially well in older homes where windows are tall and beautifully proportioned. It allows you to highlight the architecture rather than hide it.

Traditional Details, Reimagined

Design details that once felt dated are returning refined and simplified:

- Valances and cornices are back, but slimmer and more tailored, often upholstered in linen or subtle patterns.
- Cafe curtains are making a quiet comeback in kitchens and breakfast rooms, especially in Colonials and farmhouses where charm matters.
- Outside-mounted Roman shades are being used to visually



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717-844-6275 Charlie Dagino, Owner
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Roman shades and drapery

increase window height and add architectural presence.

- Fringe and Edge Banding are now common additions to basic fabrics that provide eye-catching character and create an elevated style without going overboard.

We are seeing more dramatic drapery choices emerge as clients are seeking to demonstrate their personal style with fabrics and designs that deliver artistry and refinement, honoring tradition without tipping into formality.

Clean Lines Meet Old-World Homes

Even the most historic houses are embracing a bit of modern restraint. Ripple-fold drapery, cordless shades, and streamlined hardware introduce clean lines that feel fresh without clashing with crown molding or paneled walls.

PRODUCT TRENDS: WHAT EVERYONE'S CHOOSING

Roman Shades

Arguably the star of the moment. Roman shades work across all many home styles depending on fabric

choice and they can be motorized, making them the epitome of traditional style and modernization. Linen, cotton blends, and subtle textures keep them relaxed but refined, and dramatic patterns or bold colors can offer a beautiful way to express a client's personality.

Woven & Natural Shades

Bamboo, grass, and woven woods are especially popular in farmhouse and transitional spaces. They add warmth and texture and look beautiful layered under drapery in larger rooms.

Drapery That Means Business

Floor-length drapery is less about fuss and more about tailoring. Think linen, velvet, or heavier cotton in solid colors or quiet patterns, hung high and wide to frame the window rather than block it. Layering heavier fabrics over sheers is another trend worth noting. While pricey, especially if motorized, layered sheers and heavy drapes are in a category of their own when it comes to delivery of luxury and refined style.

Shutters & Wood Blinds

Classic wood shutters remain a favorite in traditional homes, particularly in trim-matching finishes. They're timeless, practical, and perfectly suited to our region's architectural roots. Wood or faux wood blinds can always provide a similar look at a lower price point.

Smart Technology

Motorized and cordless options are increasingly common, especially for tall stairwell windows or sun-filled great rooms. The key trend?

Technology that disappears into the design rather than announcing itself.

In Pennsylvania, we live with history every day, stone walls, divided-light windows, and homes built to last. The latest window-treatment trends don't try to reinvent that. Instead, they enhance it with warm, livable color, respect for traditional architecture, thoughtful layering and texture, and modern convenience without visual clutter. The result is a home that feels authentic to its roots, comfortable for everyday life, and quietly current, exactly what good design should be.

If you're updating one room or rethinking the whole house, consider starting at the window where tradition and modern living meet beautifully, and look at custom window treatment providers like Budget Blinds of Dillsburg, Chambersburg and Gettysburg who offer design service, professional installation, and the best product warranties.



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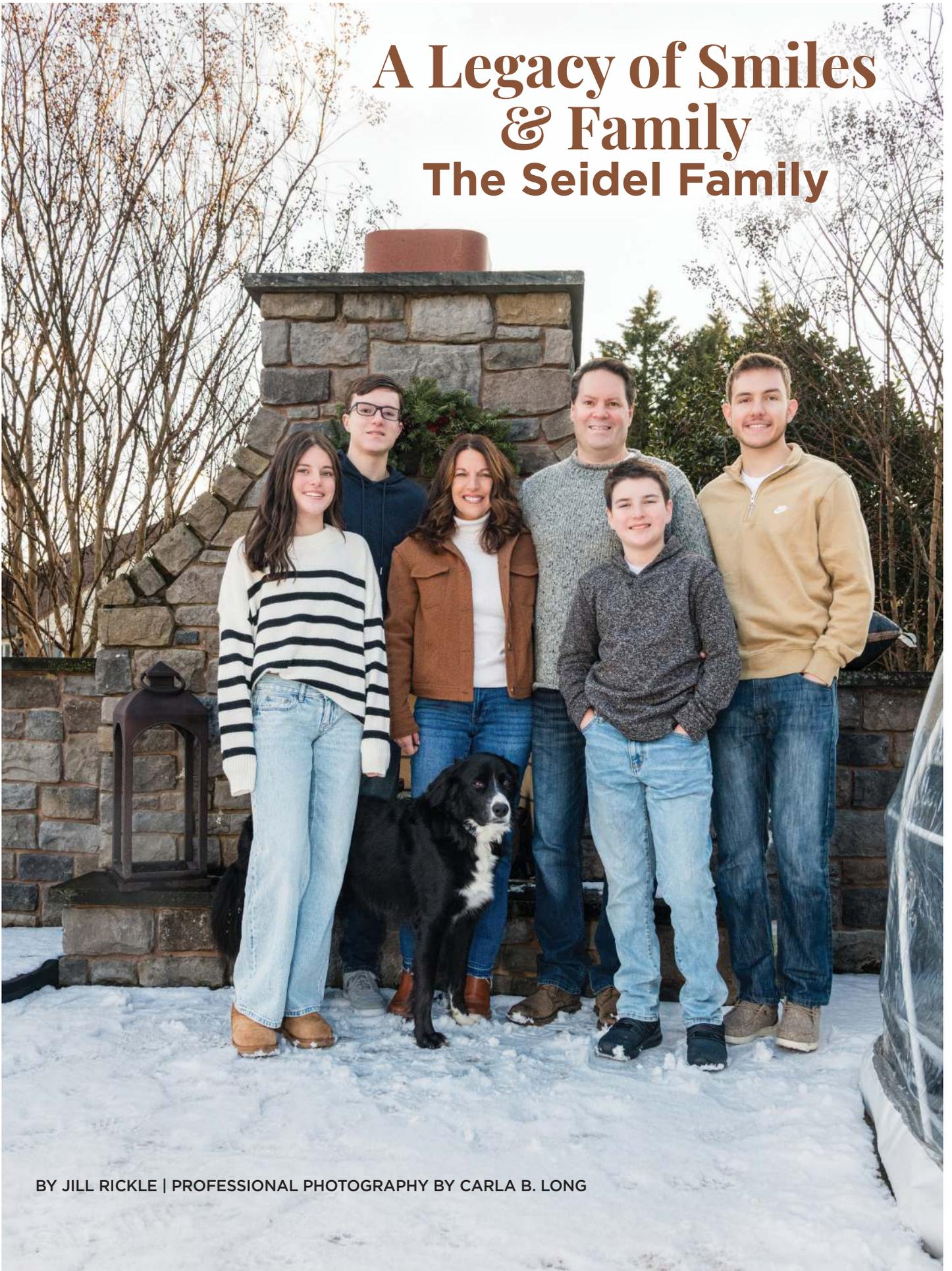






Happiness Grows Here

A Legacy of Smiles & Family The Seidel Family



BY JILL RICKLE | PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY BY CARLA B. LONG

Make yourself at home—that is exactly the kind of warm, open-door energy the Seidel family brings to our community. While many know Eric Seidel as the local dentist who utilizes high-tech 3-D printing and same-day milling to keep the neighborhood smiling, sitting down with Eric and his wife, Jennifer (Jen), feels less like a formal appointment and more like catching up with old friends over coffee. Since moving to Lake Heritage in 2011, they have found more than just a place to live; they have discovered a home where their passions for health, outdoor adventure, and genuine human connection can flourish.



FROM THE GARDEN CENTER TO THE DENTAL CHAIR

The story of the Seidel family’s drive starts back in Reading, PA, where Eric grew up as the fourth of five children. As the youngest boy in the household, he was constantly in motion—wrestling, running cross-country, and working at his mother’s nursery and garden center. It was among those rows of plants that his mother instilled an entrepreneurial spirit in all the siblings, a seed of ambition that eventually led Eric to pursue Molecular Biology at Grove City College and dental school at Temple University.

After graduating with honors and completing his residency, Eric found his way to our area in 2006, eventually becoming a partner in his practice by 2010. Today, he is deeply passionate about the intersection of health and technology, offering cutting-edge services like digital scans and same-day crowns through in-office 3-D printing. But for Eric, the “why” behind the technology is the people. Whether he is helping a patient overcome dental anxiety or providing top-tier Invisalign care, his goal is to help individuals become healthier and more confident. He views his long-term staff as extended family and cherishes the role of being an integral part of the community as both a provider and a friend.

A PARTNERSHIP OF TWENTY YEARS

Behind the busy practice and their four active children is a strong partnership. Eric and Jen have been married for twenty years, a journey that began with a chance encounter on a Thursday night in Philadelphia.

Eric was struck by Jen’s genuine personality and radiant smile—qualities that haven’t changed a bit since their early days in Lancaster.

Jen grew up in Philadelphia as the youngest of four children. While she faced the profound loss of her father in 1998, she remains incredibly close to her mother and oldest siblings. Her roots in the city run deep; she played softball and was a gymnast through grade school before graduating from Penn State and moving to Manayunk. To this day, her closest friends are the same people she grew up with in grade school and high school.

Before dedicating herself fully to the family, Jen had a successful career as an account manager for United Healthcare and later in pharmaceutical marketing, which allowed her to travel across the U.S. While she loved her professional journey, she considers her biggest accomplishment to be a mom. She marvels at how two people can create four very different, wonderful human beings. Jen sees her role as ever-evolving - supporting everyone in her family while keeping them rooted in the things that truly matter: faith and family.

A FAMILY AFFAIR AT THE OFFICE

Growing their dental practice has truly become a family affair. The Seidel children aren’t just bystanders to the business; they are an active part of it. The kids often serve as feature models for marketing, promotions, and ads. At age 15, both Brody and Parker began working in the lab and helping to set up rooms, learning the “Professional Will” of the business firsthand. This coming summer, Emerson (Ema) is set

to join the ranks and start working at the practice as well.

LIFE IN MOTION: THE SEIDEL KIDS

Life in the Seidel household is a whirlwind of sports, academics, and big dreams, and each of the four Seidel children brings their own unique spark to the family dynamic. The eldest, Brody, is an eighteen-year-old high school senior and a two-year starter for the basketball team. Between National Honor Society meetings and being active in Mini-Thon, Brody is preparing to run track this spring. He is currently navigating the “surreal” process of college applications, with plans to become a chiropractor one day.

Sixteen-year-old Parker is following close behind as a sophomore. A dedicated student with a great sense of humor, Parker balances cross-country, JV basketball, and track. While he has his sights set on a future in engineering, he is currently enjoying the newfound freedom that comes with having just started driving.

The athletic legacy continues with fourteen-year-old Ema, a freshman and varsity powerhouse in both soccer and basketball. As the only girl in the house, she is right in the middle of everything—a passionate, hard worker who thrives in the middle of the action and hopes to carry her love for sports into her college years. Rounding out the crew is ten-year-old Bryce, a fourth-grader at St. Francis Xavier. While he works hard to keep pace with his older siblings on the baseball and basketball courts, Bryce thrives as the “baby” of the family, with a heart as big as his personality.



COMMUNITY AT THE LAKE AND BEYOND

When they aren't on a court, field, or in the office, the Seidels are likely enjoying the water at Lake Heritage. Since moving there in 2011, the lake has become a central part of their family activities. They are active in the Ski Club, and the annual regatta ski show is a family highlight, where they've watched their kids progress from learning to ski to building human pyramids. The community here feels like family, with friends who support one another through carpools and drop-offs.

In 2024, Jen's mother, RoseMarie, moved to the lake. Having her nearby has been a profound blessing, as she never misses a sporting event and

the kids cherish the time they get to spend with her. Jen spends much of her spare time catching up with friends, spending time with her mom, and walking their Bernese/Border Collie mix, Macy.

Both Eric and Jen share a mutual love for fun and outdoor adventures in all seasons. Their kids are now at an age where the whole family can hike, bike, and travel together. Whether they are skiing out west—a passion Eric has maintained for years—or traveling to places like Aruba, Costa Rica, or Europe, these trips are essential for reconnecting as a unit. For the Seidels, the greatest blessing has been watching their family grow in a place where neighbors become lifelong friends.

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A LUXE LOOK BACK: Our First Year in the Neighborhood

BY TONYA EIKER

It is hard to believe a full year has passed since I first opened the doors to Luxe Studios. I was inspired to start this journey because I saw a local need for a modern, high-end salon experience that still felt welcoming and family-oriented. I wanted to create a space where you could feel confident and cared for, and where my stylists could grow in a positive environment.

Looking back at opening day, the memory that stands out most is the incredible support. Seeing familiar faces walk through the door and receiving so many messages of encouragement made the dream feel real from the very first moment.

THE HEART OF LUXE

I would describe our "vibe" as the perfect mix of elevated and relaxed. We strive to be a space where high-end results happen in a calm, confidence-boosting atmosphere. For my team and me, the best part of this year has been the relationships. You aren't just appointments to us; you are neighbors we genuinely enjoy seeing. Your trust and loyalty make coming to work every day truly rewarding.

LESSONS & SPECIALTY

The biggest lesson I've learned in Year One is that consistency and staying true to your values matter most. Growth doesn't happen overnight, but focusing on quality and people makes everything else follow. Over the last twelve months, we've become known for our extensions and color transformations—services we love providing because of the education and customization involved.

LOOKING AHEAD

As we enter Year Two, I am so excited about refining the client experience even further and expanding our services. To every neighbor who has supported us since day one: thank you for trusting us and cheering us on. Luxe Studios wouldn't be what it is today without you.




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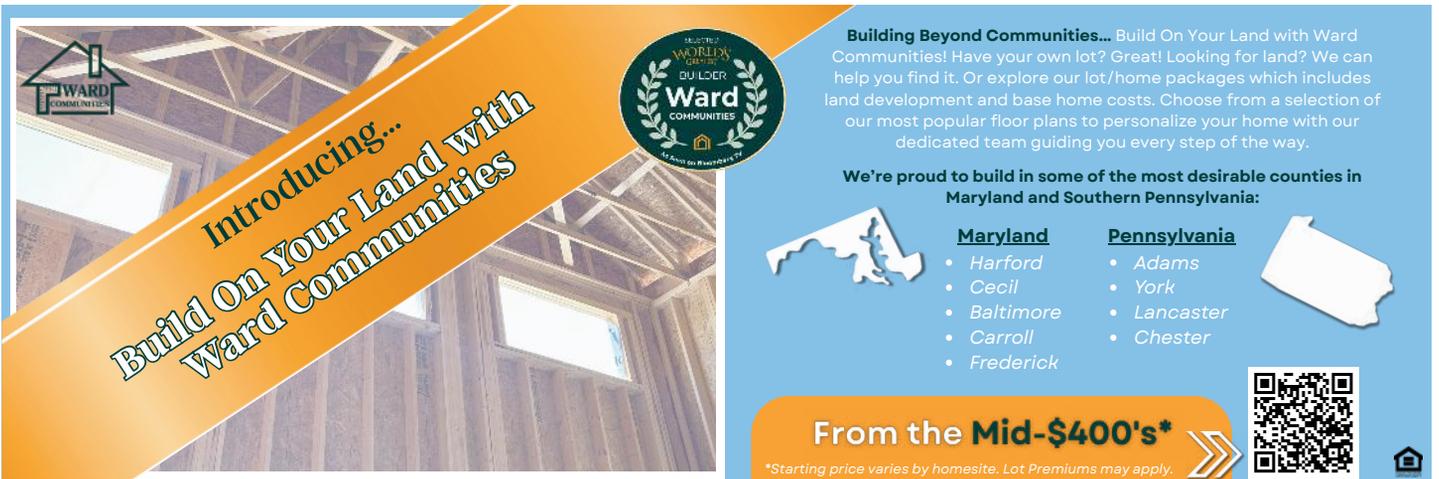


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Celebrating 35 Years of the St. James Early Learning Center

SUBMITTED BY SHERRI B. ALMS

The Early Learning Center at St. James Lutheran Church is celebrating 35 years of providing a nurturing and safe space for children by kicking off a year-long fundraising campaign on January 1. The goal is to raise \$35,000 to equip the Center with new bookshelves, tables, chairs, rugs, and large toys.

The campaign will allow the Early Learning Center to continue to provide excellent care to families in need at a time when many are struggling to pay for groceries, let alone child care. Raising money for furnishings helps the Center to continue to keep tuition affordable, provide financial aid, and do our best to pay our staff a living wage

In the late 1980 and early 90's, many women in the Gettysburg area were working outside the home and finding very few places to care for their children. A group of women at St. James Lutheran Church formed a committee and took a proposal for a child care center to the congregation. In 1990, the congregation approved the St. James Childcare Center, a mission of the church.

The opening publicity brochure for the Center described itself this way:

St James is committed to offering reliable, loving daytime care to children whose parents must work or continue their education. The TOTAL healthy development of the child is our goal. Our curriculum is designed to nurture and educate the body, mind and spirit. We believe this service will help families to grow with strength, optimism and a sense of belonging as

children of God.

In 1991, the center, housed at St. James and benefiting from church financial support, opened its doors. The first executive director, Loretta Cleveland, along with three staff members, welcomed nine infants, eight toddlers, and 11 pre-schoolers.

That first year also marked the beginning of a favorite Gettysburg tradition: the St. James Fastnacht



Sale. The first Fasnacht fundraiser raised over \$800 for the childcare program. Today, the tradition continues, with profits going to the St. James youth program.

Three years later, in 1994, the church council approved an afterschool program. A year later, there were 19 children enrolled in the program.

Word spread about the nurturing care provided at the center and more families came looking for places for their children. The demand led to an expansion of the space in 1997. After a year of work, the Center moved from temporary quarters into its new five-room space at St. James. The rooms filled immediately.

In 2002, the annual report noted the Center provided financial aid for 37% of its children. As a mission of the church, assisting families who needed

financial aid was and continues to be a critical part of what the Center does. A playground, summer field trips, chapel time, healthy food, and a caring staff were among the hallmarks of the center's dedication to educating "body, mind and spirit." By 2005, the center was open every week of the year.

In 2008, the center achieved the highest ranking in the Keystone Star Quality Initiative, meeting standards for:

- An educated and well-trained staff
- Quality leadership and management
- A safe learning environment
- Family and community partnerships

Today, the Center offers care for 93 children from six months

to 12 years old, with 45% receiving financial aid. The staff attends to the whole child, addressing cognitive growth and development, fine and gross motor skill development, social/emotional development, and Christian growth through outdoor play, educational programming, field trips, chapel time, Vacation Bible School, and other activities. Parents are an integral part of their child's experience through three conferences during the school year as well as activities that include parents. Our mission holds steady: to provide quality and affordable child care in a Christian environment.

For additional information, including ways to contribute to their 35th anniversary, please visit stjamesgettysburg.org and click on early learning.

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Ingredients

- 1/3 c. butter
- 6 oz. semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 2 1/2 c. Rice Krispies
- 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 14 oz. sweetened condensed milk
- 3/4 c. creamy peanut butter
- 2 T. lemon juice
- 1 tsp. vanilla ext.
- 1 c. whipping cream, whipped
- Chocolate fudge ice cream topping

Directions

In a heavy saucepan over low heat, melt 1/2 c. butter and chocolate chips. Remove from heat and stir in Rice Krispies until coated. Press on the bottom and up the sides of a greased 9 in. pie plate. Chill for 30 minutes. In a large mixing bowl, beat cream cheese until fluffy. Gradually beat in condensed milk and peanut butter until smooth. Stir in lemon juice and vanilla. Fold in whipped cream. Spread mixture in crust. Drizzle topping over pie. Refrigerate 4-5 hours or until firm.

Note: You can substitute 4 oz. Cool Whip for the whipping cream.



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BY KIM SENEAL

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Keeping Time: A Guide to Caring for Your Favorite Watches

BY LINDEN PERRY, GETTYSBURG JEWELRY REPAIR



Whether it's a family heirloom passed down through generations or a gift to celebrate a major milestone, a fine watch is more than just a tool to tell time—it is a piece of art and a companion through life's adventures. As a jeweler, I often see beautiful timepieces that just need a little extra love to keep them ticking for decades. Caring for a watch doesn't have to be complicated, but a few mindful habits can make a difference in its longevity and value.

GENERAL CARE FOR EVERY TIMEPIECE

Maintaining the exterior of your watch is the first step in protecting the mechanics inside. Here are a few universal tips for every watch owner:

- **Freshwater Rinse:** After a day at the beach or a dip in the pool, always rinse your watch with freshwater. Saltwater and chlorine can be abrasive to the finish and gaskets over time.
- **Watch the Temperature:** Avoid extreme, rapid temperature changes or exposure to steam, such as in hot tubs or showers. High heat can warp the gaskets that provide water resistance.
- **Crystal Clarity:** Only use a clean microfiber cloth to wipe your watch crystal. Paper towels or even your shirt can scratch certain crystals or damage anti-reflective coatings.
- **Keep it Clean:** Use mild soap and a soft-bristled toothbrush to gently clean metal bracelets.
- **Avoid the "Shock":** It's best to remove your watch before heading to the gym, doing yard work, or playing high-impact sports. The less you expose the internal movement to sudden shocks, the better it will perform.
- **Valuable Paperwork:** Always keep your original box and papers. As watches become collectible, having the original materials significantly increases their market value.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR MOVEMENT

Different watches require different levels of attention based on how they are powered.

MANUAL WIND WATCHES

To ensure the best accuracy and lubrication, try to wind your watch at the same time every day. Most importantly, do not overwind—stop as soon as you feel the "resistance wall."

AUTOMATIC (SELF-WINDING) WATCHES

These watches are designed for active lives. They benefit from daily wear, as the natural movement of your arm keeps them powered.

- **Magnetism:** Keep your watch away from tablets, cell

phones, and computers. The magnetism produced by these devices can decrease your watch's accuracy.

- **Winder Wisdom:** Use a watch winder only if you wear the watch semi-frequently. Running a watch 24/7 on a winder can actually wear out components faster than necessary.

QUARTZ WATCHES

A common myth is that pulling out the stem "saves the battery." In reality, this leaves the watch open to dust and moisture, which can lead to internal damage or battery corrosion. It is never worth risking the movement just to save a few months of battery life.

THE "OIL CHANGE" FOR YOUR WRIST

Just like a car needs an oil change every few thousand miles, a mechanical watch (whether automatic or manual) should be professionally serviced every 5 to 7 years. Regular maintenance ensures that the lubricants stay fresh and the delicate parts continue to move in perfect harmony.

By following these simple steps, you aren't just maintaining a watch; you're preserving a piece of history that can be enjoyed for generations to come.



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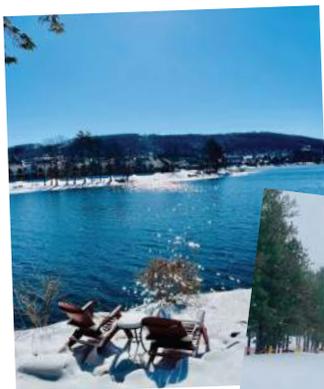
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Around the Corner : A Charming Mountain Escape to Deep Creek Lake

COMPILED BY JAMIE HART



Located in Western Maryland lies Deep Creek Lake, a true four-season destination

focused on simple living, adventure, and nature. Tucked away approximately three hours from Southern York County, the lake just celebrated its centennial, having been a staple of the region since 1925! Serving as Maryland's largest freshwater lake, it encompasses about 3,900 acres with 65 miles of shoreline, including a dam, Discovery Center, sand beach, state park, and Wisp mountain.

If you like adventuring, Wisp is a great stop year-round. It is home to the obvious skiing, tubing, and snowboarding in the winter, as well as ziplining, trails, and a mountain coaster. Wisp mountain is also the destination for white-water rafting and kayaking, golf courses, archery, and disc golf. Just a short drive through Deep Creek and on the other side of the dam sits Swallow Falls State Park. For hikers and novices alike, this is a must-do year-round. Rich in history—most notably when Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, and Harvey Firestone all camped

there—the site is home to trails, photo opportunities, and three waterfalls, including Muddy Creek Falls, Maryland's tallest free-falling waterfall.

If you visit in the summer, there are many marinas around the lake that offer rentals by the hour, day, or week. While you don't need a boat to enjoy all that DCL has to offer, seeing the lake from the water truly is incredible and worthwhile.

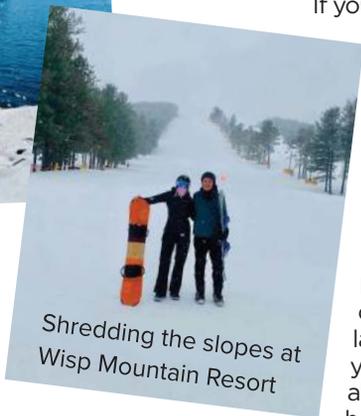
For those who enjoy renting a home for the whole family, local rental companies such as Taylor Made and Mountain Railey have options that span from condos to large homes, some of which allow your furry family members to join along. VRBO, Airbnb, and VaCasa homes are also sprouting up along the lake to diversify the experience. If a bed and breakfast is more your speed, Lake Point Inn at the northernmost point of the lake offers cozy rooms and a wrap-around porch. For traditional hotel stays, options like Cove Creek Lodge, Suites at Silver Tree, LakeFront Lodge, Will O' the Wisp, and The Lodge at Wisp fit most vacation needs.

As a pseudo-local who has been vacationing here for 20 years, and a self-proclaimed foodie, I've been impressed with how the food scene has changed over time. The Rolling Pin Bakery and FireFly Farms are absolute must-visit spots in Accident, Maryland, a small town you drive through just before pulling into Deep Creek. The Rolling Pin makes the best donuts I've ever had; they are first-come, first-served on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday mornings only. Trust me, it's worth setting an alarm for these hot, fresh donuts. FireFly Farms boasts an impressive selection of cheeses to make

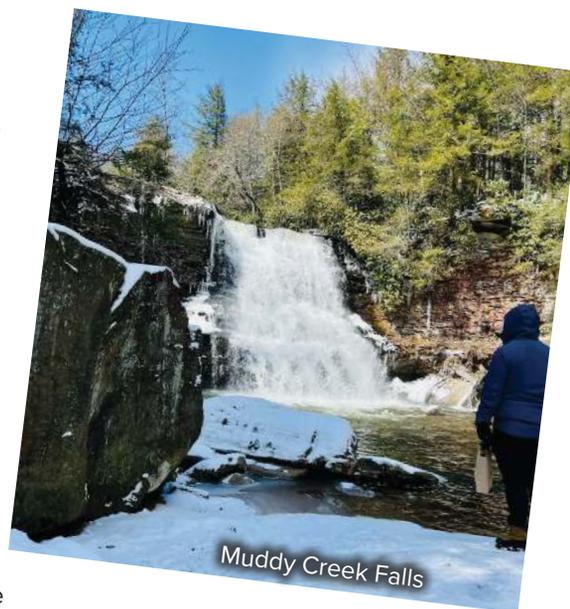
your charcuterie dreams come true, and across the street, the new Brewery and the Beast is also worth a trip!

For dine-in or take-out, Canoe on the Run, Dutch's at SilverTree, Mountain State Brewing Co, FireWater Kitchen & Bar, and MoonShadow all have my stamp of approval. During the summer, be sure to check out the farmers market on Fridays at Garrett College for local ingredients and crafts.

Finally, for shopping, there are three main destinations: Bear Creek Traders, The Fort, and The Tourist Trap & Christmas Chalet. Located at the northernmost part of the lake, these branded shops will help you find something to bring back home to remember your time with. Regardless of if you visit in the summer to partake in the lake itself, or if winter vacations are more your speed, Deep Creek Lake has something for everyone!



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Palm Sunday: A Quiet Pause

BY JILL RICKLE

March has a way of standing in the doorway between what has been and what's coming next. Winter is slowly slipping away, daylight lasts longer, and calendars begin to fill more quickly again. Before spring fully enters - with packed weekends, outdoor projects, family gatherings, and social commitments—there is Palm Sunday. Quiet by nature, it offers a moment to pause before Spring accelerates.

For centuries, Palm Sunday has marked the beginning of Holy Week in the Christian calendar. Yet even beyond religious tradition, its themes resonate widely: reflection, humility, peace, and intentional living. In a world that often thrives on speed and productivity, Palm Sunday gently invites the opposite—stillness.

Why This Moment Invites Reflection

Palm Sunday arrives at a unique time of year. Winter's introspection is ending, but spring's energy hasn't yet peaked. It's a threshold moment—a natural pause.

In many traditions, the day commemorates an arrival that was humble rather than triumphant. Crowds welcomed Jesus with palm branches, symbols of peace and honor, not power or conquest. The message embedded in that moment still feels relevant today: not every important transition needs fanfare. Some of the most meaningful shifts happen quietly.

For readers who aren't religious, this symbolism still holds value. Palm Sunday can be viewed simply as a reminder that how we move forward matters just as much as where we're going. Before schedules fill and expectations rise, there is space to ask: What do I want this next season to feel like?

Slowing Down Before Spring Speeds Up

Spring has a way of arriving all at once. Suddenly, weekends disappear into projects, events, travel, and obligations. There are lawns to tend, homes to refresh, celebrations to attend, and plans to make. The pace of our lives often change quickly.

Palm Sunday offers a moment to slow down before that shift fully takes off. It's not about stopping life, but about approaching it with intention. Many people use this time to unplug briefly—putting phones away, spending time outdoors, or sitting quietly without an agenda.

Even small pauses matter. A quiet walk. A shared meal without distractions. A few moments of reflection before the week begins. These acts don't require belief or ritual; they simply require presence.

Traditions Rooted in Peace and Humility

Traditionally, Palm Sunday is marked by simple gestures: palm branches, quiet processions, and readings that focus on humility and compassion. The emphasis is not celebration, but awareness.

That simplicity is part of what makes the day accessible. It doesn't demand perfection or performance. Instead, it gently encourages humility—recognizing limits, letting go of ego, and approaching others with grace.

In modern life, humility can look like saying no to unnecessary pressure. It can mean choosing rest without guilt, listening more than speaking, or acknowledging that not everything needs to be accomplished right now.

Peace, another central theme, doesn't require silence or solitude. It can be found in everyday choices: simplifying schedules, reducing mental clutter, and being intentional about where we expend our time and energy.

An Invitation, Not an Obligation

What makes Palm Sunday especially meaningful is that it doesn't ask for grand gestures. It invites rather than demands. For some, that invitation is spiritual. For others, it's emotional or mental.

You don't need to attend a service, follow a tradition, or hold a specific belief to benefit from the pause Palm Sunday offers. At its core, it's about awareness—recognizing that transition is happening and choosing how to step into it.

As spring unfolds, there will be plenty of noise, motion, and momentum. Palm Sunday reminds us that there is strength in quiet moments and clarity in slowing down.

Before the busy season begins, this day stands as a gentle marker on the calendar—an opportunity to breathe, reflect, and move forward with intention.



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Building Brighter Tomorrows: Adams County Children's Advocacy Center

BY JILL RICKLE

Since 2006, the Adams County Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) has served as a vital sanctuary for child victims of abuse and their families. This organization is dedicated to fostering a community where public entities and private citizens unite to protect their youngest members and build a more hopeful future. Over nearly two decades, the CAC has guided more than 3,000 children on their personal journeys toward hope and healing.

At the heart of their mission is the Brighter Tomorrows Center, a place where children, accompanied by their caregivers, gain access to a comprehensive suite of professional services. This includes forensic interviews, specialized medical exams, trauma therapy, and dedicated case management. Perhaps most importantly, every single service is provided free of charge to the child and family, ensuring that the path to recovery is never obstructed by financial barriers.

MISSION AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

The CAC's work is deeply rooted in collaboration. By working closely with local partners in Adams County, the agency strives to improve treatment outcomes for survivors while simultaneously focusing on long-term prevention. Their approach is multi-faceted, focusing on several key pillars:

- **Supporting Survivors:** Providing a safe space for both child and adult survivors to navigate the complex aftermath of abuse.

- **Breaking the Cycle:** Addressing the rising rates of physical abuse and working diligently to end generational cycles of trauma in our neighborhoods.
- **Building Resilience:** Empowering families with education and support groups so they may overcome trauma and lead healthy, productive lives.
- **Community Advocacy:** Educating community members on the profound impact child abuse has on the health of children and the community at large.
- **Seeking Justice:** Enlisting the help of adults to prevent abuse in their own neighborhoods and ensure that abusers are held accountable.

For the staff and volunteers at the CAC, the work is incredibly rewarding because they get to witness the bravery of children as they overcome trauma to lead happy, fulfilling lives.

APRIL: NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH DESIGN NOTE: PLEASE MAKE THIS STAND OUT

As we look ahead to April, the CAC is preparing for National Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month, a time dedicated to recognizing the importance of families and communities working together. There are numerous family-friendly events throughout the month where residents can show their support:

KICK-OFF EVENTS

- Wed., April 1: Join the Commissioner's Proclamation at the Historic Courthouse in

Gettysburg at 9am, followed by a Sign Planting at the Brighter Tomorrows Center at 12pm.

- Wed., April 9: Enjoy Family Paint & Pizza at the Brighter Tomorrows Center from 5:30pm to 7:30pm
- Thurs., April 10: Participate in the County Wide "Wear Blue" Day to raise awareness for child abuse prevention.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CELEBRATION

- Fri., April 11: A day full of activity, including a Family Hike at Caledonia State Park (10:30am-2pm), Kids Book Bingo in York Springs (1pm-2pm), and Music Bingo at Granite Hill Campground (6pm-8pm)
- Wed., April 16: The Chamber of Commerce Mixer at the Brighter Tomorrows Center from 4pm to 6pm.
- Fri., April 18: Don't miss the Brighter Tomorrows Bazaar (10am-4pm) featuring craft vendors, food trucks, and a silent auction. Later that evening, adults can attend the Forever Young Adult Prom at The Lodges (7pm-11pm), with proceeds benefiting the CAC.
- Fri., April 25: Wind down with a Family Film night at Seminary Ridge in Gettysburg, hosted by the Gettysburg Film Commission at sunset.

For more details on these events or to learn how you can get involved, visit the Adams County Children's Advocacy Center website at kidsagaincac.org.

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LOCATION HOURS

Monday: 10 AM-8 PM | Tuesday-Thursday: 10 AM-6 PM

Friday: 10 AM-8PM | Saturday: 10 AM-5 PM | Sunday: 12 PM-4PM



St. Francis Xavier Catholic School Teams Compete in the PA State Invention Convention

SUBMITTED BY MELISSA GUY, DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT

St. Francis Xavier Catholic School is proud to announce that two student teams, Team Homepack and Team Playground Peer, were selected to compete in the Pennsylvania State Invention Convention after being chosen from more than 400 entries statewide. Team Homepack included SFXCS students, Laura M., Aniyah S., Agnes K. and Masiel S., and Team Playground Peer was a collaboration between Honey F. and Megan S. The teams demonstrated creativity, problem-solving skills, and innovation as they advanced to the state level—an outstanding achievement that reflects their hard work, dedication, and teamwork.

Both teams proudly represented St. Francis Xavier Catholic School in Hershey on February 4, 2026. They were able to pitch their invention, while learning about other competitors' inventions. While the teams did not place at the state competition, their accomplishment of qualifying among such a competitive field is a remarkable success in itself.

“We are incredibly proud of our students for reaching the state level,” said Mrs. Tiffany Stultz, moderator for the event. “Their perseverance, creativity, and willingness to challenge themselves exemplify the values we strive to instill in every student at St. Francis Xavier Catholic School.”

“It was really fun, and it was really interesting to see everyone’s projects,” said Agnes K. “My teammates and I are definitely going to be in the same group again next year and try again!”

The school congratulates the students and thanks their teachers and families for their support throughout the Invention Convention journey.

St. Francis Xavier Catholic School remains committed to encouraging innovation, critical thinking, and academic excellence in all students.



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Howls & Husky Hugs Meet Quin

SUBMITTED BY TIFFANY BARLOW

This is our beautiful girl Quin aka Quinny, Pookie, Cone Ears, Baby girl, Queen, Sissy's Teddy Bear & Mouth.

She is a pure breed Red Siberian Husky. Quin has been extremely loving & gentle since I brought her home at 8 weeks old. She is named after my uncle who was battling end stage cancer at the time.

Quin is a very vocal Husky. She will howl to communicate & her wants with the family. I also taught her at a young age how to howl "I love you." She will now do it in response to us telling her we love her or whenever she is conspiring to get people food or sweet tea. She also gives husky hugs often accompanied by kisses. She is extremely spoiled & loved.



Where's Casper

BY JAKE SCHULTZ

Casper

Each month Casper will be hidden somewhere here in *Gettysburg Neighbors* magazine. You need to find him! Who is Casper? Casper is the friendly Bichon of the Schultz family. Casper loves people, loves cuddling, loves pizza crust, duck jerky and playing fetch. The randomly chosen winner can choose a \$25 Gift Card to one of our local participating business sponsors. Good luck!!

Email your answers to Jenn at:
jenniferschultz@bestversionmedia.com

**We will only be accepting answers until March 27th*

Congratulations

January's winner, **Mary Schutt!**
 Casper could be found on page 8.



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- Your pet's name
- Your pet's favorite activities, treats, toys
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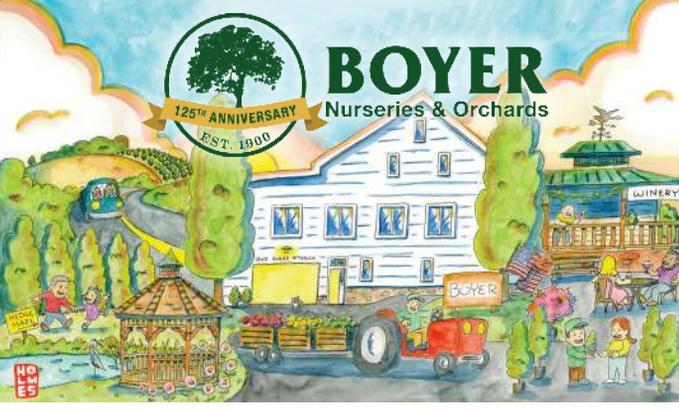
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PET CORNER



From Australia to Gettysburg: Meet Ginji

SUBMITTED BY PAULENE GOODMAN

Ginji is an 18 yr old Ginger Tabby born in Australia. She survived the long flight to Gettysburg in 2010 with her brother Marceau, and for 8 years they enjoyed roaming our house, eating seafood flavored food and lots of sleeping, until he passed in 2018 at 17 yrs old. Since then, she has ruled the house, running up 15 stairs daily to chase ponytail headbands and sleep in her 'daybed' (my sons bedroom). Most of all, my 17 yr old son and I cater to my husband regularly because he often has 'a cat on his lap'.

Ginji continues to persevere as she battles both kidney and thyroid disease. Taking a moment to highlight another local business - Dr. Gary Kubala at Littlestown Vet called Ginji the 'Bionic Kitty' for overcoming her challenges and having the best bloodwork in years! Dr. K, Dr. Holland, Dr. Jennings and all the amazing staff have cared for her (and Marceau) for the last 15 years and are worth acknowledging.

This is not a sad story but one worth sharing. As February arrives - her family wanted to share how much she's loved and pass on to our Gettysburg Neighbors!



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The Heart of the Canner Nation: Grit, Growth, and the Final Buzzer

BY JILL RICKLE

Upper Adams School District has a long-standing tradition of athletic grit, but this season, the heart of Biglerville High School is being defined by more than just the scoreboard. From the leadership of veteran coaches to the resilience of multi-sport seniors, the Cannors continue to prove that "professional will" is alive and well in Upper Adams County. Whether it is on the gridiron, the diamond, or the hardwood, the message remains the same: give your all, work as one, and cherish every second.



ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT:



Gavin Althoff's No-Regrets Senior Season

For BHS senior Gavin Althoff, the "internal timer" of high school sports is ticking closer to zero, but he isn't letting a single second go to waste. A true three-sport athlete, Gavin has spent the last four years pouring his energy into football, baseball, and basketball. For Gavin, being a Canner isn't just about the game—it's about the grind of balancing school and work with the mental demands of varsity athletics.

Currently leading on the basketball court, Gavin admits the season has been a grueling test of character. With the team facing a 0-13 winless streak at the time this was written and the hardest part of the schedule still ahead, the weight of the losses can be heavy. "It is very difficult to show up day after day, going through school and going to work, to come to practices and games having that hardship," Gavin admits. While he

has seen teammates ready to give up—and has even felt that pull himself—he has chosen to lean into the challenge. "High school sports are only temporary. I've decided to give it my all, to lay it all on the line, so I can have no regrets when I walk across that stage in May."

This "all-in" mentality was forged years ago under the mentorship of his first travel baseball head coach, Chet Haifley. From the age of eight to

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"High school sports are only temporary... I've decided to lay it all on the line so I can have no regrets once I walk across that stage in May." — Gavin Althoff

seventeen, Gavin lived by the motto Haifley instilled in him: "Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard." It is a philosophy he intends to carry to Elizabethtown College this fall, where he plans to fulfill his lifelong dream of playing baseball at the collegiate level.

Gavin's approach to the game is as much about mental composure as it is about physical skill. To manage the "chaos" of competition, he utilizes a pre-game ritual of quiet reflection. By sitting down to collect his thoughts and acknowledging that "nerves are good," he reaches a "locked-in" feeling that prepares him for the game at hand.

This resilience was on full display

during a baseball game against rival Delone Catholic. After "short-arming" a routine ground ball that allowed the opposition to tie the game, Gavin didn't let the mistake define him. The very next inning, he laid out for a ball in the gap, making a full-extension diving grab to throw the runner out at first. It was a lesson in the power of the "next play" mentality—and the importance of the team "machine." "Working in a team is like trying to run a machine," he explains. "If one or two parts aren't in the right spots, it can all go to waste. You have to rock together."

When he isn't competing, Gavin finds peace in the Pennsylvania outdoors. An avid hunter, fisherman, and hiker, he finds solace in "being one with

nature" and turning off his phone to enjoy the beauty many fail to see. He shares a unique empathy for the wildlife he encounters, noting, "I always find myself smiling at the fact that those animals are just out surviving just like we are."

As he enters the "home stretch" of his high school career, Gavin's message to younger athletes is a poignant reminder to stay present. "I took for granted how fast these four years would go by," he reflects. "I won't be able to put those pads on and play in front of a packed stadium on Friday nights anymore. So, remember to enjoy life, get through those hardships, and remember that every day on Earth is a great day."

FROM THE SIDELINES:

A Conversation with Coach Brett Smyers

Building that "well-oiled machine" Gavin describes is exactly what Brett Smyers has been doing at Biglerville for over a decade. With 13 years of experience at the varsity level—the last six as Head Coach of Varsity Football— Coach Smyers brings a deep well of knowledge from his own days as a collegiate player.

Under his leadership, the Cannons have focused on a singular, powerful key to success: attention to detail.

This meticulous approach has led to a visible transformation on the field, with the offense racking up more yards and points while the defense consistently tightens its grip.

"Nothing will ever be perfect in this game," Coach Smyers notes. He teaches his players to focus on becoming the best versions of themselves, knowing that playing their best is the only true requirement. Whether he's navigating the team

through a disappointing loss with honest evaluations or reminiscing about the 2015 league championship and District Semi-finals, Smyers' goal remains the same. He hopes to leave a legacy that transcends the game—a culture where players and staff alike share a positive, fun experience and walk away with memories that last a lifetime.

From Gavin Althoff's unwavering commitment in the face of a tough season to Coach Brett Smyers' dedication to player development, they both remind us that Biglerville athletics is about far more than the final score. It is about the character built through compromise, the wisdom shared between mentors and students, and the local pride that brings the Upper Adams

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Orchard Miles and Apple Pies: The Bruce Hollabaugh 5K Memorial

COMPILED BY JILL RICKLE | PHOTOS BY BRIENNA RICHELLE PHOTOGRAPHY



There is something uniquely special about a community that gathers at the break of dawn to honor a legacy that continues to grow like the very orchards around them. The course takes participants around Hollabaugh's Orchards at 545 Carlisle Road in Biglerville.

Looking back on the inaugural Bruce Hollabaugh 5K Memorial Run/Walk held in 2025, more than 270 participants joined together to celebrate the memory of Bruce Hollabaugh, a beloved local farmer and community member who passed away at age 41 in 2022.

The event has quickly become a cornerstone of local spirit, defined by remembrance and the high-stakes pursuit of Hollabaugh's famous apple pies. For those who missed the first race, the 2026 edition is shaping up to be even more inclusive. Whether a resident is a seasoned marathoner or looking for a morning stroll with the family, the event offers a way for everyone to get involved.

NEW FOR 2026: THE FUN RUN

New for 2026, the fun run was added for those who want to participate but aren't ready for the full 5K. This new



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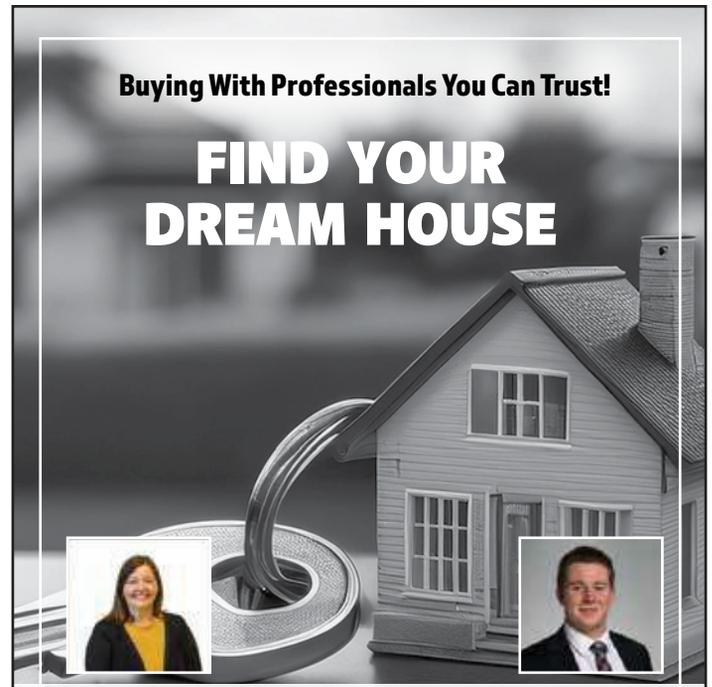
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addition features a shorter, flatter course designed for all ages and fitness levels. It is an ideal way to get children involved or enjoy a brisk morning walk without competitive pressure.

FUELING THE FINISH LINE

A race through the orchards deserves a feast to match. A variety of food trucks will be on-site to keep spectators and runners fueled:

- Travelin' Toms Coffee Truck (7 AM-11 AM): Provides a caffeine fix before the starting whistle.
- Apple Bin Restaurant (8 AM -12 PM): Serving local favorites throughout the morning.
- Tacos Monarca (10 AM -1 PM): The perfect post-race reward for those who worked up a serious appetite.

To keep the atmosphere lively, Froggy 107.7 will be broadcasting live from the grounds from 9 AM to 11 AM.

PRIZES AND LOCAL ART

In the spirit of Bruce Hollabaugh, the awards are authentically local. The overall top Male and Female runners, along with first-place age group winners, will receive a 6" apple pie and a custom stained-glass medal handcrafted by local artist Chris Parker, owner of Peace Through Glass. Second and third-place finishers in each age bracket will also take home a 6" apple pie. Additionally, all runners who register prior to March 22, 2026, will receive a free race t-shirt and a commemorative medal.

RACING FOR A CAUSE: THE 2025 IMPACT

Beyond the finish line, the heart of this event is the Bruce A. Hollabaugh Memorial Endowment Fund. Established in 2025 by Bruce's parents, Brad and Kay, and managed by the Adams County Community Foundation, the fund benefits local charities and initiatives Bruce cared for deeply.

The community's response to the inaugural race was overwhelming, raising \$19,769 for the fund. This support allowed for the first-ever distribution in June 2025 to the Upper Adams School District Intermediate School. The grant provided "Hot Beds" for the Garden Club, along with shovels, gloves, and watering cans. Since gardening was so close to Bruce's heart, it was a fitting choice for the fund's first local impact.

The 2026 race will once again feature Raffle Baskets



THE DETAILS:

When: Sunday April 12th

Time: 5K starts at 9 AM;
Fun Run starts at 10 AM

Cost: \$40 for 5K & \$20 for Fun Run

Sign-Up: hollabaughbros.com

available for purchase. All proceeds from these tickets go directly to the endowment fund, ensuring that Bruce's legacy continues to flourish in the community.

For additional information, visit hollabaughbros.com.

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Olivia's St. Patrick's Slime

SUBMITTED BY OLIVIA MARSDEN

♥ Olivia's St. Patrick's Slime recipe! ♥
 1 cup glue.
 3 tbs. Detergent.
 as much food coloring as you like. Mix-ins.
 ♥
 Combine glue, food coloring and glitter. Add your activator (detergent). Add any Mix-Ins. Knead until well combined. If too sticky add a little more glue. Have fun!
 ♥ Olivia Marsden ♥



Parent Tips!

Slime is a huge hit with kids, but setting a few ground rules ahead of time can save a lot of stress. Try to keep slime play in one easy-to-clean spot, like the kitchen table with a plastic tablecloth or a tray underneath. Have kids wash their hands before and after, and remind them slime is for hands only—not hair, clothes, pets, or the couch. If it does end up somewhere it shouldn't, don't panic. Vinegar helps break it down on hard surfaces, and an ice cube can make it easier to scrape off fabric before tossing it in the wash.

It also helps to store slime in an airtight container and check it every so often. If it starts to smell weird or gets overly sticky or stiff, it's time to let it go. Younger kids should always have an adult nearby, especially since some slime recipes use ingredients that shouldn't go near mouths or eyes. With a little supervision and prep, slime can be a fun, hands-on way for kids to explore textures, build fine motor skills, and burn off some creative energy.



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Calendar of Events

If you have any events you want to be featured in the future, please send them to jrickle@bestversionmedia.com

Please note: Event details may change after publication. We recommend confirming details, times and locations directly with event organizers.

This month, we're celebrating the season by highlighting local Easter activities in place of our usual highlights.

Fri., March 6, 13, 20, 27

Lenten Fish Fry Dinners

@ Xavier Center, 465 Table Rock Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325
St. Francis Xavier Parish invites you to the 15th annual Lenten Fish Fry Dinners. Food options for children, gluten-free meals, and non-fish menu items.
Time: 5:00 PM
Cost: starts at \$4.00
More Info & Menu: sfxpccw.org, stfxcc.org, 717-334-4048 or 845-325-5916

Sat., March 7 - March 28

Time Travelers Reading Adventures Club

@Gettysburg National Military Park Museum & Visitor Center, 1195 Baltimore Pike, Gettysburg, PA 17325
Each Saturday, join a park educator to explore Charley Skedaddle, a novel by Patricia Beatty. Young readers and their families can enjoy the 2026 selection through read-alouds, activities and adventures. Recommended for families with children ages 7-12. No registration or tickets necessary.
Time: 11:00 AM
Cost: Free
More Info: gettysburgfoundation.org

Wed., March 11

All about Carding and Blending Alpaca Fleece

@Quarry Critters Alpaca Ranch 580 Basehoar Rd., Littlestown, PA 17340
In this class, use different tools to card fiber and discuss why each tool is used to achieve the outcome. Learn the difference between woolen and worsted and how to achieve these results. Tools used are a drum carder, combs and hand carders. Blend fibers to get some really awesome rolags, roving or batts.
Time: 11:00 AM
Cost: \$30.00
More Info: quarrycrittersalpacas.com

Wed., March 18 & April 1 and Thurs., March 19 & April 2

Homeschool Days

@Warehouse Rocks, 301 Pleasant St., Abbottstown, PA 17301
Hey homeschoolers, join in for some fun climbing based activities! Event held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday and Thursday of every month
Time: 12:00 PM
Cost: \$12.00 day pass
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Thurs., March 19

Lunch & Learn: Roots & Renewal - American Chestnut Tree

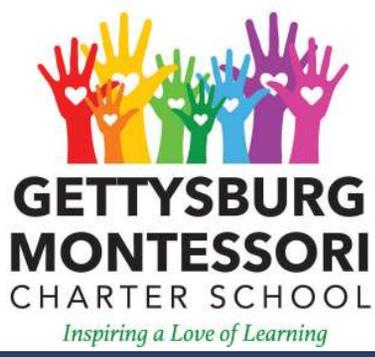
@Adams County Arts Council, 125 S. Washington St., Gettysburg, PA 17325
Presented by Strawberry Hill, offers both new knowledge and meaningful conversation. Whether you're interested in environmental history, Pennsylvania heritage, or simply enjoy a great midday program, this session promises an inspiring hour.
Time: 12:00 PM
Cost: varies by lunch option
More Info: adamsarts.org

Sat., March 21 & Sun., March 22

Spring Open House

@Ashcombe Farm & Greenhouses, 906 W. Grantham Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Kick off Spring with your favorite Garden Center. From workshops to shopping, education to crafts, ring in our favorite season with us and get set up for gardening success.
Time: 10:00 AM
Cost: Free to attend, cost may be associated with certain classes.
More Info: ashcombe.com

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Sat., March 21 & April 11

An Evening with the Painting

@Gettysburg National Military Park Museum & Visitor Center, 1195 Baltimore Pike, Gettysburg, PA 17325

An exclusive after-hours, close-up look at the iconic Gettysburg Cyclorama painting. Enjoy additional time on the viewing platform to observe in full light the remarkable, close-up details and distant battle scenes of the painting. Journey under the diorama to see how the 360-degree illusion comes to life.

Time: 5:00 PM

Cost: \$35.00

More Info: gettysburgfoundation.org

Sat., March 21

Night Climb

@Warehouse Rocks, 301 Pleasant St., Abbottstown, PA 17301

Take your Saturday night to new heights with Night Climbing. Bring your own headlamp or rent one. Either way, it's going to be a party. Event is held the 3rd Saturday of every month.

Time: 7:00 PM

More Info: warehouserockspa.com

Tues., March 24

Base Ball the Way it was Meant to be Played

@Gettysburg Library, 140 Baltimore St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Richard Heinick talks about 'The Resurgence of 19th Century Rules Base Ball Playing since 1980' and will compare growth of the "New York Game" in 1846-1879 with its resurgence in 1980-2025. Registration required.

Time: 6:00 PM

More Info: adamslibrary.org

Wed., March 25

Let's Cook for Weight Management

@Penn State Extension Adams County, 670 Old Harrisburg Rd., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Learn how to prepare a healthy meal to support weight management. In this hands-on class, participants will cook alongside Penn State Extension educators to prepare a meal designed with weight management in mind. Space is limited. Preregistration is required.

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: \$30.00

More Info: extension.psu.edu

Wed., March 25 &/or April 15

Crafting

@Gettysburg Library, 140 Baltimore St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

On March 25th - An evening of spring wreath making. Bring your imagination. On April 15th - Felt your favorite spring-time bird. Materials will be supplied for both crafts. Registration required and number of participants are limited.

Time: March 25 at 6:00 PM & April 15 at 2:00 PM

More Info: adamslibrary.org

Fri., March 27

A Women's Purse Auction 2026

@Liberty Mountain Resort, 78 Country Club Trl., Fairfield, PA 17320

Join United Way of Adams County for the 19th annual A Woman's Purse Auction to benefit United Way's Ready to Learn and the County's Independent Living Program. Help them raise \$40,000 for the youth of Adams County. Enjoy games of chance, dinner, and both of their live and silent auctions.

Time: 5:00 PM

Cost: \$60.00 before March 6th; \$65.00 after March 16th

More Info: uwadams.org



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Sat., March 28

Easter Centerpiece Class with Meadowbrooke Gourds

@Hollabaugh Bros., 545 Carlisle Rd., Biglerville, PA 17307

Meadowbrooke Gourds are heading to the farm with three adorable, custom centerpiece projects for you to pick from when you register for this class. Pre-registration is required. No experience needed. Projects must be selected when registering for this event. Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Cost: \$35.00
More Info: hollabaughbros.com

Sat., March 28

GABSL Craft and Vendor Show

@Gettysburg Fire Department Community Room, 35 N Stratton St, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Gettysburg Area Baseball & Softball League's (GABSL) craft show. Time: 10:00 AM
More Info: Facebook - GettysburgAreaBaseballandSoftballLeague

Sat., March 28

Spring Easter Bunny Floral Design Class

@Butterfly Blooms, 7 S. Queen St., Littlestown PA 17340

Celebrate spring and learn creative floral design techniques to craft a festive Easter-themed arrangement using seasonal flowers. Perfect for beginners and enthusiasts looking to enhance their skills. All materials and supplies are included. Time: 1:00 PM | Cost: \$40 per person
More Info: butterflybloomsflowershop.com or call 717-698-0038

Mon., March 30

Car Tech Workshop for Women

@virtual

Learn how the latest vehicle technology can help make driving safer and easier at an AARP virtual workshop, taught by women for women. Time: 1:00 PM
More Info: local.aarp.org

Wed., April 1

Lifestyle Habits That Support Brain Health

@virtual

It's never too late — or too early — to focus on your brain health! Explore key lifestyle habits that help protect the brain and support cognitive function. Time: 7:00 PM
More Info: local.aarp.org

Fri., April 3 & Sat., April 4

Breakfast with the Bunny

@Fields of Adventure, 64 Tree Lane, Aspers, PA 17304

Enjoy a yummy buffet breakfast, access to 25+ farm attractions & the tulip garden, photos with the bunny, and an egg hunt around the farm. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Time: 9:00 AM, 10:00 AM, or 11:00 AM each day
More Info: fieldsofadventure.com

Sat., April 4

Hop Along the Bunny Trail highlight

@Hollabaugh Bros., 545 Carlisle Rd., Biglerville, PA 17307

Bring the whole family out for a day of Easter fun, featuring an egg hunt tucked among the apple trees, photos with the Easter Bunny, kid-approved activities, lawn games, wagon rides, and a free kids' ice cream. Bricker's Famous

French Fries, Auntie Anne's, and Travelin' Tom's Coffee on-site to keep everyone fueled for the fun. Time: 10:00 AM | Cost: \$12.00/child
More Info: hollabaughbros.com

Sat., April 4

Ladies Climbing Night

@Warehouse Rocks, 301 Pleasant St., Abbottstown, PA 17301

Join other ladies for a fun filled night of community and climbing. Work through boulders and/or top climbs together. share tricks, tips, and insights in a fun and positive environment. Time: 5:00pm
Cost: \$12.00 Day pass
More Info: warehouserockspa.com

Tues., April 7 & Wed., April 8

AARP Smart Driver Class

@East Berlin Area Community Center (EBACC), 405 North Ave., East Berlin, PA 17316

There are several benefits for taking the AARP Smart Driver Course. Many auto insurance AARP Smart Driver Course companies offer a 5% discount for customers who have completed the course. Also, this is a chance to "get up to speed" on what is changing around us. For those who have completed this initial course previously, refresher course offered Thurs., April 9th. Time: 9:00 AM
Cost: \$20 for members/\$25 for non-members
More Info: ebacc.org

Tues., April 7

GCCA Ivalas Concert

@St. James Lutheran Church, 109 York St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

Gettysburg Community Concert Assoc. welcomes Ivalas, which has been changing the face of classical music since its inception in 2017 with

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a mission to enrich the classical music world by spotlighting past and present composers.

Time: 7:30 PM

Cost: \$20.00 at the door

More Info: gettysburgcca.org

Fri., April 10 - Sun., April 26

Spring on the Farm

@Fields of Adventure, 64 Tree Lane, Aspers, PA 17304

Enjoy a fun day outside at the farm with baby animals, lots of farm fun attractions along with blooms in the tulip garden. Open Friday, Saturday and Sundays through April 26th. Tickets available online or at the gate.

Time: Hours vary - please check the website

More Info: fieldsofventure.com

Fri., April 10 & Sun., April 12

Sunderman Conservatory of Music Concerts

@Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

On Friday, enjoy the Winds Symphony Masterworks concert. Sunday's concert features the Symphony Band Concert.

Time: Friday at 8:00 PM

& Sunday at 3:00 PM

Cost: \$5.00

More Info: gettysburgmajestic.org

Sat., April 11

Nursery Grand Opening

@Ashcombe Farm & Greenhouses, 906 W. Grantham Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Get ready for the yard of your dreams!

The nursery is home to trees, shrubs,

perennials, pond plants, & more - is opening for the 2026 season. Come enjoy food trucks, activities, educational sessions, and more.

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: Free to attend, cost may be associated with certain classes.

More Info: ashcombe.com

Sat., April 11

America 250th Patriot Rededication Ceremony

@Benders Lutheran Church, 1385 Rentzel Rd., Biglerville, PA 17307

The Biglerville Historical Preservation Society invites guests to a rededication of the Daughters of the American Revolution monument that honors 22 local men who fought in the American Revolution. A reception following the ceremony will also celebrate the Biglerville Historical Society's 30th anniversary and the 245th anniversary of Benders Lutheran Church.

Time: 1:00 PM

More Info: nationalapplemuseum.com

Sun., April 12

Easter Egg Hunt, Train Ride & Crafts

@Williams Grove Historical Steam Engine Association, 1 Steam Engine Hill, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Please check the website for details.

More Info: wghsea.org

Sat., April 19

Egg Hunt

@Ashcombe Farm & Greenhouses, 906 W. Grantham Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Enjoy a free Easter Egg Hunt. Free crafts will be available for kids and the "Easter Bunny" will be on the property for visits, hugs, high-fives, and pictures. This event sells out FAST! Registration opens about a month before the event. Age groups: 1-3 years, 4-5 years, 6-8 years.

Time: Hunts (timeslots) are at 10:00 AM & 11:30 AM | Cost: Free to attend, registration is required.

More Info: ashcombe.com



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A Mother's Hope: Paisley's Journey Toward a Kidney Transplant

BY COURTNEY WALTER

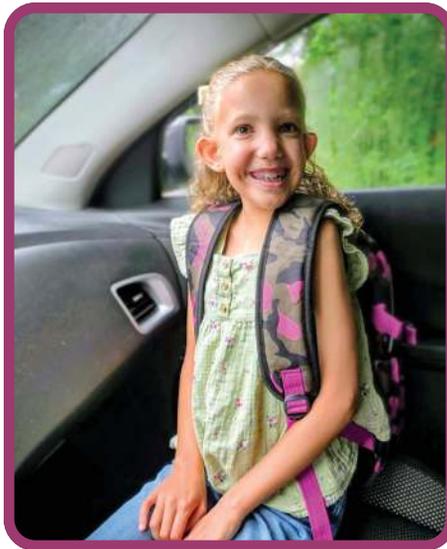
Paisley is my bright and beautiful young 11-year-old girl who was born September 30, 2014.

She was born with a rare genetic syndrome called Alagille syndrome (a rare, multisystem genetic disorder) and with cysts on both of her kidneys. But, none of this has ever held her back from living her life to the fullest!

Paisley's kidneys were pretty stable even with the cyst throughout most of her life up until January 2022. After a major open heart surgery her kidneys' were damaged. Unfortunately, Paisley's kidneys were never able to fully heal from that surgery.

Paisley has been in end stage renal disease or stage 5 for over a year and on the kidney transplant list at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh since January 2025.

At the end of Paisley's first week of 5th grade this school year,



she became sick and a patient for over a month in Penn State Health Children's Hospital. While hospitalized, Paisley received a life-saving blood transfusion. That blood

transfusion caused an increase in her antibodies, a natural occurrence but devastating to the transplant process. The increased antibodies make it challenging for the life-saving transplant and her ability to accept a deceased donor kidney. Currently, a living kidney donor is the safest option for Paisley.

While Paisley awaits a suitable donor, she undergoes dialysis to replace her kidney's normal function. Looking forward, Paisley anxiously looks forward to returning to school and being with her friends. When she grows up she wants to be a pediatric nurse!

Editor's Note: Paisley is the daughter of Courtney and EJ Fore, and Ryan Topper. I've had the pleasure of knowing Paisley since she was born, and her bubbly personality and bright smile leave a lasting impression. Even in the face of difficult circumstances, her positivity shines through.

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Health Beat: The Gift of Life: Living Kidney Donation During Kidney Awareness Month

COMPILED BY JILL RICKLE

Each March, Kidney Awareness Month highlights an important reality: more than 90,000 people in the United States are currently waiting for a kidney transplant. For many, a living donor offers the best chance at a longer, healthier life.

Living kidney donation allows a healthy person to donate one of their kidneys to someone in need. Because people can live normal, healthy lives with one kidney, living donation has become a safe and life-changing option. In many cases, living donor transplants last longer and work sooner than those from deceased donors, reducing time spent on dialysis.

Becoming a living donor begins with a simple testing process. Potential donors complete a health questionnaire and basic blood work to determine compatibility, followed by more detailed medical evaluations if appropriate. Testing does not commit someone to donating, and donor safety remains the top priority throughout the process.



Many donors give to family members or friends, while others choose to donate anonymously. Even if a donor is not a direct match, paired donation programs can connect multiple donor-recipient pairs so more people receive transplants.

Common concerns about long-term health or recovery often discourage potential donors, but most donors return to normal activities within weeks and continue to live full, active lives. Medical costs related to donation are typically covered by the recipient's insurance, and support programs may help with travel or recovery expenses.

Living kidney donation is a personal decision, but it offers an extraordinary opportunity to save and transform a life. During Kidney Awareness Month, simply learning more and sharing accurate information helps bring hope to the thousands of individuals and families waiting for a second chance at health.

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