

Vol. 9/No. 2

APRIL/MAY 2012

The Gettysburg Companion

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in Adams County

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What's inside

APRIL/MAY
2012
VOLUME 9
NUMBER 2

REGULAR Features

When cigar makers were king 4
 Curing cabin fever 10
 Monsters of HipHop 12
 A collector of collections 14

Personality Profile –
Roger Weaver 8
 Community Cornerstones –
The Optimist Club 18
 One Tank Traveler –
Minor League Baseball 21
 Delectable Dining –
Appalachian Brewing Company 24
 What's Goin' On? 26
 Community Faces 30
 Inns & Taverns of Adams County
The McClellan House 35
 Jefferson County, West Virginia –
Early Jefferson County 36



14



4



24

OUR SUPPORTING ADVERTISERS

A Taste of PA IFC	Jefferson County CVB IBC
Adams County Transit Authority 29	Lincoln Bus Tours 2
Cedar Ridge Golf Course 7	National Apple Harvest/Blossom Festival 17
Contemporary American Theater Festival 29	Our Favorite Gettysburg Addresses 20
CRS Insurance 34	Redding's Hardware & Sporting Goods 7
Essis & Sons Carpet One 33	Sharpshooter's Grille 11
Finch Services, Inc 23	Spichers Appliances 17
Fitzgerald's Shamrock Restaurant 7	The Christmas Haus 2
Foremost Insurance Group BC	Union Cigar Club 7
Franklin County Visitor's Bureau 29	Village of Laurel Run 11
Gettysburg Family Restaurant 34	Wells Family Bakery 34
Gettysburg Hotel 2	York/Adams Deals 7

ON THE COVER

If you look at our cover taken at Gettysburg College and think, "April showers bring May flowers," so did our staff. The phrase that springs into so many poems can be traced back at least to 1557 when Thomas Tusser compiled his writings into "A Hundred Good Points of Husbandry." He wrote it as...

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 "Do spring May flowers."*

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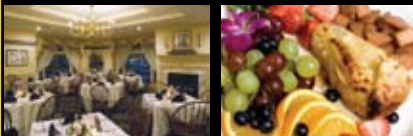


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EDITOR'S Notebook

BY B.J. SMALL

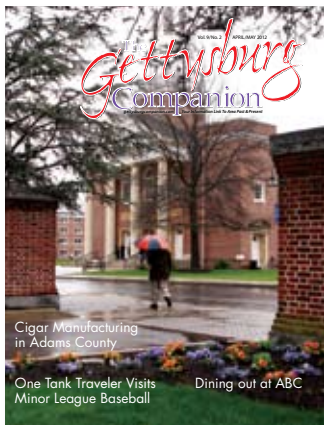


"There is one rule, above all others, for being a man.
Whatever comes, face it on your feet."

— Robert Jordan
The Great Hunt

Within the content of each edition of the *Companion* magazine, there is a thread common to most stories. We hesitate to declare each edition to be restrictively "themed," because features and other items considered for the magazine earn their places based on merits, not a specific quota.

The February/March *Companion*, for example, was planned to include entertainment and useful information for the fairer gender. Readers learned more about extreme couponing, historic Gettysburg women, took a One Tank Traveler trip for shopping in Northern Virginia, read about the local "A Woman's Purse" network that helps resolve foster care emancipation, and got to meet Gettysburg College President Janet Morgan Riggs.



The guys get their turn in the April/May *Companion*.

There is a story about extreme collecting and an overview of outdoor activities like golf, hiking and more that would appeal to men and women. The personality profile is about Roger Weaver, a hard-working gentleman's gentleman who built two area golf courses with sweat and love. What guy doesn't like an occasional trip to the ballpark? We have snapshots of most local minor league baseball facilities within easy driving distance.

With the month of April comes the first anniversary of my own father's passing and there will be many pleasant memories. It brought those who loved my dad great relief in the years before his death, that he was able to overcome prostate cancer.

While we have the attention of guys (and those who love them) spare us this moment of public service.

As many as 240,890 men in the U.S. were expected to be diagnosed with and 33,720 men expected to die of prostate cancer last year. It is the most common non-skin cancer among men in the U.S., according to the National Cancer Institute.

Over 16 percent of men born today will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during their lifetime – it's not too early to get tested – especially if you have risk factors.

The NCI says 8.58 percent of men will develop cancer of the prostate between their 50th and 70th birthdays. Other risk factors for prostate cancer include: being black; having a brother, son, or father who had prostate cancer; and eating a diet high in fat or drinking alcoholic beverages.

We now return to our regularly scheduled content.

Cheers!

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Adams County's current economic climate largely rises and falls with the success or struggle of the tourism and agriculture industries.

At the turn of the 20th century, however, it was cigar manufacturers who ruled the roost.



Documents at the Adams County Historical Society claim by 1920, Adams County cigar manufacturers employed more people than any other industry in the area.

“It was a huge business,” said Craig Smith, fifth generation owner of F.X. Smith’s Sons Cigar Co. at 372 North St. in McSherrystown. “During the Battle of Gettysburg, soldiers from both sides used to come in our shop and buy cigars. It is amazing to think they were out there killing each other, but they all came here for cigars. From that point forward, cigars and soldiers had a connection. Later, in the World War II era, we actually had a contract from the government to make cigars for the soldiers.”

F.X. Smith began producing homemade cigars in Irishtown in 1863, coinciding with the Battle of Gettysburg just a few miles away.

“The demand for cigars was there because of the Civil War,” Craig said. “A lot of factories, including probably ours, got their start because of that demand. I have no doubt one of the reasons we are still around is because of the re-enactor traffic we get being this close to Gettysburg. They stop in here to buy cigars.”

With Virginian tobacco inaccessible, Northern soldiers found it difficult to get their hands on smokes. Many Northerners who had previously gotten cigars out of York County now couldn’t because it was occupied by Confederate soldiers.

According to historical accounts, F.X. knew he could fill the void in Adams County.

“He knew who grew tobacco,” Craig said, “and was 20 when he bought his first batch.”

National Cigar Museum Curator Tony Hyman said the Civil War brought an “unmistakable rise” in the popularity of cigars.

When cigar makers were king

BY JARRAD HEDES • PHOTOGRAPHY BY BILL SCHWARTZ AND DARRYL WHEELER

"The most popular figures of the day like Ulysses S. Grant always had a cigar in their mouths," he said. "Pictures of soldiers were on almost every cigar box. It was a status thing and it was American. If you weren't smoking cigars, you didn't have much status."

Smith moved to McSherrystown in 1877, where he also ran a general store, and was producing six million cigars each year. Smith quit the store in 1882 to focus solely on cigars.

According to a *Gettysburg Times* article published May 2, 1981, the elder Smith died in 1901 and two of his five sons, Paul and Peter took over the business.

McSherrystown became the "cigar hub" of Adams County and by 1902 housed 14 factories pumping out brands such as "Lord Baltimore" and "Betsy Ross."

In addition to F.X. Smith, several other cigar manufacturers had a large presence in and around McSherrystown.

Documents at the Adams County Historical Society report that "J.A. Poist's Company began in 1877 and soon produced the brands *Sam Wilson* and *Edmund Cook*." Samuel Johns, dubbed the "Tobacco King," commenced operations in 1880 and within five years was producing four-and-a-half million cigars annually. The C.E. Mattingly Co. opened in 1892, "employing only the most skilled Union workmen and producing the *Union Rule*."

Production continued at a high level throughout the early part of the century. Around 25 million cigars were produced in Adams County in 1927. In the 1920s and 30s, 37 cigar manufacturing companies called Adams County home.

F.X. Smith, which had started as a five man operation, employed 700 workers at its height.

"What put us over the top and has kept us in business is we are all natural and have been forever," Craig said. "We don't use any paper filler. All the different blends are done here, all the filler is done here. A lot of places went



to paper because you don't need the workforce, but we didn't."

When the Industrial Revolution hit, machines were left with much of the work anyway and Smith's workforce was dropped back down to 50 employees.

"Each generation of our family who owned the business," Craig explained, "went through ups and downs in the business. Popularity goes away and then smoking cigars becomes 'the thing' again."

F.X. Smith was handed down from Paul and Peter to Paul's son, Joseph, who merged with Curtis Topper, another large McSherrystown cigar manufacturer.

Topper was famous for his production of the all tobacco cigar. The Topper Company has since relocated to Connecticut, but Smith still produced many cigars for their label until 2001.

Joseph eventually turned the company over to his two sons, Phillip and Thomas. When Phillip died in 1994, his son, Craig, became the fifth-generation Smith to head the business.

"I worked here as a kid but after I graduated from New Oxford High School in 1983, I wasn't sure I wanted to do this so I went to work for Utz and Riley Welding for a time," Craig said. "My dad eventually talked me into coming back."

Just to the west of F.X. Smith, E.L. Golden was turning out around three million cigars per year at his two factories in Bonneauville and Two Taverns.

"Golden was the co-inventor, with his brother, of the Blue Ribbon cigar,"



according to a *Gettysburg Times* article published on August 31, 1938.

Golden was in business from 1895 until he produced his last cigar on March 5, 1943.

The once popular industry began to fade as required manufacturer health warnings, taxes, government's anti-tobacco stance and other roadblocks surfaced.

"Most of our business has been lost to the Dominican," Craig said. "Customers don't have to deal with taxes down there like they do here. We've really been hurt in that way. Everyone has. Right now, 20 percent of the cigars we make are our brands and 80 percent are for outside companies."

Walk inside the F.X. Smith factory and one will still find in-house brands such as Betsy Ross, Lord Baltimore and Blue Ribbon.

"When we lost the Topper brand, it was a big hit," Craig said. "They were family and it wasn't a great separation. Now F.D. Grave and Son out of Connecticut is our biggest client. They said they believe in American made and they'll never go Dominican."

Out of the 37 Adams County companies in operation in 1920, only F.X. Smith still manufactures cigars today.

Machines used to run 24 hours a day and seven days per week in McSherrystown. Now, Smith only fires them up two days per week.

"We put out about 16,000 to 20,000 cigars per day," Craig said. "That sounds like a lot but we used to crank out 40,000 to 50,000 per day when we were at our height. In 2011, we had the lowest output since 1910."

In Gettysburg, the Gettysburg Cigar Company and Union Cigar Club are doing their part to keep the love of the cigar alive.

Located on the square at 5 Baltimore St., Union Cigar Club "offers premium cigars for the casual smoker as well as the aficionado" with eight showcases and a walk-in humidor.

The Club's lounge features a 50" high-definition television, leather furniture and a full-service coffee bar. The lounge is open to anyone who buys a cigar at the shop or purchases a membership.

Former South Philadelphia native Bill Synnamon opened the Club in November 2005.

"I started the Club because, quite frankly, I was tired of getting kicked out of bars because I couldn't smoke," Synnamon said. "I felt there was a need for a place around here where someone could go and hang out and enjoy a cigar."

Synnamon offers a "Battleground" cigar, which boasts pictures of popular Civil War generals such as Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson.

Gettysburg Cigar Co. owner Gary Mohan first ventured to Gettysburg to research an ancestor. The town made such an impression that he and his wife soon called it home.

"I had an ancestor that died on the first day of the battle so I had a real connection to Gettysburg," said Mohan, who opened his store at 523 Baltimore St. in 2003. "I have always been a lover of life and history and cigars are a big part of both of those."

Like Synnamon, Mohan also offers the "Battleground" cigar in his shop.

Some of the fine cigars offered by Mohan include Arturo Fuente, Drew Estate and Cusano.


Customers can find F.X. Smith cigars mainly in Hanover smoke shops such as Smokers Express and Hanover News.

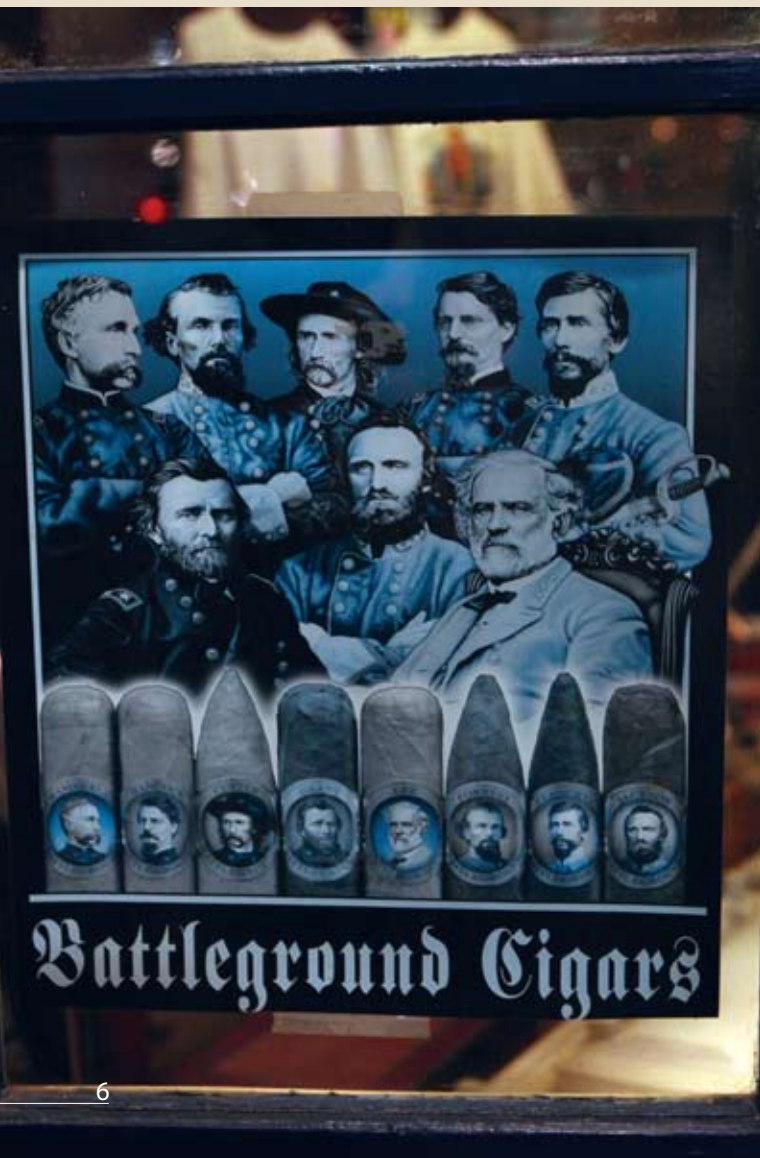
The one other way to get them, Craig said, is by walking in the factory itself.

"We do have some customers that just come right in and buy them," he said. "This is a special place to all of us. It is our history, our present and hopefully our future."

The future for F.X. Smith, and thus cigar production in Adams County as a whole, may depend on what happens in 2013.

The company, like the Battle of Gettysburg, turns 150 years old and Smith hopes the connection between the two is the marketing campaign he's been waiting for.

"We are counting on our 150th birthday as well as that of the Battle to spark a resurgence in cigars," Craig said. "If it doesn't, we're probably looking at closing the doors. This business has always had its up and down trends and we hope we are on the cusp of the upswing." 



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Profile

ROGER WEAVER

“Are you serious?”



Roger Weaver, above left.

“It took a long time with a couple of people. It’s a great satisfaction building something like taking a 100-acre farm and turning it into a golf course.”

– Roger Weaver
Golf Course Designer

The first time Roger Weaver went golfing, he did it to stop his brother’s nagging him to play.

Hours after hitting the links at the age of 50, Weaver was already asking his brother when they would be going again.

Since that initial outing 32 years ago, the 82-year-old Bonneauville man lays claim to having built nearly 20 percent of the golf courses in Adams County — Cedar Ridge and Meadow Brook, two public courses in Mount Joy Township just west of the Baltimore Pike.

While golfing with his son, Roger D. Weaver, and his son-in-law, Dennis Seymore, at various local courses, the elder Weaver suggested building a course.

“They said, ‘are you serious?’” Weaver said with a laugh.

The 1947 Delone Catholic graduate was serious, so at the age of 56, he got to work.

Weaver purchased a 120-acre grain farm from a woman he can only remember as Mrs. Seitz in February of 1986 and began grading and plowing the land that abuts Barlow-Two Taverns Road.

“We built it right from scratch,” he said of the labor that was primarily done by himself, his son and his son-in-law. “It’s a lotta hard work. But I never mind working. I’ve worked all my life and I’ll work ’til the day I die. If I retired, I’d die that day. I’m too used to doing something.”

The three had some help from friends as well as a dump truck, a dozer and some tractors, as well as Bill Walls, then-manager of the Armitage Golf Course in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. Walls laid out the course that opened with nine holes on the southeast side of Barlow-Two Taverns Road in the spring of 1987. It was not until 1992 when the back nine on the opposite side of the road made Cedar Ridge a par-72, 6,132-yard 18-hole course.

“We probably used at least 18 ton of stone,” Weaver said after some rough estimations, quick math in his head and a few pecks on a calculator. “And we probably used about 200 ton of sand.”

Two months after purchasing the land for what became Cedar Ridge, Weaver sold his prior business venture, Weaver’s Hardware in Bonneauville, to his sons Nick and Mike. He had owned the store for 32 years, overlapping with his mail carrying job he held from 1980 -1993.

He would toil tirelessly at the course with the small but sure and steady amount of help he had from two in the afternoon until it was dark.

“The only time we didn’t work was when it was raining during the summertime,” Weaver said. “And we didn’t work as much in the winter.”

They put in an irrigation system, the greens and the tees.

It was during those long, arduous days of hauling sand from the Clapsaddle Sand Quarry and stones from Valley Quarry just off the Baltimore Pike when Weaver noticed available land to the west of White Church Road.

“I kept looking at this land for sale,” he said, still somewhat mystified by the plot of earth that he transformed into Meadow Brook Golf Course. “The stream going through it and the rolling hills. Cedar Ridge is more flat.”

In 1993, Weaver purchased the 140-acre farm from Harold Goulden and got back to work, this time laboring from sunrise to sunset with his daughter, Jessie Hill, and Bill Orndorff, who Weaver



referred to as his right-hand man and someone who could perform the work of two men.

“It was a family affair again, but I had my hands on everything,” Weaver said. “I spent four weeks walking the farm. Weeds were up to my waist with briars but I walked the whole thing with a notepad.”

Weaver wanted Meadow Brook to be precisely how he envisioned it. He drew a layout before he would throw it out and start from scratch again. As it turned out, the third time was a charm. But like Cedar Ridge, Meadow Brook did not open as an 18-hole course.

Six holes opened for play in 1994, with three more to follow in 1995. The construction of a bridge held up the creation of more holes, but four more became playable by 1997 with the final five being finished off by 2002 when Meadow Brook became a par-72, 6,290-yard, 18-hole course.

“It took a long time with a couple of people. It’s a great satisfaction building something like taking a 100-acre farm and turning it into a golf course,” Weaver said of something he has done not once, but twice.

Weaver said he often gets compliments on the layout of Meadow Brook, the course he prefers over Cedar Ridge. He said travelers in a motor home passed through years ago and after their game asked Weaver what professional golfer had designed the course.

“That makes ya feel good hearing that from people who travel all over the country,” Weaver said before tending to some February golfers in the 100-plus-year-old pro house that was once the farmhouse on the former Goulden Farm.

“When does the season start?” a middle-aged man asked Weaver.

“Season?” Weaver questioned. “It started in ‘94.”



Cures for cabin fever

By MARK WALTERS

As trees bud and flowers bloom, many residents may find themselves desperately seeking respite from cabin fever and being indoors over the winter.

Good thing there are plenty of outdoor activities right in any Adams County resident's backyard. With twelve campgrounds, twelve golf courses, streams for fishing, a state forest and state park as well as a 6,000-acre, federally owned and operated military park, the spring season in the immediate Adams County area has a lot to offer.

The 1,125-acre Caledonia State Park between Gettysburg and Chambersburg has 10 miles of hiking trails, a golf course, educational programs as well as various fishing and camping options.

Park Manager Mitchell Stickle said that March 31 — the opening day of trout season — is typically when spring activities begin to get hopping at Caledonia, which is in the northernmost section of the Blue Ridge Mountains, known locally as South Mountain.

The Appalachian Trail and Conococheague Creek run through Caledonia, which is connected to the Michaux State Forest.

The 86,000-acre Michaux State Forest is host to more than 200 miles of multi-use trails, some of which can be used for horseback riding, mountain biking, all-terrain vehicles and, of course, hiking and picnicking.

Bird watching is also popular at Michaux and Caledonia as various feeders stocked by volunteers can be spotted nearby the park's offices.


According to Michelle Blevins, recreation forester at Michaux, the Michaux State Forest has the highest level of recreation out of the 20 state parks across the Commonwealth.

The forest hosts races from running to dirt biking as well as World War II re-enactments and pioneer treks.

"It's really anything and everything you can do in the woods," Blevins said.

For anglers, Adams County is host to 10 trout-fishing streams, two of which are considered "Class A" by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. The Long Pine and Waynesboro reservoirs welcome boat access for those who would rather not wade in knee-deep streams.

Whatever adventure one may seek, Stickle said it's all about serenity.

"It's peace, quiet and getting away to enjoy nature," he said. 





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Success & philanthropy: a formula for fulfillment

By JENNA STINSON

Two Adams County natives have made big names for themselves for their dedication, hard work and will to give back.

Delone Catholic High School graduates Andy and Becky Funk, are founding members of the “Monsters of HipHop,” a well-respected touring dance convention.

The Funks started out on a small scale. Andy graduated from Towson University with a degree in Mass Communications and a degree in Communication Studies. Becky also graduated from Towson University a year later with a degree in Health Science. In 1999, Andy and Becky opened a dance studio in Maryland.

“Becky danced all of her life. She was even on her college’s dance team. She had always wanted to open a studio and Andy just said ‘go for it,’” said Andy’s mother, Joyce Funk.

Becky Funk is a trained dancer in ballet, hip hop and jazz, her favorite being hip hop.

Their studio had so much success that the Funks decided it was time to grow bigger and better and that is how the “Monsters of HipHop” was started by Andy, Becky and Becky’s sister, Angie, in 2003.

“After seeing our studio grow largely as a result of providing hip hop classes, we decided to create the world’s first all hip hop touring dance convention,” Andy said.

“Our goal was to create an event where aspiring dancers from all over the country could be seen by the industry’s top choreographers without the pressure of a competition. Our mission was to create a forum where hip hop dancers could train and develop a career as a professional.”

Joyce Funk said that a lot of her son’s motivation stems from his experiences as a kid.

“Andy was his brother’s bone marrow donor at the age of 12. He just started giving back right from the beginning. It is just in him.”

Philanthropy is an integral part of the dance company.

“In honor of my brother, Alan, we decided to donate the proceeds from our first dance recital to charity,” said Andy Funk.

“Ever since then, we have remained involved in a number of charitable efforts, from ACS to the Heart Association, ARC, the MS Society and others. We try to have our kids perform at as many charity events as possible. Most recently, we have focused most of our attention on our non-profit Monsters On The Move and the MS Society as a result of my wife’s recent diagnosis.”

According to the website, monstersonthemove.org, the foundation strives to provide numerous outreach opportunities to dancers in low-income families, financial support for qualified individuals to obtain a quality dance education and opportunities to provide continued dance training and long-term commitment to the community.

The success of their business can be attributed to hard work and support of others.

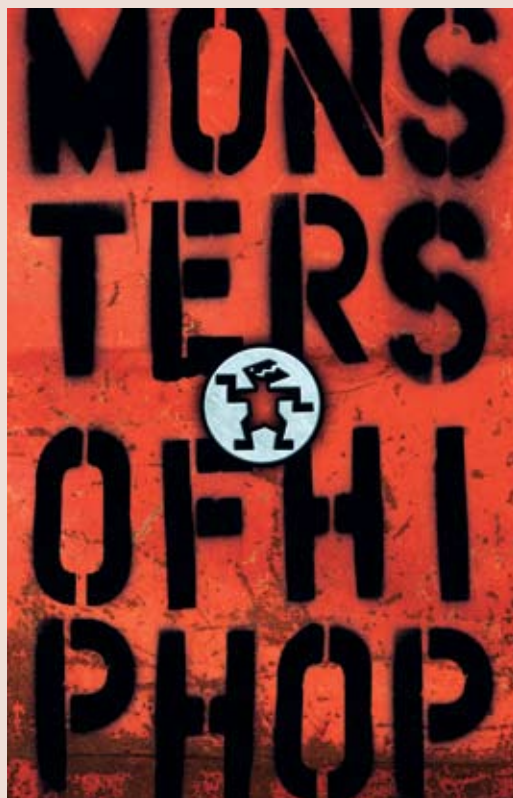
“I would have to say that our parents helped lead the way. My parents, Joyce and Gene, have taught me so much about maintaining a strong family, which has carried over to the environment of our businesses, from our staff to the people who attend our events. It’s one big family reunion in every city,” Andy said.

Becky Funk’s parents have also helped the couple in their endeavors.

“Becky’s parents, Georgia and Bob Servant, taught us a lot about being entrepreneurs and building a business, how to treat staff and customers,” Andy Funk said.

These family values are key to their business.

“We enjoy getting to know dancers and their families and following their growth, despite the negative connotation that some people have associated with hip hop. The dance community, especially in hip hop, is incredibly supportive and accepting. There is no judgment and that is what makes our events so rewarding and enjoyable,” Andy said.



The Funk family has experienced a lot of reward and fulfillment through their company.

“Seeing individuals grow from aspiring dancers-in-training to some of the most successful professional dancers and choreographers, due in part to Monsters, is very rewarding. Knowing that our events are helping open people’s eyes to a larger, incredibly supportive community is a great feeling,” they said.

In addition to helping dance artists grow, the Funks find joy in facing rewarding challenges that come their way.

“We recently embarked on a new challenge that we are very excited about. We began the filming of an inspirational documentary following two extraordinary dancers who have been coming to Monsters for a few years,” Andy said. “One is a bilateral amputee and the other is deaf. Imagine how difficult dancing must be without legs or when you cannot hear the music. I can’t say much more about it at this point, other than their story is amazing and will be a tremendous inspiration.”

The dance family has seen their fair share of significant accomplishments. For example:

- Being asked to produce auditions for Janet Jackson.
- Being hired by Disney multiple times to provide entertainment.
- Hosting auditions for *The Hannah Montana Movie* that ended up providing jobs to 16 or so dancers.
- Having studio kids perform at the White House Easter Egg Roll.
- Being commended by SYTYCD’s Executive Producer, Nigel Lithgoe after he attended a live dance show, *The Monsters Show* in LA.
- Partnering with ABC’s *Extreme Makeover Home Edition* on the 2011 Thanksgiving Special.

A good show and great customer service are important aspects of the business.

“I think customer service has fallen from priority in a lot of industries, so we try to go above and beyond to make sure our customers feel valued and like a part of our family,” said Andy.

Last Thanksgiving, *Monsters of HipHop* partnered with ABC’s *Extreme Home Makeover*. One of the family members was an aspiring dancer, so the Funk’s scheduled a private dance lesson and a meet and greet with their choreographers.

“The meeting was to take place during a workshop at our home studio, B.Funk Dance Company. The same weekend, Hurricane Irene stormed through Maryland, leaving us without power and over 150 dancers, including ABC’s film crew,” Andy said.

With no power, the Funks still managed to pull off a successful event.


“We managed to make it through with no air conditioning, and music running in one room on a boom-box and another as a result of a portable generator set up outside our front door. It was incredibly hot but everyone in attendance had a positive and memorable experience. Many even commented how professional and smooth our operation ran despite the effects of a hurricane,” Andy said.

The “*Monsters of HipHop*” headquarters is located in Ellicott City, Maryland, but their events are held all around the world.



“We have attracted tens of thousands of people over the years from over 40 states and dozens of countries,” the Funks said.

Andy Funk said that the touring dance convention goes to about 16 states and countries for weekend conventions which are usually held at large convention hotels.

“We bring six to eight of the top choreographers from New York and Los Angeles. The events include classes, seminars, auditions and performance opportunities.” 



Robert Segessenman claims to be a “pack rat” but is much more organized and methodological in the items he keeps, especially trains.

At his home off the Russell Tavern Road, there’s a plethora of model trains, both the larger G scale and the more accessible HO scale.

He has about 70 HO engines and a “ton” of cars, but works primarily with the G scale, boasting about 40 engines and just a “couple hundred” cars.

Suffice it to say, this Butler Township resident, who lives on “Railway Lane” with a signal in his front yard and a railroad spike as a doorknocker, loves trains.

Segessenman, 73, grew up in Montgomery County, two miles north of Philadelphia.

“Dad gave me a train set in the 1940s when I was about four years old and that’s what started this whole circus,” he said.

At one time, he had everything Lionel made from the 1940s to the 1950s, but sold about 90 percent of it and went into the HO scale. He kept his original set, though.

He and wife Harriet moved to Adams County in 1985, where most of his trains remained packed away. “When you get married you get busy and don’t have a lot of money.”

A collector OF COLLECTIONS

When his oldest son was eight years old and discovered the trains in the attic, the hobby was rekindled.

The engine that got Bob started on the larger G scale trains came from his son in 2003. The 1880s-style steam engine, called a “10-wheeler,” is one of his prized possessions.

The durability of these larger trains is perfect for outdoor use and Bob wasted no time. The following year, he began building his outdoor garden track and hasn’t stopped since.

“Always building, never ending,” he admitted.

With the warmer weather, he’ll set out 100 mostly-handmade outbuildings, including a replica of the house he grew up in, along the 1,000-foot steel track that covers his backyard.

Built around his wife’s garden pond, the track stretches 150 feet by 60 feet across the yard and contains viaducts, tunnels, a man-made mountain (“80 tons of dirt”), a German bank barn, and a mill with working water wheel, bridges, and a town where you can walk down Main Street.

“I’m into realism,” he said.

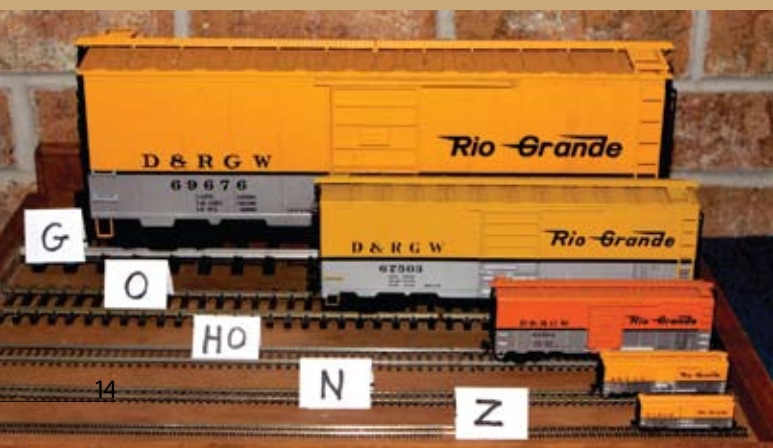
It will take him the better part of the month to get it all set up and running.

He holds one or two open houses a year and will run the trains for just about anyone who calls and wants to stop by from April until early November.

“I’ll admit it, I like to show off a bit,” he said.

He also hosts club picnics for the Susquehanna Valley Garden Railway Society (SVGRS), of which he is a member.

When he’s not tinkering with the track, Bob can usually be found in his workshop constructing more



By HOLLY FLETCHER





buildings for it. His current project is an old Philly Wellsboro gas station from the 1940s.

Of all the railroads, Reading is his favorite.

"I grew up near there and have always been a fan," he said.

His collection consists of trains from the later 1880s to the mid-1960s, with about 50 percent steam and 50 percent diesel.

Out in the garage, he has shelves filled with trains and hopper cars. In the living room, he has a wall full of his G scale engines, many of which have a sound system that replicates the chugging and coal shoveling sounds of yesteryear. Upstairs, there's a room stuffed with HO trains and the workshop where he and his son spent hours on their hobby.

Would he consider himself an extreme collector?

"Oh, yes."

Characteristics of an extreme collector include having a collection "everywhere" in the house, being passionate, having deep pockets, and being tenacious in the search for objects.

Bob's passion for collecting goes way back.

"When kids were getting into hot rods and working on their Model As and Ts, I was going around collecting car parts," he said. "I didn't have a car, but I filled my dad's three two-story chicken houses with car parts."

In the early 1960s, when folks started restoring their cars, guess who had the parts!

"That little business financed my antique car habit," he said.

At one time, Bob had about 25 antique cars in his barn. He sold most of them about three years ago to make room for his trains.

He admits that his hobbies are not cheap, but they keep him busy.

Now "somewhat" retired (he doesn't like retirement), Bob has worked as a union brick layer, in the construction business, and as a designer for the Philadelphia Toboggan Company, maker of the skee ball machines, one of which sits in his house with a half a dozen more in storage.

He even has an old-fashioned barber's chair. His dad was a barber.

"I don't throw away too much," he admitted.


When he's not working as a township supervisor or entertaining crowds at train shows with the SVGRS, he can usually be found volunteering his maintenance skills for non-profits or brainstorming new ideas for his trains.

"I'm thinking of creating an inside HO track, to work on in the wintertime," he said.

This father of three and grandfather to four has already passed on his love of trains and collecting to his family.

He noted that his son is rebuilding a model of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad and the town of Chama, New Mexico, at his home in Littlestown, while his grandson has also taken an interest in the trains.

"Trains bring joy to all ages," he added.

For more information on garden railways or the Susquehanna Valley Garden Railway Society, visit their website at svgrs.net. 





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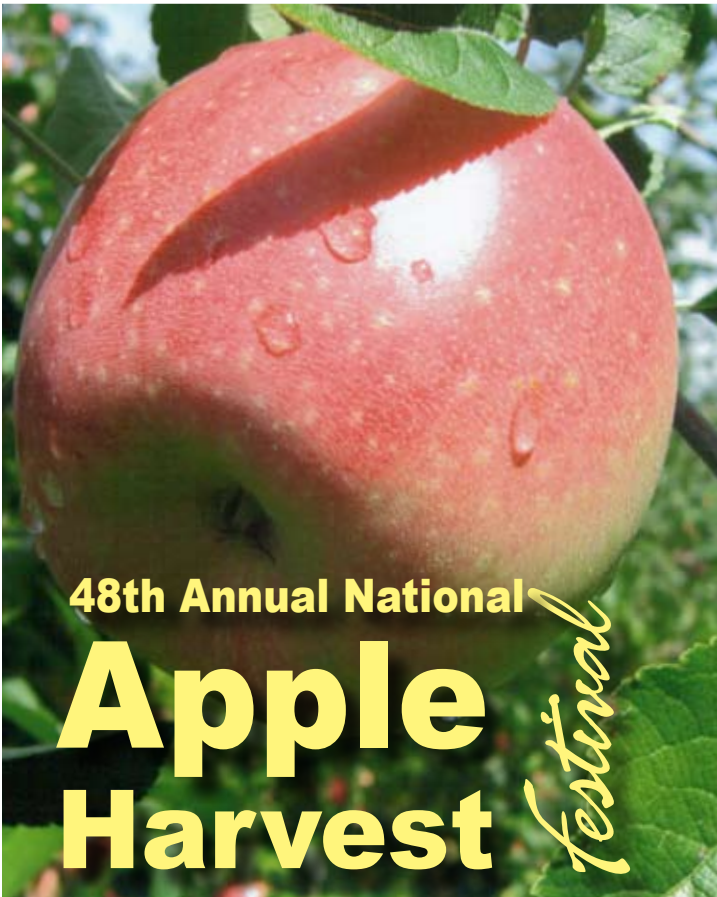
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Touching the lives of Gettysburg's youth

For more than 50 years, the Optimist Club has provided continuous service to the Gettysburg community and its youth, "bringing out the best in kids."

"During the course of a year, we get a number of appeals from other organizations," said 24-year member Mark Cropp, president. "But if their program(s) doesn't benefit youth, we'll turn them down."

Cropp added that, "Through the 21 various school, community and Optimist programs we do

support, I think we touch the lives of approximately 5,000 youth annually.

"One or more of our 40 men and women is directly involved in nearly 50 percent of those programs. In addition to the many work-hours invested by members, our total level of support for all of the programs is more than \$40,000 annually."

There's Optimist basketball and Little League programs, Gettysburg High School STARS and Dollars for Scholars programs, Optimist Youth Appreciation and Respect for Law programs,

the Gettysburg Halloween and Christmas parades, Reading is Fundamental, Meals and More, the Gettysburg Arts Council, the School for Musical Theater and others. Optimists also helped build the pavilion at the Gettysburg Recreation Park and annually support its maintenance.

"One of the things we like is that our athletic programs are open," said Cropp. "Kids don't have to try out; whoever shows up, plays."

Joe McDowell, another 24-year member who serves as club secretary, noted that, "I think there's nothing as rewarding as seeing the smile on a kid's face when he/she gets a book of their own or a plaque with their name on it in recognition of some achievement."

Raising money to support these and other programs requires 700 to 1,000 hours of club members' time, Cropp points out.

"During the course of a year, we get a number of appeals from other organizations. But if their program(s) doesn't benefit youth, we'll turn them down."

— Mark Cropp
Optimist Club President



For soccer games in the spring and fall, club members supervise parking at the former Adams County Prison and at Gettysburg Construction, both on Biglerville Road. They also sponsor an Annual Oyster Feed in late February at the Gettysburg Fire Hall on Stratton Street, put on a Christmas Magic Show at the Lincoln Elementary School Auditorium and a golf tournament at The Links of Gettysburg on May 24.

“It takes a lot of effort, but I’m working with a great bunch of men and women,” said Cropp. Craig Sweet, vice president, joined the club 15 years ago, “because I liked the idea of working with kids and helping them develop a positive, optimistic attitude towards others and the future,” he said. Sweet volunteers considerable time toward the success of the Gettysburg Halloween and Christmas parades.

“One of the rewarding aspects of working with youth and of being a club member so long is seeing that kids of 20 years ago now represent 25 percent of our membership,” said Cropp.

A member of the Gettysburg Area Chamber of Commerce, the Optimist Club of Gettysburg meets for a catered Biggerstaff dinner on the first and third Wednesday of every month in the refractory of the Lutheran Theological Seminary.

For more information about the Optimist Club, call Mark Cropp at 334-3704 or e-mail him at jmarkcropp@embarqmail.com The club also can be found on facebook at <http://facebook/theoptimistclubofgettysburg>.

The Optimist Creed

Promise Yourself–

- To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.*
- To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.*
- To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.*
- To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.*
- To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.*
- To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.*
- To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.*
- To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.*
- To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.*
- To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.*

“One of the things we like is that our athletic programs are open. Kids don’t have to try out; whoever shows up, plays.”

– Mark Cropp
Optimist Club President



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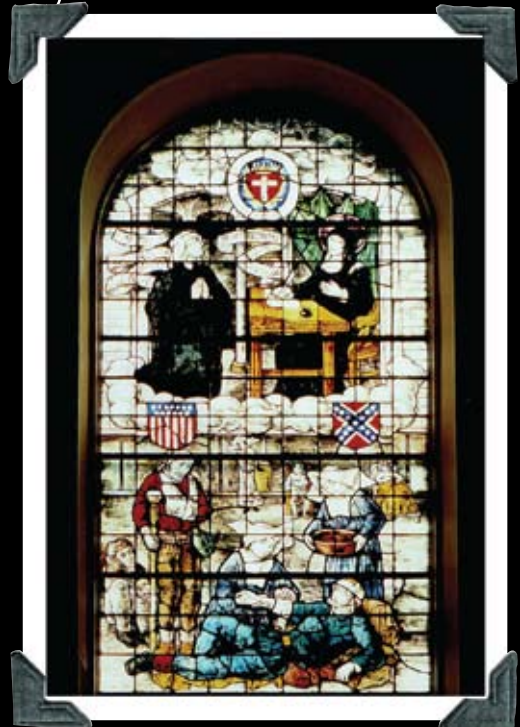
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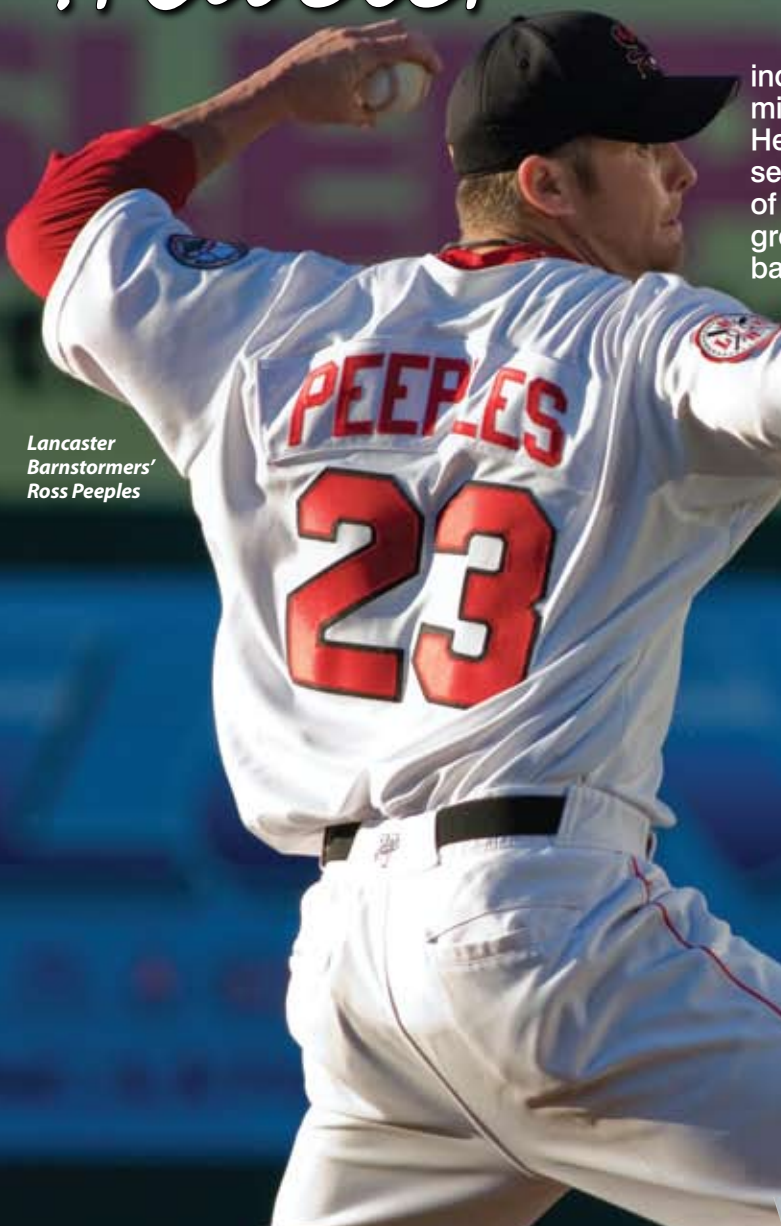
ONE TANK Traveler

Short trips you can take on one tank of gas.

BY JESSICA A. HAINES

Adams County is within easy driving distance of several professional baseball stadiums, including Nationals Park in Washington D.C., and Camden Yards in Baltimore. Even closer are a variety of professional independent teams and minor league affiliates. Here is a taste of those semi-local teams, all of which promise a great day out at the ballgame!

Lancaster Barnstormers' Ross Peeples



Team **LANCASTER BARNSTORMERS**
 Affiliate Independent
 League Atlantic League of Professional Baseball
 Home field Clipper Magazine Stadium, 650 North Prince Street, Lancaster, PA 17603
 Seats 6,200
 Concessions Concessions available include hamburgers and hot dogs as well as barbecue, pretzels, Turkey Hill Ice Cream, and cheese steaks.
 Information 717-509-HITS
 lancasterbarnstormers.com
 2012 ticket prices Tickets range from \$7 – \$13
 History After more than 40 years, baseball returned to Lancaster in 2005 with the debut of the Lancaster Barnstormers. Since then, Major League players Matt Watson and Jerome Williams spent time at Clipper Stadium, and two other Barnstormers, Scott Patterson and Tom Cochran have moved to the Major League.
 2012 highlights Clipper Stadium offers fireworks at select home games, giveaways, and on-field promotions on a regular basis.

Team **YORK REVOLUTION**
 Affiliate Independent
 League Atlantic League of Professional Baseball
 Home field Sovereign Bank Stadium, 50 Washington St., York PA 17401
 Seats 7,312
 Concessions Concessions include pretzels, fries, funnel cake, pizza, Turkey Hill Ice Cream, draft and canned beer.
 Information 717-801-4487
 yorkrevolution.com



2012 ticket prices Tickets range from \$7 to \$13 with fees incurred when ordering online or holding tickets at Will Call.
 History Founded in 2006, the York Revolution made its home at Sovereign Bank Stadium in 2007, returning baseball to York after 38 years. The name "revolution" refers to the city's position as one of the first capitals of the United States during the American Revolution.
 Since then, the Revolution have enjoyed a solid record of successes, winning the Atlantic League Championships in 2010 and 2011.

ONE TANK Traveler

CONTINUED



Team **HARRISBURG SENATORS**
 Affiliate Washington Nationals
 League Eastern League, Class AA
 Home field..... Metro Bank Park, City Island, Harrisburg, PA 17101
 Seats..... 6,187
 Concessions..... Metro Bank Park includes picnic areas and concessions including hot dogs, hamburgers, fries, beer, and German food. Ice cream and pretzels are also available.
 Information..... 717-231-4444
 senatorsbaseball.com
 2012 ticket prices Tickets range from \$7 to \$14.
 History Harrisburg has been the home of various professional baseball teams since 1901.

The first version of the Senators arrived in 1924 as part of the New York-Penn League, and was not affiliated with any Major League team. In 1932, the Senators were picked up as a Boston Braves affiliate, but lost their home on City Island in a 1936 flood.

For the next several decades, teams tried to return baseball to Harrisburg, but most were unsuccessful or quickly moved to other areas.

In the mid 1980s, the Pittsburgh Pirates moved their Nashua Pirates Minor League team to City Island and renamed them as the Harrisburg Senators. The team then changed hands in 1991, becoming an affiliate of the Montreal Expos, who eventually made the move to Washington and became the Washington Nationals, with whom the Senators remain affiliated.

Prominent Major League players who have spent time with the Senators include National Stephen Strasburg, who took Pennsylvania's capital city by storm in the early 2010 season.

Metro Bank Park, home of the Harrisburg Senators.

Team **HAGERSTOWN SUNS**
 Affiliate Washington Nationals
 League South Atlantic League, Class A
 Home field..... Municipal Stadium, 274 East Memorial Boulevard, Hagerstown, MD 21740
 Seats..... 5,000
 Concessions..... A variety of concessions are available including hot dogs and hamburgers, as well as beer for those ages 21 and older.
 Information..... 301-791-6266 • hagerstownsuns.com
 info@hagerstownsuns.com

2012 ticket prices Tickets range from \$9-\$12. Groups of 10 or more receive a special rate of \$5 per ticket.

History The Hagerstown Suns were formed in 1981 as a Baltimore Orioles affiliate in the Carolina League, winning the league championship in their first season. The team moved to Bowie, MD, in 1992. After their move, the Myrtle Beach Hurricanes, a Toronto Blue Jays affiliate, moved into town and became the new Suns.

The Suns remained affiliated with the Blue Jays until 2000, when they began a partnership with the San Francisco Giants, according to the Suns' website, hagerstownsuns.com. After a two year stint with the New York Mets that began in 2005, the Suns landed with current affiliate, the Washington Nationals, in 2007.

2012 highlights Fireworks at every Friday night home game; Civil War Weekend, June 22-24, when the Suns will wear special commemorative uniforms. Raffle tickets will be available for a chance to win the game-worn jerseys.

Kids Run the Bases each Sunday home game and the first 1,000 fans through the gates at each Saturday home game will receive a free giveaway.



Bryce Herper of the Hagerstown Suns.

Team **READING PHILLIES**
 Affiliate Philadelphia Phillies
 League Eastern League, Class AA
 Home field FirstEnergy Stadium, 1900 Centre Ave., Reading, PA 19612
 Seats 9,000
 Concessions Food available includes hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza, funnel cake and fries.
 Information readingphillies.com
 2012 ticket prices Tickets range from \$6 – \$11



History The Philadelphia Phillies have been Reading's Major League affiliate since 1967. The team is descended from the city's first official baseball club, the Reading Athletic Club, which was formed in 1858. After a variety of Minor League teams called the city home throughout the years, the Cleveland Indians established the Eastern League Reading Indians franchise in 1952. The Indians played at Municipal Memorial Stadium until 1963, when the Red Sox took over Major League affiliation. The Indians returned for one more season in 1965 before the Phillies took the team over.



Team **FREDERICK KEYS**
 Affiliate Baltimore Orioles
 League South Atlantic League, Class A
 Home field Harry Grove Stadium, 21 Stadium Drive, Frederick, MD 21703
 Seats 5,400
 Concessions A variety of concessions including hot dogs, chicken tenders, popcorn, pizza, salad, fries and drinks. Beer is available. The stadium also offers a gluten-free menu and vegetarian dishes.

Information frederickkeys.com

2012 ticket prices Field: \$12, Reserved: \$10, General admission: \$9, Senior/military/student: \$6, Day of game charge: \$2

History The Frederick Keys were created as a new franchise in 1989 and are currently the longest-standing Orioles affiliate, according to Assistant General Manager Adam Pohl. The Keys have won four Carolina League Championships, including 2011. Harry Grove Stadium, which was opened in 1990, is located across the street from the grave of team namesake and national anthem writer Francis Scott Key.

2012 highlights The Keys expect to welcome Dylan Bundy, who was drafted as the fourth overall pick in the 2011 Major League Baseball Draft by the Baltimore Orioles, sometime during the 2012 season. He's the guy the Orioles' fans will be watching.

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BY DICK WATSON



“Here in Gettysburg, we feature 16 of our own beers on tap as well as two taps of either ABC’s gourmet Root Beer, Birch Beer, Diet Root Beer or Ginger Beer.”

– Nate Voss
General Manager



Most tourists to Gettysburg make it a point to visit what was General Robert E. Lee’s headquarters during the Battle of Gettysburg. A national landmark, it now houses one of the finest private Civil War museum collections. It is located on Route 30 (the Chambersburg Road) at Seminary Ridge, right in front of the Quality Inn at 401 Buford Avenue and right next door to the Appalachian Brewing Company (ABC).

No doubt General Lee would have enjoyed a cool brew at the end of a hard day’s fighting had the ABC been there. Of course, it wasn’t. But it has been there now for seven years, ready to provide tourists and locals alike with a refreshing cool brew while enjoying a relaxing luncheon, dinner or late night snack.

Open daily, March to November, from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., and Wednesday through Sunday during the winter months, ABC is headquartered in downtown Harrisburg. It’s one of the largest capacity micro breweries (50,000 sq.ft.) in the country. It produces eight flagship beers and numerous specialty beers, all of which are shipped in bottles and kegs to its brewpubs in Collegeville, Camp Hill and Gettysburg, as well as to restaurants and taverns in Central Pennsylvania and the Baltimore area.

“Here in Gettysburg, we feature 16 of our own beers on tap as well as two taps of either ABC’s gourmet Root Beer, Birch Beer, Diet Root Beer or Ginger Beer,” said General Manager Nate Voss, who oversees a staff of 30 to 40 in the summertime. Free refills are provided for regular fountain sodas, iced tea and decaf coffee. Wine and spirits are also available.

“Our flagship beers are Mountain Lager, Water Gap Wheat, Purist Pale Ale, Scottish Ale, Susquehanna Stout, Barley Wine, Organic Brown Ale and Happy Trails India Pale Ale,” he explained.

A regular, 16-ounce mug of most of the beers costs about \$4.50. Bottles of six-packs of beer or sodas are also available for take out.

In addition to its varieties of beer, ABC Chef Trey Davidson provides a menu of appetizers, salads, soups, sandwiches, pizza and some seafood. Sandwich prices range from \$8 for the BBQ Clucker to \$11 for the Magic Muffuletta. Burgers range from \$9 to \$10.50. Pizzas start at \$8, and popular house favorites, such as fish and chips, cost \$11, Ginger Beer Tuna \$15.


Summertime outside dining is also available as is live entertainment on St. Patrick’s Day and October Fest.

After seven years in Gettysburg, the Appalachian Brewing Company has become a



popular local watering hole, like the famous “Cheers” on television. Many patrons entering the restaurant are known “regulars” and are warmly greeted by congenial bartender Billy Bennaga, a fixture there the past six years.

Proof of ABC’s local popularity can be observed in the bar where, in addition to racks of glasses, are 250 numbered and inscribed mugs belonging to “Mug Club” members; they join for \$65 and renew annually in March for \$50. Membership is limited to 250 patrons on a first-come, first-served basis; they enjoy 1/2 price appetizers, various discounts and an October Mug Club party with complimentary food and draft beer.

In addition to the restaurant’s 140 seating capacity, it also features a banquet room for up to 50 people. Reservations can be made by calling 717-334-2200. 



WHAT'S Goin' On?

COMPILED BY JESSICA A. HAINES

APRIL

April 1, 3 p.m. The Shippensburg University Spring Band Concert will be held at the H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center, Shippensburg. For more information, visit luhrscenter.com.

April 4, 8 p.m. Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance will be presented at the H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center, Shippensburg. For more information, visit luhrscenter.com.

April 4, 6-9 p.m. Ladies Night will be held at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 5, 6-9 p.m. Greg Pfeiffer will perform at Thirsty Thursday at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 6, 6-9 p.m. The Willys will perform at Hauser After Hours at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 7, 12 p.m. Manon will be performed by the Metropolitan Opera and shown Live in HD at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. For more information and tickets, call 717-337-8200.

April 7, 2 & 4 p.m. Greeting Card Workshop. Join card artist, Julie Cade, for a greeting card workshop at Pages of the Past Bookstore. Two sessions are offered. To register or for more information, please call 717-334-0572 or email infopagesofpast@centurylink.net.

April 11, 6-9 p.m. Dancing with the Vines will be held at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 12, 6-9 p.m. Rhyne McCormick will perform at Thirsty Thursday at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 13, 6-9 p.m. A Winemaker's Dinner will be held at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 13, 8 p.m. Gettysburg College's Jazz Ensemble and Dispatch will perform at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. For more information and tickets, call 717-337-8200.

April 13, 8 p.m. Big Bad Voodoo Daddy will perform at the H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center, Shippensburg. For more information, visit luhrscenter.com.

April 13-14, 7 p.m. & April 14-15, 2 p.m. The Adams County School of Musical Theatre, 49 York St., Gettysburg, presents *Godspell*. For more information and tickets, visit acsmt.org or call 717-334-2692.

April 14, 1 p.m. La Traviata will be performed by the Metropolitan Opera and shown Live in HD at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. For more information and tickets, call 717-337-8200.

April 14, 6-9 p.m. HoBoJa will perform at Hauser After Hours at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 14, 8 p.m. The Sunderman Conservatory Wind Symphony will perform at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. For more information and tickets, call 717-337-8200.

April 14-15. The Gettysburg National Military Park will hold their 2012 Seminar at locations throughout Gettysburg on the theme *Gettysburg in History and Memory*. For more information and to register, call 717-334-1124, ext. 3251.

April 14-15. The Gettysburg Heritage Trail Hike will be held throughout the Gettysburg National Military Park. For more information and to register, visit gettysburgfoundation.org.

April 15, 3 p.m. The Four Freshman will perform at the H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center, Shippensburg. For more information, visit luhrscenter.com.

April 15, 3 p.m. Gordon Turk will perform at Thomson Hall's Alumnae Chapel at Wilson College, Chambersburg. For more information, call 717-262-2003.

April 17, 8 p.m. Merle Haggard will perform at the H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center, Shippensburg. For more information, visit luhrscenter.com.

April 17, 7:30 p.m. Samuel Wilkeson will be the educational speaker at the monthly meeting of Historic Gettysburg Adams County, held at the GAR Building, 53 E. Middle St., Gettysburg. For more information, visit hgaonline.com or call 717-334-8312.

April 18, 7:30 p.m. The Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg, presents *Best of MOMIX*. For more information and tickets, call 717-337-8200.

April 19, 6-9 p.m. Kirk Wise will perform at Thirsty Thursday



at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 20, 8 p.m. Honky Tonk Angels will perform at the Capitol Theatre, 159 S. Main St., Chambersburg. For more information and tickets, visit thecapitoltheatre.org.

April 21, 1-4 p.m. The Historic Gettysburg Adams County Architectural Salvage Warehouse will be open on Washington Street, between Chambersburg and Middle streets in Gettysburg. For more information, call 717-334-4048 or visit hgaconline.org.

April 21, 6-9 p.m. Al Parsons Band will perform at Hauser After Hours at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 21, 6-7:30 p.m. An Evening with the Painting will be held at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center. For more information and to register, call 877-874-2478.

April 21, 8 p.m. Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood will perform at the H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center, Shippensburg. For more information, visit luhrscenter.com.

April 22, 10:45 a.m.-12 p.m. Yoga on the Hill will be held at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 22, 12-5 p.m. Board Games Galore will be held at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 22, 4 p.m. The Whitaker Center, Harrisburg, presents Garrison Keillor. For more information and tickets, visit whitakercenter.org.

April 22, 8 p.m. Joan Rivers will perform at the Hershey Theater, Hershey. For tickets, visit hersheytheatre.com.

April 25, 7:30 p.m. Human Nature will perform at the Hershey Theater, Hershey. For tickets, visit hersheytheatre.com.

April 25-29. Spring Carlisle will be held at the Carlisle Fairgrounds, Carlisle. For more information, visit carsatcarlisle.com.

April 26, 10 p.m. The Markham School Band will perform at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center. For more information, call 877-874-2478.

April 26, 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. The Imagination Movers will perform at Hershey Theatre, Hershey. For more information and tickets, visit hersheytheatre.com.

April 26, 6-9 p.m. Mickley-Paul will perform at Thirsty Thursday at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 26, 7:30 p.m. The Gettysburg Community Concert Association presents the Frank Vignola Trio in concert at the Gettysburg Area Middle School, 37 Lefever St., Gettysburg. For more information and tickets, email gettysburgcca@embarqmail.com or call 717-334-3788.



April 28, 2-4 p.m. An artist reception will be held for Lynda Cook at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 28, 6-9 p.m. It's country music night with Maria Rose and Danny Elswick at Hauser After Hours at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 29, 12-5 p.m. Gettysburg Appreciation Day will be held at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

April 29, 3 p.m. Rat Pack Tribute will be presented at the Capitol Theatre, 159 S. Main St., Chambersburg. For more information and tickets, visit thecapitoltheatre.org.

April 29, 3 p.m. The Sunderman Conservatory Symphony Band will perform at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. For more information and tickets, call 717-337-8200.

April 29, 7 p.m. The Sunderman Conservatory Percussion Ensemble will perform at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. For more information and tickets, call 717-337-8200.

April 29. A Gettysburg Preservation Walk will be held at the Gettysburg National Military Park. For more information and to register, visit gettysburgfoundation.org.

MAY

May 2, 7 p.m. The Artie Shaw Orchestra will perform at the Capitol Theatre, 159 S. Main St., Chambersburg. For more information and tickets, visit thecapitoltheatre.org.

May 3, 6-9 p.m. Greg Pfeiffer will perform at Thirsty Thursday at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

May 4, 6:30 p.m. Mother's Day Lecture and Dessert Reception. Historian Sue Doucette presents a lecture on *The History of Mother's Day and Civil War Mother's Day: Reuniting North and South* at Pages of the Past Bookstore. Reserved seating is limited to 30 participants. Deadline to register is April 30. Call 717-334-0572 or email infopagesofpast@centurylink.net to make a reservation.

May 4, 7:30 p.m. J.D. Walter and the Steve Rudolph Trio will perform at Wilson College. For more information and tickets, visit wilson.edu.

May 5, 6-9 p.m. Cinco de Drinko with music by Wito Rodriguez will be celebrated at Hauser After Hours at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

May 5, 7:30 p.m. Jason Bishop will perform at the Whitaker Center, Harrisburg. For more information and tickets, visit whitakercenter.org.

May 6. Lady Antebellum will perform at the Giant Center, Hershey. For more information and tickets, call 877-598-6504.

WHAT'S Goin' On?

CONTINUED

May 6, 12-5 p.m. Canines & Chardonnay will be held at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

May 9, 6-9 p.m. Dancing with the Vines will be held at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

May 9, 8 p.m. Engelbert Humperdinck will perform at the H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center, Shippensburg. For more information, visit luhrscenter.com.

May 10, noon. A brown bag forum with Random House sales representative, Cheryl Kelly at Pages of the Past Bookstore. Reservations are required. Call 717.334.0572 or email infopagesofpast@centurylink.net.

May 10, 6-9 p.m. Thirsty Thursday will be held at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

May 11, 6-9 p.m. Second Time Thru will perform at Hauser After Hours at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

May 11, 8 p.m. John Tesh will perform at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. For more information and tickets, call 717-337-8200.

May 11-20. Chambersburg Community Theatre presents *Nunsensations! The Nonsense Vegas Revue* at the Capitol Theatre, 159 S. Main St., Chambersburg. For more information, visit cctonline.org.

May 12-13. Carlisle Performance & Style will be held at the Carlisle Fairgrounds, Carlisle. For more information, visit carsatcarlisle.com.

May 16-20. Totem Pole Playhouse, Fayetteville, presents *An Evening with Buddy Holly*. For more information and tickets, visit totempoleplayhouse.org.

May 17, 6-9 p.m. Rhyne McCormick will perform at Thirsty Thursday at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

May 17, 7:30 p.m. The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band will perform at the Whitaker Center, Harrisburg. For more information and tickets, visit whitakercenter.org.

May 17, 5-8:30; May 18, 1-7 p.m.; May 19, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The Great Country Show, sponsored by the East Berlin Historical Society will be held at the East Berlin Community Center, 401 North Ave., East Berlin. For more information, call 717-259-9866.



May 18-19, 7 p.m. & May 19-20, 2 p.m. The Adams County School of Musical Theatre, 49 York St., Gettysburg, presents *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*. For more information and tickets, visit acsmt.org or call 717-334-2692.

May 18-20. Carlisle Import & Kit Nationals will be held at the Carlisle Fairgrounds, Carlisle. For more information, visit carsatcarlisle.com.

May 19. Joe Mieczkowski presents *1862: All Hell Breaks Loose* as part of the John Scott Adams Seminar Series. For more information and to register, visit gettysburgfoundation.org.

May 19. Historian Ruthmary McIlhenny will present *Mamie Remembers Gettysburg*. For more information and tickets, call the Gettysburg Foundation at 877-874-2478 or visit gettysburgfoundation.org.

May 19, 7 a.m.-4 p.m. The Historic Gettysburg Adams County Architectural Salvage Warehouse will be open on Washington Street, between Chambersburg and Middle streets in Gettysburg. For more information, call 717-334-4048 or visit hgaonline.org.

May 19. The Gettysburg Area Retail Merchants Association Antique Show will be held on Lincoln Square and surrounding streets in Gettysburg. For more information, visit gettysburgretailmerchants.com.

May 19, 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. The Gettysburg Garden Club will hold their annual spring plant sale on the corner of Baltimore and West High streets in Gettysburg. For more information, visit gettysburggardenclub.homestead.com.

May 19, 6-9 p.m. The Willys will perform at Hauser After Hours at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

May 24, 6-9 p.m. Suzi Brown will perform at Thirsty Thursday at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

May 26. Joe Mieczkowski presents *1862: All Hell Breaks Loose* as part of the John Scott Adams Seminar Series. For more information and to register, visit gettysburgfoundation.org.

May 26, 6-7:30 p.m. An Evening with the Painting will be held at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center. For more information and to register, call 877-874-2478.

May 26, 6-9 p.m. Al Parsons Band will perform at Hauser After Hours at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

May 27, 12-5 p.m. Yappy Hour will be held at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

May 31, 6-9 p.m. Thirsty Thursday will be held at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. For more information, call 717-334-4888 or visit hauserestate.com.

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COMMUNITY Faces

Area residents from all walks of life, who are out & about, doing this & that.



(ABOVE) John Tschop and Candy Paulson of Great Country 107.7, enjoy a lighter moment at the annual Something Blue Bridal Event in Gettysburg. Bill Schwartz photo



(LEFT) Taylor Becker shows her coloring prowess at a party celebrating the first birthday of the Littlestown Library. Darryl Wheeler photo

(BELOW) Some of the 50 volunteers who helped remove 1,600 Christmas wreaths that had been placed on the graves of military veterans in the Gettysburg National Cemetery. This was the fourth year that the Sgt. Mac Foundation placed wreaths on the landmark Gettysburg cemetery. Bill Schwartz photo





(ABOVE) Former police officer Rick Phillips and his wife April met with the Gettysburg American Legion Post 202, to thank them for their support during his recovery from a devastating accident during a police pursuit in 2010. John Armstrong photo



(RIGHT) Jake Schindel, owner of the Ragged Edge Coffee House and a Gettysburg councilman, takes a break between brews. Bill Schwartz photo

(BELOW) Biglerville High School wrestler Laike Gardner powers his way past Bethlehem Catholic's Randy Cruz to become the area's only Class AA Southeast Regional champion. Gettysburg Times photo



COMMUNITY Faces

Area residents from all walks of life, who are out & about, doing this & that.

(RIGHT) Delone Catholic High School boys basketball coach, Jim Dooley, watches intently during one of the Squires' post season games.
Darryl Wheeler photo



(BELOW) Gettysburg Rotary Club President Pete Ricker, left, shares a moment with Adams County Commissioner Randy Phiel after a club meeting.
John Armstrong photo



(BELOW) Paul Ketterman, left, and Jim Roach from the Lincoln Fellowship of Pa. look at the tablet that "Perry Como" is holding in the "Return Visit" sculpture that is located in front of the David Wills House on Lincoln Square. The two-piece sculpture which depicts President Abraham Lincoln and a present-day visitor was created by J. Seward Johnson.
Darryl Wheeler photo



(BELOW) Russell Redding of Gettysburg, former state secretary of agriculture, speaks at an Ag forum in Gettysburg in late February. Darryl Wheeler photo



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McClellan^{The} House



Courtesy Adams County Historical Society

McClellan renamed it yet again, calling it the *McClellan House*, and that was its name during the battle.

In those days, the hotel served as a stage coach stop for the Pittsburgh, Baltimore, and Philadelphia stages and due to its proximity to the court house, which stood in the center of the diamond, many attorneys had their law offices in the hotel. The *McClellan House* was also the meeting place for the Whig and Republican parties.

On July 1, 1863 McClellan did a brisk business selling whiskey to 11th Corps troops hurrying through town to the battle, until closed by Union officers. During the battle the hotel was not occupied by soldiers' and, unlike the *Globe*, which was actively serving food and drinks to Confederate officers, the *McClellan House* saw little business. This was probably due to the fact that the *Globe* was the headquarters for the


Democratic party while the *McClellan House* served the Republicans.

After the battle a small group of Christian Charity nuns came to Gettysburg to tend to the wounded and George McClellan turned over the parlors of the hotel to them for their use.

On November 18, 1863 President Lincoln came to Gettysburg for the dedication of the new soldiers cemetery. The hotel was so full of people that night that people were put up in the lobby and the bar. McClellan also provided the horse for President Lincoln to ride to the cemetery.

George McClellan died in 1873 and his brother, John, took over. John added a third floor and extended the hotel back to Race Horse Alley. Although John owned the hotel until his death, he preferred to have other managers and tavern keepers run it for him.

The most notable of these was Simon Diller, a Union Civil War veteran, who weighed over 300 pounds, as did each of his five brothers.

When the boys got together they were referred to as "A ton of Dillers". Diller bought the hotel in 1889 after John McClellan's death and renamed it *Hotel Gettysburg*. The old hotel was demolished in 1895 to make way for a new *Hotel Gettysburg* on the same site. The old tavern/hotel that had seen so much history served the community for 98 years. 

In 1797, James Scott opened a new tavern on the northeast side of the diamond in Gettysburg. When Scott died in 1809, William McClellan bought the tavern and named it the *Indian Queen*. McClellan also owned the *Black Horse Tavern* and shortly thereafter bought the *Sign of the Buck* on West York Street (today's Chambersburg Street). When William died in 1814 John Hersh bought the tavern but he never operated it himself, as he preferred leasing it to others. He changed the name of the tavern to the *Gettysburg Hotel* and in 1816 a young attorney named Thaddeus Stevens opened his law office in the east end of the hotel.

In 1826, William McClellan, Jr. purchased the hotel from his father-in-law, John Hersh, and renamed it the *Franklin House*.

He owned and operated the hotel until his death in 1845 when his brother, George, took over. George



This is the eighth in a series of articles, researched and written by John Winkelman, on the taverns, inns, and hotels in Adams County and surrounding vicinity.

John is a Licensed Battlefield Guide and past president of the Civil War Roundtable of Gettysburg. He and his wife, Cheryl, moved to Gettysburg from New Jersey eleven years ago.

By John Winkelman

Town Founder

by Bob O'Connor

THE FOUNDER OF CHARLES TOWN, West Virginia (at the time Charlestown, Virginia) was Charles Washington, the youngest brother of George Washington. Charles, the son of Augustine Washington, was born in Hunting Creek, VA on May 2, 1738.

Charles was married to Mildred Thornton in the early 1760s. He served as a magistrate in the court of Stafford, Virginia (now Fairfax County, Virginia) pre-Revolutionary War. In 1766, he and his brothers Samuel, and John Augustine Washington, protested the British Stamp Act by signing the Leetown Resolve. During the war, Charles served as a Colonel in the Spotsylvania militia.

He and his wife moved to Berkeley County, Virginia (now Jefferson County, West Virginia) in mid-year of 1780 and started building the two wings of a house called

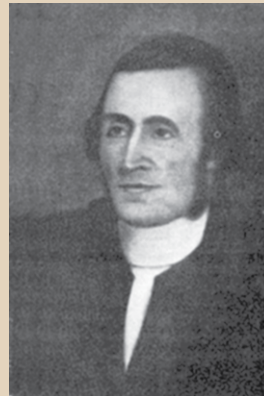


Mordington/Happy Retreat. The house included additional buildings that served as a kitchen or smokehouse and an octagonal wooden school.

Charles purchased an additional 80 acres that he set aside for the town that today bears his name. The papers for the town's official recognition were filed in late 1786 and approved by the Commonwealth of Virginia within the first couple of days of 1787.

Charles laid out the streets of Charles Town, including naming the

main east-west street Washington Street. The four center north-south streets were named after the brothers and are called George Street, Lawrence Street, Samuel Street and Charles Street.



Charles Washington

He designated the major intersection of town for community buildings. Those located at the corner of George Street and Washington Street today include City Hall, the Jefferson County Courthouse, the U.S. Post Office, and Washington Hall, which served as the city market with a meeting hall on the top floor.

The area had been surveyed by his brother, George Washington, starting in 1748 when George was a 16 year old surveyor for Lord Fairfax. Lord Fairfax owned 5 million acres in the new world and needed the land to be surveyed so he could sell parcels. George Washington had acquired nearly 2300 acres in the area surrounding what would become Charlestown and his half-brother Lawrence owned additional acreage.

The Washington family owned fourteen homes in the county at one time. Seven still remain but only one is still in the Washington family. That home is Harewood, where James and Dolley Madison were married. Several of the Washington family homes are open each year during the Charles Town Heritage Festival held in mid-September.

The homes are all privately owned and located along the Washington Heritage Trail National Scenic Byway.

George Washington's land was along Bullskin Run.

When Lawrence died in 1752, his land went to the other brothers. Lawrence's daughter inherited Mount Vernon and asked George to oversee the property. He ultimately purchased it from her, though he held onto Bullskin Run until his death in 1799. His diaries record many visits to his brothers' properties in this area.

Charles Washington died in the fall of 1799, just a few months before his brother George died. The Jefferson County Museum located in the lower floor of the Old Charles Town library has an original letter on display written by George Washington in response to the news that Charles had died.

Charles and his wife, Mildred, are buried in a small cemetery behind Happy Retreat. The cemetery is accessible off Augustine Avenue and is located just south of Evitts Run Creek.

The middle part of Happy Retreat was not constructed until after Charles Washington's death. The house is being considered for a national ethics center being directed by the Friends of Happy Retreat. Recently nationally known actor Richard Dreyfuss has joined the organization to lend his support to fund raising efforts. The Friends of Happy Retreat website is happyretreat.org.

Grave of Charles Washington in a small cemetery behind Happy Retreat.



Mr. O'Connor is a historian and published author. He has written six books since 2006. You can visit his website at bobconnorbooks.com.



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The town boasts over 20 restaurants from Vegetarian to German to French to Thai so there is sure to be a dining experience for everyone. Several hotels & inns provide lodging if you decide to stay and the town offers bike racks and street parking for visitors. Also visit the Historic Shepherdstown Museum (open weekends & by appointment to visitors April through October each year).

Locally owned shops and galleries line German and Princess Streets with dozens of shopping choices whether you are looking for clothing, shoes, a bike or a fishing rod! In the warmer months, several local outdoor markets are held on the weekends. Catch a movie in town or a live band most any day of the week at many of the restaurants and local pubs or perhaps a spa treatment may be more your speed.

Find more information online at www.shepherdstownvisitorscenter.com or check out the Visitor's Center on the corner of Princess and German Streets once you get to town. The center is chock full of handouts and flyers including local shopping & menus from many of the town's restaurants. While there, pick up a historic walking tour brochure which gives the history of 57 historic places around town. The walking tour is also available at www.historicshepherdstown.com.

Check out the calendar at www.shepherdstown250.com for lectures, talks and events all year round.



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