



**MAYOR'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL AND CITIZENS OF  
GREENCASTLE**  
**April 1, 2024**

**POLICE OPERATIONS / OIC, STRATEGIC PLANNING:** I have regular briefings with OIC Keith Russell. Our law enforcement service continues to be challenged by limited staffing requiring officers to often work alone responding to calls from citizens and visitors for police assistance. OIC Russell has been very proactive in advancing the Department to benefit Greencastle while providing public safety to our citizens and visitors. As I am on station a steady stream of citizens from the region bring in unused drugs for proper disposition and visit for police services both in and out of the Borough with referrals to the proper agency.

**GREENCASTLE VOTED "BEST NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE TRI-STATE!":** This award was presented last Friday by Verstandig Media at Green Grove Gardens. Congratulations to our businesses, citizens, volunteers, educational facilities, churches, and recreational areas for this award. I present the award to the Borough Council President and Manager for proper display here.

**HONORING GREENCASTLE'S VIETNAM VETERANS:** Last Friday, March 29, was Vietnam Veteran's Commemoration Day. I was honored to attend a very humbling annual ceremony that evening at the Greencastle American Legion Post along with OIC Keith Russell. Nine veterans were present and received their Vietnam Veterans' pins. A family member received a pin recognizing the memory of her father who served.

**FRANKLIN COUNTY AREA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PROJECTS UPDATE BREAKFAST:** Held at Green Grove Gardens on March 7. Attendees Larry Faight, Scott Reagan, Emilee Little, and I heard project updates throughout Franklin County and what is happening with industrial growth in Antrim Township.

**LION'S CLUB PANCAKE, ETC. BREAKFAST:** There was a good turn-out for the March 9 annual event held at the G-A Middle School.

**AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS / SONS OF A/L:** On Sunday, March 17, Scott Reagan, Keith Russell, and I attended the American Legion meetings and presented Mayoral Citations to both organizations for funding the police high velocity bullet resistant shields.

**GASD PEER LEADERS AND ART STUDENTS EMPTY BOWLS DINNER:** This event was held on March 22 at the Life Center in Greencastle where \$3,000 was raised to support the G-A Food Pantry. This non-profit pantry is a partnership by seven churches in G-A feeding 205 families including 170 children here. Thank you to the students and

the 70 volunteers and 85 local organizations that support the food pantry including our own police department.

G-A Chamber SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY: Saturday, April 27, 2024, from 9:00 A.M. to 12 Noon. Meet on Center Square to assist.

NORFOLK SOUTHERN TRAIN IDLING REPORT: Citizen Larry Pittman recorded three locomotive idling events in March.

CUMBERLAND-FRANKLIN COUNTIES BOROUGH'S ASSOCIATION: The next Bi-county meeting will be held on April 30 in the Chambersburg area.

I am honored to represent Greencastle and attend many public events in the Greencastle, Franklin County, area. The Allison Antrim Museum will meet at 7:00 P.M. April 11 at the barn on S. Ridge Avenue. I'll be the guest speaker for that meeting.

ACTIVE ITEMS:

- Downtown parking inventory, new systems, private owner partnerships and directional signage for parking
- Recommendation for "parking with arrow" signs downtown
- Downtown truck traffic (letter authorized to PennDot requesting local truck traffic on Baltimore Street)
- Recruitment and Retention grant for newly hired police officer/s

Respectfully submitted, *Ben Thomas, Jr. Mayor*