



MAYOR'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL AND CITIZENS OF GREENCASTLE June 5, 2023

CONGRATULATIONS to the GAHS Senior class following your Saturday graduation as you move on to the next chapters of your lives. Best wishes from the Borough of Greencastle.

The month of May was busy and very rewarding serving as your Mayor. We commemorated National Police Week; National EMS Week, and National Public Works Week in which I issued a proclamation recognizing our dedicated employees. Several of our police officers, Franklin County Drug Task Force Detective, and an Asst. District Attorney were awarded commendations for various investigations and affecting arrests in confiscating handguns, investigating and successfully closing catalytic converter thefts, and an extensive criminal investigation following a drug overdose death in Greencastle. Six were ultimately prosecuted and convicted.

A special speaker visited Greencastle for Memorial Day. U.S. Army Colonel Nathan Lewis was the guest speaker at ceremonies held at Cedar Hill Cemetery. He and his family enjoyed our community on May 29th. I was honored to spend time with Colonel Lewis along with Roger and Bev Bitner, Gold Star parents whose son, MSG Benjamin Bitner paid the ultimate sacrifice in Afghanistan. Colonel Lewis visited the Greencastle-Antrim Veteran's Memorial outside of Borough Hall while visiting Greencastle.



Also, in May Jan Shaffer and I attended the Greencastle VFW Voice of Democracy ceremony where high school student authors were awarded for their writings. The VFW auxiliary recognized scholarship recipients. I was honored to join VFW Commander Mike Blank and provide United States Flags to six members of our senior class who are either in or going into military service. One is already on active duty while another is currently in basic training and missed Saturday's graduations. His mother was present at the VFW ceremony to receive the flag in her son's honor.

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life was held on May 19 at Kaley Field and Rescue Hose Company conducted special emergency medical services training for EMS Week.

FIREWORKS DISPLAYS...The Greencastle Police Department will soon place a public news / Facebook announcement regarding the use of display fireworks in the Borough of Greencastle. In high housing density settings, for the most part, it is illegal to set off display fireworks being so close to buildings. The public will receive information regarding the Pennsylvania fireworks display law.

Norfolk Southern train idling was stable in May as trains present for extensive periods had their diesel engines shut down.

A reminder to our motorists that warmer weather brings additional pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorcycle riders to our town. Pedestrians have the right of way in crosswalks. Pedestrians should use our crosswalks and not cross mid-block between intersections. Support our local businesses and shop small.

Submitted by: Ben Thomas, Jr. Mayor