



**MAYOR'S AND POLICE REPORTS TO THE COUNCIL AND  
CITIZENS OF GREENCASTLE  
September 3, 2024**

**POLICE OPERATIONS / ACTIVITIES:** With limited staffing our personnel have been very busy with criminal investigations.

**ACTIVE GRANT APPLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW:** I am hopeful that we soon hear from PA Dept. of Community and Economic Development regarding two grant applications that were submitted last November, 2023. 1. For replacement police vehicles over the next two years; 2. The "Town Hall" downtown park.

**RAINY CONDITIONS / MONITORING FIRE HAZARDS:** I'm thankful for the relatively consistent late summer rain received. Last week, I recorded 2.1 inches of total rainfall. Brush fire calls have been quiet.

**NORFOLK SOUTHERN TRAIN IDLING REPORT:** Citizen Larry Pittman reports two events in August where the locomotives' engines were shut down while stationary.

**FROM THE CHESAPEAKE BAY JOURNAL:** Pennsylvania's legislature has earmarked \$50 million per year to combat water pollution. This funding is in the current 2024/25 Commonwealth budget. \$36 million is earmarked for the Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program; \$6 million for the Clean Water Procurement Program (for nutrient reduction efforts); \$5 million supports the nutrient management fund for agriculture best practices. In 2025, Pennsylvania used \$154 million in covid relief funds for Chesapeake Bay project support.

**ANTRIM TOWNSHIP FOOD PROCESSING RESIDUAL ORDINANCE.** Township supervisors continue to move forward with a DRAFT FPR ordinance and have hired special counsel to author the document. I have requested, and the Township has cooperated, in looking at a no FPR application zone around springs (and wells). Our wonderful public water system is generated by four springs in the area along with reserve wells.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the Rescue Hose Company who recently passed a tri-annual Pa. Emergency Health Services Federation inspection of EMS vehicles and station for the Pa. Dept. of Health. The inspection realized ZERO deficiencies and have been granted licensure extension for another three years.

I am honored to represent Greencastle working with our law enforcement personnel and partners daily, attending many public events, new business ribbon cuttings, and talk to

our local merchants in Greencastle. On August 12, I attended the 12<sup>th</sup> annual car show hosted by the VFW post at the Blue Heron Events Center. On the 16<sup>th</sup> I attended the first year of new ownership ribbon cutting at Carl's Drug Store, now in its 199<sup>th</sup> year of serving our citizens. On August 21, I spoke at Heritage Retirement Center. The topic was "the history books of Greencastle-Antrim." The first day of school was August 22 with Greencastle Police offering a patrol presence around our school campus.

*Greencastle, Pennsylvania's 9/11 Weekend of Unity*  
*September 7 and 8, 2024*  
***PATRIOT'S DAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024 (Wednesday)***

If you are of a certain age we remember that day...where we were...our thoughts, concerns, and the sacrifices made that day and in the past 20 years. "Never Forget!" Greencastle remembers September 11, 2001 when this great Nation was attacked in New York City, the Pentagon, and in rural Somerset County, Pennsylvania at Shanksville. The attacks occurred at 8:46 A.M.; 9:03 A.M.; 9:37 A.M.; and 10:03 A.M. 2,996 civilians, firefighters, EMS personnel, police officers, and military personnel died that day. Thousands were injured with many more paying the ultimate sacrifice in our military and from illnesses caused by the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks. The physical and mental trauma continues today.

**ACTIVITIES:**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7: 9/11 WALK:** Consider joining the Mayor, and members of the Rescue Hose Company of Greencastle, PA at 8:30 A.M. for a walk from Eastern Avenue to Baltimore Street simulating the 110 floors (2,071 steps) of the World Trade Center that firefighters, police officers, EMS providers, and civilians climbed and descended to saving many citizens that morning. The walk will proceed west to Center Square then continue to N. Washington Street (Veteran's Monument and Memorial) at the Greencastle Police Headquarters (60 N. Washington Street) where a moment of silence and remembrance will be held (approximately 9:00 A.M.) for **A GATHERING; NEVER FORGET; WE REMEMBER** with prayer offered to culminate the 9/11 WALK.

**ENCOURAGE A WEEKEND OF UNITY AND GOOD DEEDS:** Citizens and groups are encouraged to help neighbors, family members, and those in need this weekend with a good deed by helping around their homes and properties or just by visiting showing love and support.

**CHURCHES ENCOURAGED TO HOLD SERVICES COMMEMORATING THE SACRIFICES MADE ON 9/11 AND BEYOND:** Ministers and congregations are encouraged to include 9/11 reflections during their weekend services.

**ACTIVE ITEMS:**

- Downtown parking inventory, new systems, private owner partnerships and directional signage for parking
- Recommendation for "parking with arrow" signs downtown subject to agreements with private property (lot) owners.
- Downtown truck traffic (letter authorized to PennDot requesting local truck traffic on Baltimore Street); Denied by PennDot

Respectfully submitted, *Ben Thomas, Jr. Mayor*