



MAYOR'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL AND CITIZENS OF GREENCASTLE

April 7, 2025

GABSA SEASON HAS BEGUN: This past Saturday (April 5) was a banner, celebratory day at the G-A Baseball Softball Assn. **OPENING DAY** at Clary Field for many baseball, softball, and t-ball teams. "PLAY BALL" was sounded for the 2025 season. A special thank-you to the many volunteers and sponsors that support our youth, our future, here in Greencastle.

GREENCASTLE VOTED BEST NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE TRI-STATE: On Friday, March 28, I was joined by G-A Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Kylie Belle Moore as we accepted Verstandig Media's Best of the Tristate for the **BEST NEIGHBORHOOD – GREENCASTLE!** I submit the Certificate to Borough Manager Emilee Little so we may display in the Borough Office.

VIETNAM VETERANS RECOGNIZED: On March 29, the American Legion Post 373 held their 2025 National Vietnam War Commemoration ceremony recognizing veterans who served during the Vietnam War. Several Vietnam Veterans were present receiving their service pins and sharing very touching stories of their service. Pensinger Road was the home of the United States Army's Site A used first as a communications center and in 1968 was the 357th Transportation Corp with HUEY helicopters deployed to Vietnam. Special recognition was given to the "dust off" pilots who saved many lives with their medical evacuation skills in very hostile situations.

CARL'S DRUG STORE PROCLAMATION: WOW! This month, our own Carl's Drug Store is celebrating their 200th year in business. Carl's has been at three locations over the centuries following its founding April 27, 1825. The oldest continually operated drug store in the United States was recently honored in the **CONGRESSIONAL RECORD** as submitted by Congressman John Joyce, M.D. A Mayoral Citation will be initiated on the anniversary date and I will ask Council President Larry Faight to co-sign this citation. **CONGRATULATIONS,** Dr. Wayne Myers, Carl's Drug Store owner, and past owner Frank Ervin and your staff members.

ANTRIM TOWNSHIP FPR DRAFT ORDINANCE: I appreciate the Township Supervisors considering "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF ANTRIM TOWNSHIP, PART II ("GENERAL LEGISLATION") TO ADD NEW CHAPTER 70 ("FOOD PROCESSING RESIDUAL APPLICATION AND STORAGE") TO IMPLEMENT REGULATIONS FOR LAND APPLICATION AND STORAGE OF FOOD PROCESSING RESIDUAL CONSISTENT WITH RULES AND REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL

PROTECTION.” The DRAFT document requires minimum distances from our public water wells (300’) and springs (1,000’) based on information received from Greencastle.

FRANKLIN COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES ALLIANCE: Last Friday, I accompanied our EMA Coordinator, Kevin Creager and Fire Chief Kevin Barnes. Many emergency services updates were provided. The Alliance recently held a seminar regarding Pa. Law for the small games of chance and skills games. Very concerning is the limitations placed on our emergency services volunteers for current and future fund-raising activities. The Franklin County Junior Fire Academy will be held June 27, 28, and 29 for volunteers ages 14-17. Hours are limited due to PA child labor and worker’s compensation regulations.

NORFOLK SOUTHERN TRAIN IDLING: Citizen Larry Pittman advises there was limited known train activity near the Jerome R. King Playground in March.

Respectfully submitted, *Ben Thomas, Jr.* – Mayor