



MAYOR'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL AND CITIZENS OF GREENCASTLE July 7, 2025

MAYOR'S COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: June was certainly a busy month in Greencastle starting with the Operation God Bless America motorcycle ride on June 1. I attended the annual Pa. State Assn. of Borough's conference in Hershey at the beginning of the month. I brought back some great information that I will share with Borough Manager Emilee Little. The end of the school year saw a wonderful graduation on June 7, with our congratulations to the GAHS Class of 2025. I attended with the family of the late Chief, Keith Russell, who had two seniors graduating. On Flag Day, June 14, the Greencastle VFW conducted a thank-you breakfast for Army veterans commemorating the 250th anniversary of the United States Army. The following Saturday, June 21, the American Legion SONS and Auxiliary held a veterans' appreciation day at the Legion's picnic grounds along with a flag retirement ceremony by Scout Troop 99 and Pack 13.

Congratulations to the GAHS girls' softball team for finishing number two in the Commonwealth after playing at Penn State University in the PIA Class 5A championship game on June 13. Also, congratulations to our boy's little league teams, ages 8 to 10; and 11 to 12 for your PA District 14 wins. You are all champions.

The 58th annual G-A Sidewalk Days and the 42nd triennial Old Home Week are just around the corner. Thanks to our staff, the police department, and Antrim Township along with the 50 plus committees for your time and dedication. Motorists...please use extra caution during these wonderful events. Property owners, please mitigate those weeds around your property. We can police every square foot of weeds, so we really appreciate the many owners that are responsible.

WELCOME, LOCAL ROOTS BOOKS, PLANTS, AND GIFTS on E. Baltimore Street. Best wishes to Greencastle Tags and Title business who moved to a much larger facility in Antrim Township. We'll miss you. A new business will open at this location in a few months. Congratulations to Bean N' Biscuit for your fifth anniversary along with Scoops Ice Cream on your first anniversary, both in downtown Greencastle.

As a follow up to Council's April, 2025 meeting, I authored a letter to PennDot in June requesting permitted WIDE LOADS be redirected away from Baltimore Street (downtown) and stay on Route 11 from I-81 at interchanges 3 and 10. We'll see what the response will be.

A special thanks for the tree removal in the southwest section of W. Baltimore Street near Center Square. A remarkable site distance improvement is noticed when I take my

daily walks or bike rides. I again urge Council to review two of the three limited parking stalls in the area on the south side of West Baltimore Street.

View looking west at Center Square with the tree removed...



NORFOLK SOUTHERN TRAIN IDLING: Citizen Larry Pittman advises Norfolk Southern trains are behaving themselves by shutting down the diesel engines and occasionally pulling further north away from the residential area of W. Madison Street.

Following the third graders' tour of the magisterial district judge's office, a mock arrest by Greencastle police, and a preliminary hearing, class members presented me with thank-you papers. One wrote, *"Thank-you for speaking to our class at the District Court. I learned that it is very important to make good choices to be a good citizen of Greencastle. Thank-you for keeping our town of Greencastle safe."*

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Thomas, Jr. -- Mayor