



MAYOR'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL AND CITIZENS OF GREENCASTLE February 2, 2026

Community activities: I receive a lot of comments regarding Echo Pilot stories and receive a lot of public feedback. I enjoyed teaching newly elected officials from south-central and south-eastern Pennsylvania over the past several weeks on behalf of the PA State Assn. of Boroughs. I was pleased to attend Marie Louise Gingrich's 100th birthday party on January 10 and present her with a Greencastle Centenarian Citation. On January 14 I lectured in the 2026 Franklin County Leadership class in the Franklin County Commissioner's office meeting room. I was honored to administer the oath to Rescue Hose Company administrative, fire, EMS, and fire-police officers on January 13. The Department responded to 2,709 calls for assistance in 2025 including assisting Greencastle Police at numerous events including Sidewalk Days, Old Home Week, Heritage Christmas, and emergency calls.

MAYOR'S ACTION REGARDING ORDINANCE 2026-001: I have returned this Ordinance, unsigned, to the Borough Secretary as I previously voiced my objection to SECTION 4, A. (3) that indicates a subsequent offense for parking at \$100 (fine) for each two-hour period. The ordinance goes into effect after 10 days of this action in accordance with Title 8 of the Pennsylvania Borough Code. As it appears that this ordinance is directed at one business it wouldn't have cost the taxpayers to simply communicate the Borough's concerns and request compliance with the parking restriction. The DRAFT ordinance was explained to me at your December, 2025 meeting which solidified my objection.

CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION NEWS: In December, 2025 leaders from various states that make up the Chesapeake Bay Leadership Council met and elected PA Governor Josh Shappero to lead the group. They reworked the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement and extended the deadline for clean up goals to 2040. Will this affect the Pennsylvania MS-4 program? All states involved will continue their cleanup efforts through 2030, when new computer modeling is expected to be ready for use. The new modeling will reassess how much work is needed to meet the total maximum daily loads (TMDL) of nutrient and sediment runoff known as the pollution diet of the Bay.

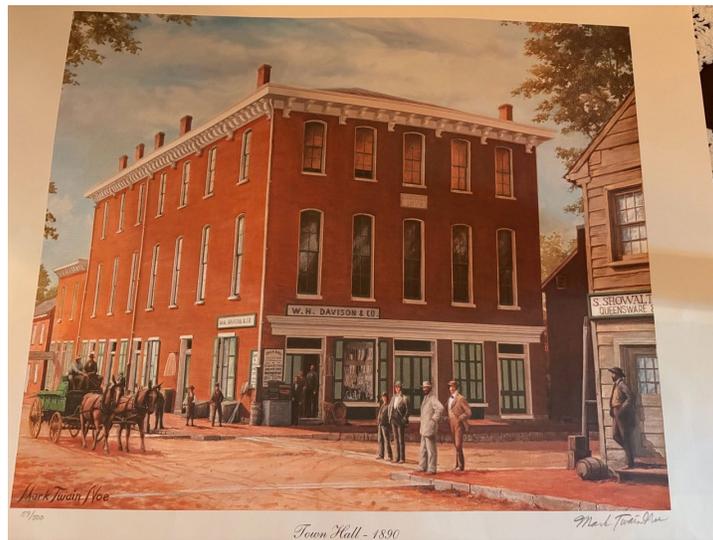
AMERICA (G-A) 250 COMMEMORATION: I have been requested to spearhead a commemorative ceremony for this significant event, most likely, sponsored by non-profit organizations here. Antrim Township is also hosting a meeting later this week to discuss celebratory activities.

NORFOLK SOUTHERN TRAIN IDLING: Citizen Larry Pittman advises Norfolk Southern trains were again fairly quiet for the month of January. Again, nothing new regarding N/S selling off to Union Pacific Railroad.

MAYOR'S TASK FORCE TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF DOWNTOWN PASS THRU TRUCK TRAFFIC TO AND FROM I-81 EXIT 5: High School students documented truck traffic flow over the holiday period. I am reviewing their findings. Additional truck traffic reductions will only occur if PennDot authorizes large signage, as we have requested, at 11 and 16 and along I-81 in southern Franklin County.

SHOP SMALL FEBRUARY! Let's continue to support our locally owned businesses in February and be sure to watch those icy spots on sidewalks when this snow begins to melt.

Reference the next wall façade work at Town Hall Plaza, I have offered my written thoughts to the Plaza work group.



Thank you to all public works employees, our street, water, and sewer operations; along with our first responders that were very busy during the recent snow event.

CUMBERLAND FRANKLIN COUNTIES BOROUGH'S ASSN.: Reminder of your invitation forwarded recently by Emilee. We are meeting on February 24 for supper here at B-Street 104. Pennsylvania Legislative updates will be reviewed.

Repeat comments. SUGGESTION TO COUNCIL IN 2026: At the Franklin County Municipal Breakfast, Antrim Township announced they have some 1500 additional building lots on the books, primarily accessing Williamsport Pike and Williamson Road, both with limited access. The Inch & Company website is advertising some 198 apartments "in Greencastle" that will intersect with E. Baltimore Street east of Spring Grove Avenue. Most of the planned residential development will be high density as water and sewer service will serve these communities. This has a greater impact on our roads, schools, emergency services, and property maintenance with more and more absentee owners of real estate.

Council members, we must work with Antrim Township and the Franklin County Planning Commission to update our 15-year-old regional Comprehensive Plan and, at the very least, update our future transportation planning that we could do “in house.” Without the support of Franklin County Planning Commission, and our Franklin County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), we cannot get future projects on PennDot’s “12-year plan.” The most recent plan was adopted by the MPO in 2024. We need a seat at the table for our future transportation needs.

By: *Ben Thomas, Jr. - Mayor*