

# Mt. Gretna Campmeeting News



*Keep close to Nature's heart...  
and break clear away, once in awhile,  
and climb a mountain or spend a week  
in the woods. Wash your spirit clean.*

**John Muir**

## **Property Ownership Committee Update**

Please join me in welcoming a Member to the Campmeeting. Please introduce yourselves and share what you love about our community.

- Charity Lorenzen, the new owner of 105 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

## **MGCA Members Approve Bylaw Changes at Special Meeting**

At a Special Meeting of the Mount Gretna Campmeeting Association held on May 21, Members voted to approve the proposed changes to the MGCA Bylaws. A total of 119 Members voted at the Special Meeting – 86 Members voted in support of the proposed changes, 33 Members voted not to support the changes. A  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority of Members attending the Special Meeting, or 80 votes, was required for approval of the changes.

The revised Bylaws have been posted to the MGCA website and are available at this link:  
<http://mtgretnacampmeeting.com/Files/OfficialPublications/202405CharterBylawsBooklet.pdf>.

The Board of Managers understands that the revised Bylaws changes will necessitate some policy changes, and we are working on that language. We are committed to completing these policy changes and making sure you see them in a timely fashion. For now, we ask that you please bear with us. Our goal is to complete this process promptly and ensure you are informed of the new policies through a series of upcoming emails.

We appreciate your patience as we work on these important updates and are committed to providing ample time to address any questions you may have.

21st ANNUAL  
**2024 HERITAGE  
FESTIVAL**

PAY-WHAT-YOU-WANT  
FAMILY FRIENDLY –  
SMOKE & ALCOHOL FREE

**ALL START TIMES ARE  
7:30 P.M.**

**SAT., JUNE 8 – COMMON VINE**

**SAT., JUNE 15 – HARRISBURG  
MANDOLIN ENSEMBLE**

**SAT., JUNE 22 – BLUESTONE**

**SAT., JUNE 29 – SERENE GREEN**

**FRI., JULY 5 – BASIL & GENE**

**SAT., JULY 6 – THE PERSEVERANCE  
BAND**

**FRI., JULY 25 – PERRIN & STEINWAY**

**SAT., AUGUST 17 – THE YOUNGERS**

**FRI., AUGUST 30 – GALBRAITH,  
BRIODY & FRIENDS**

**SAT., SEPTEMBER 7 – WOLFEPACK**

**SAT., SEPTEMBER 14 – HAMMER CREEK  
BLUEGRASS BAND**

**SAT., SEPTEMBER 21 – COLEBROOK  
ROAD**

**FREE PARKING AT THE  
KAUFMANN LOT (GRAVEL LOT  
ADJACENT TO THE MT. GRETTA  
FIRE COMPANY, ALONG ROUTE  
117, AND IN THE MT. GRETTA  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
PARKING LOT (WHEN NOT IN  
USE BY THE CHURCH)**

**For more info:  
OFFICE@MTGRETTACAMPMEETING.ORG**



## Required EPA Water Line Survey

We need your help in gathering information on the “Water Service Line” (WSL) that feeds potable water from the main waterline in the street and delivers it to your cottage. Every cottage in Campmeeting has a WSL. A survey is being mailed to all cottage owners in early June – please look for it and complete it!

## Hydrate, Hydrate - and Donate!

If you’ve spent any time in “The Camp” lately, you know summer is coming. In fact, we’ve already had a few days with an abundance of heat and humidity. The mantra “hydrate, hydrate, hydrate” is something all our Members need to remember, but take a moment to think of the men and women of the Mt. Gretna Fire Company. They use bottled water when out on calls and it’s used at the station after the team returns from calls.

So, the next time you're at the grocery, Costco or Wal-Mart, pick up an extra cellophane-wrapped package of 24, 36, or more(!) bottles of water for the Fire Company. Packs of water can be left at the door to the rear of the building by the crew parking area if no one is there.

It’s a simple thing, but it will mean so much!

## Notes from Nate

### By Nate Godfrey, Superintendent

#### Spring Leaf Pickup Ending

As a reminder, the spring leaf pickup has concluded and won’t begin again until autumn. This spring, we often had the problem of what you might call “pile integrity”. Piles of leaves often included stone/rock, decomposing hummus (leaves, dirt, etc.), and sticks. If you are using a contractor to gather leaves on your property, it is important that they understand that only leaves and pine cones can be in the leaf pile. Ultimately it is the responsibility of the homeowner to ensure that piles put out for MGCA pickup comply with our posted standards. Leaves in one pile...sticks in another. Our machine gets clogged constantly, or damaged when anything else but leaves and pinecones are present. Stick pickup continues throughout the year.



*Submitted by Kevin C. Wells*

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Street Reversal

The Building and Grounds Committee has been monitoring and thinking about ways to mitigate the unsafe exit from the one-way 8<sup>th</sup> Street onto Route 117. When cars are parked along 117, a safe entry onto 117 from 8<sup>th</sup> street is nearly impossible because of the lack of visibility. After evaluating this problem and possible solutions, we have decided on a course of action. **Beginning, Wednesday, June 5, 8<sup>th</sup> Street’s one-way direction will be reversed.** Instead of the flow of traffic being from South to North (Boehm to 117), it will be one-way from North to South (117 to Boehm). This will result in no loss of parking along 117, while providing safe entry from 117 onto 8<sup>th</sup> street.

#### Dumpster Reminders

Please familiarize yourself with the dumpster rules. As the summer season begins, and people are returning, we are once again seeing items being thrown in the dumpster that are prohibited. Only Campmeeting residents and renters of a Campmeeting cottage are authorized to dispose of trash in our dumpsters. Please help us police and regulate this, so we can continue to have this service available to us.

## Historic Pump Painting Volunteers

Volunteers wanted! We are seeking volunteers who would like to contribute to the cosmetic renovation of our historic hand pump and pump gazebos. We have three retired, historic hand pumps in Campmeeting that badly need a new coat of paint. If you would like to lend a hand to help prepare and/or paint these, please contact the MGCA Office.

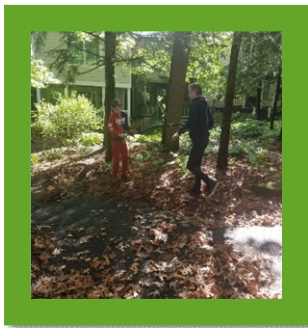
## Bonfire in July

Heads up! Sometime in July we will have a summer campfire event (much like our winter bonfire event, without the bonfire) to roast marshmallows, hotdogs and perhaps tell a summer story or two. We will let you know the date as soon as it's finalized.

## Happy Hour at the Pavilion

Join me in our first ever Happy Hour Hangout at the Heritage Park Pavilion on Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup> from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The weekend draws neigh, the work is done (mostly), and we are happy! This is a deliberate time to socialize, enjoy the summer at our own Campmeeting pavilion, and hang out in community with each other. Let the weekend begin! BYOB (some drinks will be available at cost).

## Tabernacle Receives Spring Cleaning



*Submitted by Ted Martin*

This past spring, the Tabernacle received a new roof, thanks to the generosity of many community members. On May 18, a much-needed "Spring Cleaning" took place. A heartfelt thank you to Kay and Tom Heberling for organizing the event. Volunteers cleaned benches, the stage, and windows, picked up sticks around the Tabernacle, and spruced up the Violet Cassel room in preparation for summer. We extend our gratitude to all the volunteers for their invaluable gift of time and energy, which the community deeply appreciates.

## Matthews Avenue Permaculture Project Update

In the third and final year of the Matthews Avenue permaculture project, significant progress has been made. Under the diligent oversight of Jay Noble, Executive Director of the Mount Gretna School of Art, and with the dedicated efforts of the Art School students, we have reached a crucial phase in the development of this sustainable landscaping initiative.

### Project Recap and Progress

The permaculture project, initiated in 2022, focuses on the installation of succession seed mixes, designed to minimize maintenance costs and foster a natural, self-sustaining ecosystem. Here's a summary of the three-year plan:

- Year One (2022): We planted a diverse mix of native seeds along with a winter cover crop. The cover crop rapidly stabilized the soil and conditioned the area, dying back as native grasses and plants began to dominate.
- Year Two (2023): Native grasses and plants established themselves, with slow-growing woody species starting to emerge.
- Year Three (2024): Woody species are now beginning to rise above the native grasses, solidifying the area. These species will mature to form a robust, self-sustaining landscape.

### Current Focus

As we progress through this third year, it's critical to protect the area from trampling. The young woody species, still vulnerable, need time to mature. To prevent damage, we recommend keeping the protective fence and signs in place for an additional year.

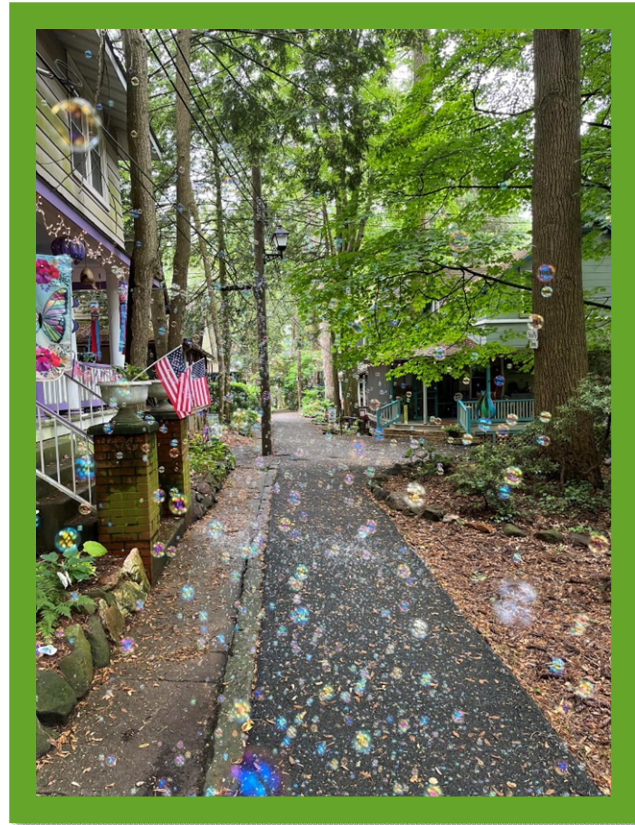


### Future Plans

This fall, Jay will conduct a thorough inventory to identify any gaps in the planting. While nature typically requires minimal intervention, a bit of follow-up ensures the success of our project. Art School students will continue to weed the area during the summer, and occasional walkthroughs will be conducted to clear debris.

The Matthews Avenue permaculture project stands as a testament to the benefits of sustainable landscaping, providing long-term environmental and economic advantages. We look forward to seeing the full establishment of the woody species over the coming months.

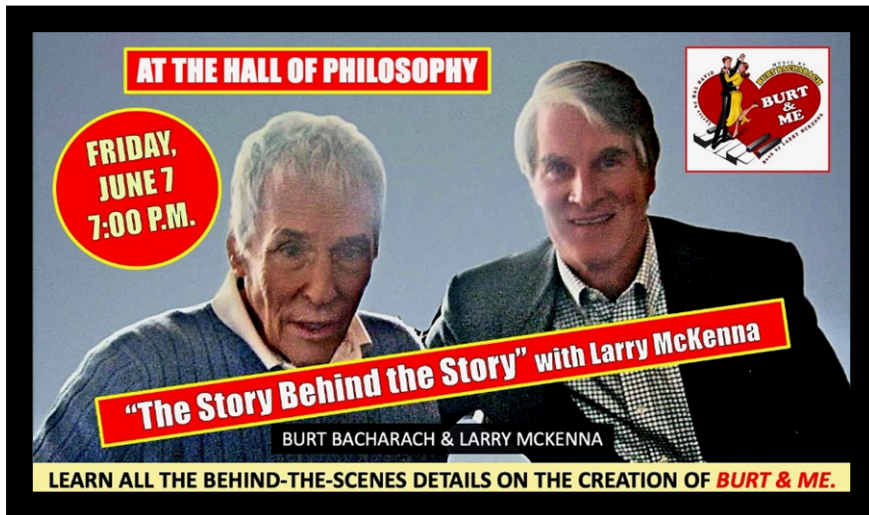
For further information or to support the ongoing efforts, please contact Jay Noble at [jnoble@mgsoa.org](mailto:jnoble@mgsoa.org) or visit the Art School website at [www.mgsoa.org](http://www.mgsoa.org).



*Submitted by Kevin C. Wells*

## Larry McKenna Presents Burt & Me Behind-the-Scenes

Join us on Friday, June 7, at 7:00 p.m. in the Hall of Philosophy as Larry McKenna shares the fascinating tale of how his popular romantic comedy, Burt & Me, came to life. In “The Story Behind the Story,” Larry will reveal the details of his collaboration with Burt Bacharach and provide an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at the creation of the show.



Don't miss Gretna Theatre's production of Burt & Me from June 20 to June 29. The play follows Joe and Lacey, high school sweethearts who reunite years later, with Joe devising a plan to win Lacey back with the help of Burt Bacharach. The musical features songs by Burt Bacharach and Hal David, with a book by Larry McKenna. For tickets, contact Gretna Theatre at 717-964-3627 or visit [www.gretnatheatre.org](http://www.gretnatheatre.org).

## A Message from our Neighbors in Chautauqua

Reconnect with old friends and meet new ones as our neighbors across Pinch Road revive a beloved Gretna tradition. No cost and no singing ability required. Please RSVP to Chris Kiehne at [eck2eck3@aol.com](mailto:eck2eck3@aol.com) to help with planning.

**2024**  
LEBANON VALLEY  
YEAR OF THE  
**ARTS**



SAVE THE DATE

# CAMP MEETING ANNUAL PICNIC

June 29, 2024 at Heritage Park

Time: 12:30-3:30

Rain date: July 6, 2024

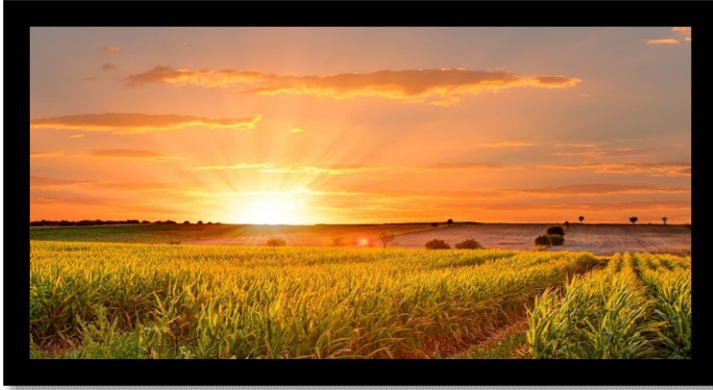
Meatball subs will be provided

Please bring your favorite dish to share

Please bring your own utensils and plate



## Embracing the Dawn of Summer



The summer solstice, occurring annually between June 20 and June 22 in the Northern Hemisphere, marks the first day of summer when the sun reaches its highest point in the sky. This event has been revered since ancient times as a symbol of light triumphing over darkness and the peak of nature's exuberance.

In modern times we continue to celebrate this day as a moment to embrace the beauty of blooming flowers, lush landscapes, and the melodies of birds. It signifies a fresh

beginning, inviting us to embark on new adventures, forge deeper connections, and enjoy the simple joys of summer.

As we welcome the summer solstice, let's radiate love, kindness, and compassion, celebrating the abundant blessings of the season.



## Time is Ticking: Don't Miss the Deadline for MGCA 2024 General Assessment Payment

Invoices for the MGCA 2024 General Assessment were sent to all Members in 2023. As the payment deadline approaches, we would like to highlight some essential information regarding the payment process. The full amount of the assessment is due by June 30, 2024.

We kindly request that you submit your payment on or before this date to ensure timely processing. Please be aware that any outstanding balances after June 30, 2024, will be subject to interest charges. We understand that unforeseen circumstances can arise, leading to delays in payment. However, we must emphasize that overdue accounts will be subject to a 15% penalty. To avoid any unnecessary fees, we urge you to settle your outstanding balance promptly.

Members who are experiencing financial hardship can reach out to the MGCA office to discuss alternative payment plans. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis and are not guaranteed. This decision will be made by the Finance Committee and the Member's identity will remain

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding your invoice or payment options, please do not hesitate to reach out to the MGCA Office. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Your cooperation and timely payment are greatly appreciated, as they enable us to continue sustaining our vibrant community.

## Our Community Garden Supports Pollinators...so can you!

**By Pat Wilmsen**

When you think about pollinators, I bet you think about bees. However, birds, moths, butterflies, wasps, and bats are all also pollinators in our area.

Nearly every patch of green space can help sustain pollinators with nectar and pollen to eat. Why not tend a patch yourself? You don't need a large plot of land. If you don't have a backyard, a balcony will do. Just plant a pot of coneflowers or bee balm, both are native to Pennsylvania.



To attract a variety of pollinators, include a selection of plants native to Pennsylvania. To thrive, pollinators need a variety of nectar and pollen sources. Check field guides to find out which plants local caterpillars eat. Search online to [find pollinator-friendly plants for your area](#). Contact your local or state native plant society for help. Your [local agricultural extension service](#) is also a good resource. Other resources for native plants include finding your local native plant supplier or a resident horticulturalist to answer questions.

Another way to help our local pollinators is to put up a bee house like the one pictured here. You also can see one in person in the Community Garden.

Providing water for pollinators is also important. Place marbles or rocks in a small dish or cup, then add water. Place the cups/dishes around your yard. The pollinators will be able to stand on these while getting a drink without drowning.

Take a stroll through the Community Garden to see how we are working to support our pollinators. A lot of the plants that may look a little shaggy are actually great pollinators such as the milkweed. In addition, you'll find many other native plants like bee balm, coneflowers, St. John's wort, Joe Pye weed, etc. Enjoy the Community Garden—the birds, the bees and the butterflies certainly do!



## Join Us in Celebrating World Environment Day

World Environment Day, established by the United Nations in 1972, is a global celebration dedicated to honoring the beauty and resilience of our planet. This day unites people from all corners of the globe, inspiring year-round action and awareness to protect our shared home.



World Environment Day transcends borders, bringing together diverse voices to promote sustainability, conservation, and environmental justice. It serves as a reminder that every small act of kindness towards the environment can create waves of positive change.

Join us in celebrating World Environment Day by rethinking our choices, embracing renewable energy, and protecting our ecosystems. Together, we can create a legacy of harmony and sustainability for generations to come.

## Summer Stories

Don't forget there are two thought-provoking book reviews coming up in June. We're hosting summer book reviews on both June 3 and June 17 at the Mt. Gretna Community Library beginning at 7 p.m.

On June 3, Marcie Lloyd will host a discussion on Amy Sarig King's *Attack of the Black Rectangles*, the story of a sixth-grader confronting school censorship. Its multi-level text explores the concept of censorship, difficult truths, the agency of youth and the importance of having grace in certain circumstances.

On June 17, Margaret Hopkins will lead the group in discussing *Crossings, How Road Ecology is Shaping the Future of Our Planet* by Ben Goldfarb. In *Crossings*, environmental journalist Goldfarb explores the negative impact of roads on our planet and how road ecology can help mitigate the damage.

We hope you can join us for one, or both, of the reviews!

## Courteous Reminder

While Facebook effectively reaches a segment of Mt. Gretna/Campmeeting residents, it is not monitored by MGCA staff or Board Members. For questions or concerns, please contact the Office at 717-964-3040 or email [Office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org](mailto:Office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org).



## Mount Gretna Art Show – Complimentary Tickets

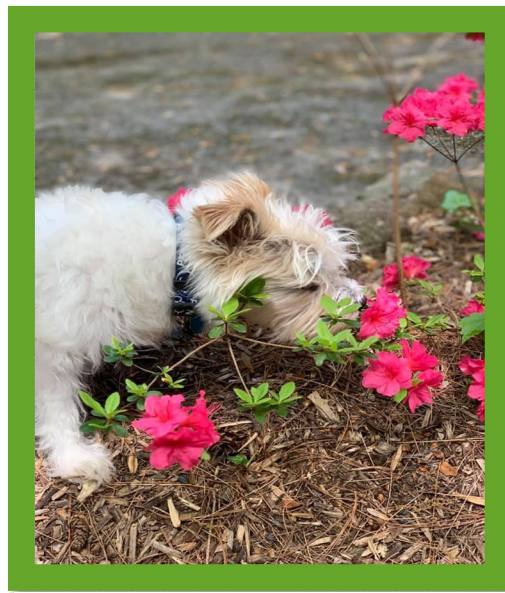
The 50<sup>th</sup> Mount Gretna Art Show will be held August 17 and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024. As usual, the show will be open from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Two complimentary Art Show admission tickets are being mailed to you with the Water Service Line Inventory mentioned previously in the Newsletter. The MGCA does not have additional tickets available for sale to Members; however, tickets can be purchased at the entry gates on the days of the show.

## Happening in our Community

Members are reminded that a new comprehensive community calendar has been created by the Mt. Gretna Arts Council. The calendar can be accessed at <https://www.mtgretna.org/home>.

Members can choose to “subscribe” to the Community Calendar and events will be copied to their personal computer, iPhone, Google, Outlook or other electronic calendar. Subscribers can also choose to have the events updated on their personal calendars as changes and additions are made to the Community Calendar.

*And the final photograph for our June photo album...*



*Submitted by Kevin C. Wells*

## Are You Connected to News & Info in Campmeeting?

 <p>On Facebook</p>	 <p>Mount Gretna Campmeeting – Click on Subscribe</p>
<p><b>Community Calendar</b> <a href="https://www.mtgretna.org/home">https://www.mtgretna.org/home</a></p>	
 <p>Send your email address updates to: Office@Mt GretnaCampmeeting.org</p>	 <p>Please visit and bookmark: mtgretnacampmeeting.com</p>