

Mt. Gretna Campmeeting News



Photographed by Wendy Hirsch

July Property Ownership Committee Update

Submitted by Committee Chair, Kevin Burd

New Campmeeting Members

Please join us in welcoming new Members to the Campmeeting. Please introduce yourselves and share what you love about our community with the new owners of the following cottages:

- 302 Sixth Street
- 403 Boehm Avenue
- 505 Seventh Street
- 508 Fifth Street

Short-Term Rental Permits

Regarding short-term rental permits, of the 72 short-term rental permits available, as outlined in Rule 20 and the associated policy, 42 permits are currently granted in the community.

Short-term rental permit holders are reminded that West Cornwall Township (WCT) has created zoning ordinances regarding short-term rental units. It is your responsibility to comply with WCT permit requirements.

Cottage Resale Certificate

A Resale Certificate is required for all cottage sales/transfers. This ensures that the Bylaws and Rules & Regulations are given to the buyer, and that the buyer agrees that they are reviewed. This removes the risk from the Campmeeting and its volunteers. New Member Orientation meetings will be encouraged but no longer required.

Please contact us at homerentals@mtgretnacampmeeting.org if you have any questions

A Message from The Nominating Committee

This fall, three Managers will be elected or reelected to serve a three-year term beginning in January 2026. If you wish to serve, please submit your name, address, photo, and a brief biography (75 words or less) to the MGCA office by 9 p.m. on Sunday, August 31, 2025. Submissions can be sent via email to Office@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org, by dropping it off in the Campmeeting drop box at the office, or by USPS mail to MGCA, P.O. Box 428, Mt. Gretna, PA 17064. This information will be included in the September Newsletter.

For all members: A ballot will be mailed to the address on file for each Voting Member the first week of September, and must be returned by 5 p.m. on Thursday, October 16, 2025.

Thank you for your commitment to our community!

Kicking Off A Joyful Season of Music and Community

By Kevin C. Wells

As the summer season begins to bloom in Mount Gretna, the Heritage Festival has once again come to life — thanks in large part to the incredible spirit of volunteerism that sets our community apart. The first three concerts of the season were a celebration of Pennsylvania talent and symbolic of what can happen when neighbors collaborate, pitch in, and share in something meaningful.

We extend heartfelt gratitude to the many volunteers who help to bring the entire season to life. Special thanks to Nate Godfrey, Chair of the Community Activities Committee. Deep appreciation goes to Pat Wilmsen, President of the MGCA, and Kevin Burd, MGCA Treasurer, for their ongoing support and hands-on help.

We are also grateful to Dermot Somers and to Bill & Joy Linton for their continued commitment — and of course to Pat Brosious and her merry band of bucket brigaders, who make every concert feel festive while keeping the Heritage Festival running on audience generosity.

The Heritage Festival was founded to celebrate live, local music in an atmosphere as welcoming as our beloved Campmeeting itself. What began as a modest concert series has grown into a summertime staple, drawing audiences from across the region to experience some of Pennsylvania's most talented musicians — all under the shade of Campmeeting's iconic trees.

We have several more entertaining concerts this season, and we invite everyone to come out and enjoy them. Each performance is Pay-What-You-Want, making live music accessible to all. Audience donations — no matter how small — are the sole funding source for the Heritage Festival, and every dollar helps ensure we can keep the music playing for years to come.

We hope to continue the Heritage Festival tradition for decades ahead. But we cannot do that without the ongoing support of our volunteers, our community, and the people who come out to enjoy the music. So to all of you who step up, cheer on, pitch in, and pass the bucket — THANK YOU. You are the heartbeat of the Heritage Festival. Let the music play on!

HERITAGE FESTIVAL 2025			SUMMER 2025	FREE PARKING AT THE KAUFFMAN LOT (GRAVEL LOT ADJACENT TO THE MT. GRETTNA FIRE COMPANY), ALONG RTE. 117, AND IN THE MT. GRETTNA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PARKING LOT (WHEN NOT IN USE BY THE CHURCH)
PAY-WHAT-YOU-WANT - NO TICKETS REQUIRED				
SAT., JUNE 14 - THE YOUNGERS SAT., JUNE 21 - SO WHAT! SAT., JUNE 28 - GALBRAITH, BRIODY & FRIENDS SAT., JULY 5 - COMMON VINE FRI., JULY 11 - BASIL & GENE FRI., JULY 18 - CROSSING ABBEY ROAD: A BEATLES COVER BAND	SAT., AUGUST 2 - PERRIN & STEINWAY SAT., AUGUST 9 - COLEBROOK ROAD SAT., AUGUST 16 - WOOD FLOWER BLUEGRASS SAT., SEPTEMBER 6 - HAMMER CREEK BLUEGRASS SAT., SEPTEMBER 13 - THE PERSEVERANCE BAND			
 THE TABERNACLE	 203 THIRD STREET - MT. GRETTNA	FAMILY FRIENDLY - SMOKE & ALCOHOL FREE		
QUESTIONS? CALL 717-964-3040 OR EMAIL OFFICE@MTGRETTNACAMPMEETING.ORG				

Don't forget...

Art Show Ticket Distribution

The Mt. Gretna Arts Council is providing **two complimentary tickets** to the 2025 Mt. Gretna Art Show (August 16–17) to each Campmeeting household. There are four ways to get your tickets:

- Tickets may be picked up **weekday mornings between 9 a.m. and noon** at the MGCA Office. If you're making a special trip, please call ahead (717-964-3040) to ensure the Office Manager is available.
- Ask a neighbor to pick up your tickets during the hours specified above. Your neighbor will be asked to sign that they've picked up your tickets.
- You may request your tickets by mail. Simply send a **self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE)** along with a note requesting your tickets to: MGCA Office, P.O. Box 428, Mt. Gretna, PA 17064.
- You may drop off your SASE and a note requesting your tickets in the **Campmeeting Office mailbox** located at the bottom of the steps on the **north-east side of the building housing Mt. Gretna Pizzeria.**



No Fireworks in the Campmeeting

With its closely spaced wooden buildings, fire has always been a great threat and concern in the Campmeeting. And while the use of “consumer-grade” fireworks such as firecrackers, Roman candles, and bottle rockets is legal in PA, their use is subject to restrictions, which include:

- They cannot be ignited or discharged on public or private property without expressed permission of the property owner.
- They cannot be discharged within 150 feet of an occupied structure.
- They cannot be discharged toward a motor vehicle or building.

The MGCA has NOT granted permission for use of fireworks on Campmeeting streets and other Common Property. That combined with the other restrictions effectively preclude their use in our community.

Nature-Themed Programs to Inspire Environmental Stewardship

10 a.m., Monday, July 21 – “Good Bugs, Bad Bugs!” Explore our six-legged neighbors with Dr. Chris Riley, entomologist. Learn about the critters you might encounter in your backyard!

10 a.m., Tuesday, July 22 – “Homegrown National Park” Doug Tallamy speaks on a national challenge to create diverse ecosystems and save critical wildlife in our yards, farms, and surrounding lands by reducing lawn, planting native, and removing invasives. If many people make small changes, TOGETHER we can restore healthy ecological networks and weather the changes ahead.

3 p.m., Tuesday, July 22 – “How Can I Help? How we can save nature in our yards” Based on his latest book, Doug Tallamy addresses as many of the thoughtful questions as he can with hopes that answers will further motivate people to help restore ecosystem function where they live, work, play, worship, and farm.

7 p.m., Tuesday, July 22 – “Critters and Creatures.” This Pennsylvania Wildlife program will introduce you to several native birds and reptiles, some of which may be in your own backyard! If the weather is good, we'll be outside, so bring a blanket or a lawn chair.

10 a.m., Thursday, July 24 – “Rachel Carson: Silent Spring.” Carson ignited the modern environmental movement with her seminal study of the effects on wildlife of the insecticide DDT. Colleen Webster will connect us with Carson's research and legacy through re-enactment. **7 p.m., Thursday, July 24** – “Soldier's Field Meadow, A Community Ecological Restoration Project.” Elyse Jurgen of Waxwing EcoWorks will talk about the process and plants in the ongoing meadow restoration project. The community participation benefits both the ecological and social frameworks of the project.

9-11 a.m., Friday, July 25 – “Bird Walk with Mount Gretna Bird Club.” Bring binoculars and meet at the Chautauqua parking lot to identify our feathered friends.

With the exception of the Bird Walk and Tallamy's talk (Playhouse) all other programs will take place in the Hall of Philosophy, 212 Gettysburg Ave., Mount Gretna

For more information, contact Chautauqua Summer Programs, PAChautauqua@gmail.com or 717-200-1187.

Quiet Hours and Quiet Season

Just a gentle reminder to all Members regarding Quiet Hours and Quiet Season which begins on July 15. Rule 17 states:

In the interest of preserving the peace and quiet beauty of The Campmeeting, Quiet Hours shall be maintained all day Sunday, 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Monday through Thursday, and 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

Out of respect for residents and the summer programs held in the Tabernacle, special noise abatement rules are in effect July 15 through and including August 31. This is commonly referred to as “Quiet Season.” High decibel power tools, such as saws and leaf blowers, and manual work, such as framing and roofing, are prohibited.

Moderate noise created by indoor work is acceptable. Painting and landscaping are permitted. During the Quiet Season, permitted work must be confined to the hours between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. An exception shall be made for the Superintendent of Grounds.

Respect for neighbors' quiet enjoyment will be considered in enforcement of noise rules regarding Quiet Hours and Quiet Season. With the approval of the Board of Managers, emergency repairs to buildings or service lines are permitted during designated quiet times. MGCA Members must contact the Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Association office to request emergency approvals.

Mt Gretna Campmeeting's



RED, WHITE, & BREW TAILGATING PARTY 4TH *Of* JULY

3-6 PM, PARKING LOT NEXT TO CAMPMEETING PLAYGROUND

Bring your own food, grills, drinks, coolers, chairs, games, etc. and set up in the parking lot or in the Heritage Park area.
There will be a contest for the best decorated patriotic vehicle and best patriotic personal costume!



**Open to all of the Mt.
Gretna Community!**



Take a Break - At the Library!

During one of those lazy, hazy (rainy?) days of summer, stop in and visit Mt. Gretna's "best kept secret," our community library. During July, the library will be open:

- Monday through Friday – 10 A.M. to 12 P.M.
- Tuesday and Wednesday – 6 P.M. to 8 P.M.
- Saturday and Sunday – 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.

The library will be hosting book reviews/discussions every Monday evening in July at 7 p.m. You are welcome even if you haven't read the book—the discussions are lively and thought-provoking (and after listening, you might be tempted to check out the title). See the list below.

Wednesday morning children's programs will begin on July 9 and will be held every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. through August 13.



BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Mt. Gretna Library | 2025 | Mondays, 7 – 8 PM

June 2: *All the Colors of the Dark* by Chris Whitaker | Led by Nicole Roberts

June 9: *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick | Led by Marcie Lloyd

June 16: *Confronting the Presidents: No Spin Assessments from Washington to Biden* by Bill O'Reilly & Martin Dugard | Led by Kevin Wells

June 23: *The Barn: The Secret History of a Murder in Mississippi* by Wright Thompson | Led by Tim Nieman

June 30: *A Call to Farms: Reconnecting to Nature, Food, and Community in a Modern World* by Jennifer Grayson | Led by Susan Wood

July 7: *A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail* by Bill Bryson | Led by Pat Allwein

July 14: *Mindhunter: Inside the FBI's Elite Serial Crime Unit* by John Douglas | Led by Paul McMullen

July 21: *This is How it Always Is* by Laurie Frankel | Led by Lynne Davies

July 28: *How to Age Disgracefully* by Clare Pooley | Led by Jamie Cecil

2025 Bible Festival Programs

Date	Programs and Information
Sunday, July 6	National Christian Choir - 7 p.m. Founded in 1984, the choir is called to glorify God through a unique ministry of music. This is a patriotic themed concert "God and Country." Directed by Kathy Bowman, Gettysburg, Pa. Freewill offering will be received. Sponsored by Rhoda Long, Realtor, Berkshire-Hathaway Homeservices.
Sunday, July 13	Cumberland Flutes - 7 p.m. Cumberland Flutes is a community flute choir comprised of many talented musicians from the Southcentral PA area. Formed in 2017, they started performing in August 2022. Conductor Jocelyn Goranson is an award-winning soloist and adjunct instructor of applied flute at Messiah University and Dickinson College. Freewill offering will be received.
Sunday, July 20	Hymn Sing - 7 p.m. Congregational favorites from the Celebration Hymnal led by Bob Kettering and Dr. Rod Shearer. Freewill offering will be received.
Sunday, July 27	Choir Festival - 7 p.m. A mass choir of over 100 volunteer singers from the region will present an inspiring program of varied styles of sacred music. Linda Tedford, guest conductor. Freewill offering will be received. Sponsored by Loser's Music. Concert made possible by the Estate of Douglas Troutman.
Sunday, Aug. 3	Lancaster British Brass Band - 7 p.m. 28 instrumentalists from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey playing brass, winds and percussion instruments. Directed by Dr. Stephen Arthur Allen. Freewill offering will be received. Sponsored by Home Instead Senior Care.
Sunday, Aug. 10	Jazz Ministers Big Band - 7 p.m. Under the direction of Keith Wiley, 18 accomplished musicians who find a common spiritual mission in sharing the gift of music through the Christian worship or concert experience. The JMBB draws on a variety of musical selections that are frequently based upon standard Christian hymns and Gospel favorites. Freewill offering will be received.
Sunday, Aug. 17	Susquehanna Chorale - 7 p.m. One of the premier choral groups in the nation makes its traditional late summer appearance. Directed by Linda Tedford. Freewill offering will be received. Sponsored by Traditions of Hershey.
Sunday, Aug. 24	QuintEssentially Brass - 7 p.m. This quintet with engaging personalities and sparkling instrumental performances ends another season. Freewill offering will be received. Sponsored by Arthur Funk and Sons.

Friday Programs: Seminars on a variety of topics will be held Friday afternoons, from 2 p.m.-5 p.m., in the Mount Gretna United Methodist Church. Pre-registration required - see our website MtGretnaTabernacle.org for registration link.

Visit our website for updates - MtGretnaTabernacle.org or our FACEBOOK page.

PA CHAUTAUQUA SUMMER PROGRAMS

TUESDAY, JULY 22

Doug Tallamy **RENOWNED ECOLOGIST SPEAKS ON SAVING WILDLIFE IN YOUR BACKYARD**

TALK 1

10AM – 11:30AM

HOMEGROWN NATIONAL PARK

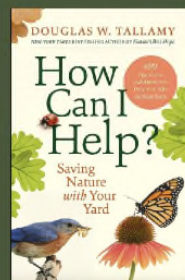


"Homegrown National Park," will explore how reducing lawns, planting natives, and removing invasives can rebuild biodiversity.

TALK 2

3:30PM – 5PM

HOW CAN I HELP



"How Can I Help?", will answer common questions about ecological landscaping and practical steps for protecting nature at home.



Dr. Tallamy is a professor of entomology and wildlife ecology at the University of Delaware and a leading voice in conservation. His books, including *Bringing Nature Home* and *Nature's Best Hope*, have inspired thousands to rethink how they landscape and support native ecosystems. His upcoming book, *How Can I Help?*, will further guide readers on restoring nature where they live.

**LOCATED IN THE
MOUNT GRETNA
PLAYHOUSE**

200 Pennsylvania Ave.

\$5 Donation Requested



July Trash & Recycling Pick-Up

Regular trash and recycling collection will occur throughout the month of July.



If you are ever uncertain if “this week” is a recycling week, just check the “Calendar of Events” on the MGCA website at: <https://mtgretnacampmeeting.com/local.shtml#calendar>. Recycling and trash pick-ups are clearly listed.

And the final photograph for our July photo album...



Submitted by Kevin C Wells

Are You Connected to News & Info in Campmeeting?

 MT. GRETNA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION	On Facebook	 YouTube	Mount Gretna Campmeeting – Click on Subscribe
Community Calendar		https://www.mtgretna.org/home	
	Send your email address updates to: Office@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org		Please visit and bookmark: mtgretnacampmeeting.com