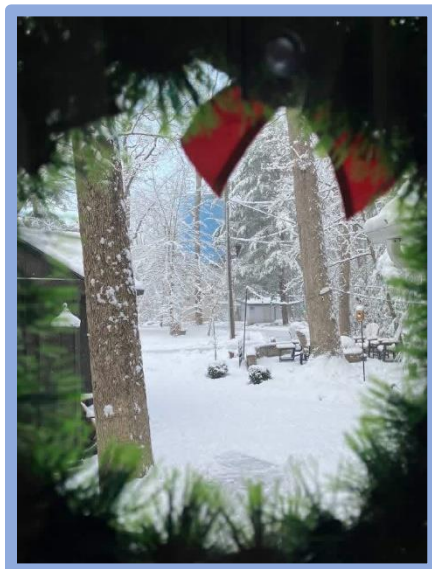


# *Mt. Gretna Campmeeting News*

## **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



### **December 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:

- 204 Weaver Avenue
- 506 Third 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, 43 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](mailto:homerentals@mtgretnacampmeeting.org) if you have any questions.



*Photo Credit: Leeshaun Musick*

## Snow Days in the Campmeeting

Despite receiving more than a dusting of snow during December, we may see even more snow in the coming months. Members are reminded that MGCA and Mt. Gretna Borough provide snow removal services on Campmeeting streets and some walking paths. To view the snow removal map, click the following link: <https://www.mtgretnacampmeeting.com/Files/pdfs/MGCASnowRemovalMap2023.12.pdf>

The map is also available on the MGCA website (under “Local Services > Snow Removal > Snow Removal Map”).

Please do not remove the snow stakes that have been placed along several streets in the Campmeeting. These stakes guide snowplow operators so they can keep equipment on the street.

In the event of snow, please ensure that your vehicle is not blocking any streets scheduled for plowing. Members will be notified via email if cars need to be removed from the Church Parking Lot to allow for plowing.

## When Faucets Run, Costs Rise

**Information Provided by Bob Rader**

***Since the end of November, the Campmeeting has seen an increase of 10,000 gallons water used DAILY compared to the previous month! So please do your part to conserve water . . .***

Each fall, typically within a single day just prior to Thanksgiving, the Campmeeting experiences a noticeable and abrupt increase in daily water usage. This shift marks a move from our lowest average consumption levels – seen in early fall and early spring – to usage levels more typical of the summer months.

This year, that increase occurred on November 14. In the month leading up to that date, average daily water usage was approximately 10,000 gallons. Since November 14, daily usage has risen sharply to about 19,000 gallons per day and has remained consistently at that level.



*Photo Credit: Dan Duda*

Because this change happens so suddenly rather than gradually, it suggests that a small number of cottages may be occupied around the Thanksgiving holiday, with water systems being turned on for the winter months. While we cannot say this with certainty, this practice – particularly leaving faucets running through the winter – is strongly discouraged, as it places unnecessary strain on the water system.

We recognize that cottage owners want to prevent damage, but this practice wastes treated water and costs all Members money (not only in the treatment costs but also to pay to have those 9,000 gallons go to the sewage treatment plant). MGCA strongly condemns the environmentally irresponsible practice of letting faucets drip or running water during the winter months to keep pipes from freezing! It is the responsibility of each Member to either ensure that their cottage can maintain above freezing temperatures, or that the water is turned off for the winter season. ***It is not the responsibility of the community to pay for “dripping” treated water and pay for that same water to go directly to waste just because a few residents are using that method to “winterize”.***

## Member Spotlight: Celebrating Our Neighbors

The heart of Mt. Gretna beats through its people. Behind every cottage, concert, and community gathering are neighbors whose stories add depth to the character of this special place. The Member Spotlight is our way of shining a light on those individuals – celebrating their journeys, their passions, and the unique ways they contribute to the tapestry of Gretna life. We hope you’ll look forward to these next several installments in the Campmeeting newsletter – and take the opportunity to get to know more of our neighbors and discover the many threads that make our community so vibrant.

This month’s Member Spotlight introduces us to Kevin and Leeshawn Musick, two neighbors whose warmth, creativity, and commitment to community reflect the very spirit of Gretna. From artistic roots and family traditions to meaningful involvement, their story is an example of how personal passions enrich Campmeeting life.



*Photo Credit: Leeshawn Musick*

### Two Very Special Neighbors

**Written by Esther Mefferd**

With a last name of “Musick”, they must be very special and talented! Well, they really are! Let me introduce them. They are Kevin and Leeshawn Musick.

Leeshawn’s mother and grandmother came to this vacation spot, and they brought Leeshawn with them. So, coming from the Penn State area, Kevin and Leeshawn decided to purchase a cottage on 6th Street in the Campmeeting for their vacation place. Well, after years on Sixth Street, they now have purchased their new, beautiful and remodeled part-time (for now) home on Second Street.



The Musick's have two grown children. Their daughter has their two grandchildren, and their son will be getting married in September. Leeshaun is an artist, following the talents of her mother and grandmother. She has some of her paintings hanging in their home. She has been busy doing many things around their home but hopes to get back to being the artist again. Kevin gave me the impression that he was retired, but coming to Gretna has provided him with another "job" to do. He has become involved with Gretna Music. I am sure they really appreciate his background, his knowledge, his ideas, and his enthusiasm.

Kevin and Leeshaun are delightful! There is so much more to tell you, but when you meet them, you can find out the rest of their story.



*Photo Credit: Leeshaun Musick*

## Dates, Discounts, & Options



All members should have received their 2026 MGCA assessment in December 2025 (please call the office if you didn't receive your assessment.) Members are reminded that they can take advantage of the early payment discount by paying their assessment by February 28, 2026. If not paid early, Members must pay the full assessment by June 30, 2026. Members may also take advantage of the three-payment plan by making three payments -- by February 28, April 30, and June 30.

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 confidential. We encourage you to contact the office in a timely manner if you have any questions.



*Photo Credit: Leeshaun Musick*



*Photo Credit: Mary Dougherty*



*Photo Credit: Mary Dougherty*

## Christmas Tree Pick-Up in January

Members are reminded that during January, after the ornaments, tinsel, and lights have been removed, previously “live” Christmas trees may be placed on MGCA driving streets for pickup by the Superintendent. Pickups will end on Thursday, January 29; therefore, trees should be placed outside by that date if residents would like MGCA to dispose of them.



*Photo Credit: Pat Wilmsen*

## Governor Dick: The Man Behind the Mountain Myths, Evidence, and Open Questions



Governor Dick's name, familiar to many, still marks the landscape of Lebanon County and Clarence Schock Memorial Park. Yet his true story has long remained obscured by legend. This Black History Month presentation draws on the results of ongoing archival research to confront long-standing myths and examine the life of Governor Dick—an enslaved man likely born in Africa who lived and labored within a community of other enslaved people, indentured servants, and free wage laborers, and who ultimately escaped in search of freedom. It is a story of resilience and dignity under bondage, and a reminder that how we tell history matters.

**Kathy Lindert and Marcus Walko**  
**2:00 PM, Sunday, February 1, 2026**

**Clarence Schock Environmental Center**  
**3283 Pinch Rd, Manheim, PA 17545**

**Seating is limited to 60 people. Event is free but registration is required.**  
Please fill out & submit the Google form, at <https://tinyurl.com/yurns5tp>

On display will be archival reproductions from original records in the Cornwall Furnace Collection, presented alongside other contemporary documents & visuals from the late 18th century. The image above is from the Library of Congress's collection of runaway slave newspaper ads. Organized & sponsored by the Lebanon County NAACP and the Mount Gretna Area Historical Society. Free-will donations to the Lebanon County NAACP will be gratefully accepted. Questions? email [naacp.leb.co.pa@gmail.com](mailto:naacp.leb.co.pa@gmail.com)



**MGAHS**  
MOUNT GRETNA AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



**NAACP**





## The MGCA Office Will Be Closed January 5 through January 9

When the office is closed, phone messages and emails will still be checked. If you need assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out. If you're planning a special trip to stop by during regular office hours, it's always a good idea to call ahead (717-964-3040) to be sure someone is available to meet you.



### Member Use of MGCA Property

Assumptions about property boundaries and ownership in the Campmeeting are often incorrect and have sometimes been knowingly or unknowingly misrepresented when properties changed hands. As a result, some Members have come to use property owned by the MGCA (MGCA Property) for parking or other purposes.

The MGCA does not at this time wish to correct all such existing, informal Member use of MGCA Property. However, we would like to make clear that the MGCA's decision not to challenge a Member's use of MGCA Property at this time does not confer upon any Member the right to claim ownership of that Property, regardless of any improvements, and that the MGCA retains the right to require a Member to discontinue use of the Property at any time. Questions regarding property boundaries may be resolved through a survey by a PA-licensed professional land surveyor.

MGCA Property is an asset that belongs to our community, and the MGCA wants to make sure that we preserve our right to use it to benefit all Members.



## Mt. Gretna Community Volunteer Fire Department Annual Events

The Mt. Gretna Fire Department has announced its annual calendar of events. Be sure to mark your calendars and come out to support the men and women who are there for our community 365 days a year. The Fire Company truly appreciates your support.

### 2026 events at the Mt. Gretna Fire Company

January 24 - **Pasta Dinner** - 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
February 7 - **Ground Hog Breakfast** - 8 am - 10 am, Grady @ 10.15  
February 15 - **Bingo**. Doors open at 11 am - Games start at 1 pm, 20 Games  
March 15 - **Bingo**. Doors open at 11 am - Games start at 1 pm, 20 Games  
April 19 - **Bingo**. Doors open at 11 am - Games start at 1 pm, 20 Games  
May 23 - **Pancake & Sausage Breakfast** - 7:30 am - 10:30 am  
June 7 - **Bingo**. Doors open at 11 am - Games start at 1 pm, 20 Games  
July 18 - **Community Picnic** at the Fire Hall 11 am - 2 pm  
September 14 - **Wing Night @ Hideaway** 5 pm - 9 pm, Free Dozen Wings with Donation  
September 26 - **Pig Roast** 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm \$25 All you can eat food, drinks  
October 8 - **Fire Prevention with Lawn Fire Co.**  
October 11 - **Bingo**. Doors open at 11 am - Games start at 1 pm, 20 Games  
October 23 - **Halloween Parade** forms at the Jigger Shop 6:30 pm  
November 1 - **Fall Buffet Breakfast** from 8:00 am - 11:00 am  
November 14 - **Soup Cook Off** from 12:00 - 2:00 pm  
December 12 - **Cookies with SANTA and Santa Shop** 10 am - 11:30 am



Please check our website: [www.mtgretnafire.com](http://www.mtgretnafire.com) or our facebook page for more information

*They're always there for us – be there for them!*

## January Trash & Recycling Pick-Up



When snow and ice arrive in our corner of the woods, they can slow down more than just our morning walks. Trash pickup may be delayed when roads become slick or snow-covered. If winter weather impacts collection, updates will be posted on the TNT Sanitation website to keep everyone informed. Please visit [www.TNTSanitation.com](http://www.TNTSanitation.com) anytime. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Although Monday, January 19, is a federal holiday, it is a business day for our trash collector, TNT Sanitation. Regular trash and recycling collection will occur on Monday, January 19.

MAKE THE SEASON BRIGHTER  
SHARE THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT



***Mount Gretna United  
Methodist Church  
Collects Food and  
Hygiene Donations  
Monthly for Lebanon  
County Christian  
Ministries.***

***Next Delivery is  
Monday, January 5.***

**Drop Off Boxes or Bags  
Weekdays From 9 AM to  
12 PM. After Those  
Hours, Leave Donations  
by MGUMC's Front Door.**

**Countless Families Depend on the Food Bank for a Simple Holiday Meal**

Rice (All Varieties, 1 lb. Bags or Boxes)  
Whole Grain Pasta (All Varieties, 1 lb. Boxes Preferred)  
Flour and Sugar (1 or 2 lb. Bags or Boxes)  
Canned Fruit (15-Ounce Cans in Fruit Juice)  
Canned Tuna, Chicken, Salmon (Approx. 9-Ounce Cans Preferred)  
Chicken Salad and Tuna Salad Kits  
Spaghetti Sauce (24-Ounce Cans)  
Diced Tomatoes (24-Ounce Cans)  
Boxed Cereal (Healthy Varieties with <6g of Sugar Per Serving)  
Oatmeal (All Sizes and Varieties with <6g of Sugar Per Serving)  
Ground Coffee (10-12 Ounce Bags or Tubs)  
Tea Bags (All Varieties, Small Boxes Containing Approx. 20 Bags)  
Assorted Seasonings  
Salad Dressing  
Olive Oil  
Ketchup and Mustard  
Mayonnaise  
Soups (Low Sodium Preferred)

Toilet Paper  
2-in-1 Shampoo/Conditioner  
Men's & Women's Deodorant  
Toothpaste (5-Ounce Tubes and Larger)  
Children's Toothpaste  
Children's Toothbrushes (No Adult Toothbrushes Please)  
Pads & Tampons  
Hand Soap  
Dish Sponges  
Dish Soap  
Laundry Detergent

Monetary Donations Accepted  
Checks Made Payable to LCCM or to MGUMC (note "LCCM Food Bank" - Church combines all gifts into one check to LCCM).

Donate Through Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church or Drop Off Directly at LCCM. For Hours, Visit [www.lccm.us](http://www.lccm.us).



*And the final photograph for our December 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](mailto:Office@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org)



Please visit and bookmark:  
[mtgretnacampmeeting.com](http://mtgretnacampmeeting.com)

Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Association

P.O. Box 428

Mt. Gretna, PA 17064-0428

717-964-3040

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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**Mt. Gretna Campmeeting**

LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES