



York, Pennsylvania

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# York SafeNet Security System on Indefinite Hold Demonstrating Community Impact, Involvement

by: Matthew Gargano matthew@m sprint.media

Recent high-profile legislation seeking to install security cameras in York City made waves this past month. Based on an initial gun violence study conducted by Better York, a local York-based organization, LogosWorks Partners, created a proposal for York SafeNet. The proposal would establish York SafeNet as a nonprofit with the goal of using city infrastructure to place 140 security cameras across the city.

As of the City Council Legislative Meeting on Wednesday November 5th, the bill has been tabled indefinitely. This recent development was preceded by multiple City Council meetings in which there was extensive public comment. Although there was not a unanimous response, locals communicated a strong opposition to the camera system.

In response to the initial York SafeNet proposal, the York NAACP put out a press release opposing the cameras. The York NAACP cited civil rights and equity concerns, noting that, "Black and Brown working-class communities are disproportionately impacted by camera-based monitoring, which reinforces rather than reduces systemic inequalities". The organization stressed that large-scale video surveillance can undermine "the rights to privacy, freedom of movement, and freedom of association protected by the U.S. Constitution and Pennsylvania's civil rights statutes".

Much of the argument in favor of this legislation refers to an "epidemic" of gun violence in York and the desire to decrease crime in the city. That said, multiple studies and analyses of Video Surveillance have found that widespread camera usage ultimately has no effect on violent crime rates.



For example, a 2008 study from UC Berkeley's Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society examined a similar community security camera program in San Francisco. These interdisciplinary researchers concluded that the security camera program had little evidence of impact on violent crime, drug crime, or even vandalism.

This same trend appears in police force guidance shared by the Community Oriented Policing Services office in the Department of Justice. In their guide, "Video Surveillance of Public Places," former police

officer Dr. Jerry Ratcliff concludes the following: "CCTV works best in small, well-defined sites (for example: public parking areas) rather than across large areas" and "CCTV is more effective in combatting property crime rather than violence or disorder.

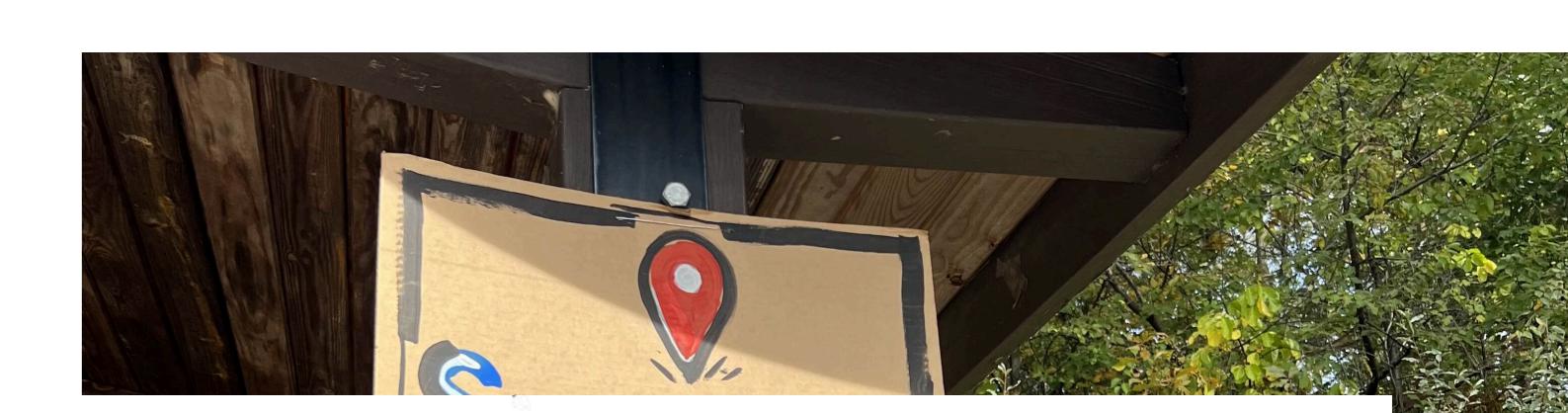
Continued on 1B

## what's inside???

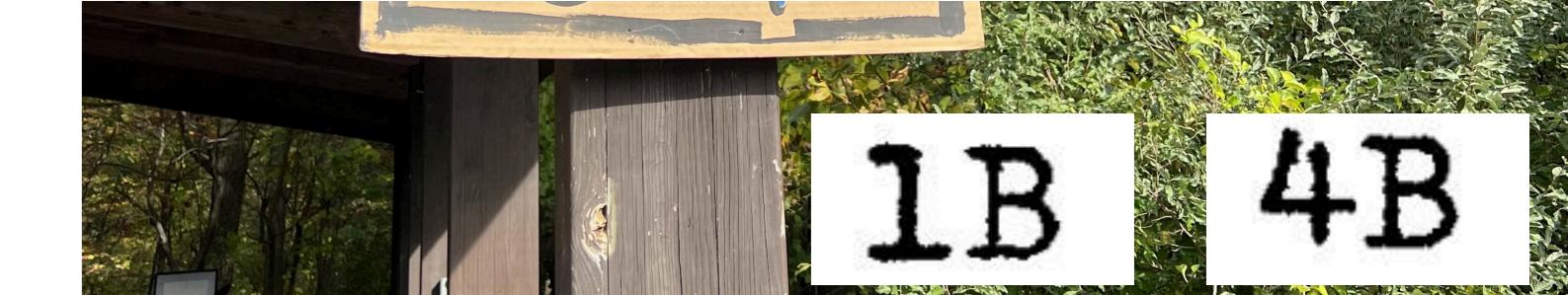


upcoming events in York this November

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A spotlight on sustainable, community-based art



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Cultural Alliance Annual Meeting sheds light on impact

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1A

## York SafeNet

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Without empirical data supporting the camera network's ability to deter violent crime, York's time, money, and resources would be better spent on alternative methods of preventing crime rather than just responding after crime occurs.

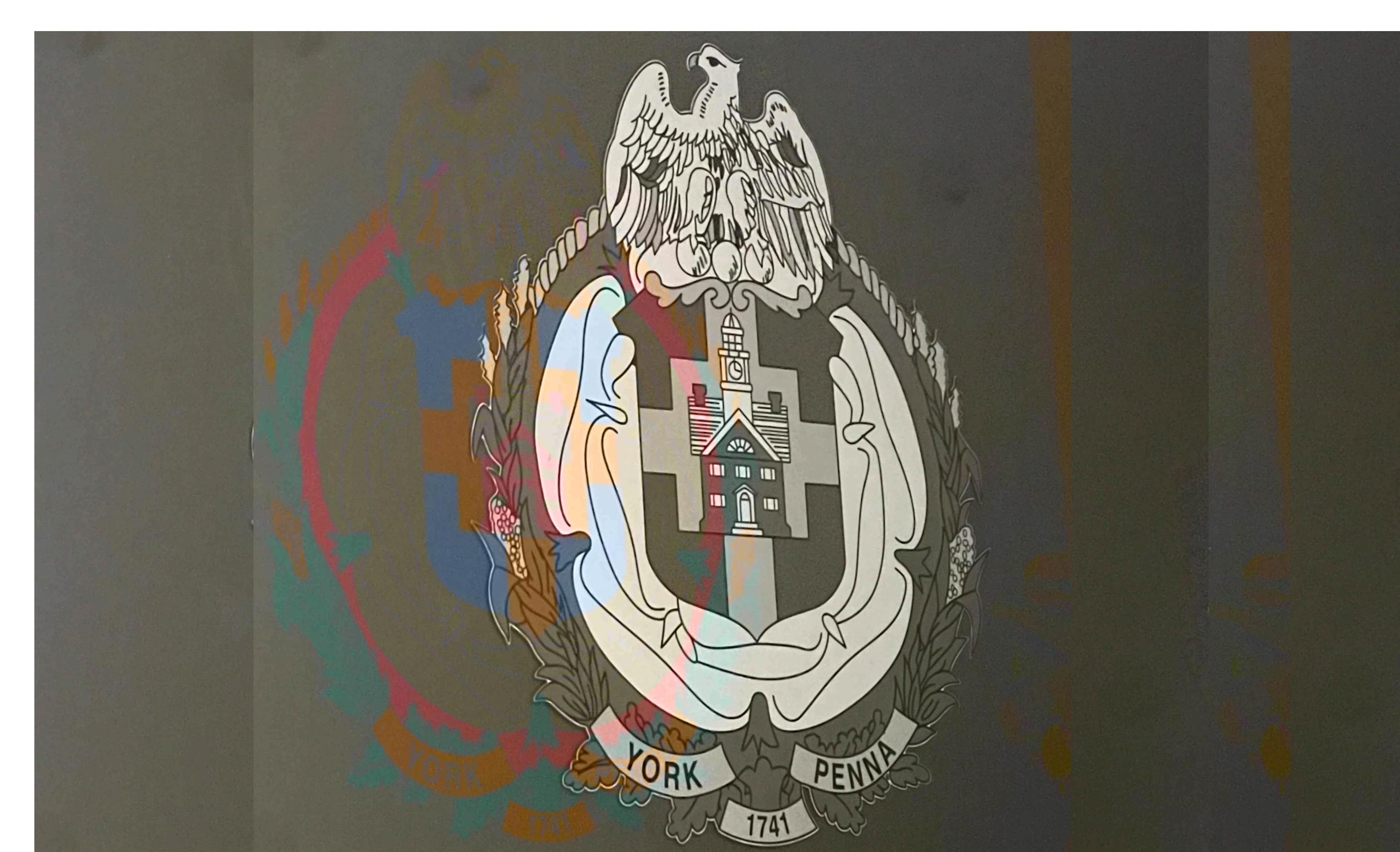
This current legislation was first addressed by the York City Council on October 7th in front of a rare (for York) standing-room-only crowd that heatedly discussed the proposal. Ultimately, the decision was made to push the legislation back to the Committee and revisit it at the October 29th meeting.



While there was initial skepticism regarding what could change in this legislation in just one month, the delay was incredibly impactful. In response to pushback from the public, amendments were made to the proposal introducing essential guardrails.

Namely, the amendment would ensure that York SafeNet would not be permitted to use AI predictive analysis, biometric data (such as facial recognition), and it would introduce an audit system to record any video footage requests — none of which were initially protected against in the original proposal.

While these guardrails are certainly necessary for safe video surveillance, LogosWorks failed to address concerns pointed at limiting access to only police detectives, and they did not include language that would provide guidance in the event of a request placed by state or federal departments (such as DHS or ICE).



While the amendments did mention an audit log that would record details surrounding when and why footage is given to authorities, it was not clear how frequently the log details would be publicly available, or how it would be formatted to ensure crucial details are included.

Seeing the York SafeNet proposal develop in response to resident and community feedback is a testament to the power each community member holds, especially when they stay informed and get involved locally.

Although this specific legislation is indefinitely on hold following the City Council vote on November 5th, it remains important for residents to stay tuned-in to this proposal — and to remain involved in City Council activities more generally.

Public opposition to York SafeNet, as well as direct collaboration that occurred on this issue between the public, City Council, and LogosWorks demonstrates the impact that local involvement can have on policies that stand to impact our community.

If you would like to take part in an upcoming conversation on community safety, please check out Does My Safety Matter? A Community Conversation at Martin Library on 11/13 from 6:00-8:00PM.

If you are interested in the York Legislative conversation more generally, the next City Council meeting is at City Hall on November 18th from 6:00-8:00PM. Visit page 3B in this edition of the msprint for additional upcoming City Council dates and information.

## Art Swap Centers

### Sustainability, Accessibility

by: Sara Mack

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On October 19th, local York artist Steph Holmes hosted the most recent iteration of her recurring Second Hand Art Swap event at Rocky Ridge County Park under the Chipmunk Pavillion.

Steph's art swap is a free event for all ages, and brings together a diverse spread of artists. Due to the open nature of the swap, it is possible to find supplies and artistic mediums that might be difficult to find locally.



Attendees are encouraged to bring their own underutilized art supplies to share, and they are able to take home as many supplies as they wish for no cost.

At the most recent swap I became the proud owner of several packets of fabric dye, some vintage greeting cards, and even a sewing awl!

Although I've donated my own supplies to previous art swap meetups, I didn't contribute anything to this month's event — and that's okay!

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# NOVEMBER EVENTS

## Public Sculptures...

From Inspiration to Installation:  
An Artist's View of Nature with  
Thomas Sterner

The York Audubon society  
hosts their November meeting  
featuring sculptor Thomas  
Sterner who will speak about  
his nature-centric work.

11/11  
7:00PM  
Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of York  
925 S. George Street, York  
[yorkaudubon.org](http://yorkaudubon.org)

## The Outlet: Music & Poetry Open Mic + Writing Workshop

A free, first-come-first-served  
open mic with music and spoken  
word. Before the open mic, join  
hosts PAN, Sir Dominique Jordan,  
and Shelby Speaks for a writing  
workshop to explore ideas or practice  
your skills.

11/13  
5:30PM-8:45PM  
Appell Center

## Downtown Inc Downtown Update

A reception discussing  
business strategies for growth  
in York. A new Downtown  
Investment Guide will be  
unveiled, and attendees will  
hear from business owner Nasim  
Ali on why York is the perfect  
home for her business.

11/12  
7:30AM-9:00AM  
The Bond  
134 E. King Street, York

## Does My Safety Matter? A Community Conversation at Martin Library

A panel of presenters will  
discuss safety in York, exploring  
perceived versus actual safety and  
actions attendees can take to  
increase their safety.

11/13  
6:00PM-8:00PM  
Martin Library  
159 E Market Street, York



## Art Wellness Workshop: Expressions of Gratitude

A free event for all ages.  
Art materials provided to allow  
participants to express their  
gratitude through art.

11/15  
11:00AM-1:00PM  
Marketview Arts  
37 West Philadelphia Street, York

## Award-Winning York Band "Public Disco Porch" Releases New Album 'Agriculture'

by: Matthew Gargano [matthew@msprint.media](mailto:matthew@msprint.media)

As York sits at the cross-section of  
industry and agriculture, it is only  
fitting that it is home to Public Disco  
Porch, a band that captures and personifies  
these opposite aspects of York and South  
Central PA through their unique blend of  
folk and metal.

On October 10th, Public Disco Porch  
released their 4th LP, "Agriculture".  
This release explores "spiritual diss-  
onance, and the search for oneness in a  
collapsing rural world".

As Central Pennsylvania Music Hall of  
Fame winners in 2024 for Best Folk Artist  
and in 2025 for Album of the Year after  
their August 2024 Album "Benediction",  
Public Disco Porch could easily rest on  
their past accomplishments. Even so,  
"Agriculture" may be one of their best  
releases to date.

The opening track "Agronomy" starts the  
album perfectly — with a big fat riff.  
It kicks the entire album off with a  
powerful energy sure to get the listener  
moving. Immediately, the following track  
"Rogation" highlights the versatility and  
depth of the band.

In "Rogation", Public Disco Porch moves  
us through from the previous heavy post-  
rock sound to an intimate folk rock balad.  
Frontman Spencer McCreary stuns with a  
powerful voice while adding stirring violin  
layers to the track. An absence of drums  
might make one think that this song would  
lack energy, but with the band's songwriting  
there is an intensity poured into even  
the quietest moments of the song.

One of the recurring musical themes that  
Public Disco Porch employs is a rhythmic  
unison that shifts between pairings and  
groups within the ensemble. In the chorus  
of "Tobacco + Deer" this is highlighted  
by the pairing of vocals with the  
guitars and bass.

The longer runtimes of the songs on  
"Agriculture" let them really take and  
develop an idea through a changing  
soundscape.

In "Sickle" the listener is walked  
through the track beginning with solo  
acoustic guitar and vocals that  
explode into layered vocals over heavy  
riffs by the end.

There is an honesty in the lyricism  
that speaks to living in a region  
predominated by agriculture without  
feeling like there is any pandering  
taking place. The tracks contain a  
certain depth that paints a complete  
and realized setting for the songs to  
reside in.

Public Disco Porch never approaches a  
"Blue Jeans On, Beer In Hand, Tractor &  
Engine Rumbling" pastiche that plagues  
a good portion of lyrics seeking to  
speak of America's farmlands.



Unfortunately, at this time Public Disco  
Porch does not have any upcoming shows  
listed, but anyone interested in  
"Agriculture" can find the album digitally  
and on vinyl at [publicdiscoporch.bandcamp.com](http://publicdiscoporch.bandcamp.com)

## Art Swap

Continued from 1B

For attendees interested in  
experimenting with new projects  
or looking for specific tools  
they might need to continue  
existing endeavors, the art swap  
offers a rare zero waste and free(!)  
opportunity to pursue creative work.



Although no donations (monetary or  
supplies) are required to participate,  
there is never a shortage of available  
items for attendees to peruse and take  
home with them. At the end of the event,  
remaining supplies are collected and  
donated to The Art of Recycle, a nonprofit  
based in Ephrata. Donations are also  
accepted to support the continuation of  
the event and to further support the  
Art of Recycle.

If you're interested in attending future  
art swaps, stay tuned for information  
about upcoming dates on Steph's website,  
[www.stephholmes.com](http://www.stephholmes.com), or keep an eye on the  
event section in the msprint!

Steph and her art can also be found  
at her studio during business hours on  
the second floor of Gather 256.

# York's Cultural Renaissance is Here!!

by: Sara Mack

sara@msprint.media

The arrival of a cultural renaissance is an undeniably bold theme for a meeting, and a bold claim in general. Even so, the Cultural Alliance of York County (CAYC) team has a lot to be proud of as they celebrate their 25th anniversary this year.

For attendees of the Annual Meeting on October 28th, the event was an opportunity to gather in the beautiful Appell Theater on a chilly fall evening and to experience several elements of The Arts in York while mingling with other members of the community and enjoying locally-sourced faire.

It feels like a particularly crucial moment for arts funding in the United States as many significant programs and organizations experience financial uncertainty.

During the meeting, CAYC President, Kelley Gibson, shared that significant state funding for their programming will be cut beginning in September, 2026. Gibson announced that CAYC plans to continue their work via alternative streams of funding - an announcement that was met with cheers from the audience.

Although the Cultural Alliance is only one organization, they have a considerable impact on a variety of significant programming throughout the city.



Specific initiatives highlighted at the annual meeting were the Cooking Up Connections program which seeks to teach York City kids valuable life skills and the Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator Program which has funded 27 creative businesses in the area.

The meeting's programming itself was a bit hard to describe - there was opera and art on display as well as a band of bagpipes to usher us into the Capitol Theater for a more formal presentation. There was a high school woodwind quintet accompanying two grown women performing a "comic operetta" in which they donned plastic cat masks and pretended to be cats meowing to the tune of the piece.

Amidst the varied performance landscape, however, it was clear that there was real passion for facilitating a positive impact for the arts in York.

At the meeting the Cultural Alliance team recognized several impactful changemakers including local artist Amy Mumert, two new additions to the CAYC Arts Forever Legacy Society, and CAYC Board Chair Jim Fowler as he stepped away from the organization after many years of contributions.

In his final remarks at the meeting, Fowler said, with emotion in his voice, "We need to continue to grow. This is a wonderful place to live."

Upcoming CAYC programming teased at the event includes the 40th annual York Saint Patrick's Day Parade (March 14th, 2026), the next Cultural Alliance Annual meeting (October 24th, 2026), and a future "Have it Made Here" campaign centered around local filmmaking in York.



4A

## CLASSIFIEDS

Leave your own note in our classifieds section! Send an email to: [york@msprint.media](mailto:york@msprint.media)

**SEEKING:** Local marketing agency Our York Media is partnering with York County Food Bank to collect non-perishable food items at The Grotto, Mon-Fri, 9AM-5PM Until November, 21.

**SEEKING:** A body double/task assistant Fabulous person with ADHD and an aversion/trauma reaction to cleaning. seeking an individual to sit with and redirect as necessary for general home cleaning and organizing. (No weird hook-up culture nonsense please). I will provide dinner, free WiFi, access to streaming service, and a small stipend of \$25.00/hour. Looking for 2 days a week for about 1.5-2 hours between 5:15PM-9:15PM

Mon, Tue, Wed, or Sunday. The right person should be over 18 years old, non-smoker, empathetic, and probably a bit neurodivergent. A good vocabulary and an appreciation for puns would be a bonus. email: [welcometofidgetville@gmail.com](mailto:welcometofidgetville@gmail.com) if interested.

**RESOURCES:** Due to the lapse in SNAP funding many community members are struggling to provide food for themselves or their families. If you are experiencing food insecurity, the below organizations may be able to help. If you are able to give time or money, consider donating or volunteering at an organization doing this important work locally.

-York Food Bank: [yorkfoodbank.org](http://yorkfoodbank.org)  
-Our Daily Bread: [odbyork.org](http://odbyork.org)  
-The WELL (West End Local Link)  
-York Benevolent Association: [yorkbenevolent.org](http://yorkbenevolent.org)

**SHARING:** Pumpkins and decorative gourds cannot break down in the landfill. Compost them! If you don't have your own compost pile, email [sara@msprint.media](mailto:sara@msprint.media) and we can coordinate compost drop off or pick up.

2B

# EVENTS CON'T.

## Room with a Boo Book Launch and Tiger Rabbit Studio Grand Opening

Printmaker and Illustrator Josh Johnson welcomes you to his new Tiger Rabbit Studio opening to celebrate his latest book "Room with a Boo": a friendly ghost story with local history that was a collaboration between Johnson and Local author Rissa Miller.

11/15  
5:00PM-9:00PM  
Tiger Rabbit Studio  
57 E King Street, York

## Arts & Crafts Meet-Up

All disciplines of artists and crafters are welcome to bring a small project and join Steph Holmes in her studio for an afternoon of arts and crafts. For particularly messy projects, bring a mat or newsprint to work on.

11/15  
2:00PM-4:00PM  
Steph Holmes Artist Studio  
256 W Philadelphia Street, York

## Bent Nail Booking Presents: Lofting, And Also Bye, and Heavy Metal Chess Club

Central PA alt rockers And Also Bye join Lancaster emo group Lofting and Philly's Heavy Metal Chess Club for an evening of music put on by local booking collective Bent Nail Booking. Advance \$10 tickets are available at dice.fm or buy \$15 tickets at the door.

11/23  
Doors: 5:30PM, Music: 6:00PM  
408 W Market Street, York

## November Craft Circle

All ages, skill levels, and handicrafts are welcome at this craft circle. Enjoy the company of fellow crafters and complimentary tea & water. Registration is required.

11/22  
1:00PM-4:00PM  
Fabric of Society York  
441 E Market Street, York



## 42nd Annual Cultural Thanksgiving Celebration & Rising STARS Award Ceremony

A free evening of food and live entertainment. Crispus Attucks York recognizes and awards community members who are positively impacting York youths.

11/24  
5:30PM-8:00PM  
Crispus Attucks York  
605 South Duke Street, York

## Thanksgiving Eve with Chalkboard Conspiracy

New folk/Appalachian fiddle band Chalkboard Conspiracy will be the first band to ever play Woof Bar. Cost of entry is \$1 at the door OR a canned food item that will be donated to the York County Food Bank.

11/26  
7:00PM-9:00PM  
Woof Bar  
441 East Market Street, York

## Creative York Holiday Feast and Art Swap

Creative York invites artists and art enthusiasts to Peter Danko's Studio for an evening of networking and arts discussion. Bring food or drink to share and a gift wrapped handmade piece of art to swap with other attendees!

12/4  
5:30PM-7:30PM  
Peter Danko's Studio  
1155 Elm Street, York



## Rainbow Rose 4th Annual Inclusive Holiday Bazaar

As a part of Small Business Saturday, York's LGBTQIA+ resource center Rainbow Rose will be hosting a Holiday Bazaar with local vendors for shoppers to find one-of-a-kind presents for the holidays.

11/29  
10:00AM-3:00PM  
The Bond  
134 East King Street, York

## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

(The next City Council Committee meeting will take place in January due to upcoming holidays)

### City Council Meeting (Legislative Meeting)

November 18th  
6:00PM-8:00PM

### City Council Meeting (Legislative Meeting)

December 2nd  
6:00PM-8:00PM

All meetings are open to the public and held at York City Hall:  
101 S. George Street, York

Want to see your local event featured in future editions?

email [york@msprintmedia.com](mailto:york@msprintmedia.com) to submit your own!