

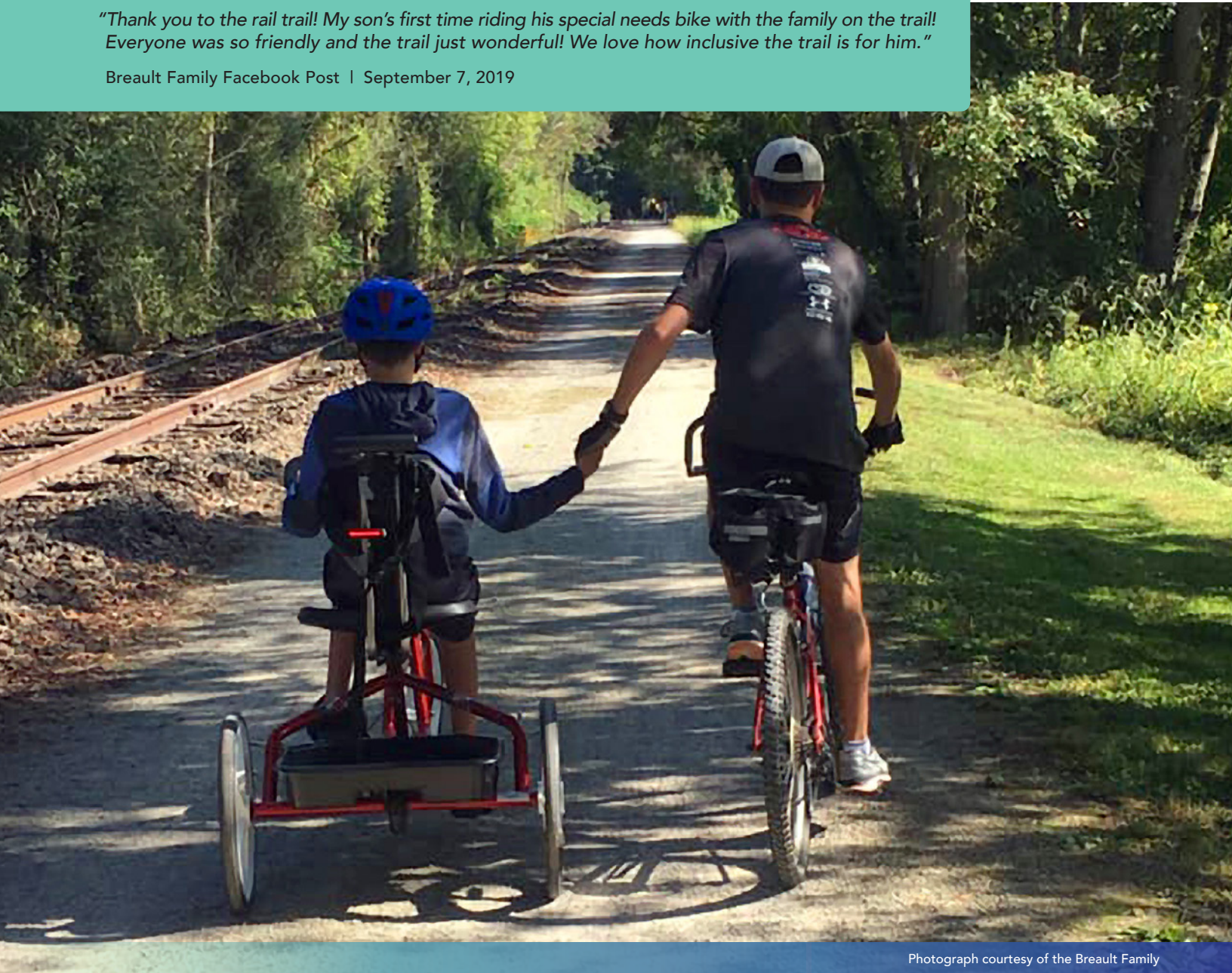
EXPANSION TO EXCELLENCE



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

"Thank you to the rail trail! My son's first time riding his special needs bike with the family on the trail! Everyone was so friendly and the trail just wonderful! We love how inclusive the trail is for him."

Breault Family Facebook Post | September 7, 2019



Photograph courtesy of the Breault Family

Enriching York County communities and countryside through
the development of a network of public, multi-use trails.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



As I write this message, we are in week two of the Governor's closure of businesses intended to control the Coronavirus epidemic. In these last two weeks, we have noticed a marked increase in the number of people using the Heritage Rail Trail (HRT) and the completed sections of the Hanover Trolley Trail. This uptick of trail use in a very tough time certainly demonstrates people's desire to have a place where they can relax, exercise and just enjoy being outside. We at the York County Rail Trail Authority (YCRTA) are proud of our role in providing these valued places for our community to enjoy.

The opening of the HRT, along the Codorus from the parking lot/trailhead at Route 30 to the corner of North George Street and Hamilton Avenue in the City of York, was certainly a highlight of 2019. The City of York has completed the design of the trail gap between Lafayette Plaza and North George Street, and construction is expected to begin in late 2020.

With a combination of grant funding from PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (PA DCNR) and the required 50% funding match from generous local contributors, YCRTA now has the funds to complete the purchase of 8.5 miles of dormant rail line that will provide a beautiful corridor for sections of the Hanover Trolley Trail. If the federal government allows this corridor to be rail banked, preserving the rail corridor, the purchase should be completed in 2020.

YCRTA has been successful in obtaining local matching funds required to obtain state grants that fund trail construction. However, approximately 70% of the funding to sustain our day-to-day operations has been provided by the York County Convention & Visitors Bureau. This funding is being phased out over a three-year period, and in 2021 we will receive no annual allocation from the Visitors Bureau. If YCRTA is to continue to serve our community, we must establish a reliable funding source to sustain our operations in 2021 and beyond. Despite the uncertainty of these times, we will be working hard in 2020 to ensure that the services provided by your YCRTA will continue.

Frank Kempf, Chairman

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Celebrations and awards formed the theme for the year 2019. Nearly one hundred supporters gathered along a section of the Heritage Rail Trail at Smalls Athletic Field on May 1, 2019 to celebrate the completion of the trail's northern extension to North George Street in the City of York. The York County History Center honored the York County Rail Trail Authority for this accomplishment on September 12th with a presentation of its 2019 Community Award for a Government Organization, while the York County Economic Alliance honored me with its Spirit of YoCo Award's Non-Profit/Government Employee of the Year Award on September 25th. Being chosen for these awards was truly special. Being recognized by such prestigious York County organizations was "over the top."

Gwenth Loose, Executive Director

MEMBERS

Frank Kempf <i>Chairman</i>	Dale Keagy <i>Treasurer</i>
Mack Johnson <i>Vice-chairman</i>	Silas Chamberlin Sharon Dorn Jeffrey Hines Lori Mitrick Danielle Stehman Ann Yost
Ed Hughes <i>Secretary</i>	

MEMBER EMERITUS

Henry Herrman

STANDING COMMITTEES

Planning Committee

Carl Knoch <i>Chairman</i>	Bob Gotwols Kim Hogeman Ed Hughes Mack Johnson Mark Rooney Terry Steyer
Travis Bowman Matt Chronister Kathy Deporter Tom Essig	

Hanover Trolley Trail Operations Committee

David Brown Jeffrey Garvick Patrick Hickey Tina Hinkle Mack Johnson Kate King	Bradley Martin Joe Montminy Carrie Nace Terry Reichart Mady Shaffer Chris Wagman
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Pumpkin Walk Committee

Gwen Loose & Carl Knoch, <i>Chairs</i>	Ed Hughes Mack Johnson Tammy Klunk Brian Malcarne John McDonald Sgt. Bret Newcomer Peggy Schlichter Chris Snyder Christine Tobias Chris Wagman
Kevin Bahn Kathy Deporter Meg Fullerton Blaine Gerver Bob Gotwols Dean Grote Karen Holway Todd Howdysell	

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Gwenth L. Loose, CPRP <i>Executive Director</i>	Jeffrey Shue, PE C.S. Davidson, Inc. <i>Project Engineer</i>
Scott Beaverson, Esq. <i>Solicitor</i>	

AFFILIATIONS

York County Board of Commissioners
York County Department of Parks & Recreation
York County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society

PROJECTS' REPORT

HERITAGE RAIL TRAIL COUNTY PARK NORTHERN EXTENSION

As the weather warmed in early spring 2019, the trail section between the Route 30 parking lot in Springettsbury Township and North George Street in the City of York received its final trail surface, and the project was made ready for an official grand opening celebration.

May 2nd brought sunny skies, warm weather, and a field of friends to gather near the Codorus Creek to celebrate the completion of the Northern Extension to the City of York at Hamilton Avenue and North George Street.

Dignitaries representing the many funding sources that made this project possible cut the ribbon. Attention quickly shifted in late 2019 to the City of York's project to close the gap between the Northern Extension and the Heritage Rail Trail's southern 21.5 miles. A signed, on-road route was temporarily established to guide trail visitors through the downtown gap.

A major improvement to the Northern Extension also occurred in 2019 with the reconstruction of a connector path to North York Borough Park and landscaping with native plants.

HANOVER TROLLEY TRAIL

In 2019, two resurfacing projects occurred on the Hanover Trolley Trail in Jackson Township to improve the ability of the trail surface to withstand major rain events. A different stone-dirt mixture was applied to provide a tighter trail surface and silt-socks were installed to slow runoff from nearby fields.

Negotiations with Genesee Wyoming for acquisition of 8.5 miles of dormant rail line located east and west of Spring Grove continued throughout 2019. Additional funding was secured to support an acquisition in 2020, when a Purchase Sales Agreement is expected to be executed that will allow the railroad to remove the rails and the York County Rail Trail Authority to develop a trail within the preserved corridor.

As part of a larger street improvement project along Main Street (Route 116) in Spring Grove, the Borough made several improvements to Railroad Street, including construction of a section of pathway that will link in the future with its Borough Park and an expansion of the Hanover Trolley Trail.

PROJECT PARTNERS

Special recognition is given to the following partners whose 2019 financial support through grants and funding programs made these projects possible:

For the Northern Extension Route 30 to North George Street Project: Codorus Watershed Endowment, Federal Lands Access Program, PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, PA Department of Transportation, PA Infrastructure Investment Authority, York County Community Foundation, York County Convention & Visitors Bureau, and private donors.

For the North York Borough Project: Codorus Watershed Endowment, North York Borough, PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, and the Women's Giving Circle.

For the Hanover Trolley Trail Improvements: Codorus Watershed Endowment, Jackson Township, Spring Grove Borough, and donors to the Hanover Trolley Trail Maintenance Fund.

For the Genesee Wyoming Acquisition Project: FirstEnergy Foundation, PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, York County Community Foundation, and York County Marcellus Shale Fund.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



LIVE RADIO BROADCAST CAME TO THE HERITAGE RAIL TRAIL!
WITF's "Smart Talk with Scott Lamar" came to Hanover Junction Train Station on May 14, 2019.

INFORMATION BOOTHS

Earth Day Fair, Give Local York's First Friday, Go Green in York City, Hanover Dutch Day, New Freedom Fall Festival, York History Center's Oyster Festival.

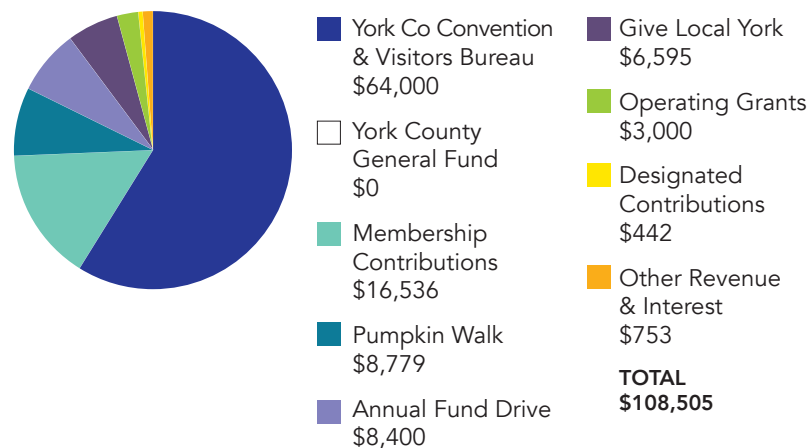
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

In York County, technical assistance was provided to Albright Care Services at Normandie Ridge, City of York, Downtown Inc, Hanover Borough, Hanover Chamber of Commerce, Jackson Township, Penn Township, Spring Grove Borough, York County Department of Parks & Recreation.

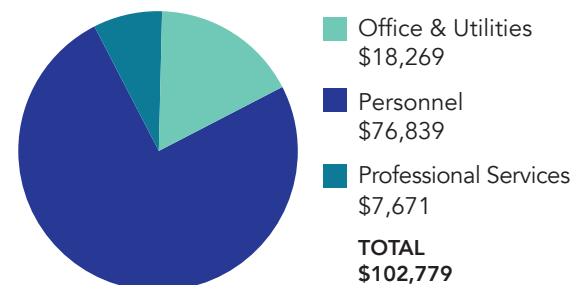
Beyond York County, technical assistance was provided to Capital Area Greenbelt, Harrisburg, PA; Cumberland Valley Rail Trail; East Berlin Borough and Hamilton Township, Adams County; Healthy Adams County Pedestrian and Bicycle, Inc.; Lebanon Valley Rail Trail; PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources; PA Recreation & Park Society; Silver Springs Township, Cumberland County; and South Mountain Partnership.

FINANCIALS*

2019 OPERATING REVENUE



2019 OPERATING EXPENDITURES



PROJECT FINANCIALS

PROJECT REVENUE: \$1,149,197.65
State & Federal Grants: 89%
Local Grants & Donations: 11%

PROJECT EXPENDITURES: \$1,096,284.82
Construction & Inspection: 95%
Engineering & Permitting: 5%

DONATIONS

MATERIALS & SERVICES

\$44,124
Includes the following municipal contributions to maintain & improve the Hanover Trolley Trail:

Hanover: \$4,039
Jackson Twp: \$14,895
Penn Twp: \$1,757
Spring Grove: \$2,112

VOLUNTEER HOURS

2288
Includes the following municipal hours contributed to maintain & improve the Hanover Trolley Trail:

Hanover: 90 hrs
Jackson Twp: 130 hrs
Penn Twp: 48 hrs
Spring Grove: 40 hrs



YCRTA treasurer Dale Keagy and Executive Director Gwenth Loose accept a grant of \$10,000 from Joe Malta, Regional External Affairs Director of Met-Ed, A FirstEnergy Company, for acquisition of the Genesee Wyoming dormant rail line. November 2019.

2019 AWARDS

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Past YCRTA chairman Carl Knoch, received Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society's highest award, the Fred M. Coombs's Outstanding Achievement Award, at the society's Annual Conference held at The Penn Stater, State College, PA, on April 4, 2019.

COMMUNITY AWARD

On September 12, 2019, York County History Center presented the York County Rail Trail Authority with its 2019 Community Award.

Pictured from left to right: YCRTA members Jeff Hines, Ann Yost, Silas Chamberlin, Dale Keagy, Mack Johnson, Frank Kempf, York County History Center board chairman Rev. Patrick Rooney, and YCRTA member Danielle Stehman.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE AWARD

On September 25, 2019, with WGAL-TV anchor and event emcee Jere Gish looking on, YCRTA executive director Gwen Loose thanks the Alliance for recognizing her with their Spirit of YoCo Awards' Non-Profit/Government Employee of the Year.

11TH ANNUAL YCRTA AWARDS

On December 10, 2019, as part of the YCRTA's Annual Holiday Gathering at Hanover Junction Train Station, the following awards were presented:

TRAIL CHAMPION

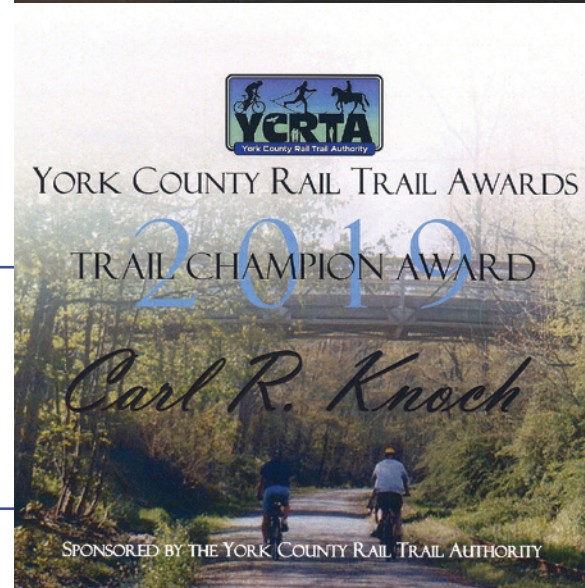
Carl R. Knoch for over twenty years of service on YCRTA, eighteen as chairman; for leading seven User Surveys & Economic Impact Studies of the Heritage Rail Trail.

TRAIL ORGANIZATION

Assistant Professor Brian Malcarne and his York College of PA students for support of YCRTA's annual Pumpkin Walk, carving nearly 250 pumpkins over five years, and making their carving parties a popular, all-welcome, outdoor campus event each fall.

GOVERNMENT LEADER

The York County's Sheriff's Officers for directing traffic and providing safety for the thousands who attend YCRTA's Pumpkin Walk since 2015.



RAIL TRAIL SPECIAL FRIENDS

For conducting monthly inspections and performing light maintenance on the Hanover Trolley Trail as part of our Adopt-the-Trolley-Trail Program: Dave Jones of Hanover Cyclers, Jeffrey Garvick of Penn Township, Terry & Don Reichard of West Manchester Township.

For providing representatives to serve on YCRTA's planning committee: Downtown Inc, York County Economic Alliance, YMCA of York.

For providing representatives to serve on the Hanover Trolley Trail operating committee: BAE Systems, Hanover Cyclers, Jackson Township, PA Representative Kate Klunk, Penn Township, Pixelle Specialty Solutions, Spring Grove Area Recreation Commission, Spring Grove Borough, Spring Grove Area Chamber of Commerce.

For providing representatives to serve on the Pumpkin Walk committee: Friends of the Heritage Rail Trail Corridor, Motor Car Club, Seven Valleys Fire Company, The Valley Tavern, York College of PA, York County Convention & Visitors Bureau, York County Department of Parks & Recreation, York County Sheriff's Office.

2019 MEMBERS + DONOR LIST

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

In January 2019, YCRTA welcomed Silas Chamberlin, York County Economic Alliance Vice-president, to serve on the Authority. Silas brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience related to trail development and trail-related economic development. In July 2019, we welcomed Kathy Deporter to serve on the Pumpkin Walk committee.

During 2019, YCRTA welcomed Nick Pullo of Downtown Inc to serve on the planning committee and CJ Weigle from State Representative Kate Klunk's office to serve on the Hanover Trolley Trail operating committee.

SAYING "GOOD BYE" FOR NOW

During 2019, Mark Rooney of Downtown Inc stepped down from the YCRTA planning committee as he relocated to the Philadelphia area, where he plans to continue his work promoting trails as an integral part of an urban economic landscape. Carrie Nace from State Representative Kate Klunk's office also stepped down from the Hanover Trolley Trail operating committee.

In December 2019, Dale Keagy retired as a member and treasurer of YCRTA. We're pleased that he has agreed to provide bookkeeping and treasurer reporting services to the Authority for 2020 and to aid in the transition to a new treasurer.



YCRTA's Give Local York 2019 Campaign was given a boost by these special canine volunteer movie stars. Their video, "Meet Friends on the Rail Trail," was selected as one of three videos to promote this county-wide day of giving and raised nearly \$7,000 for YCRTA.



Hanover Trolley Trail operating committee is a team of volunteers who meet quarterly to review current projects and policies and make recommendations to YCRTA related to the future development of the Hanover Trolley Trail.



Each fall, Assistant Professor Brian Malcarne hosts a volunteer pumpkin carving party on the grounds of York College of PA for students to carve and contribute 50 pumpkins for YCRTA's annual Pumpkin Walk.



On September 8, 2019 a volunteer work crew from Trinity Lutheran Church, Jefferson, PA, spent the day trimming and weeding the section of the Hanover Trolley Trail in Spring Grove and Jackson Township.



Several times a year, a friendly volunteer group of avid cyclists and supporters gather at the offices of YCRTA to prepare bulk mailings of semi-annual newsletters and other promotional materials.



The ten members of YCRTA serve as a volunteer leadership team, meeting monthly to conduct business, traveling across the county to present rail trail projects to elected officials, hosting information tables at area festivals to talk to local residents about their work, and touring the sites of current and future rail trail projects.

IN ADDITION TO THE MANY FRIENDS OF YORK COUNTY RAIL TRAILS, WHOSE GENEROUS ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPORT THE WORK OF YORK COUNTY RAIL TRAIL AUTHORITY, WE RECOGNIZE THE FOLLOWING DONORS:

Adams Electric Cooperative	Steve & Mary Green	Marilyn & David Neuburger	SpiritTrust
Bahn Family	Gung Ho Bikes	North York Borough	Springfield Township
Diane Baker	H&H General Excavating	OSS Health	Starview Media Inc.
Roger & Metta Barbour	Hanover Cyclers	PA DCNR	Steam into History
Greg & Celine Baum	Michael Harter	PA DOT	Danielle & Clint Stehman
Cy & Joan Beekey	Hellam Township	Paulus Orchards	Stellar Partners LLC
Bob Hoffman Foundation	M Frances Herzog	Sue C. Peck	Jeff Hines & Patti Stirk Foundation
Randall & Susan Brynes	Jeff Hines	Penn State York	The Graham Group
Buchart-Horn, Inc.	Marc Hirsh, MD	Penn Township	The Hummingbird Hill Fund
Stephen Byers	Hostetter Supply Co.	PENNVEST	The Jones Family Foundation
Christine & Stanley Carbaugh	George & Jocelyn Hubbard	Powder Mill Foundation	The Valley Tavern
Cashman's Ace Hardware	Nancy Ickes	Matthew Pugh	The York Water Company
Silas Chamberlin	Jackson Township Sewer Authority	Robert Pullo	Ray & Doris Tobias
Codorus Watershed Endowment	Mack & Jonquil Johnson	Quality	Transportation Resource Group
Country Meadows	Dale & Jacklyn Keagy	Walt & Leslie Reamer	Twin Pine Farm
County of York	Frank & Sharon Kempf	Don & Terry Reichard	Don & Jackie Uphouse
CS Davidson, Inc.	Kennie's Markets	Richard Renn	Utz Quality Foods
Joseph & Diana Cybularz	Bill & Kim Kerlin	Gary & Debra Rickrode	David & Sandra Van De Streek
Denny Daugherty	Kessler's Bicycle Center	Deborah & Robert Rittase	Jane & John Wagman
David & Linda Davidson	Kinsley Family Foundation	Jesse & Cindy Rowe	Chris Wagman
Joseph Dement	Carl & Anne Knoch	Jack Sanstead, MD	Edward & Sally Wagman Family Fund
Charles & Alma Diehl Family Fund	Robin Kohler	Steve & Marie Saubel	Robert Warner
Sharon Dorn	Laurie Lears	Scott Savoie	Jeff Waybright
Peter Dubs	Katherine & Andrew Lesko	Dave & Peggy Schlichter	Weinstein Realty Consultants
Angela Edris-Eveler	Liberty Christian Fellowship	Mark Schmidt	Weis Markets
Vince Edwards	Jeffrey Limm	John & Sue Schmidt	Whistle Stop Bike Shop
Dean Emig	James & Mary Lubas	Jane Schussler	Ryan White
Andrew Farabaugh	Martin Marcelli	Seven Valleys Fire Co.	Brian & Melinda Williams
Federal Lands Access Program	Todd & Helen Marsteller	Paula & Charles Shamoian	Victor Winstead
Dennis Flickinger	Martin's Chips	Steven Shelley & Judy Miller	Katherine Wolf
Flying Feet Sport Shoes	Jean Merritt	Dale & Nancy Shirey	Eric & Sherrie Wolfgang
Dr. Lawrence & Gayle Freer	Met-Ed/ FirstEnergy Foundation	Shrewsbury Township	Women's Giving Circle
Friends of the Heritage Rail Trail	Donald & Karen Minogue	Theresa Smith	Elizabeth Wright
Giant Food Stores	Karen Mitchell	Edward & Anna Smith	York College of PA
Glatfelter Insurance Group	Barbara Moore	Smyser's Dairy Farm	York County Community Foundation
Mark Goedecker, Jennifer Rein & Family	Jennifer & Robert Myers III	Robert Snader	York County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Don Gogniat	Amy Nelson	L Christine Snyder	York County Sheriff Office
Jodi Graham		Jodi Snyder	Ann Yost



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