www.DowntownConnellsville.org

Fall 2021

Downtown Funding Available

Downtown Connellsville is grateful for the donations we receive from businesses and private individuals. Those donations are put back into our designated downtown district.



Downtown Connellsville will match up to \$250 in new downtown business signs. The sign must be located on the business and be approved by the city's Health and Code Enforcement Officer.

Downtown Connellsville will match up to \$1000 in facade work. This may include new lighting, paint, windows or door.

Since January 2021 we have given out \$2,950 to businesses in the Downtown Connellsville area! Atkins Music \$950, Demuth Florist \$1000 and Stained Glass by Peter \$1000.



Tourism Grant Program Go Laurel Highlands

The purpose of this grant program is to increase visitation, enhance the visitor experience, and increase overnight stays in Fayette, Somerset, and Westmoreland counties. A percentage of each county's room tax is allocated to a grant program specifically established to support the county's tourism assets.

The 2022 cycle of the Fayette, Somerset, Westmoreland County Tourism Grant programs are now available. To help guide tourism-based business owners and their representatives through the grant writing process, GO Laurel Highlands has created a helpful grant writing video. The video is available on YouTube at:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqOiQiDArg4

Full details including grant criteria, application, and reporting forms are available online at **www.golaurelhighlands. com/grants.** Completed applications are due by 4:30 p.m., Fri., Oct. 1, 2021. To be considered for funding, applications must be submitted online. Printed applications will not be accepted. Grants will be awarded in early December 2021 and funds must be spent between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2022.



Laurel Highlands Toastmasters Club Chartered!

Toastmasters International (TI) is a nonprofit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of clubs. Since 1924, TI has helped people become more confident speakers, communicators, and leaders.

The Laurel Highlands Toastmasters Club is open to people everywhere! You could be in TX or Tanzania and still be a member.

Our meetings are Hybrid - in person and online simultaneously! We are the first club Chartered as Hybrid in TI.

Contact our Downtown Connellsville Liaison Sharon A. Joseph if interested in joining the Laurel Highlands Toastmasters Club. Meetings are held in Connellsville the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. Sharon can be reached at 724-603-0413.



There were many entries in the Downtown Connellsville "What in the World" contest. Contestants went to nine different store fronts to guess what antique item was in each window. The winner of this contest is Troop 101 - Boy Scouts of America! Troop 101 just celebrated it's 104th Birthday and are considered the First boy Scout troop in America. When they started out they were Troop 1! Pictured here, left to right, are: Andrea Doppelheuer, - Boy Scouts; Debbie Mullaney - VP Connellsville Historical Society; Ben Metzger; David Hutchinson; Tim Metzger; Thomas Hutchinson; Johnathan Sapola and Michael Edwards - President Fayette County Cultural Trust/VP Connellsville Chamber of Commerce. Thanks to the partnership of the Fayette County Cultural Trust, Connellsville Area Chamber of Commerce, Connellsville Historical Society and participating stores, this event was a big success!





On August 25th, Connellsville had a group of Road Scholars' visit the Connellsville Canteen and learn about Connellsville and the surrounding area! These visitors were from all over the United States! They were biking the Great Allegheny Passage and staying at the Laurelville Retreat Center. Thank you Mary Huschak-Kaufman for having the Fayette County Cultural Trust host the Road Scholars' visit in Connellsville.





Downtown Connellsville and Cycle Forward produced the "Banana's for Bikes" event partnering with businesses. This vintage bike show runs through October 17th! Thank you to all those businesses who volunteered to host a bicycle in your window during

this event!

In celebration of cycling – and the once ubiquitous banana seat – Downtown Connellsville is hosting a town-wide vintage bike exhibit. We can't promise a banana seat bike at every location, but you will delight in the variety of bikes on display at downtown locations. Find the list of participating locations and digital site map at www.downtownconnellsville.org. Printed maps are available at the Comfort Inn (325 N. First Street).

There is no cost to visit the sites. Post photos of your visit to Instagram, using the hashtag #connellsvillebikes. The exhibit is intended as a self-guided experience. Downtown Connellsville lead a group walking tour of the sites on July 21. This exhibit lasts through Oct. 17.

Downtown Connellsville, 6th Annual, Chili Festival is coming up on Saturday, 6 November from 11 am - 2 pm. This is a great opportunity for restaurants to showcase their facility to those who may not have visited before. If you would like to take part in this event please email Sharon at Sharon@DowntownConnellsville.org. Last year we had 9 different businesses participate. If your business is participating and selling tickets you get to keep \$5.00 from every ticket sold to offset the cost of making the chili.

New Downtown Businesses

Thredhedz

923 West Crawford Avenue

All Dolled Up

601 West Crawford Avenue

CONNfetti on the Yough

316 West Crawford Avenue





First City News

A publication of Downtown Connellsville, an initiation of the Fayette County Cultural Trust 139 West Crawford Avenue Connellsville, PA. 15425

www.downtownconnellsville.org



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Downtown Connellsville Welcomes New Downtown Liaison

Sharon A. Joseph is serving as the Downtown Connellsville Liaison for the Fayette County Cultural Trust. Sharon is available to help Downtown Connellsville business owners optimize their growth potential and marketing opportunities through social media and search engines. She will be available to connect people to job opportunities in the designated downtown area and help to market the available storefronts.



This is a great opportunity for those downtown businesses to be able to get some help navigating through advertising opportunities, maximizing the internet, and creating partnerships to help businesses succeed.

The Fayette County Cultural Trust is grateful to the Neighborhood Partnership Program for providing this opportunity for business owners. Sharon, who now resides in Connellsville, will be using her extensive Wall Street business management background, coaching and consulting experience, to help businesses grow their bottom line, and implement pre-determined strategies to develop and connect the Downtown Connellsville geographic area to the greater Laurel Highlands tourism family.