

2020 Community Improvement Awards

Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce
Huntingdon County Planning Commission

September 2021

Award Promotes Excellence in Development

The Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce and Huntingdon County Planning Commission are proud to announce the winners of the sixteenth annual Community Improvement Awards.

The Planning Commission and the Chamber jointly reviewed the nominees and the final selection was made by the Planning Commission. The sponsor for the Awards is Kish Bank.

The 2020 Award categories are Community Spirit, New Construction, Preservation and Special Merit.

- Community Spirit includes the recognition of individuals and organizations that have made a significant contribution to Huntingdon County in the field of community development.
- New Construction includes any type of new construction of buildings of all types.
- Preservation includes the restoration, preservation and/or rehabilitation of buildings of all types to retain historic character.
- A Special Merit Award may be made for projects, persons or groups that demonstrate outstanding achievement on their own merits.

The principles of sustainable development include:

- Creating walkable neighborhoods;
- Directing development toward existing communities;
- Creating housing choices;
- Providing transportation choices;
- Encouraging a mixture of land uses; and
- Preserving open space, farmland and environmentally-sensitive areas.

Community Improvement Awards are based on both the visual and the environmental impact of the project. Nominations were judged on how each project:

- Enhances the attractiveness of Huntingdon County;
- Is compatible with the site area and environment;
- Shows creativity/innovation in design and use of materials;
- Enhances the quality of life, including job creation; and
- Exhibits the principle of sustainability.



2019 Community Improvement Awards Presented August 20, 2020

Community Spirit Award

HUNTINGDON COUNTY HISTORY & HERITAGE ROUNDTABLE

The Huntingdon County History & Heritage Roundtable is comprised of representatives from museums and historical societies (nonprofit organizations) and individuals interested in local history. Since their first meeting in 2018, Roundtable members meet monthly at rotating times and locations to share ideas and suggestions, answer questions and collaborate on promotional, preservation and educational efforts related to Huntingdon County's great history and heritage. Their website is considered their biggest accomplishment to date. Visitors to www.huntingdoncountyhistory.com will find a brief history of Huntingdon County; information about almost every museum, historical society or organization and historical site in the county; and pages highlighting outdoor activities, community events and stories and legends of Huntingdon County.

Roundtable projects and events have included creation of a 911 contact sheet in case of emergencies at any of their member facilities, research and promotion of the Huntingdon County Medal of Honor Monument, a Southern Huntingdon County bus tour, and a free museum day. Upcoming projects include a World War I Monument and publication of a Heritage Brochure for distribution through local businesses.



**Huntingdon County
Free Museum Day**

Complimentary Admission
September 19, 2020 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
The following
organizations are accepting
preregistrations for complimentary
admission.

Swigart Museum
Issett Heritage Museum
Huntingdon County Historical Society
Bricktown Model Railroad Museum
Mt. Union Historical Society Sharrar
Stone House
Three Springs Historical Society
Mapleton - Union Area Historical Society
Petersburg Heritage Museum
Rockhill Trolley Museum
East Broad Top Railroad
Broad Top Area Coal Miners Museum
Hartslog Heritage Museum

To preregister visit:
www.huntingdoncountyhistory.com
Preregistration for up to four tours ends
September 17, 2020
Event is sponsored by members of
Huntingdon County History & Heritage
Roundtable

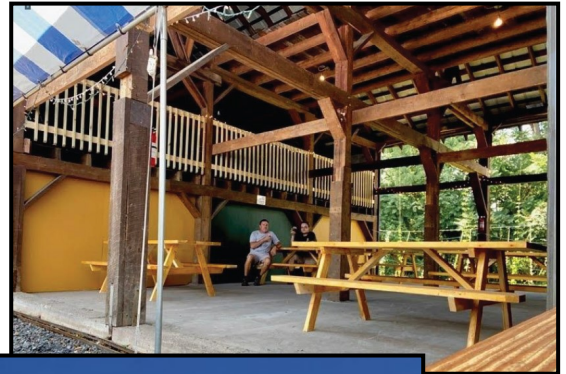


New Construction Award

JUNIATA BREWING COMPANY, HUNTINGDON, PA

Juniata Brewing Company (JBC) is the sole production brewery in Huntingdon County. Founded in 2020 and focused on enriching the Huntingdon community and bringing craft beer to the local region, JBC creates specialty products in a renovated furniture building.

The taproom provides a distinctive gathering space to serve the products produced by the five-barrel brewery and the connected warehouse area serves as outdoor seating. Some of the original wood from the EB Endres warehouse was repurposed in the outdoor seating area for support and to retain the weathered and historical texture and some was refinished to serve as tables in the taproom.



Preservation Award

1850 PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD ARCH BRIDGE RESTORATION, HUNTINGDON, PA

This 1850 Stone Arch Railroad Bridge was part of the original single-track line that brought Pennsylvania Railroad Company service to Huntingdon. Used by the first steam engine “Henry Clay” when it arrived in Huntingdon on June 6, 1850, this bridge was in service until it was abandoned after the great flood of 1889 destroyed extensive canal property and the railroad moved its tracks from Allegheny Street to the former canal bed, closer to the river. This bridge representing Huntingdon’s transition from canal to railroad is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is located directly beside the Pennsylvania Mainline Canal Greenway Trail.

Members of the Huntingdon Rotary Club participated in this two-part restoration project. The first part included cleaning up the area around the bridge, removing overgrown vegetation on the bridge and placing a sign identifying the bridge as the 1850 Pennsylvania Railroad Bridge. The second part was preparation and placement of a sign panel relating the rich history of the canal and railroad era at Huntingdon. Rotarians collaborated with Fred Lang and Nancy Shedd, members of the Huntingdon County Historical Society, to design the historical panel; and local artist Neal Campbell donated the use of his artwork for the panel. This original painting portrays a train crossing the Stone Creek bridge circa 1870. In cooperation with the Huntingdon Park and Road Association, the large sign panel was placed in Blair Park - across the road from the Arch Bridge.



Special Merit Award COOKIES FOR CAREGIVERS, HUNTINGDON, PA

The Cookies for Caregivers initiative was born in Huntingdon as a reflection of the COVID-19 experience in 2020. To show gratitude to essential workers on the front lines of the pandemic, two dads started baking and delivering cookies to Huntingdon's Hometown Heroes as a sign of appreciation and respect.

This movement to spread kindness started as a challenge between Scott McKenzie and Jeremy Uhrich. Their hug radius has greatly expanded through local and national media recognition and the formation of national and international Cookies for Caregivers chapters. Throughout the past year, McKenzie and Uhrich have been quoted as saying "it's ok to be small, just don't think small" and "there's no expiration date on kindness."



Community Improvement Awards

Partners

Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce
500 Allegheny Street
Huntingdon, PA 16652
(814) 643-1110
www.huntingdonchamber.com

Huntingdon County Planning Commission
205 Penn Street, Suite 3
Huntingdon, PA 16652
(814) 643-5091
www.huntingdoncounty.net

Sponsor

Kish Bank
9471 William Penn Highway (Rt. 22)
PO Box 593
Huntingdon, PA 16652
814-641-5474
www.kishbank.com