



THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



COMMISSIONERS

Terence Farrell
Kathi Cozzone
Ryan A. Costello

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS

313 W. Market Street, Suite 6202
P.O. Box 2748
West Chester, PA 19380-0991
(610) 344-6100

December 16, 2011

EDITORS: The following is for immediate release. If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Brain, Communications Coordinator at (610) 344-6279 or Mark Rupsis, Chester County Chief Operating Officer, at (610) 344-6025.

Chester County Commissioners approve grants from Chester County Conference and Visitors Bureau Foundation

Awards total \$163,300

WEST CHESTER _ The Chester County Commissioners approved Thursday the grant recommendations of the Chester County Conference and Visitors Bureau Foundation.

A total of \$163,300 was awarded in capital grants and event and marketing grants.

Two capital grants were given. Green Valleys Association at Welkinweir received \$3,000 for trail improvements and signage while the Schuylkill River Heritage Centre received \$20,000 for its visitors' center.

Marketing and events grants were given to 21 organizations.

American Helicopter Museum received \$12,000, the Brandywine Ballet received \$1,500, The Brandywine Singers received \$800, the Brandywine Valley Wine Trail received \$8,500, Chester County Balloon Festival received \$2,500, Chester County Conference and Visitors Bureau received \$15,000, Chester County Historical Society received \$10,000 and the Chester County Parks and Recreation Department received \$9,000.

Also, the Chester County Hospital received \$10,000, the Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce received \$5,000, Historic Kennett Square received \$10,000, Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens received \$5,000, Kennett Symphony received \$5,000, Oxford Arts Alliance received \$2,500, Oxford Main Street received \$5,000, Paoli Blues Fest received \$10,000, People's Light & Theatre received \$7,500, Phoenixville received \$2,500, West Chester BID received \$5,000, West Chester Film Festival received \$7,000 and town Tours and Village Walks received \$6,500.

Chester County is the first county in Pennsylvania to initiate a strategic planning process and has a Aaa rating on its bonds from Moody's Investors Service as well as AAA ratings from Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings. Established by William Penn as one of Pennsylvania's three original counties, Chester County has been named by Forbes.com as one of America's best places to raise a family and is ranked the healthiest county in Pennsylvania by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.