



Washington

County Community Foundation, Inc.

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News Release

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Charleroi's History – Moving Forward

The Charleroi Area Historical Society (CAHS) took a major step forward as representatives of the CAHS met with the Washington County Community Foundation, Inc. (WCCF) to finalize the creation of the *Charleroi Area Heritage & Tourism Fund* of the WCCF. This permanent, charitable fund was created specifically to support heritage and tourism projects in the Charleroi area. By partnering with the WCCF, the CAHS hopes to attract additional support for this community fund, both from a marketing perspective as well as a fundraising perspective.

The WCCF has been serving donors in Washington County for approximately 9 years and currently manages some eighty permanent funds with a combined value close to \$2 million. Its mission is to improve the quality of life in Washington County by providing philanthropic services to donors. The CAHS was created in 1973 to preserve and record the history of the Charleroi area. Both organizations agree that with proper marketing, the Charleroi area, with its historic district and official registry on the US National Register of Historic Places, and proximity to the Monongahela River, could prove to be a tourist attraction. The creation of the Fund at the WCCF was an important step toward increased success in tourism promotion in the Mon Valley Region.



WCCF Chairman John Duskey
(left) shown with
CAHS Chairman Albert Protin

As a permanent fund, the *Charleroi Area Heritage & Tourism Fund* will be invested with other permanent funds of the WCCF. Annually, earnings from the Fund will be forwarded to the CAHS for further distribution to organizations that enhance tourism in the region by promoting the heritage of the Charleroi community. As the value of the Fund grows, so too will the annual awards. It is hoped that local individuals, the business community, and all those interested in tourism in the Mon Valley, will help by making tax-deductible contributions to the Fund.

The Foundation has the ability to accept a wide variety of gifts, including cash, appreciated stock, life insurance, real property, or bequests for inclusion in the Fund. All gifts are tax deductible as provided by law. Those interested in supporting the Fund or learning more may contact the Washington County Community Foundation by mail at 77 South Main Street, Washington, PA 15301, by email at wccf@cobweb.net, or by telephone at 724-222-6330. Information is also available on the Foundation website at www.wccf.net.

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