

# LHVA Ambassadors' Update



INFORMATION FROM THE LACKAWANNA HERITAGE VALLEY AUTHORITY

APRIL/MAY 2008



## Heritage Explorer Train to St Thomas Aquinas Church Festival Archbald, PA Sunday, June 29, 2008

### Hop Aboard the Heritage Explorer

Spend Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, with LHVA on the Heritage Explorer Train to the St. Thomas Aquinas Church Festival in Archbald.

The **Heritage Explorer Train** will leave Steamtown National Historic Site in downtown Scranton at 12:15 p.m. on June 29<sup>th</sup>, and travel through the Mid-Valley to the Borough of Archbald. On the way, enjoy music, story-telling, juggling, activity guides, and costumed historical characters. The train will arrive in Archbald at approximately 1:30 p.m., just in time for the annual St. Thomas Aquinas Church Festival, with games, entertainment and plenty of good food! The train departs from Archbald at 3:30 p.m., and will arrive back at Steamtown

at approximately 4:45 p.m. This promises to be an old-fashioned, fun-filled day for the whole family!

This event is part of LHVA's expanding **Heritage Explorer** program. Project partners include the Borough of Archbald the Lackawanna County Library System, the Lackawanna County Office of Arts and Culture, the Lackawanna Historical Society, St. Thomas Aquinas Church, and Steamtown National Historic Site.

Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors (age 65 and over), and FREE for children (age 12 and under). Tickets are available at all Lackawanna County libraries. Contact Sarah Piccini at (570) 963-6730 x8227 or email [spiccini@LHVA.org](mailto:spiccini@LHVA.org) for additional information. We look forward to seeing you on the train!

### Follow the Reading Bug



This summer, "Catch the Reading Bug" at Lackawanna County libraries from June 16 to August 24. The **Summer Heritage Passport Program**

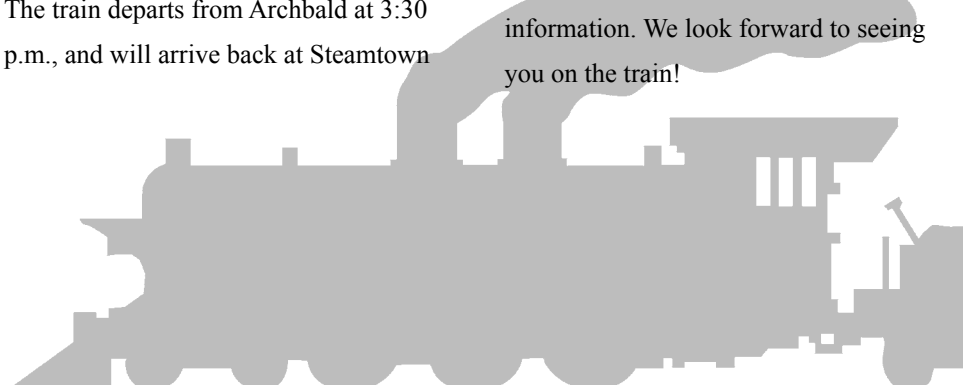
has lots of great activities for kids and their families!

Kids up to age twelve can join the summer reading club and get a **Summer Heritage Passport** for one free admission to seven local cultural and heritage sites. They are the Anthracite Heritage Museum, Steamtown National Historic Site, Electric City Trolley Museum, Scranton Cultural Center, Everhart Museum, Lackawanna Historical Society, and Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour. Adults accompanying a passport holder must pay regular admission fees.

Every week, a guest presenter with help children explore the theme through stories, music, and art. Each library will have LHVA's **Traveling Trunks**, filled with fun objects and activities that tell about life in the Lackawanna Valley one hundred years ago.

Every child with a valid library card can participate. Library cards are free.

Passports are available at all Lackawanna County libraries starting on June 16th. For more info, click on [www.lclshome.org](http://www.lclshome.org) or call any county library.



## LHVA CHANGES



### LHVA Welcomes New Staff Member

April Rogato joined LHVA in mid-May as Executive Assistant. The mother of three wonderful children, ages 20, 18, and 15, April owned and operated a group day care home during their childhood years. Since that time, she has worked as an administrative assistant at Lake Greeley Camp and as a receptionist/secretary at Friendship House. Although she enjoyed both jobs, April desired to expand her career. "So far," April says, the new job "has been a

wonderful learning experience. LHVA has so many interesting projects in the works, and I am very excited to be a part of the team." **Welcome, April!**

## Area ARTS

### Calling All Folk and Traditional Artists!

On June 12, 2008, LHVA and Lackawanna County's Office of Arts and Culture hosted a grants workshop for traditional and folk artists at the Electric City Trolley Museum in Scranton.

The PCA defines "traditional arts" as arts that are indigenous to a specific community, whether ethnic, geographic, religious, occupational, or familial. These arts, such as dance, song, instrumental music, storytelling, craft, and decorative arts, often serve as symbols of a group's identity or heritage. They are learned from elders and masters and are often passed on from one generation to the next.

Funding is available for fellowships and apprenticeships. The application deadline for these grants is August 4, 2008. Guidelines and application forms are available at [www.culturalpartnerships.org](http://www.culturalpartnerships.org) or [www.pacouncilonthearts.org](http://www.pacouncilonthearts.org).



### Governor's Conference Focuses on Tourism

Scranton Mayor Christopher Doherty received an Innovation in Tourism Award at "Destination Pennsylvania: The Governor's Conference on Tourism," held May 4-6 in Gettysburg. Tourism in Pennsylvania is a \$26 billion-a-year industry. "The future of Pennsylvania's great places depends, in part, on our ability to transform local economies and create jobs through tourism revenue," Gov. Rendell commented in a statement.

Locally, the Lackawanna County Convention and Visitor's Bureau (LCCVB) spends 95% of its advertising resources outside of Northeastern Pennsylvania to encourage people to visit our region. LHVA works closely with the LCCVB to promote heritage tourism, a significant segment of the tourism industry. For more information about the conference, visit [www.governor.state.pa.us](http://www.governor.state.pa.us).



#### Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority A National and State Heritage Area

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538 Spruce Street, Suite 516  
Scranton, PA 18503  
Phone: (570) 963-6730  
Fax: (570) 963-6732  
Email: [heritage@LHVA.org](mailto:heritage@LHVA.org)  
Web: [www.LHVA.org](http://www.LHVA.org)

The Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority is a partnership of government, business, civic organizations, and individuals dedicated to the development of the region's historic, cultural, economic, and natural resources through preservation, education, and promotion of our heritage. LHVA's goals are to tell the region's story; facilitate partnerships; preserve and enhance the physical character and economic vitality of the communities in the Lackawanna Valley; improve the visitor experience; and reconnect people to the Lackawanna River.

#### Lackawanna County Commissioners

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Corey O'Brien  
A.J. Munchak

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Natalie Gelb Solfanelli, Executive Director  
Daniel K. Perry, Chief Operating Officer  
Alice Sokoloski, Fiscal Director  
Colleen Carter, Director of Programs  
Stephanie Milewski, RLA, Trail Manager  
& Environmental Program Officer  
Sarah Piccini, Program Officer - Interpretation  
& Preservation  
April Rogato, Executive Assistant  
Beverlyann Liuzzo, Administrative Assistant  
Diane Chelik, Administrative Assistant  
Jack Carling, Contracts Manager



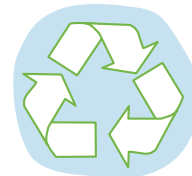
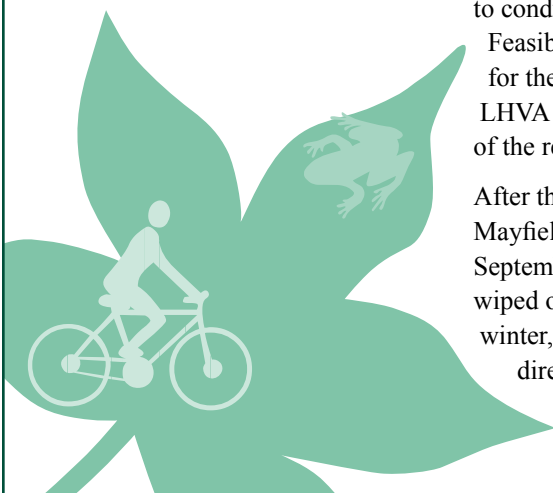
# Lackawanna Greenway and Lackawanna River Heritage Trail UPDATES

The Downtown Scranton Riverfront Master Plan is nearing completion. A collaboration of LHVA, Lackawanna River Corridor Association, and Scranton Tomorrow, the Master Plan is being prepared by the firm of Wallace, Roberts and Todd, and it will present recommendations and visualizations for the transformation of the Lackawanna River in Central City Scranton. The Riverwalk project

is a catalyst for development of the Lackawanna River as a destination for recreation and cultural events.

LHVA anticipates a groundbreaking for the Downtown Scranton Riverwalk before the end of 2008. LHVA recently submitted a grant application to Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in order to secure funds to conduct a Greenway Study, Trail Feasibility Study, and Master Site Plan for the Scranton CNJ Trail Extension. LHVA expects to hear about the status of the request in fall 2008.

After the newest section of trail in Mayfield Borough was opened in September 2007, a large rain storm wiped out a section of it. Over the winter, LHVA had a swale installed to direct runoff to an existing channel under the trail. The trail was repaired in March.

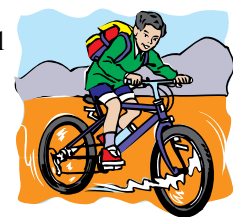


## New Recycling Project Underway

A paper recycling program is in the works to help the City of Scranton comply with state recycling regulations. LHVA is developing the program with Barbara Giovagnoli of the Lackawanna County Recycling Center and Sharon McCrone of the Employment Opportunity and Training Center. All three organizations are members of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Conservation Alliance. The model program will encompass businesses in a focused area that extends from Lackawanna Avenue to Mulberry Street, and Washington Avenue to Adams Avenue. Several other "green" organizations have expressed an interest in participating in this effort and expanding the reach of the program. Watch future newsletters for details.

## Passport to the Outdoors

Help your kids increase their physical activity and stay healthy this summer through the Keystone Activity Zone (KAZ) Passport program.



An alliance of several community organizations, including Lackawanna Advocates for Nutrition and Activity (LACKANA), the KAZ program uses local parks, trails, and special activities to promote healthy lifestyles for children.

Sites include McDade, Merli-Sarnoski, Aylesworth, Mellow, South Abington, Streamside, Lackawanna State, and Abington Area Community Parks. Visit [www.keystoneactivezone.org](http://www.keystoneactivezone.org) or [www.panaonline.org](http://www.panaonline.org) for details and updates on programs throughout the summer.

## Grants OPPORTUNITIES

### Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts

The PCA's Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts (PPA) Project Stream Grants Program provides funding up to \$3,000 to eligible organizations or individuals for arts projects. The application deadline is June 30, 2008. For more info, visit [www.pacouncilonthearts.org](http://www.pacouncilonthearts.org). The local partner organization in our area is the Scranton Area Foundation. Visit them at [www.safdn.org](http://www.safdn.org).



### The F. Lamnot Belin Arts Scholarship

The F. Lamnot Belin scholarship provides financial assistance to artists of outstanding talent and promise in the fine arts. The scholarship is available through the Waverly Community House in Waverly, PA. To find out more information, visit the Comm on line at [www.waverlycomm.org](http://www.waverlycomm.org).



## Partner EVENTS



### Trolley Museum Unveils New Panels

Natalie Gelb Solfanelli, Executive Director of the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority, and Maureen McGuigan, Director of the Electric City Trolley Museum, showcase the newly-installed LHVA interpretive panels at the Trolley Museum in Scranton. LHVA provided a grant to fund the design and installation of two panels at the Museum as well as a series of panels at the Trolley Restoration Shop on Montage Mountain. The panels showcase information about LHVA, and an overview of trolleys operated by the Museum, cars undergoing restoration, upcoming projects, partnerships with other organizations, and volunteer activities.

THIRD ANNUAL  
*Sunday*  
IN THE  
*Park*

Kick off a summer of fabulous events on Sunday, June 22, from Noon to 4:00 p.m. at Nay Aug Park in Scranton with the “Sunday in the Park” celebration. The event highlights the Lackawanna County Library System’s “Catch the Reading Bug” summer reading program and the Everhart Museum’s “Art of the Land” exhibition. Join the fun with museum tours, guided walks through the park, musical performances, and children’s activities.



## Place-Based EDUCATION



### Summer Camps for Kids

*Area sites offer a wealth of family-friendly fun and educational activities*

#### Anthracite Heritage Adventure 2008

For kids ages 8 to 12, sessions run July 15 through 18 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Limited to 36 campers. Call for details and reservations: (570) 963-4804.

#### Children’s Library

Celebrate growing things with the Up, Down, and Around activities in the lobby. Visit [www.lclshome.org/childrenslibrary](http://www.lclshome.org/childrenslibrary) for details, and watch for regular monthly programs throughout the summer.

#### Electric City Trolley Museum

For kids ages 7 to 11, Art Camp runs July 28 through August 1 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Limited to first 25 children. For details and registration, call (570) 963-6590.

#### Rail Camp at Steamtown

Twenty-four campers from all over the country will get together for another year of rails and trains at Steamtown National Historic Site’s Rail Camp. This year’s camp is booked, but if you would like to learn more about Rail Camp, visit [www.railcamp.com](http://www.railcamp.com).