



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Landmark Towns of Bucks County Urges Bristol Borough, Morrisville, New Hope and Yardley Residents to Spend Their Stimulus Dollars Downtown

Bristol, Pa. – Landmark Towns today encouraged **Bristol Borough, Morrisville, New Hope and Yardley** residents who are receiving the Making Work Pay provision from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to spend those few extra dollars per week at locally-owned, independent businesses. During 2009 and 2010, the Making Work Pay provision of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) will be seen in the form of a refundable tax credit averaging up to \$400 for individuals, and up to \$800 for married taxpayers filing jointly, according to statistics released by the IRS. The Making Work Pay provision translates to an average increase of \$13 per week in take-home pay, per household.

Donna Boone, Regional Main Street Coordinator, said “Many people do not realize how positively and significantly spending \$13 per week at businesses other than big-box, national chains will affect local economies across the commonwealth.” Landmark Towns estimates that an average central business district has about 5,000 households in its trade area receiving the Making Work Pay tax credit. Therefore, if each household spends just \$13 per week at locally-owned, independent businesses, this equates to \$65,000 per week in additional sales for the local economy. Over a 52-week period, that dollar amount will grow to more than \$3 million dollars.

According to Landmark Towns, the true impact of spending \$13 per week locally would be

seen in the multiplier effect of local businesses investing their increased revenues back into the community. “There are many statistics out there regarding the ways communities benefit from buying locally,” said Boone, “but one constant is that independent businesses are more likely to buy their own goods and services locally.”

Landmark Towns of Bucks County, a project of the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, is a regional revitalization initiative of four boroughs along the Delaware Canal – Bristol, Morrisville, New Hope and Yardley - that have traditional downtown business districts. The Landmark Towns project is designed to help these small towns breathe re-newed economic life into their business districts, while preserving and enhancing the industrial and cultural heritage they share. All of these boroughs have exhibited the will and interest to improve their quality of life, preserve historic resources, and enhance economic conditions.

The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor fosters stewardship of historical, cultural and natural resources along the early canal and railroad systems that carried anthracite coal from mine to market in eastern Pennsylvania. For more information, please visit www.delawareandlehigh.org or call 215-781-2605.

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