FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 30, 2014 Press Contact: Susquehanna Greenway Partnership Zach Pyle, River Towns Program Coordinator Phone: 570-522-7339 Email: <u>zpyle@susquehannagreenway.org</u>



Lewisburg Designated Susquehanna Greenway River Town



Zach Pyle presents the River Town designation award to Sam Pearson, Lewisburg Neighborhoods Corporation; Mayor Judy Wagner; Linda Sterling, Lewisburg Downtown Partnership.

Over the past few months, community leaders from various Lewisburg organizations, businesses, and Bucknell University have worked with the <u>Susquehanna Greenway Partnership</u> (SGP) to be designated as a Susquehanna Greenway River Town. The community earned the title by completing an application and agreeing to advance projects that will connect people to the river and connect Lewisburg to the larger Susquehanna Greenway system.

To continue the borough's excellent track record of attracting visitors to the downtown and engaging residents with the Susquehanna River, the Lewisburg Neighborhoods Organization among many other organizations have volunteered to coordinate river town meetings and work with SGP to identify and plan priority projects related to the community and river. Several new river town related community programs have become a reality this year, including a "Picnic in the Park" series, a neighborhood block party, and river clean-up events.

On Thursday, September 25, 2014, the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership officially named Lewisburg as a Susquehanna Greenway River Town during the community's "Picnic in the Park" program held at Soldier's Memorial Park along the river front. The award was presented to Sam Pearson, Executive Director/Elm Street Manager at Lewisburg Neighborhoods Corporation; Linda Sterling, Executive Director at Lewisburg Downtown Partnership; Katie Davis, Executive Director of the Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority; and Lewisburg's Mayor, Judy Wagner. Two River Town signs will be presented for installation at the town's gateways as well as a plaque for City Hall.

"Susquehanna Greenway River Towns are not stand-alone communities, they are part of the Susquehanna Greenway - a connected landscape of parks, walking and biking trails, river access areas, working farms and conserved land stretching over 500 miles along the Susquehanna River," says Trish Carothers, SGP's Executive Director. "The Greenway helps to protect our water quality, encourages healthy lifestyles, and inspires stewardship and civic pride in places where people live, work, play and visit."

Any further questions can be directed to Zach Pyle, SGP River Towns Program Coordinator, at 570-522-7339 or email at <u>zpyle@susquehannagreenway.org</u>.