



NEWSLETTER

### In This Issue

- Director's Report
- Project Recap
- Organizational Updates
- Donor Thank You

by the enduring power of nature's seasons and cycles. People are hungry for these refuges and preserves. What we know is that there are not enough of them.

Whether it's our Wallace Hartman Nature Preserve in Charleston, the Needleseye Park in Fayette County (transferred from us to the City of Oak Hill),

Needleseye Park in Fayette County (transferred from us to the City of Oak Hill), Toms Run Preserve south of Morgantown, Camp Bartow in Pocahontas County, or the Yellow Creek Natural Area in Tucker County, we know that getting outside offers more than a breath of fresh air: It meets a need.

So, how about that Yellow Creek Natural Area! That acquisition led to our big lesson from 2019: People love wild places and will vote with their dollars to see them protected. We'd never mounted such a campaign to raise funds for one large property acquisition. We wondered if \$800,000 was an overly ambitious goal. But we knew that this property is a gem, and worth an extraordinary effort to save from future development.

Four grant sources provided \$700,000 for the project. And the rest? It came from more than 200 West Virginia lovers from 19 states - native sons and daughters as well as people who have adopted the state, outdoor enthusiasts who fish, hike, and mountain bike, and more. Local businesses like White Grass Ski Touring Center & Cafe, Hellbender Burritos, Stumptown Ales, Sirianni's Pizza Cafe, and Blackwater Bikes jumped in to share the opportunity with "their people." Two-thirds of those donors hadn't even heard of WVLT before this project began. Every WVLT board member and staff member made a special contribution. And voilà! Money raised, property secured. Your generosity and enthusiasm are humbling.

Please enjoy this issue's recap of 2019. While you do, know that we have not slowed down. There is more coming your way. We hope you will be there with us, as WVLT expands protected lands all over West Virginia.

In the end, the lands we protect end up protecting us.

Brent Bailey, Ph.D. Executive Director



# January

# WVU WATER DISPLAY IN LIBRARY

WVLT sponsored and participated in the WATER exhibit in the WVU Downtown Library, on display from January into June 2019. WVU staff worked with community partners to curate a cross-disciplinary exhibit that examined the impact of water in our lives—from conservation, beauty, and recreation to overuse, flooding, and pollution.



LANDTRUST



# February

### **CABIN FEVER BEER FESTIVAL**

WVLT sponsored the water station at the Cabin Fever Beer Festival at Mylan Park in Morgantown, an event that attracted more than 1,500 attendees. While keeping the crowd hydrated, we also enjoyed talking to people about the importance of clean water to our state's growing craft beer industry and the contribution WVLT's land conservation work makes toward ensuring rivers and streams—the source of our beer—remain healthy.

P.S. Clean Water Makes Great Beer!

# March

### **BLUE JEAN BALL**

WVLT partnered with Mon River Trails Conservancy for the 5 th annual Blue Jean Ball, a celebration that is becoming known as a great friendraiser and fundraiser. The event raises money for greenspace projects in the Mon Valley, such as the Toms Run Preserve and Mon







### **EARTH DAY WITH MEDEXPRESS**

We were fortunate to spend Earth Day with our friends at MedExpress Urgent Care!

- We welcomed twenty employee volunteers to help build new hiking trails in Toms Run Preserve (Morgantown) and Wallace Hartman Nature Preserve (Charleston).
- At Coopers Rock State Forest, MedExpress partnered with WVLT to teach Cub Scouts about the importance of First Aid. We all felt much safer hiking into the woods later that day!



Together, WVLT and Friends of the Cheat welcomed nearly 300 boaters on the Cheat River for the annual Meet the Cheat Float. (This much anticipated annual event typically takes place at Blackwater Outdoor Adventures in Tucker County on the second Saturday in June...hope you join us next time!)

As part of WVLT's ongoing efforts to develop access and recreational opportunities on our preserves, WVLT hosted a 7-person trail crew from the American Hiking Society's Volunteer Vacation Program.

# July STREAM SNORKELING

As part of our EPIC (Engaging People In Conservation) program, WVLT and the U.S. Forest Service partnered on a snorkeling adventure that allowed 75 people to explore the underwater world of fish and aquatic life in Shavers Fork of the Cheat River, in Randolph County.



# August NCCC AMERICORPS

Volunteers from the National Civilian Community Corps, a program known as AmeriCorps NCCC, assisted WVLT in making significant progress building trails at the Toms Run Preserve in Monongalia County. The 7-person crew of 20-something volunteers spent three weeks turning an old logging road into a hiking trail that leads to a scenic waterfall in the preserve. Thanks Team Delta 2 for all of your hard work!



# September

### **YELLOW CREEK NATURAL AREA**

With the support of four major grant funders, several local businesses, and 228 individuals from 19 states, we raised \$800,000 for the purchase and management of 860 acres in Tucker County that includes the renowned Moon Rocks mountain biking trails! Learn more about the project at



# October

### **CAMP BARTOW - OPEN FOR BUSINESS**

In October, a ribbon was cut, a "six-pounder" cannon was fired, and Camp Bartow Historic Site was officially opened to the public! Many thanks to the WV Humanities Council for funding the interpretive displays at this Civil War site! For directions and details visit: www.VisitCampBartow.org.

# November

### **SPECIAL PLACES CELEBRATION**

The annual Special Places Celebration takes us back to our roots in Charleston and is the place where we celebrate the land we love and honor those heroes who protect it! On November 8, 2019 we welcomed nearly 250 guests in the beautiful Clay Center for the Arts & Sciences of West Virginia for an enjoyable evening celebrating our 25th Anniversary!



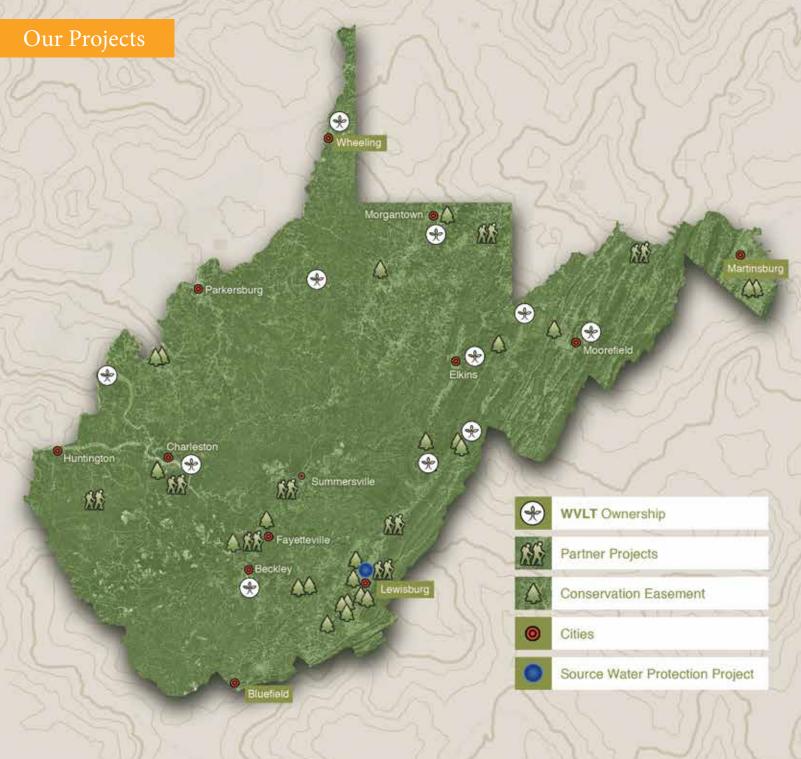
# December

## **PINEY CREEK LAND DONATION**

We received our Christmas gift a little early from Appalachian Headwaters, as they facilitated the donation of 325 acres of the Piney Creek Gorge

in Raleigh County. This acquisition allows WVLT to invite local stakeholders to the table to create recreational opportunities for residents and visitors to Beckley and other New River communities. Access and hiking trails are in the works!

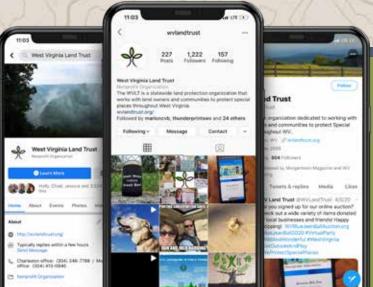


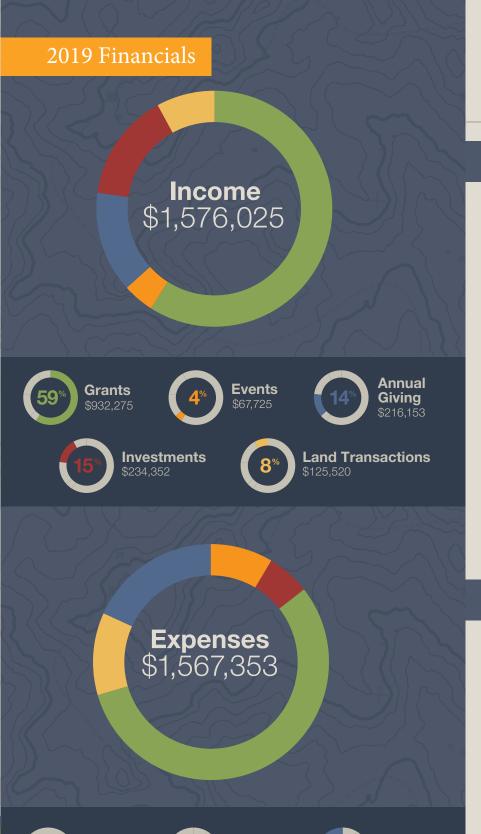


### Stay Connected

Unfortunately due to the coronavirus outbreak, we have had to cancel many of our in-person activities for the year. But we have several virtual community engagement activities planned! Please connect with us on social media @wvlandtrust (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) and check our website often for updates.

WVLandTrust.org

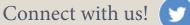




Stewardship

**Protection** 

**Administrative** 









#### Our Staff

#### Brent Bailey, Ph.D.

Executive Director • brent@wvlandtrust.org

#### Ashton Berdine

Lands Program Manager • ashton@wvlandtrust.org

#### Debby Berry

Administrative Assistant • info@wvlandtrust.org

#### Jesse Cecil

Operations Coordinator • jcecil@wvlandtrust.org

#### Amy Cimarolli

Land Protection Specialist • amy@wvlandtrust.org

#### Terrell Ellis

Organizational Consultant • tellis@te-associates.com

#### Rick Landenberger, Ph.D.

Science & Management Specialist rick@wvlandtrust.org

#### Jessica Spatafore

Director of Development & Communications jessica@wvlandtrust.org

#### Adam Webster

Conservation & Communication Coordinator adam@wvlandtrust.org

#### Our Board

Jonathan R Marshall

President

Gabe Rushden

Treasurer

**Calvert Armbrecht** 

**Dave Clark** 

**Larry Harris** 

**Nina Peyton** 

Outreach &

Education

**Fundraising** 

John Schmidt

**Andy Altman** 

Vice President

**Jackie Hallinan** 

Secretary

**Ted Armbrecht** 

**Chap Donovan** 

**Lewis Payne** 

**Bren Pomponio** 

**Craig Slaughter** 





Help us reduce our carbon footprint! Share this newsletter with your friends to spread the word and be sure to recycle it when you're done reading!

#### **Grant Funders:**

Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation Pilot Program **Dominion Energy** 

The Conservation Alliance The Oakland Foundation The Schoenbaum Family

Foundation, Inc.

Outdoor Heritage Conservation Fund

Pocahontas County Dramas,

Fairs, and Festivals

Pocahontas County Historical Landmark Commission

Wells Fargo Foundation

West Virginia Humanities Council

#### Special Places Celebration sponsors:

Andi and Robert Allen

Appalachian Stewardship Foundation Calvert and Ted Armbrecht, Jr.

Bailey & Glasser

Brent Bailey and Liz Cohen

Broun Properties, LLC Elsie and William Carter

Coca-Cola Bottling Consolidated

Company William M. Davis

Tacy and Chap Donovan

DOW Chemical Rachel Eddins Ernst & Young, LLP

Kathy and Daniel Foster GoldenTree Asset Management Goldman and Associates

Helen and Rod Graves

Jackie Hallinan and Robert Wilson

Joanna and Skip Harless Sallie and Bob Hart

J. F. Lehman & Company

Judy and Britt McJunkin Callen McJunkin Moses Auto Group

National Parks Conservation

Association Payne Gallatin

Margaret Chapman and Bren Pomponio Potesta & Potesta, Inc. Rivertown Developments

Suttle and Stalnaker Jill and Henry Tallman Terrell Ellis & Associates

The Conservation Fund The Thrasher Group

Nancy and Newton Thomas, Jr. Torchlight Investors, LLC Tyler Mountain Water

West Viriginia American Water WVU Land Use & Sustainability

Law Clinic Ziegler & Ziegler

#### Blue Jean Ball sponsors:

Animal Medical Center Downstream Strategies

Mark Graham Jackson Kelly

Morgantown North Rotary Club Morgantown Printing and Binding

Morgantown Veterinary Care Mountaineer Audubon Owl Creek Farm Rivertown Developments West Virginia Botanic Gardens WVU Campus Ministry Center

In addition to our event sponsors and generous donors, the WVLT is grateful for major support from Appalachian Mountain Advocates, Sierra Club, WV Highlands Conservancy, Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, Coal River Mountain Watch, and West Virginia Rivers Coalition!

### Our Supporters\*

A Friend In Pennsylvania Laurie and Christiaan Abildso Linda and Roger Abrahams Nancy L. Abrams and Stanley Einzig

Kim Adkins Carolina Aguilera

Hope and Andrew Altman

Art Altman Bonnie and Jeffrey Ammons

Kade Anderson Matt Anderson

Michael Anderson Sarah Anderson and John Bell

Sunya Anderson Calvert and Ted Armbrecht, Jr.

Ted Armbrecht and Heather Hill

Chad Ash Scott Atkins Bill Austin

Eric Autenreith

Katharine Avary and Allen Judy

Linda and Mike Bagby Sarah and Benjamin Bailey

Brent Bailey and Liz Cohen

Lily Bailey

Erin and Matthew Bailey

Penelope Bailey Suzannah Bailey

Wendy Bair Sherre Baker Jennifer Balint

Jeanne Barnes

Lyndsie Barnes

Robin and David Barnett

Jenna and Mark Barnett

Oliver Baron

Rodney Bartgis & Debra Auble Anne and Nick Barth

Liz Bartolo

Susan and Mike Basile

Alison Bass Haley Beaupre

llene and Larry Beckett

Ella Belling

Darren Bennett Debra and Ashton Berdine Eric Bernhardt and Karen Smith

Ann Bailey Berry

Debby Berry Patricia and Charles Bibbee

Madeline Blackburn Laura and Mike Blackburn Cara and Ken Blemings

Debra Blum

Kriss and Stephen Bodnar

Stacy Boggess Pamela Boll

Carl Bolyard and Larisa Wells

Heidi and Chris Bonnaffon

Alan Boroshok

Melissa and Robert Borowitz

Eileen Bostwick

Ellis Boury and Rebecca Hess Hilary and Chris Boyce

Elaine and James Boyd

Mary Bragg

Jaineay and Thomas Brasselle Betsy and Michael A Breiding

Daniel Brito

Kathleen Brooks

David Brown and Erica Wicks Brown

Elizabeth Brown

Patricia and James F. Brown, IV

Kevin Brown

Cindy Burkhart and Jay Williams

Donna Burks Jacqueline A. Burns

Maggie Burrus

Pamela Byrne and John Huerta

Matthew Callaghan Brady Campbell

Tammie and Todd Campbell

Elisabeth Cannell Germaine Canzian Richard Capito

Seth and Heather Carroll

Livia Cascao Linda Case H. Stanley Cavendish Kristi and Jesse Cecil Anna Chandler

Cory Chase Kent and Pam Chidester Elizabeth Early Chilton Nelle Ratrie Chilton Martin Christ

Amy Cimarolli Darlene and Dave Clark

Aimee Verdisco and Chris Clarke Morgan Clutter Richard Cobb Myrna Coffey Suzanne Coffman Elizabeth Cohen

Julius S. Cohen

Alex Cole Amanda and Robert Cole

Phil Cole Sue Collins

Margaret and Jonathan Collom

Robert Cook Marjorie Cooke Melissa Cooper Emily and Greg Corio Francine Cork Emmie Cornell

Sarah and Stanley Corwin-Roach

Lee Courtney

Hope and Thomas Covey

Eric Crawford Natalie Criss Stanley Crocker

Judith Cronauer and Gerard Lechowick

Pamela Cubberly Patricia Cummings Matthew Cunkelman Charity Curran Steve Cvechko Andy and Bruce Dalton Chris Danaceau

Elaine and Andrew Darling

James Darragh Destinee Davis Frederica Davis William M. Davis DCMTB SVBC Pamela Deem Dan DeFeo

Lisa DeFrank-Cole and Jay Cole John Deupree and Sara Reynolds

Emily DeWitt Kathy DeWitt Sid Diamond

Rachel Dingfelder and Eric Boerer

Thomas Ditty Marilyn DiVita Charles Dollison Tacy and Chap Donovan

Stratford Douglas and Jodie Jackson

Downstream Strategies Genevieve and David Drazen Dream Mon LLC Eliza Drown

Scott Durham Chris Haddox and Susan Eason Pamela Eliopulos and Matthew Padden

Randall Elkins Christy Elliott Gary Éllis Terrell Ellis Adrienne Epley Christopher Erlewine Andrew Erwin Dingess Rum Properties Mary Ann Fajvan

Micah Fay Becky and Chris Felton Martha and Donald Ferguson Heather and George Finly Laura and Bill Fischer

Donna Flood and Sandra Farkas Anna and Peyton Forbes Donna Ford-Werntz and Carl Werntz

Wendy Francke

MaeBeth Fisher

Julia Friedman Dana Friend

Renee and Todd Frymyer John Gagnon

Theresa and Don Gain Derek Garcia

Jessica and Harper Gardner

Ryan Gaujot Shirley and Clifford Gay

Samme Gee Mindi Geouge

Brandon Gibson Richard Gilbert Kevin Gill Sabrena Gillis Alexandra Gipson Nick Gipson

Marc Glass Carole R. Glasser

Cynthia Godsey and Fred Gottlieb

Missy Gordon Kathleen and Christopher Gorski

Connie Graham Jesse Graham Helen and Rod Graves Susan Graves Chris Greaver

Amy and Paul Gross Jesse Groves Pamela and William Guice Luis Guillen

Patricia Gundrum Emma Scott Garden Club

Heather Hall Paula Jean Hallberg and Kurt Reinhard

Radermacher Jackie Hallinan and Robert Wilson Margaret Hambrick Joseph Hankins Alyssa Hanna

Bill Hannabass Megan and Justin Hannah Julie and Don Harding Joanna and Skip Harless Larry Harris and Cindy O'Brien

Katie Harris Colleen and David Harshbarger Holly Hartell

Bill and Laura Gabel-Hartman

Holly Hartsell Blackwater Bicycle Association

Kelly and Davy Hazlegrove Tammy Hedrick Gary Heginbotham Rachel Hernstrom

Ben Herrck Elizabeth Hestick

Cleo Hewett Phyllis and Bill Highland Ron Hight Roderick Hines Diane Hinkle Jack Hoblitzell and Emily Hopta Allyson Hoch Michael Hoeft Todd MTBR from VA Sandy and Mike Hollins Colin Hughes Kevin Hughes Joanne Hunt Morgan Hunt Timothy Warner and Paula Hunt Miri and Barry Hunter Laura and Thor Waller Lisa Hymes Glenn James Linda Janowitz Susan and Jonathan Jarvis James Jendro Peter Jensen Frank Jernejcic and Martha Korona Nicholas Jeros Travis Jewell Charlotte Johnson Anita Jones Dylan Jones and Nikki Forrester Daria and Randy Jones Robert Q. Jones Stony Creek Cottage Sandra Jones Tandy Jones and Alison Hill Grace and William Jordan George and Cynthia H. Joseph III Jennifer Joseph William Kawecki Cynthia Keane Kimberly and Timothy Keck Diane Keefover Stephanie Keeney Rhonda Kenney Linda and Richard Kerr Meredith Kiger Timothy Kirk Maura and Gene Kistler Shara and Karl Klevens The Knabenshues Caleb P. Knight Miriam W. Knight Brandi Kopec Matt Korosi and Clare Flanagan Phil Korpeck Phil Korpeck Simply On Union LLC Kathy Lacek Lauren Lamb and Autumn Hill Paul Lamb Nektaria and Rick Landenberger Sharon Lansdale Gary Laruta Bruce Lawson Priscilla P. Lawson Dee and Robert Leggett Janet Lenox Hunter Lesser Walter Lesser Eric Letendre Marge and William Lewellen Chris Linger Michael Linger Heather and JC Linkinoggor Josh Lipton Alex Lopez and Kristin Frontiera

Sue and William Hevener

Mark Koepke and Denise Knoebel Shannon & J. Thomas Lane
Robert E. Lannan & Jane Pritchard Lisa Lopinsky Kathy and Oliver Luck Heather Lukacs and Kyle Doerksen Mary Lu and John MacCorkle Elizabeth Maggio Zeb Mallow Sharon Maloid Connie and John Manchester Thomas and Carolyn Mann Edward Maguire & Diana Green Peter Mardosa

Juliet Marlier Gary Marlin Rebecca Marple Chalmers Marquis Adriana and Jonathan Marshall Season Martin Ruth Ann and Kent Mason Shawn Mathias Christina Matlick James McClintock Allison McClure Nancy and Jeff McClure Brian McCoy Matthew McCreight Kemp and Charles McElwee Janet and Douglas McElwee Kobi and Tim McGowan Ana and Tim McIntosh Dylan Mcinturff Amy McIntyre Callen McJunkin Mark A. McRoberts Robert Mead James Meckley Jonah Meyers and Rebecca Coca Harriet and Roy Meyers Michael Turner Shane Michael
Michaud Family
Carol and Douglas Milam
Ann Miles Constance and Andrew Miller Joellyn Miller and Alan Arrington Shell's Flooring Nikki and Michael Mills Seth and Mary Mitchell Rachel Mohr Brad Moore Gregory Moore and Patricia Miller Randy Moore Sheena Moore Susan and Dennis Morton Michael Moses Pocahontas County Dramas, Fairs,

Joy Oakes

Tania Pierce

Steven Poe

Pomponio

John Pope

Cindy Pratt

Roy Probeyahn Jeff Proctor

Susan Posey

Mason and Nate Powell

Sarah Proffitt and Tim Card

Krysite Poling

Bren Pomponio and Margaret Chapman

Deb and Steve Runfola Kasey and Gabe Rushden Sue Ellen and Rhyno Rutherford Laura Rye Peggy and David Sadd Kimberly Samuelson John Sandor Ursula Sandstrom Susan and Don Sauter Janet Scarcelli Tara and Chuck Scatterday David Schaeffer Jen Schaeffer and Alex Bier Ellie and Mark Schaul Mary and Ken Schilstra Bradley Schmalzer Eileen and Stanley Schmidt Brenda and Keith Scholtz Sarah and Mark Scott and Festivals Jane Scruggs Owen Mulkeen J.T. Scully Rita Mulkeen Neal Secrist Joanna Murphy Melanie and Travis Hames Maggie Nelson Steven and Jennifer Selin Network for Good Pocahontas County Historical News Corp Giving
MedExpress Urgent Care Inc
Beverly and John Nuzum
Melanie and Chris Nystrom Landmark Commission Michael Sherwin Marilyn Shoenfeld Carrie and Matthew Showalter Riley Shubert Jeanne and James R. Odom Daniel Olexia
Ann C. and Robert O. Orders, Jr. Anita and Bob Shuler James Siekmeier Ann C. and Hobert O. Orders, Family Foundation Ann and Robert O. Orders, Jr. Nick Oxley Cheryl and Jeffrey Palmer Robert Sigley
Ashley and Joe Sikarskie
Ashley Simmons
Laurel Simon Gale Simplicio and Jorge Flores Laura Sine-Dove Paradigm Architecture
Julienne and William Paradis
Elizabeth Parker Marianne Skeen Sara Parrucci Anonymous Greater Randolph Organization for Speleological Science Cynthia Slater Carla and Craig Slaughter Shelly Barrick Parsons & Chet Parsons Amanda and Alan Patterson Barb and Frank Slider Anne Smith Grant Smith and Carrie Brown Lescott Patterson Mr Lee Paules Jeff Smith Bill Pennington Ken Smith Greg Perry
Billy Joe Peyton and Christine Jones Robert Smith Lisa and Rod Smith Zeke Smith Elise Soto Peggy Pings and Brian Zwergel Joan Pitzer

WABA Staff and and Board

Cynthia Stanton

Margaret Staggers and Robert Underwood

Jerry Steketee Thomas Pue Deborah Quaranto **Brad Stephens** Quincy Coal Company Robert Stout Melissa Ratliff Lynn and Jim Strathman Heather Rau Lynda and Sam Strickland Barbara Reichard Stumptown Ales Andrew Rhodes Jan and Tom Sullivan Diana Richards Sarah and Philip Sundstrom Sarah Richards **Emily Sutton** Norbert Riedy Krista Swager Cassandra Ripley Lucy and Stephen Swartz Shelly and Joe Ritchie Denise Swiger Connie Ritter and Barbara Kuhns Lynette Swiger Randy Ritter Megan and Luke Szczepanski Attila Szilagyi Rebecca and Chuck Roberts Rebecca Robeson Charlie Talley Sandra Rodgers Annette Tanner Dusta Tanner Matthew Taylor Ruth Rolfe Kyle Roper Robert A. Rose M.D. B. Rosenthal Kayla Tennant The Brooks Bird Club, Inc. Beth Rota Brewski Beth Royall Jay Thomas Rosie Thompson Stone
Brenda Thornton and Donna Dockery Jessika Toothman Trainwreck Adriana Trevino
Danielle Trumble Bob Tweel Ronald Ulle and Anne Smith Saundra Uy Jane Van Dyke Paige Vanaman Joel Vogt Sandy and Charlie Walbridge Barbara Walker Paden City High School, Class of '71 Amy Wallace Rebecca and Jason Walls Melissa Walsh Ruth Walsh Vorden Walsh and Debra Farrell Briana Warner and Justin Williams Charlie Waters and Neal McDermott Karen and Richard Watson Lizzie Watts Tracy and Douglas Wayne David Weaver Adam Webster and Kendra Hatcher Cindy and Roger Webster Kendra Wegman Laura and Stephen Wehrle Paul Sheridan and Kathleen Fitzgerald Angie Westfall Steve White White Grass Ski Touring Center Julie and Joe Whitehair Scott Whitwer Hayley Wilburn Lora and Leslie Wilkerson Kelsey Wilkins Judith and Ron Wilkinson Jennifer Williams Robert Williams Judy Williamson Christine Wilson Emily Wilson-Hauger and Matthew Hauger James Winger Rich Wolff Douglas Wood Petra and John Wood Thomas Baxter and Kenwyn B. Wood Kristina and Timothy Woodall Paul Wozniak Kristen and Edward Wright Mary Beth and William J. Yaeger Sher Yip Roberto Soto Linda and Erik Yoder Southern Land Company Chrissy Zeltner Limited Partnership Seiar Žia Charles Southwick John F. Ziebold James Southwick and Joan Sundquist Anna Ziegler Terri and Scott Souza Bernard Zimmermann Jessica and Matthew Spatafore Saundra Spatafore \*This listing includes gifts received between The Spencer & Hamblen Family Trust the dates of January 1, 2019 - December Nancy Spillane

31, 2019.



PO Box 11823 Charleston, West Virginia 25339-1823

www.wvlandtrust.org

**Giving Back** 

# SHOP LOCAL

#### **Protecting our Partners**

Throughout the year we partner with many local businesses across the state. They help support our mission to protect special places and now it is time for us to give back! Many of these local businesses have had to close their doors due to the pandemic so we encourage you to purchase a gift card to their business.

Details at www.wvlandtrust.org/activities/shoplocal.



WEST VIRGINIA LAND TRUST



















SIRIANNIS CAFE BAVIS, WV

