



# NEWS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 10, 2015**

## **Two Pottstown Non-Profit Enterprises Get County Grants**

**Norristown, PA (September 10, 2015)** – The Montgomery County Commissioners today authorized the county’s Redevelopment Authority (RDA) to proceed with economic development grants of \$250,000 to two Pottstown non-profit organizations.

The two grants will go to the Historic Carousel at Pottstown, and to the Colebrookdale Railroad Trust. The grant to the carousel will act as a matching grant to a private donation, and the grant to the Colebrookdale Railroad will serve as the local match to a state grant.

The county grant represents the final dollars needed for the carousel to open for business. The operation is part of a larger comprehensive effort to revitalize and redevelop the area and promote economic development and tourism in Pottstown. As a condition of receiving the grant, the carousel organization has committed to a reinvestment of \$100,000 back into Pottstown for a project that will be chosen in collaboration with the county and the RDA.

According to the website of the Carousel at Pottstown, the vision of the organization is to be the catalyst for Pottstown’s downtown revitalization, and to return revenue to the community from the profits from the carousel. The website points out that free standing carousels around the nation have attracted up to 225,000 visitors a year.

Less than 150 wooden grand carousels exist in North America. The Pottstown carousel was built in 1905 by the Philadelphia Toboggan Company (PTC), and is the second oldest PTC carousel in existence.

The Colebrookdale Railroad is a tourist railroad that runs a variety of excursions between Boyertown and Pottstown.