



THE THOMAS J. EVANS FOUNDATION



Thomas J. Evans, b. 1874 - d. 1967

**A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CREATOR OF THE THOMAS J. EVANS FOUNDATION**  
 Thomas J. Evans, "Tommy", born in a small town in southeastern Ohio, moved to Columbus at the age of 13. After graduating from the Ohio Normal University (now Ohio Northern) School of Pharmacy in 1901, Tommy moved to Newark before 1900 to work for a local drugstore. He married Mary E. Stevens, nicknamed "Ma", who was described as a "thrifty woman."



Tommy Evans and his first friend, Er Rouse, in the 1920s.

Tommy was careful in managing his money and very frugal in spending it on himself; however, he was extremely generous with others. An able businessman, he owned a substantial interest in the Park National Bank and the Newark Telephone Company.

Mrs. Evans died in her late eighties in 1965. After his wife's death, Mr. Evans consulted with J. Gilbert Reese, Attorney and Julian W. Allard, President of the Park National Bank, about founding a trust to benefit Licking Counties in general and children in particular. From this meeting in the 1960s, the Thomas J. Evans Foundation was established with approximately \$2 million. Tommy died in 1967 at the age of 93.



Trustees Sarah E. Wallace, President and Secretary; J. Gilbert Reese, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer; Lowell H. Reese, Vice President and Treasurer.

THE EVANS FOUNDATION OBJECTIVES

- to provide good capital for worthwhile ends (frequently land or buildings)
- to maintain a system of operation that enables facilities purchased for one charitable use to be transferred to another charitable use when needed
- to effectively manage the foundation resources without incurring substantial funds into administrative costs
- to accomplish the above while ensuring future generations will have the pleasure of giving money for worthwhile projects, and to provide resources for projects that match the community's ability to sustain the projects in the future.

EXAMPLES OF FOUNDATION PROJECTS

Many of the projects the Foundation has undertaken have been provided on the basis of matching gifts. These have enabled many organizations to give the generous public an opportunity to participate.

PARKS AND RECREATION

- Licking County Recreation and Transportation Corridor
- Newark Address Complex on Mason Valley Road N10-I
- Evans Family Park in Newark N17-B
- YMCA Natatorium in Newark N17-N
- Evans Recreational Park in Parkersburg
- Basketball Court complexes in Newark N18-L, N25-M
- Little League park on Mason Valley Road in Newark N18-I
- Lands for Pony League baseball and girls softball in Newark
- Lands for NAA soccer complex in south Newark N14-F
- Evans Recreational Park in Helton
- Establishment of Wildwood Park in Greenville
- Thirty-five additional acres of land for Camp O'Banion
- Land and start-up equipment for City of Newark Ice Rink N12-J
- Recreation park for Malick Baptist Church in Newark



The T.J. Evans Family Park N17-B



The Square Whipple Bow String Truss Bridge N12-H

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

- LEADS facilities in Lees Township, Newark, Buckeye Lake and Union
- YMCA Child Care Center and YMCA expansion in Newark N21-N
- Purchase and renovation of Pennsylvania Station in Newark N23-O
- Land for Weatherman Playhouse
- Garden plots for needy families east of National Drive in Newark
- Help with a wilderness camp for underprivileged children in Harmer Township
- Licking County Food Pantry building

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

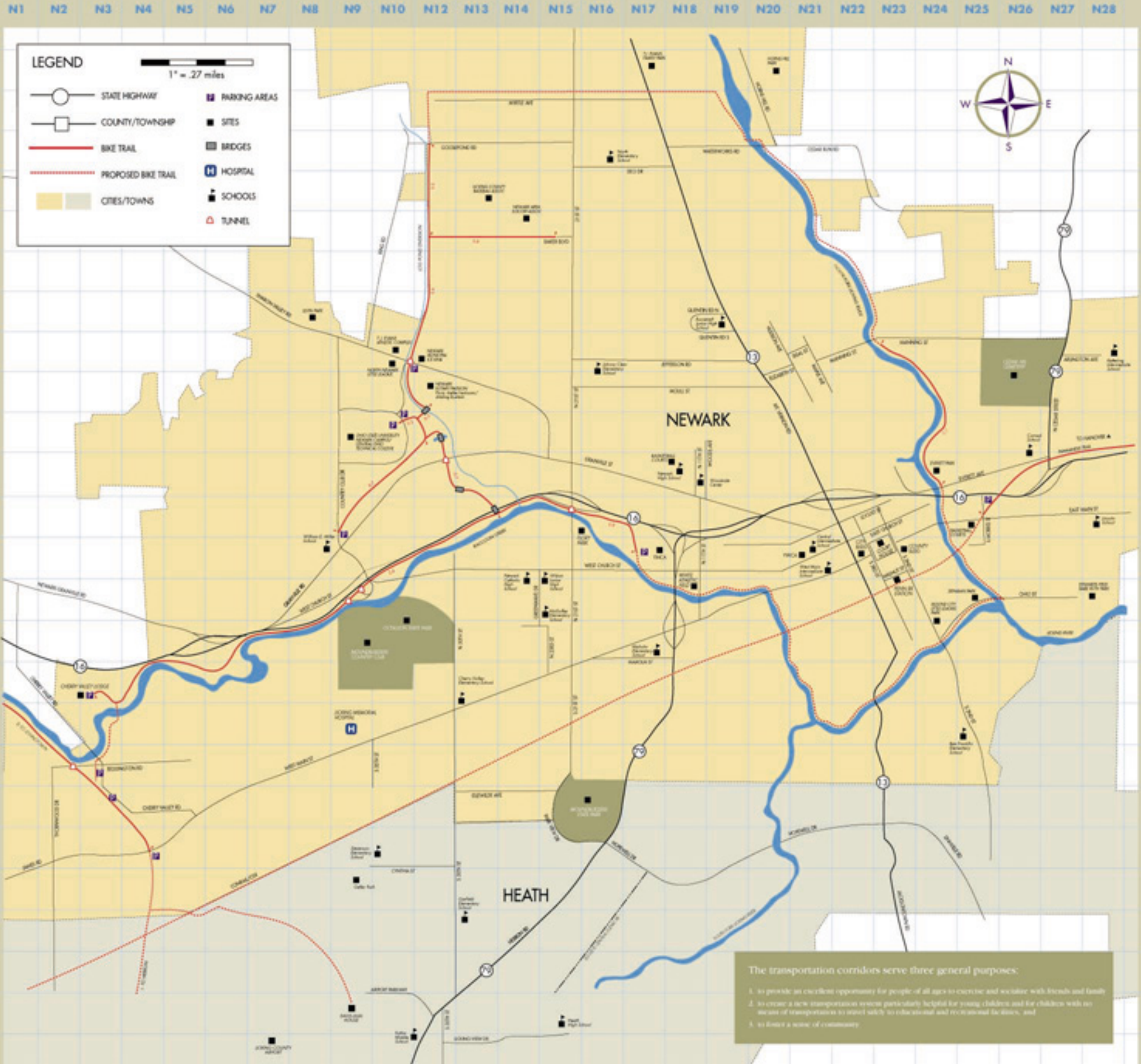
- Land for Licking County Joint Vocational School
- Endowment fund for scholarships for OGCN and COFC students
- Assistance to OGCN and COFC in the construction and planting of the Greenlee Road entrance, walkways and reflecting pools N9-E
- Scholarships for underprivileged students at The Excellence Learning Center
- Land purchase for expansion of parking and playground facilities in the Newark City Schools
- Main entrance to Newark High School N18-L



Built in 1880 for the P.C. & O. R.R. and nicknamed the "Pan Handle Depot", this historic railroad station, more accurately referred to as "Pennsylvania Station" serves as offices for The Evans Foundation as well as other community service organizations. N23-O

Many thanks to the Licking County Commission, the Ohio Department of Transportation, the municipalities of Johnstown, Alessandro, Greenville, Newark, and Harmer, and Friends of the Bike Trail for their support.

THE THOMAS J. EVANS FOUNDATION  
 Post Office Box 939 • 25 East Walnut Street  
 Newark, Ohio 43054-0939 • 740-349-8276



The transportation corridors serve three general purposes:

1. to provide an excellent opportunity for people of all ages to exercise and socialize with friends and family
2. to create a new transportation service particularly helpful for young children and for children with no means of transportation to attend school or educational and recreational facilities, and
3. to foster a sense of community.

LICKING COUNTY BIKE PATH MILEAGES

1.43	JOHNTOWN TO NEWARK
3.3	CHERRY VALLEY LODGE TO YMCA
0.7	NEWARK CAMPUS TO J. GIBERT REESE BRIDGE
2.1	COUNTY CLUB DR PARKING LOT TO GOOSEPOUND
0.6	BRANCH PATH TO BAKER BOUD
0.1	CAMPUS PATH TO LIFETIME HALL
0.2	CAMPUS PATH TO PONDS
0.7	EVERETT AVENUE TO HANNING STREET
5.2	PANHANDLE TRAIL - NEWARK TO MARINE
4.7	PANHANDLE TRAIL - MARINE TO FERRIS RD
4.2	BLACKHAND GORGE
36.1	TOTAL TRAIL MILES

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY / POLICE	911
LICKING MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	740/348-4000
CITY MAINTENANCE	740/349-6727
COUNTY MAINTENANCE	740/587-2535
THE EVANS FOUNDATION	740/349-8276



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TRAIL USER GUIDELINES

- This trail was created to provide a safe, pleasant and natural transportation path. Designed for minimum environmental impact, the path winds and turns around natural features. As such, it was not intended for high speed travel. For your safety and that of others, please observe the following rules:
- DO NOT SPEED.** Please do not exceed 15 mph on the trail.
- BE COURTEOUS.** All trail users, including bicyclists, joggers, walkers, and users of wheelchairs, should be respectful of other users regardless of their mode of travel, speed or level of skill.
- KEEP RIGHT.** Stay as near to the right side of the trail as is safe except when passing another user.
- PASS ON LEFT.** Pass others going in your direction on their left. Give an audible signal well in advance of passing.
- KEEP DOGS LEASHED.** Clean up after your pet.
- DON'T LITTER.** Do not drop or leave any debris along the trail. Please use litter receptacles for disposal.
- BE PREDICTABLE.** Walk and ride straight and on the right hand side. Indicate when you are turning. Warn other users of your intentions.
- DO NOT BLOCK THE TRAIL.** When with a pet or in a group, stay on right half of the trail. In groups, follow in single file.
- YIELD WHEN ENTERING OR CROSSING.** When entering or crossing a trail or intersection, yield to the traffic on the cross trail or road. This is often the most dangerous point on the trail.
- PLEASE HELP KEEP THE TRAILS CLEAN AND SAFE.** Report any acts of vandalism.