



Congrats to merged fire company

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As members of the volunteer board of directors of YorkCounts -- York County's community-wide quality-of-life coalition -- we'd like to take a moment to congratulate and applaud the professional staffers and volunteers whose hard work has paid off in the formation of York Area United Fire and Rescue.

Although YorkCounts was not a party to the talks, we have watched the developments with great interest and hopes over the years. In fact, Austin Hunt, who was one of the leaders in the effort to study, develop and implement the merger, is a YorkCounts board member and kept us posted on the progress. We were happy to have hosted talks by regional thinking experts David Rusk, Myron Orfield and Ron Baylor -- as well as open discussions during the Metro-York process -- that Austin says informed his thinking.

Spring Garden Township and Springettsbury Township leaders have accomplished the first merger of paid municipal fire departments in Pennsylvania history, and that is no small accomplishment.

Congratulations to all of those who had a hand in the process and best wishes and good luck to

Chief Robert McCoy and the firefighters of York Area United as they serve two of York County's most forward-thinking municipalities. The combined department will surely be a great example of how we are stronger and better in York County when we work together.

ERIC MENZER
YORKCOUNTS
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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