

## Lancaster Sunrise Rotary Ride for the Community



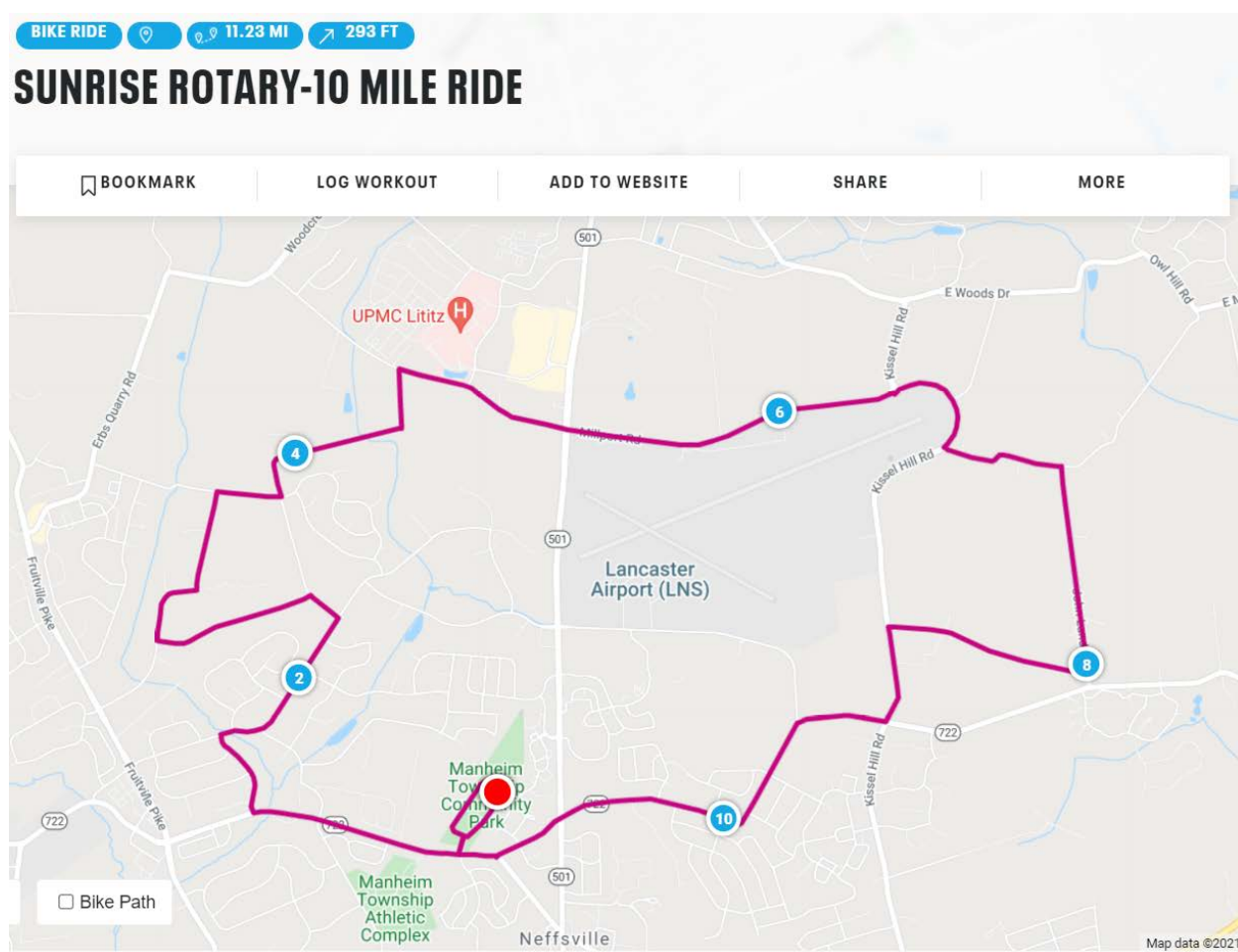
The Big Sur Coastal highway is routinely nominated as one of the most scenic driving routes in the United States; described by Australian painter Francis McComas as the "greatest meeting of land and water in the world." The Lancaster Sunrise Rotary Ride for the Community is not the Big Sur but it has its own unique convergence of terrain, people, culture, and history. It is a ride through Lancaster County as spring brings renewal to one of the most fertile agricultural regions in the world. This is not a ride down a coastal highway, this is a ride through the heartland of America, fertile

Lancaster County. This is a ride that in many ways exemplifies the *heart* of America; a desire of organizers and participants to contribute to the community. It is a ride that meets the dictum to which Rotarians aspire:

Is it the truth?  
Is it fair to all concerned?  
Will it build good will and better friendships?  
*Will it be beneficial for all concerned?*



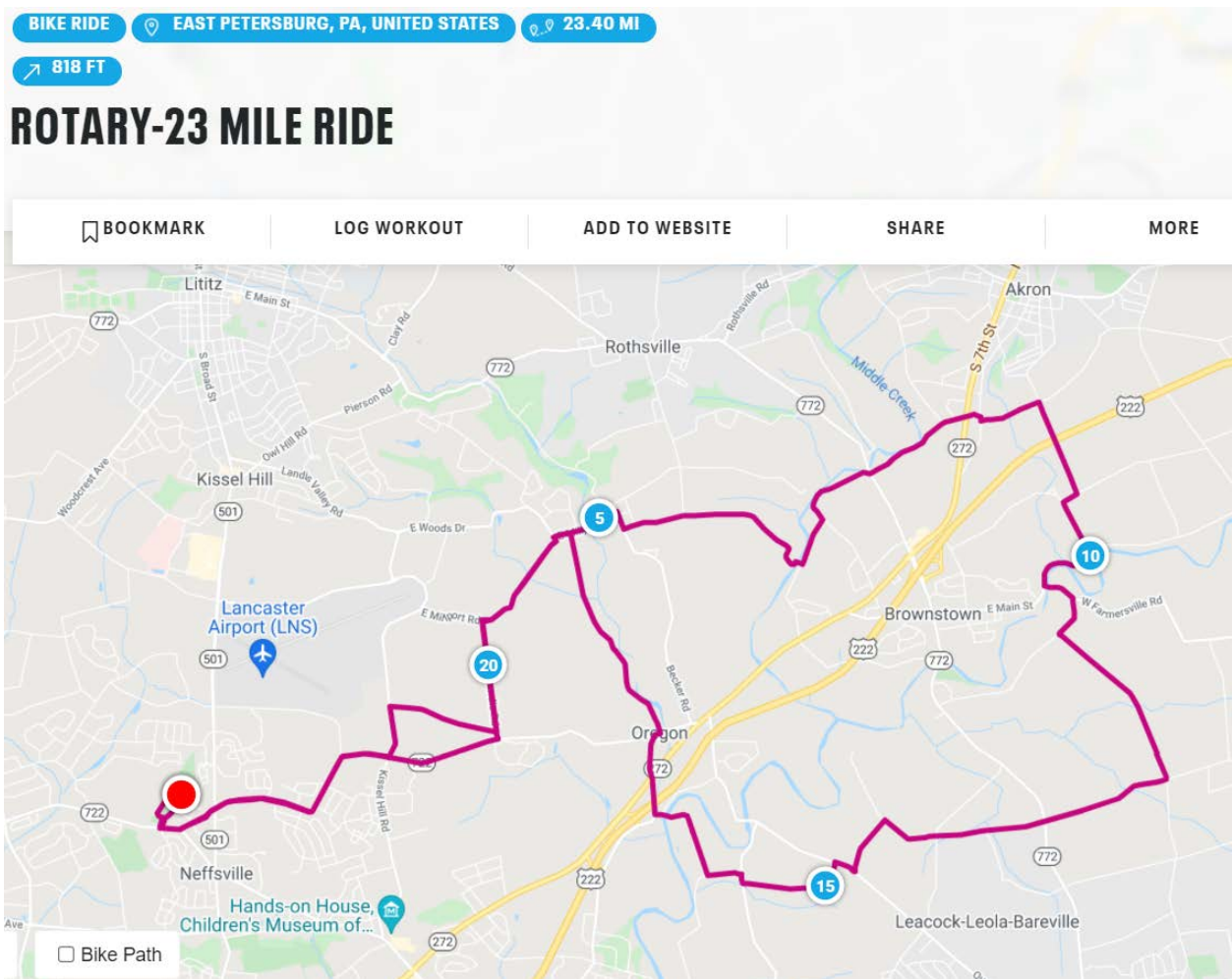
# The Rides



The Ten Mile Ride is designed for beginning riders and for families with children. Starting from Pavilion #2 in Manheim Township Community Park, Neffsville, the ride winds through upscale residential developments before circling the Lancaster Airport and then traversing Amish country and Lancaster County farmland. The ride concludes joining the routes of the 23- and 42-mile rides as they return to the original starting point in Community Park. Nearly as flat as a pool table, the route is designed for an easy enjoyable ride, just enough exertion to make a hot dog taste spectacular at the completion of the ride.







The 23-mile ride is designed as a moderate challenge for riders who maybe just beginning to condition for warm weather riding, or for those seeking a scenic ride with moderate elevation changes. The steepest climb is up Log Cabin Road at mile 4.9, rewarded by a steep descent to Log Cabin Covered Bridge. The route meanders through Amish Country and Lancaster County farmland to a rest stop at the half way point. The 23- and 42-mile routes co-join for the return to Neffsville Community Park by way of the Pinetown covered bridge and a pastoral ride on Creek Road along Lititz Run.



BIKE RIDE

EAST PETERSBURG, PA, UNITED STATES

41.89 MI

1,429 FT

# ROTARY-42 MILE

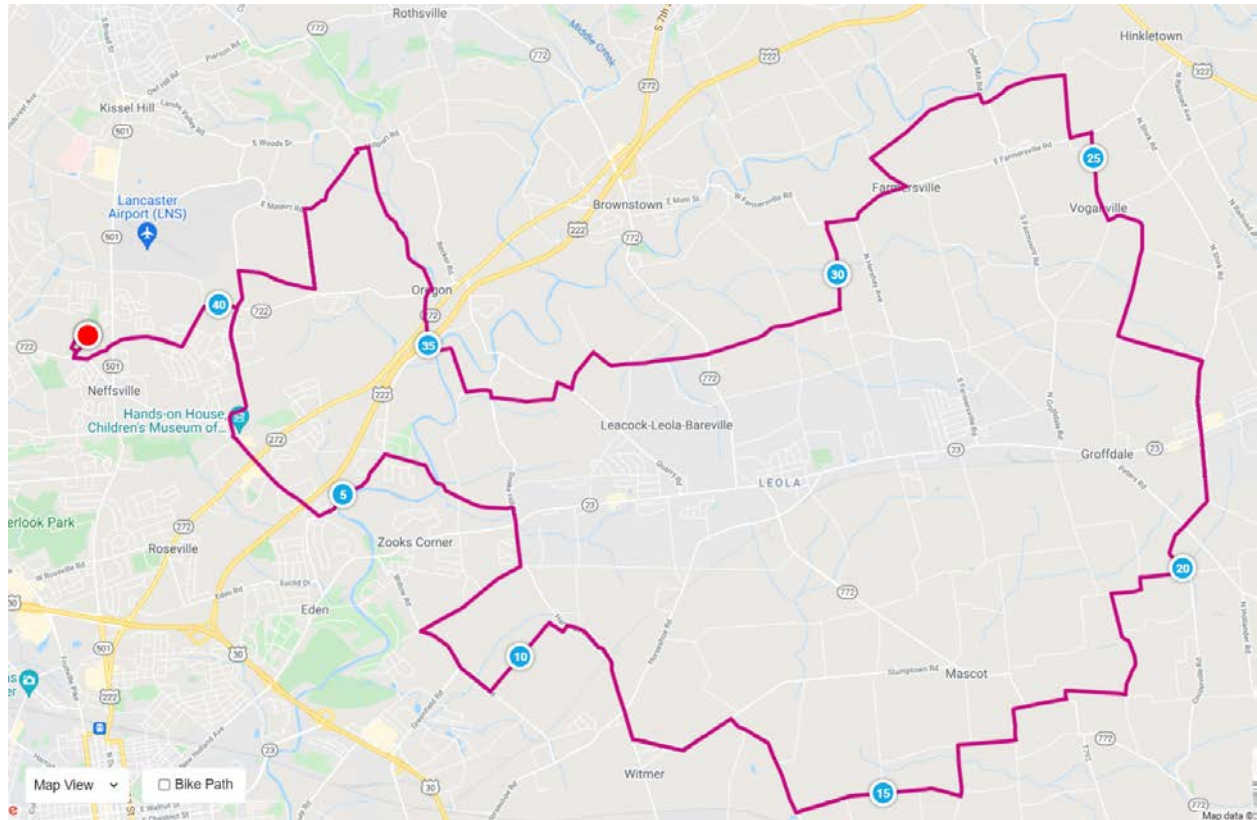
BOOKMARK

LOG WORKOUT

ADD TO WEBSITE

SHARE

MORE

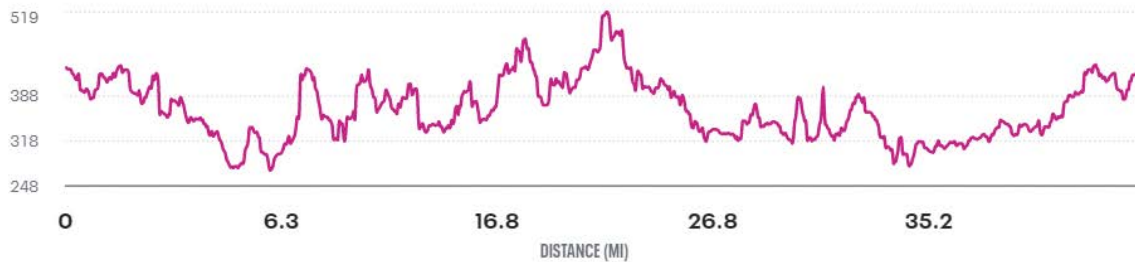


ELEVATION (FT)

START  
433 ft

MAX  
519 ft

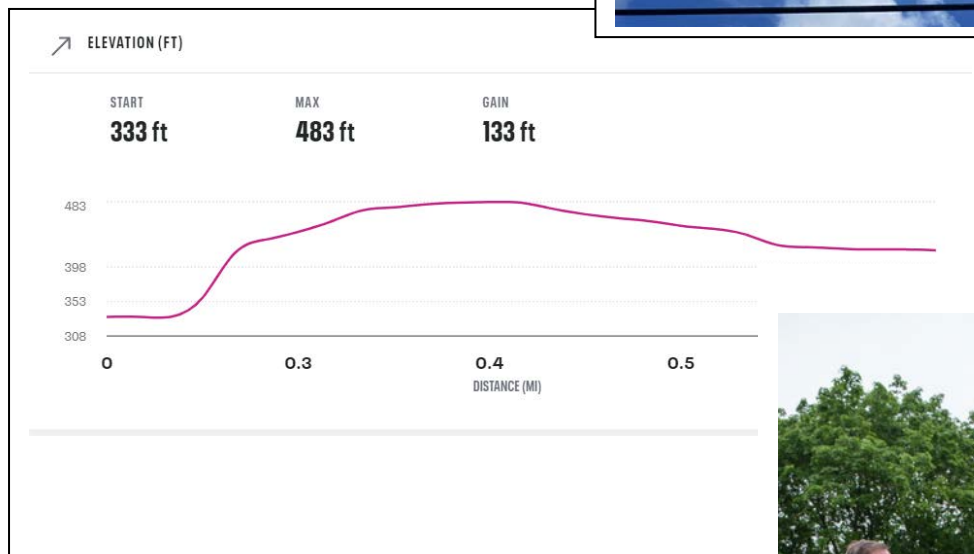
GAIN  
1,429 ft



The 42 Mile Ride is designed for conditioned riders and includes moderate climbs for a total of 1,429 feet of elevation change. Riders choosing this path are rewarded at mile mark 19.2 with a panoramic view overlooking Lancaster County - the “Wentz Vista,” so named to honor Jim Wentz who designed the initial ride routes. Jim, a Lancaster County native proclaimed this vantage point one of the best views in the county.

Those seeking additional climb conditioning may opt to tackle the “Cat’s Back” challenge. Rising 149 feet in .4 miles, this optional route has the distinction of being signed in English - Cat’s Back Road and the corresponding Pennsylvania German- Katce Boucle Weeg.

### Cat’s Back Challenge Elevation Profile



Riders are treated to fluid replenishment, snacks, and bathroom facilities at Rest Stop #1 (mile 16.5) and at Rest Stop #2 (mile 30.6). The Ride for Community’s signature hot dogs, baked beans and accoutrement await the completion of the ride.



Dave Lawrence and Jim Wentz  
preparing to grill hot dogs.



## Rotary 65 Mile – Metric Century

The two rides, the 23-Mile and the 42-Mile are designed to be combined for a total of 65 miles for those wishing to complete a “Metric Century”. The suggested sequence: ride the longer route first, return to the start point in Community Park for refreshment, and then ride the 23-mile route, completing a total of 65 miles. Quite an accomplishment!

### The Food

Sunrise Ride for the Community takes pride in providing unique ride fare: freshly grilled hot dogs complemented with “Happy Dave” Lawrence’s Vermont maple syrup flavored homemade baked beans; Nothing like Protein to Power the Pedals. Fresh fruit, plenty of liquids, and bags of potato chips complete the menu.

Vegetarian options provided.



# History of the Ride

The annual fund-raising bicycle ride originated in 2003 as the Ride for Literacy. Jim Wentz was the founding ride chair and was instrumental in designing the bike routes and organizing teams of Sunrise Rotarians to paint the road markings. Steve Bareuther has been an annual presence in continuing the ongoing organization to prepare for the ride. Rick Dickerson has added invaluable assistance in the tech behind online registration. Linda Greer handled food service for many years prior to a hand-off to Dave Lawrence. Henry Hershey regularly captains the road marking crews. Each year club members volunteer to help organize and support the event at check in and at the water stops. Additionally, club members volunteer to fill donated items into “goody bags.” These goody bags provide the riders incentive to participate and provide local businesses an opportunity to support the community and to advertise products and services to the participants.



Club members preparing “goody bags” for participants.

# How we support the community

Over the seventeen years of the event, the ride has raised in excess of \$85,000. In the initial years of the bike ride funds raised were targeted toward literacy through the Lancaster Literacy Council and additionally used to support restorative glaucoma surgeries in third world countries through World Blindness Outreach. 2021 saw a name change to “Ride for the Community” signifying broader local objectives.

Major contributions were made in 2021 to the following:

## **Anchor Lancaster**

Mission Statement:

To be a good neighbor by providing a hot breakfast and warm showers every weekday while aiding with other essential needs.

## **Impact! Missions**

Mission Statement:

Impact! Missions strives to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors and to improve community and housing conditions. Their activities are geared toward breaking the cycle of poverty in which so many in our community are trapped.

## **Off the Streets**

Mission Statement:

An organization in Lancaster County is working to combat homelessness. Off the Streets helps homeless individuals and families transition into their own homes. It provides a security deposit or apartment furniture for people referred to it by charities in Lancaster.

## **Girls on the Run**

Mission Statement:

We inspire girls to be joyful, healthy and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running.

Additionally, funds raised by Lancaster Sunrise Rotary buy books which are signed by our weekly speakers. The books are personalized with words of encouragement to young readers and then donated to the Carter & MacRae Elementary school library.

The objective of Lancaster Sunrise Rotary’s Ride for the Community is to provide a first-class fund-raising bike ride that showcases and supports our local community. It is beneficial to the participants, to those in receipt of funds raised, and to those that support the ride through sponsorship and donations. It certainly builds good will and better friendships in the community. When one in our community is lifted, we are all lifted ... “beneficial for all concerned.”















