

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Memorial Day 2014 was marked by the dedication of a new structure over the Beaver River—the new Beaver County Veterans Memorial Bridge. The three-span, 600-foot-long bridge connects S.R. 51 in Bridgewater to S.R. 18/S.R. 65 in Rochester. Michael Baker Jr., Inc. (Baker), a company of Michael Baker International, provided the final design, construction management, and construction inspection for the new bridge and roadway improvements.

The steel multigirder bridge features three 12-foot-wide traffic lanes and a 10-foot-wide multiuse sidewalk, with aesthetic treatments and amenities, and replaces the structurally deficient Fallston Bridge by diverting traffic from the historic structure. The project included roadway widening and intersection improvements on S.R. 18 /S.R. 65 and S.R. 51. A granite monument on the Bridgewater side of the new bridge honors area veterans. Baker provided layout and construction support for the memorial plaza.

The project required the replacement of a railroad bridge carrying four active mainline tracks over S.R. 18/S.R. 65 to accommodate the new roadway beneath it. Baker provided design and construction services for the new railroad bridge, without interruption to rail operations.

The Veterans Memorial Bridge project meets the needs of motorists while preserving a 130-year-old historic bridge, connects two state highways, and alleviates traffic congestion on both sides of the river. The project also provides a safe path across the river for pedestrians and bicyclists. Finally, the construction of the new bridge has provided an opportunity to honor the county's veterans who have given their lives to protect their country.