

Clifford Township Newsletter

Issue 27

Sponsored by the Clifford Twp. Supervisors, Community Alliance and Historical Society

Clifford Township Supervisors

In the coming months, the Clifford Township Supervisors will focus on their priority of improving the quality of life for our citizens. We have just suffered through a harsh winter. However, our program of contracting for snow removal on township roads, rather than trying to handle them with our limited staff and equipment, has met with many compliments from our residents.

Now is the time for road maintenance and, to that end, we have budgeted money for our paved roads. The township does not have sufficient funds to completely resurface all the pavement in the township. However, we are consulting with experts from the Department of Transportation to find ways to improve the situation as much as possible with what funds we have.

We have also contracted to have our dirt roads and ditches improved over the summer. In response to comments from our residents concerning dust, we are planning to treat our roads in the spring and then, on the particularly difficult dust areas, place a second treatment in the summer. We also have identified a section of road to be treated with oil to study the feasibility.

In April, the Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance which established a Community Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The CP&R board will be responsible for making recommendations and requesting grants for the improvement of the land around the community building. Eventually, we plan to have a basketball court area which could be flooded in winter and utilized as a skating area. In addition, we are in the initial stages of creating a walking track, fishing areas including a children's fish pond and a handicapped accessible fishing area, picnic areas, and year-round heated bathroom facilities, along with general purpose/soccer fields.

We will be conducting the Community Clean Up Day on Saturday, May 3, 9 am to 3 pm at the Community Center. Truck load is \$30, half load \$15. Large items are priced individually, see list at cliffordtownship.com or call 222-9364. Televisions and computers are free this year.

Bags, vests and gloves are available (for free) at Clifford Auto for volunteers to clear litter along township roads any day that suits your schedule. Filled bags will be picked up by the township. Please call 222-9364 with location of bags. There seems to be an increase in the quantity of trash along the roadsides. Cleaning up litter is a hard job. Please respect your neighbors and our beautiful township by helping to keep our roadsides free of trash.

In the near future, the property surrounding the ball field will need to be cleaned up (remove brush and pick up litter) in the first step toward improving our recreation area. Volunteers willing to help with this project should contact Chris Marcho at: chrismarcho@gmail.com. Your help would

stretch the dollars available to spend on this project, resulting in more improvements for all to enjoy.

The community building continues to be upgraded. Many of the improvements have been possible because the new windows and insulation have resulted in a huge savings on the heating bill.

We are in negotiations with the Montrose Adult Education program to offer classes on many subjects in our community building one or two days a week beginning in the fall. We are also in discussions with the Endless Mountains Visitors Bureau to see how we can best utilize the open rooms and property for the benefit of the township.

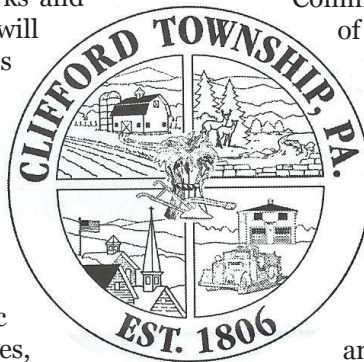
The Supervisors are working hard to be responsive to the citizens of our community and are focused on improving the quality of life here in Clifford Township. We thank you all for your support and patience.

Planning Commission of Clifford Township

The Clifford Township Planning Commission plays a major role in giving advice and providing recommendations to our Township Supervisors. Land use and land use planning are important issues at the local and state level. The Planning Commission consists of members who are residents of the township and provide voluntary service to the community and, therefore, receive no compensation for their time and effort.

The Clifford Township Planning Commission meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 6:00 pm in the Community Center immediately prior to the Supervisors' meeting at 7:00 pm. Some of the issues coming before the Planning Commission this year includes requests for building setback waivers, property subdivisions and land use development.

A major effort for the planning commission during the last six months, in conjunction with the Advisory Committee for Clifford Township (ACCT), has been the development and approval of a Comprehensive Plan for the Township. A Comprehensive Plan is a tool for communities to use in guiding land use and planning community facilities and transportation. In brief, it serves as a policy guide, a source of information on the community, and a legal foundation for land use regulations. The Planning Commission has also been involved in the development and codification of two important components of the Comprehensive Plan: the township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) and the Building Setback Ordinance. All three of these important documents were accepted and approved by the Clifford Township Supervisors at meetings earlier this year.



Clifford Township Historical Society

In cooperation with the Township Supervisors and with help from an Endless Mountains Heritage Region grant, the Society has remodeled the museum sections of the hallway at the Community Center. Ordie Price's Sawmill supplied butternut lumber at half price to cover 170 lineal feet of wainscoting. During March, seventeen volunteers worked for 226 hours cutting, planing, sanding and varnishing all the lumber. We are so grateful for these efforts because, besides making this project possible, their in-kind donated hours greatly helps the Society fulfill the match for the grant, saving us thousands of cash match dollars. Some historic photos and paintings have been hung in the hallway with many more planned for the future. Jerry Lewandowski did his usual masterful job installing the wainscoting and chair rail. We are very proud of this newest project and we think you will be impressed. A new mural will soon be installed in the museum, with a grand opening on Election Day, May 20. We will again be selling our homemade jelly and jam that day.

The Yarns Cider Mill project at the Suraci Farm will be a priority for the rest of the year. Much was accomplished last year with great local support. We hope to keep up the progress this year. When the building is repaired to a safe condition, we plan to host an open house, hopefully this fall, when we will showcase the progress made and the plans for the future.

The Hoover School, Museum of Local History, and the Clifford Baptist Church will again be open to the public, free of charge, the third Sunday each month from 1:00 to 4:00 pm, May through October. An afternoon spent experiencing life as a one-room school student or using the hands-on tools of yesteryear at the museum or appreciating the wonderful features of the Clifford Baptist Church that was built in Thomas Jefferson's lifetime would be a very worthwhile and interesting afternoon for all ages.

Our booth at the Clifford Volunteer Firemen's Picnic will feature several antique machines used by local housewives and farmers. We want everyone, but especially the youngsters, to work these old tools so they can get a real feel of the past!

Clifford Township Historical Society questions can be directed to Pat Peltz at peltz@nep.net or Sandra Wilmot 570-679-2723 or find us at www.cliffordpa.com.

Clifford Township Volunteer Fire Company

The year 2014 has many objectives for the volunteers at Clifford Fire. There is not one goal for this year that heavily outweighs the rest. Volunteerism is dwindling throughout the county and is no different in our home town. There has been an approximate 70% reduction in active volunteers over the last two decades. Those reductions affect all aspects of the Fire Company's operations. This stretches from administrative needs, field operations, and fund raising. The normal response from prospective volunteers is "I don't have the time." The current volunteers are faced with family and work like most folks, yet they still manage enough time to help protect their fellow residents. We ask you to take some time and seriously consider volunteering with us.

The major fundraisers start very soon. The first you will see is the fund drive you will receive in the mail. This is one of the biggest sources of revenue for the department.

MOUNTAIN VIEW GARDEN CLUB

10th Annual Plant Exchange and Marketplace

Sunday, June 1, 2013

Clifford Fire Company Picnic Grounds
Route 106, Clifford PA

This is our third year to hold our festival at the picnic grounds and it's a great venue for us.

From 1:00 until 4:00 pm we will have many perennials for sale from our local gardens or you can exchange two potted perennials from your garden for two of like size and value. The majority of our plants come from garden club members but if you are cleaning our flower beds and are interested in sharing potted perennials for us to sell, they can be brought to the picnic grounds on Friday, May 30, throughout the day. Many local gardens got their start from plants obtained at extremely reasonable prices at our annual plant sale and exchange.

We also have a Marketplace which is open from 11:30 until 4:00 pm. Local artisans will be selling their wares, including photographs, jewelry, mustard, maple syrup, soaps and lotions, garden items, honey, paintings, stone work, garden equipment, baskets and much more. Our Second Hand Rose stand grows every year with lots of good used garden items, dishes, baskets and knickknacks.

The firemen will be selling hamburgers and hotdogs and Eli Marsh will be entertaining us with live music.

**For more information,
contact: JoAnn at 222-3591
or Donna at 281-3335.**



Please donate to the best of your ability. This will be followed by the annual picnic **July 24, 25 and 26**. The event requires over 200 volunteers to operate. This year Kevin Treat "The Sawoptician" will be using his chainsaw skills to create wooden carvings each evening of the picnic. On Saturday evening an auction of these carvings will be held with all proceeds to benefit the Fire Company. Mark your calendars now to attend this entertaining addition to the picnic.

Lastly, the Fire Company will be updating our current ambulance. With increased call volume, the ambulance has answered more calls than any other ambulance owned by us. The new ambulance will take approximately eight months to build and will be the first ever equipped with four wheel drive. This will be a great asset to the community.

Clifford Baptist Church



Project May 19th Food Pantry

What is Project May 19th? It is a food drive for the Susquehanna County food pantry. We collect food each week for the food pantry. We just named the Project May 19th in memory of someone special. Canned and boxed goods can be dropped off at the church.

Historical Society Tour

The third Sunday each month May through Oct from 1 - 4 pm, the church doors are open for a stop on the Clifford Township Historical Society tour. Stop by and see the wonderful presentation Barry Searle has prepared about the stained glass windows, the chandelier, and much more.

Chicken Barbecue

May 10 Take-outs only 4:30 - 6:00 pm
\$9.00 advance

Pre-orders are requested, call 570-222-4701
or 570-222-4210 to place your order.

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Clifford United Methodist Church

COMING SOON: Discovery Canyon!

[Date to be announced]

For ages: 3-18 years

You will get to meet some new friends, sing "Rockin' songs," create awesome crafts in the Cavern, play games in the Gully, munch on Canyon Cuisine snacks, and hear stories about Jesus!

For more information, contact: Director, Dane Barhite Home: 570-222-5493 or Cell: 570-468-2411. Co-Director, Peg Knapich 570-222-3331. We, as the Vacation Bible School Team, look forward to meeting you and your family!

**** Bring a friend along for the adventure ****

Music in the Park is a Fun Day for the whole family.

Worship is at 10:30 am, followed by contemporary and traditional Christian music 11:30 to 5:00 pm (rain or shine). Our 14th Annual Music in the Park will be held **August 3, 2014**, at the Clifford Firemen's picnic grounds, Rt 106, Clifford PA. Refreshments available for a minimal charge.

Come when you can, leave when you must!

Chicken-n-Bisquit or Ham Dinner Schedule

Clifford Methodist Church, Main Street, Clifford

Tues. May 20 Wed. Jun 17 Wed. Jul 16 Wed. Aug 20
Wed. Sep 17 Wed. Oct 15 Tues. Nov 4 4:00-6:00 pm
Take out or Dine with us

Donation: \$8.95 includes dinner, dessert and drink

Elkdale Baptist Church of West Clifford

April 18 at 7:00 pm Special Easter Musical "The Seven Last Sayings of Christ on the Cross." Refreshments after the presentation. A special musical based on the writings of John, Luke and Matthew about the last words of Christ on the cross. Visitors are welcome.

April 20 Resurrection Sunday ... a special Easter Fellowship Dinner after the morning service. No charge for the dinner.

May 11 Mother's Day Service ... a special gift given to all the mothers and married ladies of the church.

May 17 Ladies Banquet at 5:30 pm. A buffet meal catered by the men of the church with special Guest Speaker Robin Marshall, wife of evangelist Toru Marshall. Go to website: www.elkdalebaptist.com to get free \$10.00 vouchers for dinner. All are invited.

May 18 Special Guest Speaker Evangelist Toru Marshall will speak at 10:00 am, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm.

May 25 Graduation Sunday. Children's Sunday, a special service at 11:00 am geared to children, with a special treat for every child who attends. A special dinner will be given honoring all 2014 graduates ... high school, college or others. Visitors are welcome to attend.

June 15 Father's Day Service with a special gift given to all fathers who attend the service. Also, a special free Father's Day dinner honoring all fathers. Dinner will be at 12:30 pm and will follow the 11:00 am service. Visitors are welcome.

July 13 thru 20 Annual Family Tent Meeting and Bible School with Evangelist Timothy Holtsclaw and Bill Stewart. Meetings every evening at 7:00 pm till 8:30 pm. Special Bouncy Place Obstacle Course contest for children. Children practice all week and the contest takes place Friday evening. Friday night 5:30 pm picnic and Sunday afternoon barbecue chicken dinner. Call 570-352-5501 for more details.

August 17 Service 11 am. Children's Sunday, a special service geared to children, a giant Ice Cream Sundae treat after the service.

August 31 Picture Sunday, individual and group pictures taken. A special dinner after the am service.

All October is missions month, special missionary speakers every Wednesday night at 7:00 pm.

October 19 is Children's Sunday. A special message will be shared for children and a special gift is given to all the children who attend.

October 31 Friday night at 7:00 pm. Fall Family Fellowship. Snack items, treats and music for all who attend. Children dress up like Bible characters and we try to guess who they are dressed up like. Each child who dresses up gets a special gift.

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St. James Episcopal Church in Dundaff

begins its one hundred fifty-ninth summer season starting Memorial Day weekend, the 25th of May. Sunday services continue through Labor Day, August 31. The Reverend Peter Pearson will celebrate Holy Eucharist with services beginning at 11:00 am. All baptized Christians of every age and tradition are invited to share in the Bread and Wine of the Holy Eucharist and fellowship and refreshments on the lawn following the service.

St. James is one of the original churches in Dundaff Corners and is one of two still in use today. St. John's Russian Orthodox is the other church and meets regularly throughout the year. Founded in the 1830s, St. James parish grew as the community did and people often found 'standing room only' for worship services. The current 'little white' church in Dundaff Corners was constructed in the late 1850s and continues as a summer chapel today.

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PO Box 161
Clifford PA 18413

NEWSLETTER

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Clifford Township Volunteer Fire Company

Ladies Auxiliary News

The Clifford Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary has been active this past year supporting the firemen. We have hosted the ever so popular Vera Bradley Bingo, assisted with the Christmas Care Program that the Fire Company sponsors to help needy families, sponsored a Red Cross blood drive and a Rabies Clinic, and assisted with various stands at the 2013 picnic. We thank all of you for supporting our events which help to defray costs that the fire company incurs, such as fuel for the fire trucks and heating and maintenance of the fire hall.

We are always seeking new members and new ideas. Our group meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the fire hall. We welcome anyone wishing to join our membership. The 2014 picnic is right around the corner and we need social members who would be willing to help out at picnic stands that the Ladies Auxiliary run. Anyone interested in volunteering to help at a stand can contact any member of the Ladies Auxiliary or email ctvfladiesauxiliary@yahoo.com. If you would rather not volunteer to work at a stand, but enjoy baking, we will be in need of donations of pies for the pie stand. Donations of baked good are accepted each day of the picnic and they can be dropped off at the pie stand. The picnic will run from Thursday July 24 - Saturday July 26. The Ladies Auxiliary also sponsors the basket raffle at the picnic. Our local businesses have been very supportive in donating their goods and/or monetary contributions to help the Ladies make their basket raffle

successful. Any business that does not currently donate to the Ladies Auxiliary basket raffle and wishes to do so, can send a check to the CTVFC Ladies Auxiliary, PO Box 92, Clifford PA 18413 or email us no later than July 1. We thank you for all of your support and look forward to another successful year.

D&H Rail Trails

May 3 : Great PA Clean-Up on the D&H Rail Trail, Forest City Trailhead, 9 am - 1 pm. **Jun 14** : Heritage Explorer Bike Tour, Blakely Borough Recreational Complex, Peckville, 8 am - 3 pm. **Jun 21** : "Art on the Trail" a day of celebrating local artisans and craftspeople, Rail Trail Headquarters, Union Dale, 10 am - 4 pm. **Jul 5** : Discover the Secrets of the D&H Rail Trail Hike, (TBA), 10 am. **Aug 2** : Bike Ride sponsored by Cedar Bike and Paddle (part of Forest City's Togetherness Summer Festival), D&H Forest City Trailhead, 10 am - 12 pm.

Aug 16 : Community Yard Sale, Rail Trail Headquarters/Susquehanna Studios, Union Dale, 9 am - 1 pm. **Sep 7** : D&H Distance Run/5K Race, Half-Marathon and 5K on the D&H Trail, starts at Forest City Trailhead, 9 am. **Sep 14** : Yoga walk to Stillwater Cliffs sponsored by Studio Be Wellness Center (check our website for meeting spot and time). **Sep 21** : Guided history ride on the D&H Trail sponsored by Southern Tier Bike Club. Take a bike ride while learning the history of our historic trail. Rail-Trail Headquarters, Union Dale, 10 am. Check our website www.nepa-rail-trails.org for updates and changes. For more information, email trails@nepa.net or 570-679-9300.