

Clifford Township Newsletter

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

From the Supervisors

As the winter approaches the Clifford Township Supervisors have awarded a contract for snow removal, and are working on the new budget for 2017. The "warm" winter of 2015/2016 allowed us to be under budget for snow removal and we were able to allocate money to other projects. After a successful summer season of improving our roads, including ditching and preparing "Elk View Drive" for repaving in 2017, we look forward to the upcoming year.

As many of you who have been to the Park know, we are well along on the outdoor, year round bathroom construction with an anticipated completion of the project before cold weather sets in. We are also installing parking lot lighting and cameras for safety of our citizens and the buildings. We have improved the existing walking trails with additional stone making them easier to be utilized by bikers and walker/joggers. We have completed our land acquisitions, and are working with the Parks and Recreation Committee to identify other uses for the property and enhance its value to our citizens. For those who are not aware the area behind the baseball field has been leveled and is maintained as an intended "junior soccer field." We encourage those with young children interested in this sport to utilize the field.

We welcome the "DAY DREAMS" Day Care and pre-school to the township building and the continuation of the Adult Education Classes. These are valuable assets to the community and especially attractive to working parents who currently live here or are considering a move to Clifford.

Finally, you will be seeing announcements by the Planning Commission concerning public meetings on proposed Zoning for the Township. We strongly encourage our citizens to attend all of these meetings to understand what and why the Township is working to protect our "rural way of life" We want you to make your concerns and comments known before any action is taken.

As always the Clifford Township Supervisors encourage our citizens to attend our monthly meetings on the Second Tuesday of every month at 7 PM

Starrucca Viaduct Sign Unveiling

On Sunday, November 6th at 1 PM an interpretive sign for the "Bridge of Stone" will be unveiled. The sign is located in Luciana Park, Lanesboro, under the viaduct. Funding for the sign was provided by the Endless Mountains Heritage Region and by many donors, who are inscribed in a bluestone patio in front of the sign. Thanks to Endless Mountain Stone Company for providing pavers at a much reduced rate.

The sign is dedicated to the late William Young, a renowned railroad historian and author of the "Bridge of Stone". There will be remarks by some key individuals in the project as well as refreshments.

The D&H Rail-Trail runs under this magnificent "Bridge of Stone" and is recognized as one of the most daring feats of stone vault engineering ever attempted in this country. The interpretive sign explains much of the fascinating history. If you have never seen this structure or want to find out more about its history, the Rail-Trail Council invites you to come out and celebrate this engineering and historic landmark. Questions call the office at 679-9300 or trails@nep.net

Clifford Township Volunteer Fire Company

A huge thanks to the residents of the township and some safety tips

We would like to thank everyone who supported our annual Fireman's picnic and the gun/cash raffle this year. As I'm sure everyone is aware, weather was not on our side at the picnic this year. With rain close on Thursday night and a washout Saturday night, one of our largest fund raising events of the year took a big hit. The gun/cash raffle was a great success and brought many friendly faces out for a fun Saturday night during the raffle party. These fundraising events are the building blocks that help allow us to purchase and maintain the equipment that helps you. Tentatively scheduled for the first Sunday In December, we will hold our annual "Christmas Care" breakfast in which the proceeds go to benefit cases of hardship in the area. Visit our website and Facebook for more details as the events near – www.cliffordfire.com.

Some fall season safety reminders:

- 1) be sure to have working smoke detectors in your home and replace the batteries
- 2) CO alarms – if you already have them, replace the batteries. If you do not, please make every effort to purchase and install them. As most know, CO is created by combusting fuel – wood, coal, propane, gas, etc. CO is colorless, odorless and tasteless. It can be present in your home due to a malfunctioning or incorrectly installed system and cause severe injury or death. CO alarms are life saving devices for your home.
- 3) Chimneys – be sure to have your chimneys in your home inspected and cleaned prior to use this heating season.

With our call volume once again on a record setting pace, it is more important than ever to support the

Fire Company both in volunteering your time and thru your generous financial support during our fund drives. As you may have seen on our website or facebook page, a local fire company's solicitation mailing was mailed to a large portion of our township. Our leadership has reached out to them to correct the situation as we move forward. Clifford Township Volunteer Fire Company is the townships sole provider of fire, rescue and ambulance service and we serve you with pride. Our mailing appeal will be out this spring and we look forward to your continued support.

Volunteer departments around the nation are experiencing a significant decline in volunteers to staff emergencies and handle administrative duties, we are no different. Staffing levels in the volunteer ranks are reaching "crisis" levels in our region. Clifford is very fortunate to have the dedicated volunteers it does; however, we are in great need of more volunteers for all disciplines. If you are interested in becoming a member or visiting the station to see what we are all about, please contact us at (570)222-3741 or email at clifst18@nep.net.

**Clifford United
Methodist Church
Main Street, Clifford
Chicken-n-Biscuit or
Ham Dinner
Tuesday,
November 8th, 2016
4:00 to 6:00 pm
Take out or Dine with us
Donation \$8.95
Includes dinner, dessert & drink**

Clifford United Methodist Church, Main Street, Clifford, PA, worship service at 11 am (Sunday School during worship).



Clifford Township Historical Society

The Clifford Twp. Historical Society was founded in December 2005 to help celebrate the township bicentennial. Since then much has been accomplished. At present the renovation of the Yarns Cider Mill at the Suraci Farm, the building of the Clifford Children's Garden and the completion of the Museum of Local History are the three main goals of the Society. Volunteer labor, donations of materials and money and grants have made all our projects move forward. The sale of the books, Clifford Township 200 years and Beechwood Settlers has provided matching funds for the grants we have received over the past ten years. The sale of our homemade jams and jellies just covers our yearly operating costs, mostly insurance, advertising and office supplies.

At present we have two grants through the Endless Mountains Heritage Region that require a 100 % match. The first grant is for \$8000 to continue work on the Yarns Cider Mill at the Suraci Farm including a local industry museum in the front portion of the mill, exterior excavating and the renovation of the original equipment in the mill to operating condition. The second grant, for \$6000 is for the completion of the Museum of Local History. A Civil War exhibit and a display of both pictures and written materials from the entire Clifford area are planned to be added this coming winter. Some of the match can be from volunteer labor and donations but we still need a sizeable sum to cover the rest of the match. We also need an estimated \$3000 to complete the Children's Garden.

The directors have decided to launch a major fundraiser that, if successful, will supply the needed funds to match our outstanding grants and complete the projects we have planned. We will be selling raffle tickets with a grand prize of \$10,000 and 21 other monetary prizes all totaling \$25,000!!! One thousand tickets will sell for \$50 each. We know all too well that a \$50 ticket is a lot to ask. If friends and/or families share the cost of a ticket or perhaps use them as a Holiday gift we are hoping this will be the only major fundraiser we will need to complete our community endeavors. We have included a raffle ticket in this newsletter that you can return with your check. Please consider helping our very active historical society and maybe be a winner of a nice prize!!

The raffle drawing will be held early next summer at a special event planned at the Yarns Cider Mill at the Suraci Farm. Final arrangements for this event will be advertised next spring.





CLIFFORD VILLAGE CHRISTMAS DEC 2ND

The 18th annual Clifford Village Christmas will be held the first Friday evening of Dec at the Community Center starting at six pm. Santa will arrive shortly after six to give stockings filled with goodies to all the small children. The Grinch will occupy his special place with a bag of treats for the older kids. Handicrafts will be available for all ages. Brandon Freely will again be setting up his fantastic light show that will be on display until after Christmas. Weather permitting the small train borrowed from the Union Dale Fire Co will be running. Hot Dogs, Chili, cookies, popcorn and drink will be provided for all. A bicycle will be given away to one lucky boy and girl. This wonderful small town event is presented free of charge for all township and nearby residents through the generosity of Clifford Township businesses and personal donations. Come enjoy this special evening to start your Holiday season!!

Montrose Area Adult Classes at Clifford

The Montrose Area Adult School is a non-profit independent charitable organization which began in 2006. It is committed to providing an affordable, wide array of educational opportunities close to home. Clifford Township was established as their first satellite site in the Fall of 2014. Two eight week terms, fall and spring classes are regularly scheduled at the Clifford Community Center. Please contact Esther Semken, mesemken@nep.net or call the school, 570-278-2006 with your suggestions on topics that interest you, as well as potential instructors. Our area has a wealth of knowledge to be shared and we appreciate your recommendations.

Recycling Changes

Recycling is now available at the Clifford Community Center every Saturday, instead of just the third Saturday of each month. More items than ever can be recycled, including plastic containers. Paper items can be co-mingled with glass and metal. Consult www.cliffordtownship.org for a complete listing of the changes.



Work on the new park restrooms is coming along. Should be ready in a month or two.

Exercise Classes at the Community Center

Exercise classes will continue at the Clifford Community Center on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Offerings include two full body circuit training classes using variety of equipment, and a Yoga Pilates / Piloxing class, Call Patti Walker 570-430-7420 or email walkerpatti102@yahoo.com for more information.

Yoga Offered at Community Center

Tiffany Butler Debish will be holding eight weeks of "Yoga For Life" classes. For more information, contact "Be. Yoga Everywhere", 570-614-4054, studiobe.fc@gmail.com, www.studio511.net. ~Be.Healthy~Be. Beautiful~Be.You

**List of scheduled events at the
Elkdale Baptist Church of West Clifford for -Winter
2016**

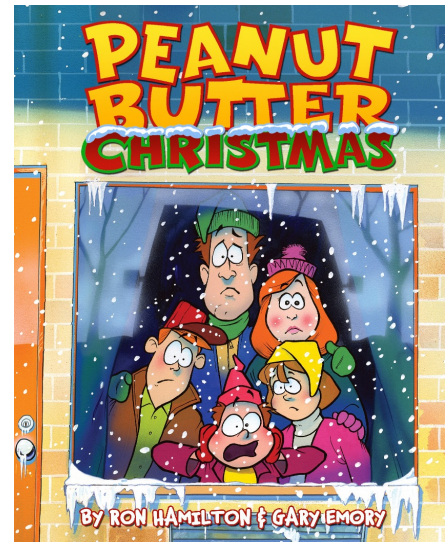
The Elkdale Baptist Church of West Clifford cordially invites you to attend some special community events this winter season at their church. Please note the following free events that visitors are welcome to attend.

Sunday afternoon November 13th after the 11 AM morning service the church has their annual Church Family Thanksgiving Dinner. The dinner is free. It includes Turkey, Mashed Potatoes and all its sides. Visitors are welcome to come.

Sunday Dec. 11th there will be a special children's Sunday. The service is geared to the children of the church and special Christmas gifts will be given to all the Children that attend. The church also has a special Church Christmas Dinner schedule after the Children's Sunday Service, there is no charge for the dinner and visitors are welcome to attend.

There will also be a special **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion service Saturday Dec. 24th** between 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. and then **Christmas Morning Sunday Morning December 25th at 11 AM** the church will have a special Christmas Musical entitled **"THE GENERATIONS OF JESUS CHRIST"** The promise of the coming of a special child into this world was given in the genealogies of Scripture. That promise was given to Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Sarah, David and his sons, all the way to Joseph and Mary. This special musical traces that promise which culminated in the Christmas Story and birth of Jesus in the manger. Come out Christmas Sunday Morning December 25th at 11 AM as this Christmas message is shared in music and narrative. The program will consist of original music written by Pastor Bissol and performed by the Elkdale Baptist Church Choir.

Then **New Years Eve Dec. 31st at 7:00 P.M.** the children of the church will be presenting a special Christmas Musical **"A Peanut Butter Christmas"** A special musical written by Ron Hamilton of Majesty Music will consist of Children's drama parts and musical songs. Refreshments will follow the program. Visitors are welcome to attend. The program is geared for the whole family and there is no admission fee.



Also another community activity scheduled at the church this winter is the yearly Hunters Harvest Banquet headed up by Evangelist Peter Accardi. The Dinner is scheduled for Saturday February 25th at 5:30 P.M. The dinner consists of donated game meat from the men of the church and also other dishes prepared by the ladies of the church. Topics of interest to hunters, trappers and fishermen will be presented. There will be special door prizes for those who attend. Everyone is welcome to attend men, women and children.

Besides these special events weekly services scheduled at the church are Sunday School for all ages at 10:00 A.M., Morning Worship at 11:00 A.M, Sunday Evening Hymn Sing and Bible Study Service at 7:00 P.M. and Wednesday Evening Prayer and Bible Study at 7:00 P.M. To find out more about other activities scheduled at the Elkdale Baptist Church please go to the church's website at www.ElkdaleBaptist.com you may also contact the Pastor directly at bissol@nep.net

Evangelical Wesleyan Church
Sunday school: 10:00 AM
Sunday service: 11:00 AM
Wed. Prayer meeting: 7:00 PM
Church located at:
875 SR 2067
Clifford Township
Contact #: 570-222-2426
Rev. Michael Hagemeyer; Pastor



Tax Collector

Hello, my name is Janice Price. A lot of you know me as "Jan". I am the newly appointed Tax Collector for Clifford Township.

I am a lifetime resident of the township and have resided at our current address for over 30 years. As your new tax collector, I would like to help all township property owners with any questions or concerns they may have.

My office is located at 247 State Route 2012. You may enter and park in the driveway adjacent to the ramp and enter through the front door. A silver box located near the entrance door serves as the mail slot.

My phone number is 570-222-4210. If no answer, please leave a message. I am generally in the office in the morning. The exception will be that on April 19, 21, 22, 26, 28 and 29, office hours will be noon to 4:00 PM.

I look forward to assisting Clifford Township residents in any way I can.