

Clifford Township Newsletter

Issue 22

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

From the Township Supervisors

So far this year we have had very good input and attendance at our township meetings. We thank everyone for their concern and patience. We have been attempting to improve the township building both from an energy cost savings and a usability standpoint. Thanks to the help of the Clifford Advisory Committee, the Clifford Alliance, and the Historical Society and many others, we have been able to utilize grants and volunteer labor to save the township money. As we move into the winter season, we again face the issue of snow covered roads, limited budget, and a small staff. Once again we ask the patience of the residents of the township. Our first priority must be to the school bus routes.

Recently, we had a request to put more police observation on the main street of Clifford. Also to put up more speed signs and possibly a radar machine from the state to attempt to slow down speeders. We responded last month with all of these. The Board of Supervisors is attempting to respond to all requests based on budget. In this day and age of deficit spending this board has still maintained a balanced budget and has not raised taxes. We continue to maintain that plan into the next year.

Finally, the initial stages for developing a Comprehensive Plan under the supervision of the Planning Commission will be starting soon. This will be developed by the people of the township, not the Supervisors, not the Planning Commission, but the people who attend the meetings. When the meetings are announced, please make the effort to attend and make your desires known.

One final comment, as the brush along the sides of the roads dies back this fall more and more beer cans and trash thrown from people's cars are showing up. Please take the time to walk along property lines and pick up the trash so the township will look better.



Advisory Committee of Clifford Township (ACCT)

One of the top six concerns communicated by residents in the Spring 2010 Clifford Township Survey was the need for long-range township planning. With input from ACCT research, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) awarded a contract to Shepstone Management Company, Inc., to assist the ACCT and the Clifford Township Planning Committee with the development of a comprehensive plan. This plan documents community goals and aspirations in terms of community development. It includes, but is not limited to: township background; a foundation for policies and goals for growth; development and conservation; plans for land use; maps; plans for short and long term strategies; and plans for protecting the environment.

The first working meeting with Mr. Tom Shepstone was held on Wednesday, October 26. Plans were developed for the ACCT and the Planning Commission to move forward in assisting Mr. Shepstone with the comprehensive plan. Attendees volunteered to assist in researching maps and existing land use. Public meetings will be scheduled in the future with the first meeting planned for early spring 2012. They will be announced in the form of news releases in the local newspapers.

A public web site will be launched during the first week of November. It will be located at www.shepstone.net/clifford. The site will be used to share information and to post an on-line survey in early 2012 for residents to state their concerns on topics pertaining to the township as they relate to the plan. There will also be hard copies of the survey available for those who do not have access to the internet.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 7, at 7 PM at the municipal building. Residents who are not currently on the ACCT emailing list who wish to obtain township information and meeting minutes, please forward your email address to sroberts@nep.net.

Historical Society News

This Oct 3rd and 4th, volunteers Barry Searle, Ed Marquez, Mark Wilmot and Larry Wilson with Jerry Lewandowski, contractor, replaced the old windows in the front of the township building with new windows, insulation and plywood. Six Society member volunteers painted the 23 sheets of plywood in readiness for their installation. When the interior portion of this project is completed with new sheet rock walls and insulation, the room will be ready to use as a museum. Volunteer labor and a donation from Adams Cable has helped make our museum plans go forward.

Five 3 x 4 foot murals painted to hang in the township building hallway will represent our township's history from 1800 to present. If you have an idea for an especially beautiful picture or interesting theme for the mural project, please share it with the Society. Partial funding from Bradford County Regional Arts Council insures the murals will be painted and installed by September 2012.

If you drive through Elkdale, make sure you slow down and look at the improvements Denis Halstead has made in the Elkdale Cemetery. Headstones have been fixed and righted, brush cleared, grass mowed and stonewall relayed -- all part of Denis's Eagle Scout project. A cemetery sign and gates will also be installed. Great Work Denis!

The Society made 400 jars of homemade jelly and jam now for sale at Cable's Store, Union Dale; Dundaff Country Store; Clifford Supply and Endless Mountains Pharmacy, Clifford; and Dunniers Store, West Clifford. The Spano family foundation supported our efforts by underwriting the cost of half of the jars of jelly. Fruit was donated by more than a dozen local supporters.

Our 2012 calendars are here! The Historical Society has produced an interesting calendar from the pages of an 1863 diary kept by Martha Millard who was just sixteen years old and teaching at a local one-room school. Calendars are for sale at Clifford Supply; at cliffordpa.com (click on merchandise); by mail at CTHS, P.O. Box 161, Clifford PA 18413; or call Pat at 679-2870. Cost \$10 plus \$2 shipping, if applicable.

Calendars and jelly will be for sale on election day, November 8, at the municipal building. All proceeds support the museum project.



Volunteers lend a hand to contractor Jerry Lewandowski making improvements at the township municipal building. The project includes insulation, plywood and new windows.

The winterizing project is designed to lower the township's cost to heat the building. Later, a stucco finish will complete the facelift.



New Flags on Main Street

The CTCA installed new flags on Main Street keeping downtown looking good. They have also volunteered to finish the window project on the township building, covering the plywood with plaster.

Village Christmas - Friday, December 2, 2011

The Clifford Village Christmas and tree lighting will be held for the 13th year on the first Friday of December at 7 pm. Start your Christmas Season by attending this wonderful "small town" event. Lots of treats for everyone!

Veterans Day Committee

The annual Veterans Day program will be held at the municipal building on Sunday, November 13 at 2 pm. All are welcome. Bring your lawn chair for a seat. The beautiful new front sidewalk at the township building was designed to complement the stone work at the Veterans Memorial. Like the bricks surrounding the Memorial, bricks lining both sides of the new sidewalk are available to be purchased with your inscription. Contact Harry Phillips at 222-4589.



Steady Pace Continues At Clifford Fire

With fall upon us, the volunteers at Clifford Fire urge everyone to begin thinking of the maintenance to your heating system and its safe operation. Every year we see numerous calls involving heating systems of all kinds in which some of those calls could be avoided. With good preventative maintenance this time of year and continued diligence throughout the winter, let's all have a safe heating season.

Smoke detectors and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms are so important for the protection of you and your family. As we change the clocks in the near future, change the batteries in all your detectors. Also again this year, Clifford Fire is an active participant in WNEP's Operation-save-a-life. This is a smoke alarm program sponsored by Kiddie, in which we are provided a limited number of smoke detectors to distribute to those families in need of them. It was not that long ago that this program's smoke detectors did alert a family within a burning home – thankfully everyone escaped unharmed. Smoke detectors do save lives.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless and odorless gas that kills. Any appliance, heating system, or any other device that combusts a product produces this gas. Without a carbon monoxide alarm in your residence it will go undetected and possibly cause harm. Please make sure you are properly protected.

In December, please join us and support our Christmas Care breakfast on December 4 and the Kids Christmas party December 11. These dates will be on our website www.cliffordfire.com. Anyone interested in becoming a member is asked to please contact us. We are at the fire station on Monday nights from 7pm - 9pm. There are many tasks that need to be accomplished both operational and administrative. Stop in and visit us.

The Officers and members of the Clifford Township Volunteer Fire Company would like to thank you for your support throughout the year.

Ladies Auxiliary

The Ladies' Auxiliary volunteers their time during the Christmas Tree Lighting. We are involved with the Christmas Care Breakfast held by the firemen

scheduled for Dec. 4, and the ladies will be holding another Lenten Soup Sale on Ash Wednesday (details will follow in town). We are selling a cookbook "Cooking Secrets of Clifford Vol 2." Purchase them in Clifford at Marcho's Hardware, Endless Mtn Rx and Ellie DeFazio's Hair Station.

Clifford Community Youth News

The Clifford Community Youth Group has been very busy in and around our Clifford and Lenoxville communities. Our youth, ages 8 to 18, have participated in many kinds of activities in areas such as mission, Bible studies, family fun, and FUNdraising. We are excited to see what God has in store for the coming fall and winter seasons. We have lots of fun things planned, as well as local mission opportunities. We are planning a bowling night, movie nights and have our biweekly Kickstart Bible studies on Sunday afternoons.

With the Christmas season, comes our annual Christmas production. This year's program, called "Get Ready!", will be performed on Sunday December 11th at 5 pm at Lenoxville United Methodist Church. All are invited! Oh, and don't forget to stop by our 2nd annual Cookie Walk, set for Saturday December 17th at Clifford United Methodist church from 9 - noon. Fill up a container or two of your favorite holiday cookies and support our youth at the same time. Gift wrapping will also be available. March 2012 will be our Easter egg sale. More info to come.

For more information on any of our events or to join in the fun, please call Robin at 222-4344 or Pastor Peg at 222-3331. We'd love to share some fun with you!

Mountain View Garden Club

On November 15, the Club will meet at Jeffers Farm, Kingsley, for a Christmas wreath demo and soup supper starting at 5pm. Our holiday party will be Dec. 14 at Stonebridge. No meetings Jan. or Feb. The Mar. meeting will be at the Clifford Fire Hall. The 2012 dues are \$25. Please send to P.O. Box 81, Clifford PA 18413. Check our website for events: www.mountainviewgardenclub.org. Everyone is welcome!

Projects for next year include landscaping at Rail Trail, Union Dale; plantings at township building and around flagpole at Hoover School.

Our annual Plant Exchange will be held June 3.

CTHS
PO Box 161
Clifford PA 18413

NEWSLETTER

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CARBONDALE PA

PERMIT NO. 6

addressee

Church News and Events

Clifford United Methodist Church: Chicken-n-Biscuit or Ham Dinner will be held election day, Tuesday, November 8, from 4 - 6 pm. Take out or dine in with us. Donation of \$7.95 includes dinner, dessert and drink.

Elkdale Baptist Church of West Clifford: There will be a Church Thanksgiving Dinner at 12:20 pm on November 13, free to all, with dinner immediately after the 11 am Service. A Thanksgiving Eve Communion Service will be held on November 23 from 7 to 8 pm. A time to thank God for his greatest gift. Children's Sunday will be on December 11 with a special gift for all children that attend the 11 am service. Free Christmas dinner to follow the service. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service & Musical Evening will be conducted on December 24 at 7 pm. Special Holiday Musical, *The Greatest Christmas Story*, will be conducted on December 31 at 7 pm. Admission is free with refreshments to follow. Children's Sunday will be held on January 1, 2012. There will be a special treat for all children that attend the 11 am service with a special dinner at noon. An Annual Appreciation Banquet to honor friends in the church

and community hosted by Pastor and Mrs. Bissol will be held on January 25 at 6:30 pm. Banquet is free and the yearly calendar will be given out at this event. An Annual Hunters Banquet will be held on February 25 at 5 pm hosted by Evangelist Peter Accardi. There will be a game dinner and speakers of special interest to hunters and trappers. See our website ElkdaleBaptist.com for details of these and other scheduled events.

WARNING! WARNING! WARNING!

We need your feedback!

Your opinions and suggestions are important. Your interest and response will determine whether or not the supervisors will continue to fund a township newsletter. We are compiling an email list so that the newsletter can be sent electronically, thereby saving printing and mailing costs. However, many residents do not have access to email and we feel the newsletter helps keep them abreast of activities and achievements of the many great organizations we have here in the township. Please send your name and address or your email address to: Clifford Newsletter, P.O. Box 161, Clifford PA 18413 or email sroberts@nep.net if you would like to continue to receive this township newsletter.