

Bicentennial Issue of the Clifford Township Newsletter

Issue 12

May 2006

Sponsored by the Clifford Township Community Alliance (CTCA)

Upcoming Township Events

History Book Signing and Social
June 2

Garden Club Plant Exchange
June 4

Square Dance and Barbecue
June 30

Bicentennial Celebration
July 1,2

Barbecue Dance Starts Celebration

Two hundred years of history will burst onto the stage set by the folks of Clifford Township. The opening act of the three-day celebration is a square dance and barbecue sponsored by the Mountain View Garden Club. Starting at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, June 30, the members will welcome you to the Clifford Township Volunteer Fire Company's hall, rustically decorated with bales of hay, flowers and white lights.

For square dance aficionados, you will recognize the name of Terry J. Rockwell, who will kindly provide instruction for those of us who are clueless about square dancing. He will spice up the night with cha-cha, twist, polka and other dances.

Speaking of spicy, enjoy the country picnic buffet of barbecue chicken, red sauce ribs, penne pasta with vodka sauce, corn on the cob, cole slaw, baked beans, mixed greens salad, homemade baked goods and sweet treats. Popcorn from an antique popcorn machine, soda and coffee will be provided. (B.Y.O.B.) It only costs \$22.50 per person. So, grab your partner and have a great time dancing or just eating and observing. Advance tickets may be purchased through Vicky Lewandowski, RR1, Box 158B, Uniondale, PA 18470 or at 222-3596. Ticket sales at the door will be based on available space. See you there!

Corporate Sponsorship

The Bicentennial Committee is pleased to announce the corporate sponsorships received thus far in support of the celebration. Our main sponsor is Adams Cable Service. Associate sponsors are Lenox Propane, State Aggregate, Jennings Environmental Management and North Eastern Pennsylvania Telephone Co. These sponsors have made it possible to pursue our dreams. Many thanks!

Parade Request

Thanks to the efforts of Harry Phillips and Jerry Verboys, the parade will be like something seen a century ago. Three bands, antiques (cars, tractors, fire trucks and motorcycles), floats by businesses and civic groups, Civil War troops and mounted police will line Main Street at 11 am on Saturday, July 1. Jerry Verboys is requesting anyone with an antique bicycle to ride in the parade, please contact him at 222-4820.

We Didn't Forget the Children

When planning the bicentennial celebration, we did not forget the children. Although the parade, historical displays and Civil War encampment will fascinate all ages, special attention is being paid to children's interests. We want to hook kids on history!!

On both days of the celebration at the picnic grounds, there will be old-time games and activities to keep youngsters busy. There will be a battle of oranges, hopscotch, hula hoops and many more games, as well as a tunnel of hay. Hands-on activities (for all ages) include using a corn sheller, washboard, cream separator, loom and treadle sewing machine. Watch ice cream being made with a hit-and-miss engine powered ice cream churn and get to eat some too! There will be lots of opportunities for youngsters to interact with "old-timers" to learn more about what life was like in Clifford years ago.

On Saturday, July 1, youngsters will be

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CTCA Mission:

To improve
the quality
of life, the
environ-
ment and
the
economic
health of
the
community



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Janice Bevaque 222-9312
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Harry Phillips 222-4589
Treasurer

Dennis Knowlton 222-4509
Playground Grant

Cherie Swetter 222-4628
Media/Tree Grant

CTCA meets the 4th Wed.
each month 7 PM at the town-
ship building. All welcome!

delighted by "Berbaum Old-Time Music Workshop." Playing six different instruments, singing and dancing too, the Berbaums are up-close and personal and invite the children to join in. Bring your camera, parents! This program is supported by the Humanities-and-the-Arts initiative, administered by the Pennsylvania Humanities Council and funded principally by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

Also on Saturday, there will be a presentation by area historian Ed McMullen. Members of the bicentennial committee have seen him perform his one-man-show and convinced us this is a "must-have." Dressed in a buckskin outfit of his own making, McMullen reenacts events in the daily life of a pioneer including firing his musket.

Sunday, July 2, will start at the township building with the veterans memorial dedication, an excellent introduction to our region's legacy of sacrifice. The lone bugler, the salute of an honor guard and the patriotic music played by the Lenoxville Band will give the ceremony the sense of respect it deserves.

Afterwards, we invite children to the petting zoo of Lewis and Lori DeJoseph, owners of In the Dell Herb Farm. This couple raises plants, herbs and animals organically. Their "old-fashion" methods allow them to speak to the children about how each of their animals has a job on the farm, such as clearing fields or producing cheese, yogurt or eggs, that goes beyond their use as a food source. The DeJoseph's will bring baby pigs, goats, sheep, chicks, bunnies, ducks and a Scottish Highlander cow, a very old breed of cow that looks like an albino buffalo because of its long white hair. Back by popular demand, JoJo the Clown will entertain with song, dance, tricks and face painting, along with baseball games and contests at the township building.

At the picnic grounds on Sunday, children will be delighted by the music from a hand-made calliope playing fairground music and more game opportunities. There will be many creative ways for kids to understand that there really was entertainment before television, X-box and ipods. Come and enjoy, enjoy!

Clifford Township Bicentennial Kids Contest

We are calling for all of the children of Clifford Township to participate in a wonderful opportunity to show their creativity and win a prize! The subject of the entry must deal with our township. It could be: 1) A drawing or painting of something you see; 2) A poem or essay about your family's history here; 3) An essay on what you love about living in this area. These are only suggestions – use your imagination! The age groups are 5-10, 11-14 and 15-18 years. All entries will be displayed at the firemen's picnic grounds during the bicentennial celebration.

The best entry in each of the three age groups will win \$50 cash and a \$100 savings bond. The winning entries will be published in the Clifford Township Newsletter and area newspapers. The awards will be presented at the township building on Sunday, July 2, 2006 and the winners' works will be placed inside the time capsule to be buried at the site of the new Veterans Memorial. Wouldn't it be great to be present in 2056 when the time capsule is opened and your picture or poem is seen again?

So here's what to do: Only use paper 8 ½ by 11 inches; art work can be any medium (be sure to sign your work); poems or essays should be typed or neatly printed and at the end, add "by (your name)"; include a separate sheet with your name, address, phone number and

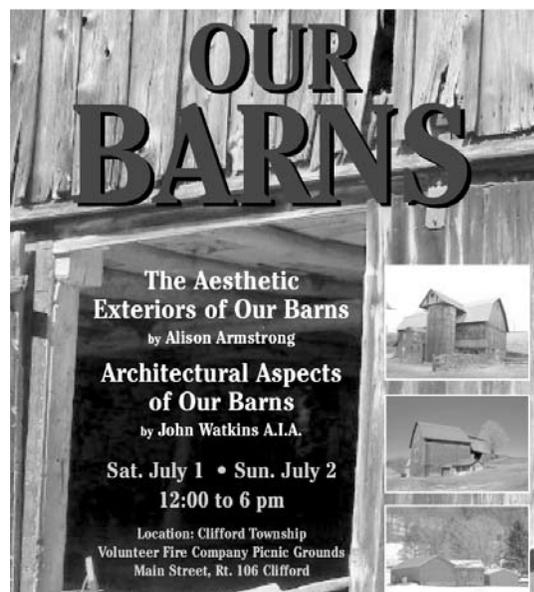
age. Be sure not to fold your entry. Place in a large manila envelope marked: DO NOT BEND - KIDS CONTEST. Mail to: Mary Hoehing, PO Box 442, Clifford, PA 18413 or take to Kim at Clifford Supply counter. All entries must be received by June 15, 2006. Questions? Call Linda Parlanti, 222-3162 or Cherie Swetter, 222-4628.

Antique Auction

The last event of the celebration to be held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 2 is the antique auction. There will be many items of local appeal – postcards, horse collars, a human hair wreath, kitchen and farm tools, crocks, barrels, milk cans, wooden boxes and so much more. There will also be some items especially chosen for the kids to bid on, so they can join in the fun! Proceeds will benefit the Clifford Township Historical Society, Inc. To donate your tax-deductible item, call George Spedding at 222-3564.

Grant Funds Barn Study

The newly formed Clifford Township Historical Society has applied for and received a grant from the Pennsylvania Humanities Council which will support a study of the old barns in the township. The Historical Society is proud to be a part of the township's bicentennial celebration. One of the eight booths at the celebration will be dedicated to a display of pictures of all the remaining barns, courtesy of Phil and Jan Price. A video of the barn study will be shown. Experts will be on hand to discuss the old building methods, materials used and the general history of



the barns. The other seven historical booths will highlight one-room-schools, churches, agriculture, forestry, geology, the fire company and life in the "old days".

Logo Adorns Quilts

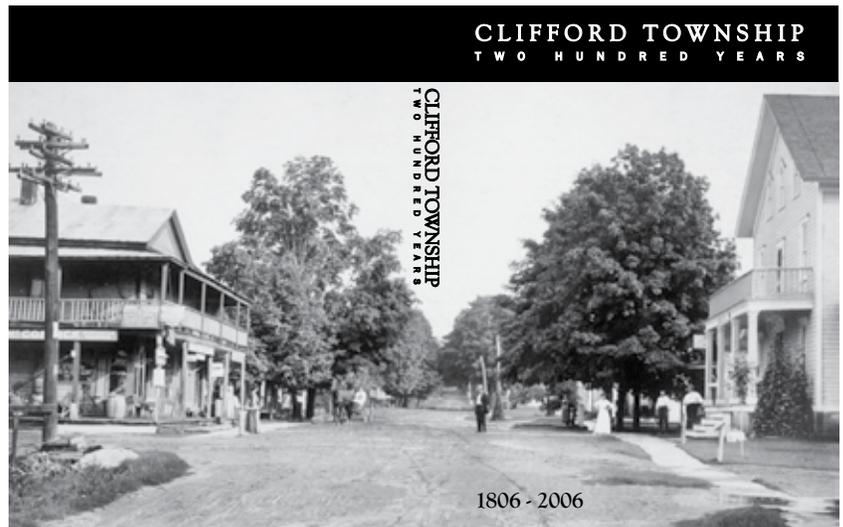
The bicentennial logo designed by Helmut Kunst is beautiful, detailed and thoughtful. Many have admired it as a work of art. It comes as no surprise that two groups have decided to have the logo adorn their quilts: the Clifford Baptist Church and the Clifford Township Supervisors. The church quilt is queen size and totally hand stitched on a cream colored background with the logo in the center. Each corner of the quilt has a different block design stitched in it: Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Pavement, Harrisburg and Pennsylvania Wheel. The supervisors' quilt is double size and its design comes from intricately pieced fabrics. Raffle tickets will be sold for \$2 per ticket or 3 for \$5. Both quilts will be raffled off Sunday, July 2 at the firemen's picnic grounds. Proceeds will help with the bicentennial celebration expenses. These unique quilts can be fabulously displayed on a bed or hung as wall art and will surely be a cherished inheritance. After all, it's a long time until the next centennial!

Souvenir Program Accepting Ads and Tributes

The Bicentennial Committee's big plans are befitting a 200th year birthday party and many have reached into their pockets to contribute. The committee would like to give the community-at-large the opportunity to participate and be recognized. A souvenir program is being designed to advertise the schedule of activities. These programs (5000 to be distributed, free-of-charge) will also be a tribute to all the sponsors, great and small. It will be amongst the well-chosen items placed inside the time capsule to be entombed within the Veteran's Memorial being constructed. The spaces available for purchase may contain a brief history of your business and/or photographs (perhaps a before and after of your present location) or just a copy of your business card. Non-commercial space could be used to honor your family tree or to send best wishes to this community effort. The fees are as follows: whole page (8" by 10.5") is \$200, half page is \$120, quarter page is \$70, eighth page is \$50 and one-sixteenth page is \$20. To discuss your ad, call Chris Marcho at 222-5808. The cut-off date is May 31.

Pie Contest

Bring your homemade pie to the firemen's picnic pie stand before 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 2. Winners will be announced at 3:30 followed by an auction of the pies.



The Book is Here!

Clifford Township: Two Hundred Years by Sally Fischbeck and Patricia Peltz is here! The significance of its subject matter goes beyond the township borders. It is a glimpse into the daily successes and hardships of rural America since the early 1800s. With over 600 pictures, maps and diagrams packed into its 245 pages, witness the evolution of commerce and farming through the experiences of Clifford residents. Since the book is organized by the original 12 school districts, no corner of the township is ignored. We see the scenes, activities and faces from the distant and not so distant past. Pictures show folks at work and play, at school and church; they touch us with their humanity. Coauthor Sally Fischbeck states, "The joy of saving the pictorial and oral history of our area continued to motivate me and Pat Peltz during our two year effort to collect the information and the six months it took us to write the book. We're proud that this is available for the bicentennial celebration and pleased that this effort was instrumental in the formation of our township's new historical society." The book is available at Clifford Supply and The Endless Mountains Pharmacy in Clifford or through the web site www.cliffordpa.com.

Book Signing and Social

Come and share the excitement generated by the release of Clifford Township's historical book. Copies will be available for viewing, for purchase and for autographing by the authors. Snacks and beverages will be offered by the Bicentennial Committee on June 2 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Clifford Township Fire Hall, Route 106. For anyone who enjoys history, has ties to the community or is curious about what's going on, this is a must-do!

Clifford Township: 200 Years, the Video

The highly anticipated hour-long documentary video (or DVD) about our township will be here by mid-June.

See www.cliffordpa.com for schedule updates!

Artisans and Crafters Bring Unique Offerings

The best of the local artisans and crafters will be displaying their wares at the celebration at the fire grounds on July 1 and 2. They include (in alphabetical order) **Todd Bobrovcan**: hand-made walking staffs, **Steve Buss**: contemporary metal crafts including prize winning clock designs, **Joyce Coons** (Joyce's Craft Barrel): paintings on saws, wood, tins and slate, **Paul Daugevelo** (Ros-Al Florals and Antiques): florals, **Lewis DeJoseph** (In the Dell Herb Farm): organic plants and herbs, **Dorothy Ellis**: granola bears, **Michael Kozloski**: fly tying and demonstration of fly tying procedures, **Ron Kozlowski**: graphite rod building and demonstrations, **Helmut Kunst**: paintings of local landscapes and farm scenes, **Marilyn MacDowall**: watercolors, **Lucille Norella** (Art by Norella): pressed flowers, **Al and Bambi Schack**: scroll saw art and demonstration of their antique saw, **Raquel Sweeny**: watercolors, **Jordan Taylor** (Stony Meadow Pottery): ceramics, **Eric and Margaret Teichman** (Dirt Road Creations): jewelry and **Wayne and Tara Tietz**: Indian art.



Top to bottom, left to right are Jordan Taylor, a flower water-color by Marilyn MacDowall, clock by Steve Buss and Helmut Kunst with paintings.

Clifford Township Newsletter

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Free Fun and
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Township!

CLIFFORD TOWNSHIP BICENTENNIAL

June 30, July 1, July 2

Friday, June 30 – Fire Hall

6:30 p.m. - Square dance and barbecue dinner, sponsored by the Mountain View Garden Club, BYOB, \$22.50 per person.

Saturday and Sunday, July 1 and 2, Picnic Grounds, noon to 6 p.m.

Activities for both days

History booths (with photos, artifacts and experts) on topics ranging from agriculture to forestry to one-room schools and more. Conklin's carriage display, Civil War encampment, horse shoe demonstration, horse-drawn carriage rides (small charge), local artisans and crafters, sale of Clifford Township book and video with book signing at 5:00 each day, food stands run by local churches, old-fashion children games, Native American exhibit, hit-or-miss engine making homemade ice cream, hands-on fun for kids of all ages (corn sheller, washboard and wringer, loom, treadle sewing machine, cream separator), self-guided driving map tours of township historical points-of-interest, special postcards with bicentennial postmark, child ID program sponsored by the 15th District Masons.

Activities for Saturday only

11:00 Parade of Antiquity, Main Street to the picnic grounds where items will be on display. Music provided for the parade and at the picnic grounds by the Mountain View Jazz Band, Fife and Drum Corps, Lenoxville Band, Berbaum's Old Time Music Workshop* and the Penn Dixie Band. Essay and coloring contest winners announced at 2 p.m. and Ed McMullen's pioneer theater for children at 2:30 p.m. Chicken and biscuit supper at the Clifford Methodist Church, 4-6 p.m., tickets available at the picnic grounds (first come, first serve, 250 tickets).

Activities for Sunday only

8-11 am firemen's buffet breakfast at fire hall, 9-10:30 sign up for veterans motorcycle ride, 10:45-12:45 motorcycle ride, 11 am open air nondenominational church service, music provided all day by a handmade "fairground" organ, 3 p.m. beard contest, 3:30 pie baking contest & auction, 4 p.m. antique auction, 5 p.m. quilt raffle drawing for two beautiful quilts!

Sunday, July 2 – Township Building, 1- 5 p.m.

1:00 p.m. Veterans Memorial dedication with taps, honor guard and patriotic music by the Lenoxville Band. A time capsule will be buried. 1:30-5 petting zoo, JoJo the clown, baseball game, little league concessions and contests for children.

Rain or shine (most activities under roof), all activities are free unless otherwise noted, some golf carts available at picnic grounds for persons with mobility issues, no alcoholic beverages. www.cliffordpa.com

**Message from the Supervisors:
John Regan, Dennis Knowlton, Randy LaCroix**

The road crew has been especially busy at Elkview Drive, where halfway through the winter, we changed from cinders to anti-skid material and noticed better results. Next winter, anti-skid will be used exclusively at the development. Recently, the township rented a street broom to remove dirt and cinders from Elkview Drive for improved appearance and to reduce road dust. This also helped to prepare the blacktopping for patching and in August, the road will receive a seal coat. Residents in the development have also seen the ditches being cleaned and the sluice pipes blown out or changed.

John Regan. Chairman

Meet Your Neighbor, Harry Phillips

Harry Phillips and his wife, Helen, came to Clifford Township in 1975 and in 1978 moved to Main Street, Clifford. At that time, Harry joined the fire company, becoming an EMT in 1982 and serving as lieutenant on the ambulance crew for a number of years. He has been the fire company's secretary since 1982 and is honored to have played a part in three major events in the fire company's history: the genesis of the fund drive, the Christmas Care Program and the relocation of the fire station to the picnic grounds. Harry volunteered as our area's Boy Scout Master for many years and has been the Clifford Township Community Alliance (CTCA) treasurer since its inception.



Harry was employed by GMAC, Wilkes-Barre office, for his entire career and retired in 1992 after 34 years of service. His experience as a sales and credit manager made Harry a qualified candidate for tax collector, a position he has held for the last nine years.

As active members of St. Pius X church, he and Helen pursued missionary work in Haiti. Helen, widely admired for her charitable work here and abroad, passed away in August 2002. In her memory, two of their children, Maura Staback and Michael Moran, with the help of the N. E. Regional Cancer Institute, have created CASUAL Day. This acronym stands for Colon Cancer Awareness Saves Unlimited Adult Lives. This has been a major fund-raiser for the Institute for the past three years.

Harry enjoys his work as tax collector, doing some traveling and riding in his 1950 Cadillac convertible. He is proud of all the positive changes taking place in the

township and plans on continuing his community service, including being co-chair of the bicentennial celebration's parade committee. Keep up the good work Harry; we're pleased to meet you!

Tree Grant – Spring Planting

It was very exciting this spring, anticipating the display of daffodils and the budding of the trees along Route 106, all planted last fall by members of the Mountain View Garden Club, the CTCA and other community activists. On April 22, these groups gathered again to continue these beautification efforts; fourteen more deciduous trees were planted around the township. Over the next month, there will be evergreens planted and landscaping done around the "Welcome to Clifford" sign. These plantings and the tree removals done last winter completely used up the funds made available by the state grant. The township's tree committee is already in the process of applying for a second grant. Tree removal is very expensive and depletes the grant quickly. There are three trees left to be removed from the Clifford Cemetery and there is a critical need for numerous removals in Royal. Dundaff is also being evaluated. Assuming we are successful with our grant application, we would appreciate input from the residents of the Royal and Dundaff areas. Please call Meg Suraci at 679-9055 or Cherie Swetter at 222-4628.

Landscaping the Township Building

Great improvements have been made in and around our township building. The tree committee would like to solicit donations for plants around the building and the recreational center. Please consider dedicating your tree purchase to the memory of someone you cherish; this living remembrance can be marked with a plaque with the name of the tree and the name of the person being honored. Generations of your family will enjoy watching the tree grow as it provides beauty to all who see it! Please call Meg Suraci at 679-9055 or Cherie Swetter at 222-4628. A big "thank you" goes to Walczak Lumber for donating the mulch and Barhite's Excavation for donating the dirt for the plantings this spring.



Left to right: Meg Suraci, Norma Genevich, Cherie Swetter and Vicky Lewandowski planting one of the two pear trees donated by the Mountain View Garden Club in front of the township building.