

*Mt. Pleasant Township
Community Center, Inc.
est. 1990*

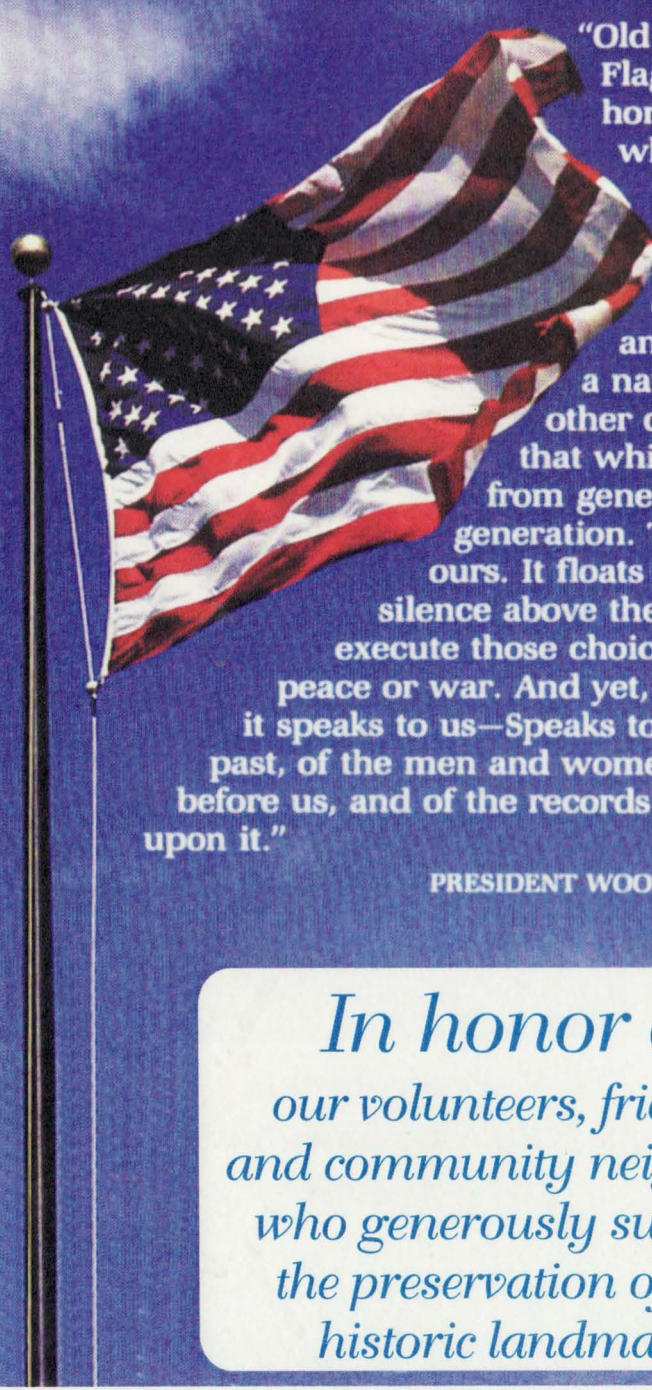
September 2006



*20 Wabash Avenue
Hickory, Pennsylvania
724-356-4064*

*Hickory High School 1915-1959
Hickory Elementary School 1960-1989*

"OLD GLORY"



"Old Glory, this Flag which we honor and under which we serve is the emblem of our unity, our power, our thoughts and purpose as a nation. It has no other character than that which we give from generation to generation. The choice is ours. It floats in majestic silence above the hosts that execute those choices whether in peace or war. And yet, though silent, it speaks to us—Speaks to us of the past, of the men and women who went before us, and of the records they wrote upon it."

PRESIDENT WOODROW WILSON

*In honor of
our volunteers, friends,
and community neighbors
who generously support
the preservation of our
historic landmark.*



Our 1st Board of Directors

President — George Hoop
Vice President — John Bedillion
Secretary — Betsy Burke
Treasurer — John McCarty
1 year Director — John Baker
1 year Director — Rosalie Powelson
2 year Director — Martha Beard
2 year Director — Dr. J.K. McCarrell

Current Board of Directors

President — Rich McClain
Vice President — Van Cowden
Secretary — Betty Allison
Treasurer — Joe Wagner
1 year Director — Emma Brown
1 year Director — Martha Beard
2 year Director — Rosalie Powelson
2 year Director — Clarence Lofstead
Past President — Glenn Powelson



Preservation Dream

They started in 1989 with the name AD HOC Committee of Mt. Pleasant Township, following with Save Our School Committee, then The Cultural and Historic Center of Washington County organization, and finally the Mt. Pleasant Township Community Center. They were the same small group of people sharing a common goal of preserving the Hickory School and making it a community asset. Nearly sixteen years later, the dream lives on.

In January 1990, John McCarty and Bud Allison were appointed operating engineers to help plan and coordinate the team of dedicated volunteers. The building had no heat or electricity, thus no flowing well water...yet. Little did they realize there were thirty-three broken water lines (burst frozen lines) awaiting them that would need immediate attention before anything else could begin. There were leaks in the roof and the list went on and on. Could this dream really have been a nightmare? For lesser people possibly so, but for the founders, the alumni, and so many others it became more of a challenge.

It would require a lot of money coming from many sources and it needed to be found "like now". At first the money came from their own pockets and later through donations of money and service from others providing the capital needed for repair and renovation. At one point they needed money to pay a heating gas bill that was as large as the group's treasury. Later Alumni money came for windows and many other projects, State Grants, Washington Federal Bank Grants, Private Foundations, local government assistance, private contributions, and the list goes on with others who have helped donate materials/or provide labor for the repair and preservation projects.

Sixteen years later, we now take for granted many of the repairs and the preservation projects that have occurred. The building is looking better all the time due to the improvements. Each day many people pass through the Center's doors to participate in one of a variety of programs without realizing that the efforts of a few have made it possible for so many.

Updating the improvements over the past three years (2002-2005) shows numerous projects being completed at the Community Center. Paving the parking lot was completed and parking lot lighting along with updated exterior building lighting has made a huge improvement for patrons using the building after dark.

Recent landscape improvement has made for easier upkeep of the grounds along with more "curb appeal".

Sidewalk and step repairs were made to the front steps, North Side walk area, and the steps leading down to the lower level. The restored sandstone masonry work is now weathering and blending well with the older stones.

Doors were high on the list of changes including the front entrance, North Side entrance, Auditorium fire escape doors, a kitchen door, and the North Side stairwell door. New windows were installed in the kitchen. The kitchen windows project reflects the first steps in replacing fifteen additional windows on the ground floor.

A roofing project was completed in the rear of the building above the old furnace room.

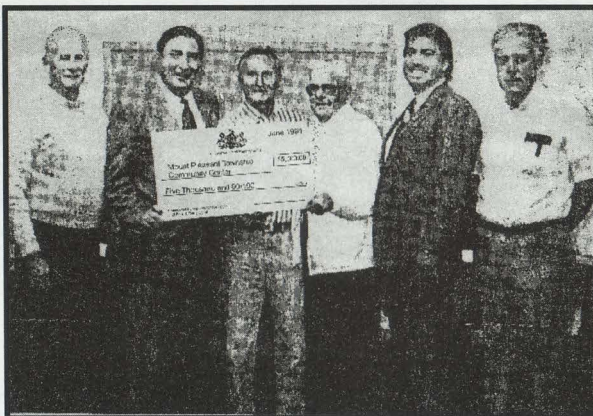
The building interior has been the site of major renovation work to the kitchen with the removal of several old appliances from school cafeteria days. Painting and new kitchen cabinets have helped make the kitchen more inviting and pleasant. The All Purpose Room was the site of three months work with painting and installation of new sound proofing carpet on the ceiling beams. The public has been very receptive of the changes to the All Purpose Room which has helped increase rental usage of the room.

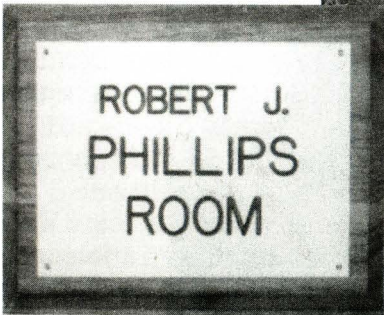
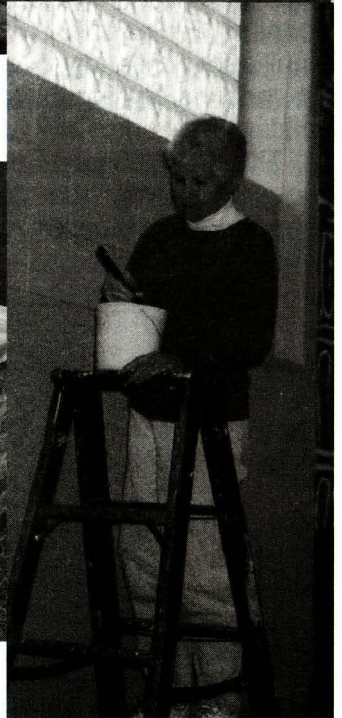
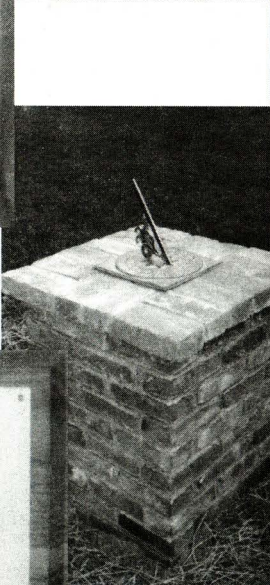
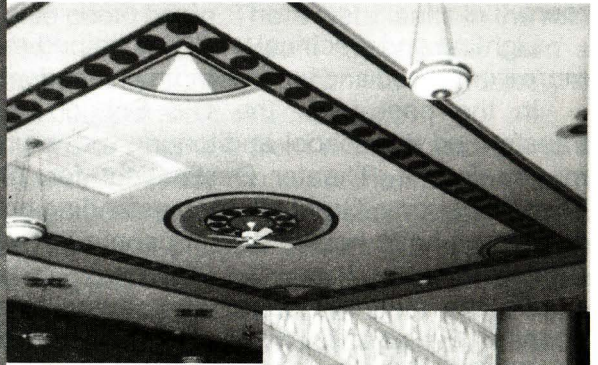
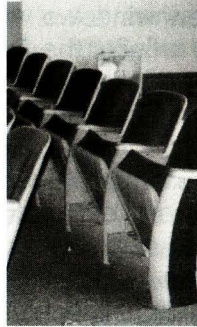
Lighting and electrical work has helped make the rental room areas more illuminated and tenants more pleased with their space.

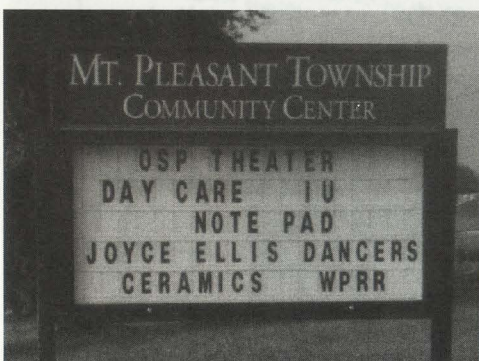
In the past year, the Old School House Players group has transformed the school auditorium, with much labor and a lot of OSP money, into a "Theater Destination" for Washington County Public Theater patrons. Great talent, outstanding productions, and a beautiful auditorium have helped attract people to Hickory and the Community Center.

On the planning board are several window projects that need attention like painting exterior window frames. The McCarty Room, a small public meeting room, has been identified for upgrading. The need for updating lighting fixtures will continue to keep volunteers busy. The building is a work in progress with new challenges for the brave at heart.

The Mt. Pleasant Community Center is the realization of a dream come true. May the dream of those "Founders", volunteers and supporters continue to live on.









Mount Pleasant Township

Community Center News

Volume one, Number two

June 1990

CELEBRATION DINNER

We have set a goal of \$60,000 for our fund drive for 1990 and the "kick-off" was a "CELEBRATION DINNER" furnished by GIANT EAGLE SUPERMARKETS. They provided the food, entertainment, and door prizes. They announced that of all of the dinners they have provided, ours was the biggest and brought in the highest figure. We served 86 meals plus the kitchen help of 13, so we had almost 100 people there.

We want to express our sincere thanks to GIANT EAGLE and to all of those people who supported the affair, and special thanks must go to the following people:



MRS. HELEN BROWN and MRS. AUDRA POLLIGER and daughter JANIE who provided beautiful floral table decorations, green and white balloons, and four small trees with miniature twinkle lights.

Board of Directors elected were:
 For a 1 year term--
 JOHN L. BAKER,
 ROSALIE POWELSON
 For a 2 year term--
 Dr. J. K. MCCARRELL,
 MARTHA BEARD

GEORGE HOOP will now make application to the Department of State for our incorporation and then apply to the IRS for tax exempt status. Until we obtain tax exempt status, we cannot approach any foundation of government agency for some financial assistance.

LIBRARY NEWS

Our Library Committee consisting of RUTH WHITE, MARTHA BEARD, JANICE [Name obscured], and SUSAN LEWIS has be-

Kitchen Help



AUCTION ACTION

Going, ~~going~~,
 Going, ~~going~~,
 Saved!

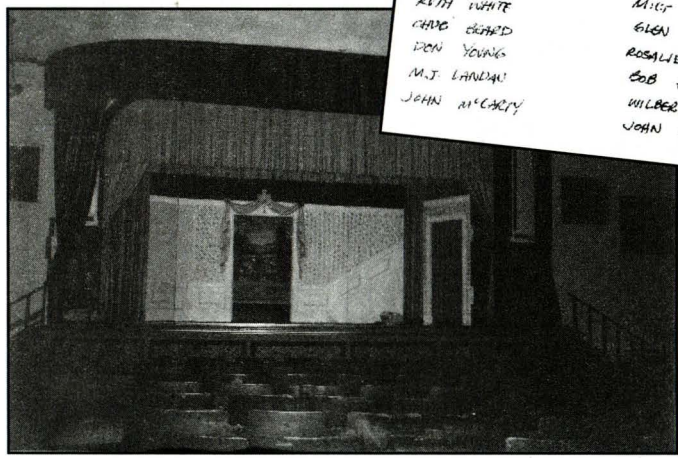
On the evening of February 9th, the Hiskory Community Center Committee attended the Auction held in Hiskory School's chilly cafeteria.

We learned just that morning that the Vert Cherry School Board had decided to donate only some library shelves to us. All the other items we had requested were going on the block.

But members rallied round just in time. Donations pledged on the spot enabled us to buy almost everything we had requested except the piano.

Thanks to Bud's expert bidding style and the following list of members, we now have desks, books, and shelves that might have gotten away.

LES WARE	C.N. GORDEN
BUD ALLISON	JACK CALDWELL
MARTHA BELL	MICHAEL REARDEN
RUTH WHITE	GLEN POWELSON
CHAD BEARD	ROSALIE POWELSON
RON YOUNG	BOB FUNOLA
M.J. LANDMAN	WILBERT WALKER
JOHN MCCARRELL	JOHN BAKER



March 31, 1989

Mr. Richard White, President
Board of Directors
Fort Chisley School District
R. D. #4
McDonald, Pa. 15057

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the Ad Hoc Committee of Mt. Pleasant Township, I want to thank you and the board members for your time and courtesies extended at the recent board meeting.

The Ad Hoc Committee represents a large number of citizens of Mt. Pleasant Township who are interested in procuring the Hickory School properties when it is vacated this summer. We want to make a Community Center out of the property. Since the citizens have over these many years, actually paid for the property, we feel that our Township should have first option on the properties.

- To review the information and request made of the board last night:
- (a) We have had both West Penn Power & Columbia Gas Co conduct their surveys of the building and submit their findings.
- (b) We have made contact with the Township Supervisors so that they are aware of our purpose. We have requested them to consider the properties as Township property in order that financial grants may be obtained.

- (c) We contacted the Pennsylvania Bureau of Labor & Industry asking that they provide inspection and recommendations to the building. Their reply to us was that only the present property owner must make such a request for inspections. This is where we need your full cooperation in making this request soon, rather than wait until the building has been vacated. We urgently request that the school board submit this inspection request to the department, as we would like to be able to move into the building as soon as is possible, providing the properties are turned over to our Township or our citizens group. As of now, the Township Supervisors are awaiting for additional information from us on the reports.

We shall be very grateful if you could bring this subject before the School Board at your next planning session.

Respectfully yours,
John McCarty
John McCarty, for the Ad Hoc Committee
R. D. #1 Box 134
Hickory, Pa. 15340 356-7504

CC-Ad Hoc Committee

John L. Baker
Sally B. Woodaby
Tom Brown
Cl. K. Allison, Jr.
James E. Mitchell
Mrs. Dominick Piazza

June 6, 1989

From- John McCarty

To- Ad Hoc Committee

Subject- Hickory Elementary School & meeting of 6-1-89

Three members of our committee met at John Baker's farm; Bud Allison, John Baker & myself. Many ideas were discussed and the three decided that we should contact the school administration requesting permission to schedule a community meeting in the school in the near future. June 18th was chosen. However, after talking to Mr. Diaz, he suggested that we set a later date because the administration has a meeting (planning) on the 19th. He thought we should make contact with them at that time. Also, it will be quite sometime before any of the supplies and equipment to be used in the new facility will be moved out to the old building-possibly into August. This is due some delays in completion of the new place.

I will be contacting the administration for approval for an open meeting for sometime in July. Hopefully, we can also get the approval for a tour of the building prior to the meeting time. Mr. Diaz is in full agreement with this idea.

Following any reply from the administration, I'll be in touch with you in order to set up another meeting of this committee.

Cheers!

John McCarty
John McCarty

Fort Cherry School District
R. D. 4, McDonald, Penna. -- 15057
Phone (412) 786-1951

Vanna A. Doherty
Business Manager
Board Secretary

Dr. John F. Manion
Superintendent

June 27, 1989

Mr. John K. McCarty
R. D. #1, Box 134
Hickory, PA 15340

RE: Your letter of June 8, 1989.

Dear Mr. McCarty:

I am writing in regard to your letter of the above date. At the regular monthly meeting of the Fort Cherry School District Board of Directors, held on June 26, 1989, the request contained in the above letter for use of the Hickory Elementary School Auditorium was approved.

Sincerely,

John F. Manion
John F. Manion
Superintendent of Schools

JFM:ms
cc: Mr. Diaz

June 8, 1989

Dr. John F. Manion, Superintendent
Fort Cherry School District
R.D.#4, McDonald, Pa. 15057

Dr. Manion:

Our Ad Hoc Committee for Save Our School requests the use of the Hickory Elementary School Auditorium for the afternoon of July 8th, 1989. The purpose of this request is to hold a public OPEN HOUSE meeting for the citizens of the Mt. Pleasant Twp area in order for us to determine the interest and support we have in our endeavor to get this building for use as a community center.

We have contacted Mr. Diaz and asked his co-operation in overseeing this meeting as we would like to have the residents tour the building prior to the business meeting. Mr. Diaz is willing to supervise the tour etc. thus we need the approval of your administration .

Looking forward to your favorable approval of this request, I remain;

Respectfully,

John K. McCarty

John K. McCarty
for the Ad Hoc Committee
R.D.#1 Box 134
Hickory, Pa. 15340

*In memory of
our volunteers, friends,
and community neighbors
who have generously supported
the preservation of our
historic landmark.*



*Thou wilt guide us,
Till we reach that blissful shore;
where the angels wait to join us,
in that praise for evermore.*

