

COMMUNITY NEWS

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Historic Trust hosts hayride back in time

by Dorann Weber
for the Community News

It was like a scene from a Norman Rockwell painting, an old-fashioned train station, old-fashioned trains, and a hayride through the woods, complete with Christmas songs and jingle bells.

This scene took place Dec. 4 and 5, when the North Pemberton Railroad station held its annual hayride. Residents enjoyed the 45 minute hayride starting at the Pemberton station, down the path to Birmingham.

Booklets of Christmas songs and jingle bells were handed out as the residents sat on haystacks and enjoyed the brisk December air.

Terry Patton was the tour guide on the hayride

"We are here mainly to preserve the history of the township."

- Terry Patton
Pemberton Township
Historic Trust

we had a hayride that goes from this station to Birmingham, said Patton, a volunteer and trustee of the Pemberton Township Historic Trust.

"We had songs on the hayride along with a lot of history of the riverbed and system. We came back, and with your ticket, you got the opportunity to go to our brand new tool shed, where we had hot chocolate, coffee, doughnuts, hot dogs and cupcakes."

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Terry Patton was the tour guide on the hayride for the day, and was on hand to give out historic information as well as singing along with residents.

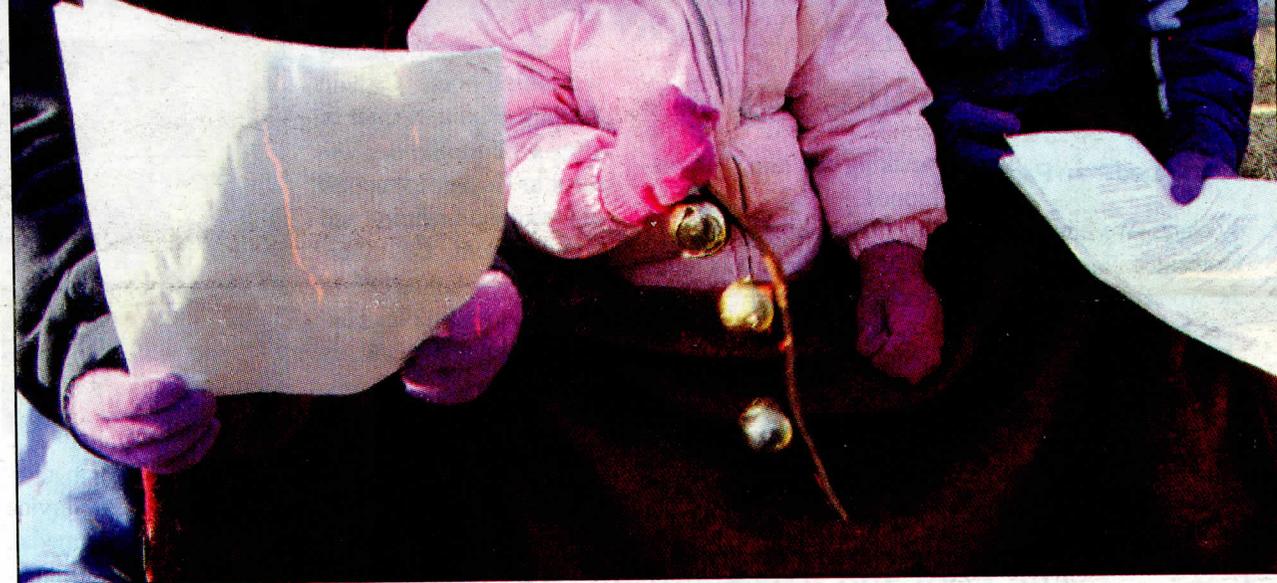
"Every hour on the hour

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The hot beverages and snacks were a wonderful way to end the hayride. Residents gathered in the charming new tool shed and mingled.

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Community News photo by Dorann Weber

Keeping warm under a cozy blanket, Paul Lasher, 8, Olivia Laub, 2, and Mahala Laub, 5, join in the Christmas Caroling at the Pemberton Township Historic Trust's annual holiday hayride.



Community News photo by Dorann Weber

Seven-year-old Jeffery Germek stops for a chat with Santa during the Candy Cane Find and Nature Walk at Whitesbog Village.

Santa makes pre-holiday visit to Whitesbog

by Dorann Weber
for the Community News

Even though the sun wasn't participating in the first Candy Cane Find and Nature Walk with Santa at Whitesbog Village, the children and adults who attended seem to have a wonderful time.

The light drizzle didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the children on their quest to find Santa's reindeer, Rudolph during the event, held Dec. 11 and presented in partnership by the village and the Pemberton Township Recreation Department.

Santa, the children and adults walked through paths in the woods and through the cranberry bogs to look for Santa's red-nosed companion. When little feet got a bit tired,

"We need more events like this in the township. The kids loved it."

- Laurie Ferguson

Santa and the children made their way to the General Store where cookies and cider were waiting for all to enjoy.

Children had the opportunity to sit on Santa's lap and tell him their wishes for Christmas and to have their picture taken with him. Afterwards, the children continued on their mission to find Rudolph, so once again they went on an adventure with Santa.

"I think this is a wonderful event.

We need more events like this in this township. The kids love it; they've been excited all day," said Laurie Ferguson.

Even though a light rain fell throughout the event, Ferguson believed the event was still a hit.

"It still worked, and the kids are still here, Santa's here and everyone is having a great time."

Just behind the General Store, candy canes were hidden in trees, bushes, and on rocks. Children ran to find as many candy canes as they could.

Jeffery Germek, 7, was one of the very excited children who attended the event.

"I liked finding reindeer, and hunting for candy canes. I got a lot of can-

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