



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Historical Group Takes Next Step To Revive 1849 Railroad Station

NICHOLSON, PA – The Nicholson Heritage Association (the Association) will hold a public meeting on January 23, 2014 to unveil and discuss the historic structure feasibility study of the former Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad's (DL&W) Station in Nicholson.

With an Endless Mountains Heritage Region (EMHR) grant through the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), the Association takes its first step to rehabilitating the station into a community center for residents to gather, and a visitor's center and gateway to the Viaduct Valley Way Scenic Byway to promote tourism. Facility Design & Development of Scranton and The Institute for Public Policy & Economic Development, also of Scranton, worked on the study together with the Association.

The public is invited to attend this meeting that will be held at 6:30 pm on January 23, 2014 at the St. Patrick's Church Hall in Nicholson on Main and High Streets.

The station was originally built by one of the DL&W's predecessors, the Liggett's Gap Railroad, in 1849. This first, and largest, station on that line was initially used to board transient workers before being used to handle freight and passengers. Building a rail line in Nicholson forever changed the community as it connected people, commerce, and trade.

With the completion of the Clarks Summit-Hallstead Cut-off in 1915, passenger service began from the then new brick and concrete station next to the then just completed Tunkhannock Viaduct, also known as the Nicholson Bridge. After 1915, the original 1849 station handled all freight in town, even following the DL&W merger with the Erie Railroad, becoming the Erie Lackawanna Railroad (EL), in 1960. Due to financial hardship, the EL permanently closed the station in 1971. The station was sold in 1983 to a local business and in private use until purchased by the Association in June 2012 with donations from individuals, businesses, and a \$25,000 Pepsi Refresh Project grant.

The feasibility study is the next step towards rehabilitating the station and encouraging regional economic development. Donations are still needed and can be mailed to the Association at P.O. Box 496, Nicholson, PA 18446. In addition, donations are accepted through PayPal. More information available at: <http://www.nicholsonstation.org>.

Besides this initiative, the Association meets regularly to discuss efforts that include the Viaduct Valley Way Scenic Byway and the upcoming 100th anniversary celebration of the Nicholson Bridge in 2015. The next Nicholson Heritage Association meeting will take place at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 29, 2014 at the First Presbyterian Church, 65 State Street, in Nicholson. For updates, please visit <http://www.nicholsonheritage.org> or visit them on Facebook and Twitter.

About The Nicholson Heritage Association

The Nicholson Heritage Association was established in 1989 as a non-profit organization in anticipation of the 75th anniversary of the Tunkhannock Viaduct, also known as the Nicholson Bridge, and is dedicated to the historical preservation of Nicholson and the region. Nicholson is a small rural town nestled in Wyoming County and the Endless Mountains of Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Association continues to play an active role in the community through many initiatives, including purchasing U.S. flags for local businesses. Visit <http://www.nicholsonheritage.org> for more information.