



# Ebensburg's Dickens of a Christmas

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **EBENSBURG TO HOST A DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS**

Ebensburg – Christmas is just around the corner, and plans are well underway for Ebensburg's sixth annual "Dickens of a Christmas". The event will take place December 2-4 in various locations across the county seat. This Victorian event encompasses the true spirit of Christmas and will take you back in time to experience an old-fashioned holiday.

Events kickoff on Friday with special activities at the Cambria County Courthouse during the day. County employees decorate the row offices in the theme of a Dickens Village, and the Courthouse remains open all weekend for visitors. There will be a Light-up ceremony in the evening followed by a Cresson Lake performance and a Victorian Fashion Show & Tea. Borough Manager Dan Penatzer encourages visitors to come to Ebensburg to see an outstanding display of Christmas decorations. "If you haven't seen downtown Ebensburg at Christmas, you need to," said Penatzer. "Families will enjoy walking through downtown streets looking at decorated windows and extensive decorations in three parks." A display of large lighted characters depicting the "12 Days of Christmas" in Veterans Park is a children's favorite. Burning cresset fire baskets will be set afire and glow again in Penn Eben Park and Kimball Park.

On Saturday, three craft shows, ice sculptures, and the annual Christmas Parade take center stage. Other activities include tours of the former county prison, sleigh and carriage rides through town, Victorian Teas, children's activities and so much more. Businesses will also decorate their storefronts and offer special Victorian menus.

The Cresson Lake Playhouse's holiday production of *Winter Wonderettes* will be a part of the Dickens celebration with four shows over the weekend at the courthouse. Other productions during the weekend include the Christmas Cantata "Night of the Father's Love" at First United Church.

Shawna Drop, Community Development Director, promises this year's event will be even better than last year. "We try to change the events a bit each year, and for this year we have lots of new events added," said Drop.

New this year to "Dickens of a Christmas" will be a Dickens-Style Murder Mystery Dinner Show at the Fairview Bed & Breakfast. The Young Peoples Community Center is hosting a Drop-N-Shop that

allows young children to be entertained while parents go shopping for the afternoon. The Ebensburg Library will sponsor a Victorian Fashion Show featuring wedding gowns and dresses from as far back as 1890.

The Historical Society's gingerbread contest and Mrs. Buck's Sweet Shoppe will return this year, as well as a Young Ladies Tea for girls ages 6-11 hosted by the Ebensburg Library.

This year's Dickens of a Christmas closes Sunday evening with a Victorian Christmas Concert by the Keystone State Quarter at Grace Church of Ebensburg.

"We make sure that we have something for all ages during the Dickens Weekend." said Penatzer. "It's become a great family event, and I don't know of a better way to get everyone into the Christmas spirit."

A complete schedule of events can be found at [www.EbensburgDickens.com](http://www.EbensburgDickens.com) or call (814) 472-8780.

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