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## **A New Chapter for the Annual Storytelling Dinner at The Settlers Inn**

Hawley, PA (October 8, 2020)- In a year with so much change, a beloved annual tradition at The Settlers Inn will go on essentially the same. Storytelling Dinner has been a highly anticipated part of the fall season since 1987. On October 30 and 31 the event will return with some slight adaptations that bring the festivities outdoors but preserve all of the elements that make it unique.

This year over 100 carved pumpkins will be displayed in Grant's Woods. The newly opened area behind the Inn has an enchanted forest atmosphere with posh picnic cabins, gravel pathways, strings of overhead lights and an oversized fire pit. The open space provides the perfect setting for cocktail hour. Visitors may warm up with hot cider and spirits around the roaring fire. Those in attendance are encouraged to dress in bonfire attire for the evening's festivities. Guests may gather in Grant's Woods and stroll along the paths to see the intricately carved pumpkins illuminated for Halloween.

Many of the carved pumpkins boast elaborate, detailed designs. The Settlers Inn Founder Grant Genzlinger and friend David Dunsmore lead a team of carvers in a day long effort. Together they create everything from life-size pumpkin people to miniature scenes. Each jack-o-lantern is unique and imbued with its own characteristics. Grant says his ideas are fluid and he draws inspiration from everyday life and current headlines, but never repeats a look from year to year. David comes to the table with a host of creative ideas, fine-tuned throughout the year to incorporate the chosen theme. Carving will take place on October 29 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at The Settlers Inn. Anyone interested in carving pumpkins should email [GGenzlinger@settlershospitality.com](mailto:GGenzlinger@settlershospitality.com) or call the Inn at 570-226-2993.

A family-style seasonal meal follows cocktail hour. Dinner will be served in a heated tent beside the garden. Marcia Dunsmore, a former partner at The Settlers Inn, will join forces with Executive Chef Kate Woehrle to craft a menu of hearty soups and stews. That will pair perfectly with a selection of crusty breads from Dunsmore's popular bakery- Myrtle Avenue Bakehouse. Shawn and David, better known as the Dishonest Duo, will perform live Bluegrass music throughout the evening. Following dinner, storyteller Neil Genzlinger will enthrall audiences with tantalizing tales. The New York Times writer and former film and theater critic is known for his offbeat and outrageous humor. He has performed at well-known storytelling venues such as The Moth and his plays have been performed at the New York International Fringe Festival.

"This year has been unpredictable, with many annual traditions falling to the wayside, so we're delighted to be able to offer our Storytelling Dinner," explains Justin Genzlinger, CEO/Owner, Settlers Hospitality. "It's a signature event at The Settlers Inn and it was important for us to keep the tradition alive especially since this is our 40th anniversary in business. We've made some adjustments to allow everyone to enjoy this fall favorite in a safe way as we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic."

Reservations are required for the Storytelling Dinner. The cost is \$65 per person. Call 570-226-2993.

**About Settlers Hospitality**

Settlers Hospitality, boutique multi-concept hospitality in Hawley, PA, consists of The Settlers Inn, Ledges Hotel, Silver Birches Resort, Hotel Anthracite, Sayre Mansion, The Dock on Wallenpaupack, Glass- wine.bar.kitchen, Kol Steakhouse, Cocoon Coffeehouse and Bakery, Lake Region Fitness and Art on the edge. For more information, check out [SettlersHospitality.com](http://SettlersHospitality.com)

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