



Media Contacts:

Kim Roberts

412-454-6382

[kmroberts@heinzhistorycenter.org](mailto:kmroberts@heinzhistorycenter.org)

Brady Smith

412-454-6459

[bmsmith@heinzhistorycenter.org](mailto:bmsmith@heinzhistorycenter.org)

**Meadowcroft to Present Special Program on Cliftonville Mine Riot**  
*-A series of presentations will separate fact from fiction in the mysterious story of a 1922 labor dispute gone wrong-*

PITTSBURGH, July 2, 2019 – Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, part of the Smithsonian-affiliated Senator John Heinz History Center museum system, will host a special program on the **Cliftonville Mine Riot** on **Saturday, July 13** from **noon to 2 p.m.**

In July 1922, the tranquil valley of Avella, Pa., took the world's stage when a local mine labor dispute turned deadly.

In the early morning of July 17, 1922, hundreds of striking miners crossed the border from Avella into nearby Cliftonville, W.Va., intent on stopping non-unionized miners from working at the Saledka Mine. By 7 a.m., at least 13 were dead, including the local sheriff, many were wounded, and the mine's tippie (used to transport coal) was destroyed.

Due to conflicting accounts, the exact events of that morning remain a mystery to this day.

During this special program at Meadowcroft, a series of presentations will help separate the facts from the myths and mysteries surrounding this significant, yet obscure, event in Western Pennsylvania's history.

Presentations during the program will be given by the following speakers:

- **Dr. Louis Martin**, Associate Professor of History, Chatham University
- **Wellsburg Police Chief Richard Ferguson** (retired Brooke County Sherriff)
- **Meadowcroft Staff**

This program is included with regular admission to Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village.

For more information, visit [heinzhistorycenter.org/meadowcroft](http://heinzhistorycenter.org/meadowcroft).

**Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village** operates in association with the Senator John Heinz History Center, an affiliate of the Smithsonian and Pennsylvania's largest history

museum. Meadowcroft, a National Historic Landmark, is the oldest site of human habitation in North America and features a massive rock overhang used by the region's earliest inhabitants for shelter more than 19,000 years ago. The 16th century Monongahela Indian Village includes wigwams, recreated prehistoric artifacts, and hands-on activities related to agriculture. Two 18th century structures help to spotlight the similarities and differences between the everyday lives of European settlers and American Indians in the Upper Ohio Valley. Meadowcroft's 19th century village features a covered bridge, one-room schoolhouse, blacksmith shop, and church that create a charming country village setting. Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village is located in Avella, Pa., Washington County, within an hour's drive of Pittsburgh. For more, visit [www.heinzhistorycenter.org/meadowcroft](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org/meadowcroft).



In July 1922, a local mine labor dispute turned deadly. Visitors to Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village can learn about the facts, myths, and mysteries of this fatal event on Saturday, July 13.

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