

## **Refunds Offered for Wine Festival Tickets**

People who purchased tickets for the 2011 Wyalusing Valley Wine Festival are being offered refunds in the wake of the canceled event.

The eighth annual version of the festival that was to be held on Sept. 10 was billed as “rain or shine,” but nobody anticipated an historic flood that devastated much of the region. After calling off its eighth annual festival, the Wyalusing Valley Wine Festival Committee, due to time and logistical constraints, concluded that this fund-raiser hosted by the Wyalusing Valley Museum and co-sponsored by the Wyalusing Lions and Lioness would not be held this year.

The date of the next event has been scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 8, 2012, and the committee expects it to return as a celebration of a community’s triumph and recovery from disaster.

Here’s how you receive your refund for tickets purchased. Send your tickets, along with a self-addressed stamped envelope, to: Wine Festival, PO Box 322, Wyalusing, PA 18853. Please make sure refund requests are postmarked by Monday, Oct. 31. Checks for the total amount of your refund will be returned along with the gratitude of the Wyalusing Valley Wine Festival Committee for your support and an invitation to attend next year’s event.

Money raised by the wine festival goes back into the community for various causes and programs, including funding the museum in its efforts to preserve local history, scholarships through the WVHS Student Loan Fund, People Helping People holiday food giveaways for needy families in the area and an emergency fund to help people in crisis.

As it turns out, the Wyalusing Valley Wine Festival played an unexpected role in dealing with the recent disaster that culminated on the weekend the event was to be held. Food and other items ordered for this year’s festival were put to use feeding firefighters and other volunteers during the cleanup and recovery following the flood. That effort included a preliminary role in assisting the Wyalusing Valley Volunteer Fire Company to set up a shelter at the fire hall for those who had been evacuated or couldn’t get back home. That shelter was subsequently taken over by the Bradford-Sullivan Chapter of the American Red Cross.

The Wyalusing Valley Wine Festival Committee extends its gratitude to the many volunteers who continue to help homeowners and businesses recover from this disaster. On Sept. 8, 2012, you are invited to join them for the delayed eighth edition of the festival with a greater appreciation of community spirit and resilience.