

MILLBROOK RECEIVES LARGEST GIFT EVER

MILL HALL — The Millbrook Playhouse Board of Directors received its largest contribution in the theatre's nearly half a century of history when Stephen and Pamela Poorman recently gave \$135,000.

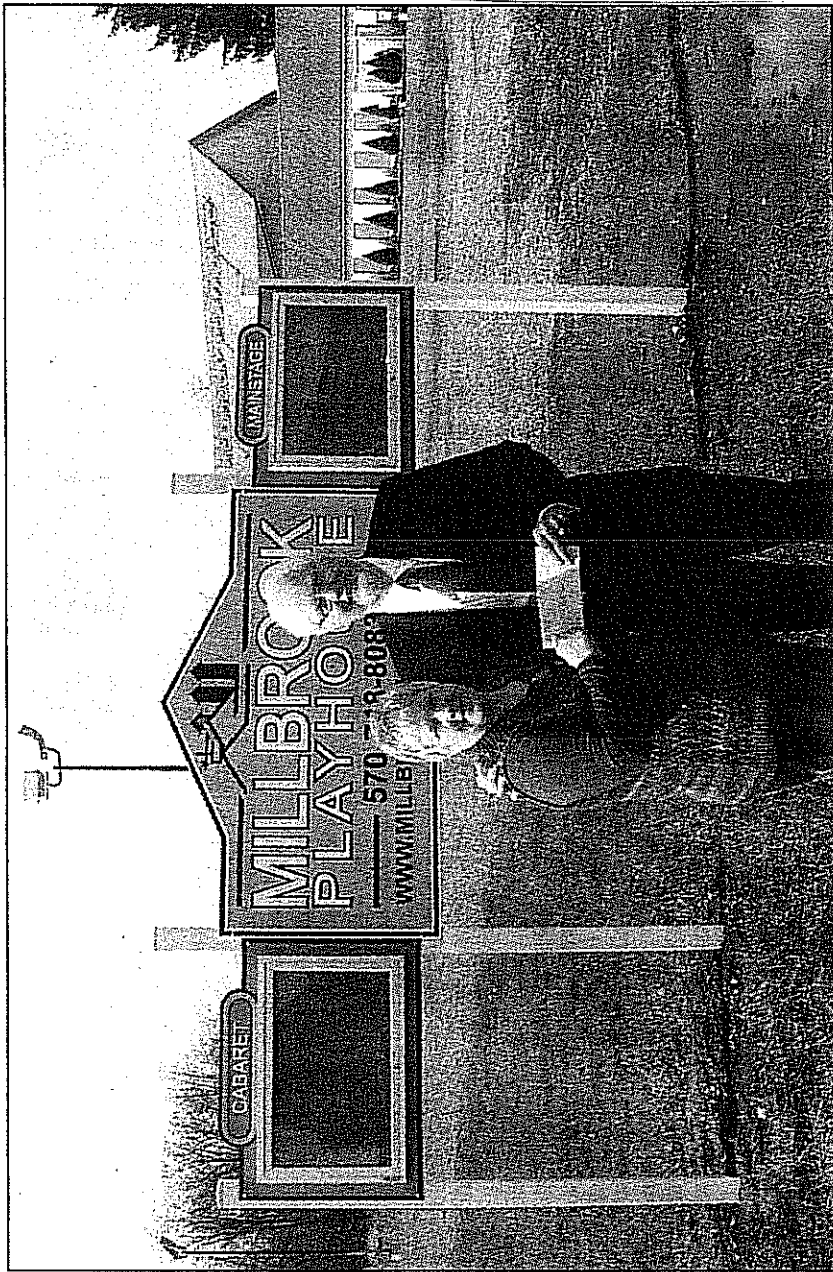
"The playhouse is extremely appreciative of such a large contribution that will help in many areas of the theatre," Board President Eria Mae Frederick said. "A new Cabaret Theatre entrance is the beginning of a larger, long-range plan that includes weatherizing the cabaret and using it as a year-round venue for the community."

The new entrance will allow audience members to go directly into the cabaret wing of the facility from the parking lot.

Some funds also will be appropriated for remodeling the cabaret lobby, constructing a new box office and providing handicap-accessible restrooms, Frederick reported. Many other improvements are planned, she added.

A new sign already has been installed along Country Club Lane at the theatre's parking lot. The Poormans matched a Pennsylvania Wilds grant to fund the sign, Frederick said.

The Poormans' contribution also includes a charitable bequest through the Lock Haven University Foundation for students



WENDY STIVER/THE EXPRESS
Eria Mae Frederick, president of the Millbrook Playhouse Board of Directors, accepts a generous donation of \$135,000 from Stephen and Pamela Poorman. Mr. Poorman, shown, presents the donation in front of a new sign for the barn theatre that the contribution helped provide.

who demonstrate acting talent and a commitment to Millbrook Playhouse. Millbrook staff will determine the recipient.

"One must simply be amazed at the talent right here in our own backyard," Stephen Poorman said. "This could only occur with a strong commitment from so many artists and supporters. Yet, Millbrook takes it all one

step further by offering theatre studies and performance opportunities for our community. We're truly grateful for all the fun and super-duper entertainment the artists deliver each season!"

A mobile LED sign to advertise future productions also is planned. The scrolling sign will be posted closer to Hogan Boulevard, at least during

Millbrook's summer season of plays. The fact that it is mobile will make it a useful addition to the theatre, Frederick said. Millbrook patrons, friends and supporters are encouraged to donate toward the LED sign and toward the cabaret improvements.

While 2011 was one of the most successful seasons ever, with a string of

exceptionally entertaining shows, Millbrook is a nonprofit corporation that requires volunteer and community support to survive.

For information on how to help sustain Millbrook Playhouse, visit the website at millbrookplayhouse.com or write to the board of directors at P.O. Box 161, Mill Hall, Pa. 17751.