

*A Macungie Tradition Since 1929!*  
**95<sup>th</sup> Annual “Sheeprock Trek”  
and Thanksgiving Sunrise Service**

Thanksgiving Morning • Thursday, November 23, 2023  
5:45 AM

Featuring a special Thanksgiving Message by  
**Ryan Mackenzie**  
Pennsylvania State Representative - 187th Legislative District

Hike Departs from the  
**Macungie Volunteer Fire Department**  
31 South Walnut Street, Macungie

Plenty of Parking Available

Sponsored by  
Macungie Boy Scout Troop 71

**Free and open to the General Public – No registration required!**

Thanksgiving 2023 marks the 95th year of the Sheeprock Trek, an annual observance first described in a 1929 Allentown *Morning Call* article as “a novel undertaking.” William Shoemaker, a local civic leader, state legislator, and founder of the first Macungie Boy Scout Troop, organized the Trek in 1929 as an activity sponsored by the Young People’s Council of Solomon’s Reformed Church. Sheeprock was chosen for this annual pilgrimage because from that point on the mountain “*there is presented a grand panoramic view of two thirds of Lehigh County and parts of Berks and Northampton counties.*”

The name Sheeprock, or Sheep Stable, is derived from local folklore when a farmer, caught in a storm, led his sheep to shelter in a cave below the rocky pinnacle. The cave thus served as a stable, or a shelter, from the cold north wind. Historian O. P. Knauss chronicled the Trek during the early years, writing; “*Few scenes anywhere are as glorious and inspiring, and at early sunrise the view is particularly beautiful.*” On Thanksgiving morning, let us give thanks for the opportunity to again enjoy what Knauss first described as “*a scene which never fails to incite wonder and delight.*”

Hot Chocolate and Doughnuts will be served after the service at the Macungie Volunteer Fire Department. In the event of inclement weather conditions, the sunrise service will be held inside the Macungie Volunteer Fire Department starting at 5:45 AM.

**Trek organizers would like to remind all Thanksgiving morning hikers that properties surrounding Sheeprock are privately owned. Participants are asked to respect their privacy and begin and end the hike with the group originating from the Macungie Fire Department, using the designated hiking trail for access to and from Sheeprock.**

For more information, contact the Macungie Historical Society at 610-965-0372.