December 2010

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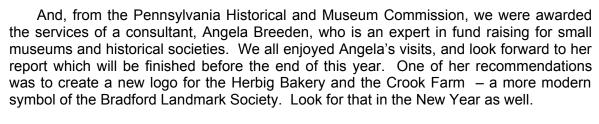
Crook Farm, Director
Judy Yorks

Another year ends in a few weeks, and even though the "business" of the Bradford Landmark Society is exploring the past, we look forward to the New Year, and wonder what history will be made in 2011.

The Landmark Society has had quite a year, including a murder trial, a country fair, two small government grants, and a presentation by Charles Dickens! The first, A Murder Trial, was presented on March 25 by the McKean County Historical Society. Over 130 people squeezed into the First Presbyterian Church to watch the McKean County Historical Society players put on a very enjoyable presentation. That Society puts on a play each year, and this spring offered to present their latest endeavor, a re-enactment of a trial that took place in Smethport Courthouse in the early 1930s. A Kane woman was accused of killing her husband. Regis Mutzabaugh, a well known attorney of the day, defended her – successfully! The play followed the actual testimony and trial proceedings and was very interesting.

The Crook Farm Country Fair came, as always, in August, and although there were some doubts last year that we would continue the fair, we did, and it turned out great. For the first time, we allowed vendors of all kinds into the fair; and offered other non-profit organizations in town a chance to earn some money by running food stands. And did they do well! Lots of variety, located all over the Crook farm property and great weather contributed to a very successful fair. We will definitely continue this new trend in 2011.

We were awarded two small grants last year as well. One, awarded late in the year, is a façade grant from the Bradford Downtown Business Merchants Association. We applied for funding to fix up some much needed repairs at the Herbig Bakery, including painting the building, a new alley side door, repairs to the window sills, installing a rain gutter system on the alley side (we share an alley with Beefeaters restaurant), and minor foundation repairs. Since the grant was awarded too late in the year for most of the outside work, we will be picking up where we left off next spring.



And finally, have a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. Great things lie ahead!



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Necrology of the Buildings and Businesses

Each year, it has become traditional for the last *Inkwell* newsletter of the year to give a necrology of the local buildings and businesses that have closed or been torn down. Actually, it's not just a necrology, but a list of changes that have occurred in Bradford. While we don't list all the closings and demolitions, this list is a good indication of the state of Bradford's economy. This is 2010, in review:

Opened or changed:

- Little Power Shop. Opened at 36 South Avenue, but within months had moved out to 70 Minard Run Road, next to Charlie's Cycle Center (old Race Honda).
- Serendipity on Main Street, 21 Main. Opened just a few months ago, a charming little gift shop.
- •Rollies Tobacco Shop, 79 Main Street. A "make your own" cigarette shop. Interesting!
- •Tortugas Mexican Restaurant, 109 Main Street. We all missed our Mexican restaurant, La Herradura, when it closed. But Mexican food is back and who could miss that giant red turtle painted on the side of the building?
- •TJ's Country Store, Rte. 219, Lewis Run. A great location for a country store.
- Main Street Antiques, opened in the old Archer's building in May; moved down to 86 Main Street a few weeks ago. Great place to shop.
- The name of the **Riddell House** was changed back to its original name, the Holley Hotel.
- •Subway restaurant returned to Main Street in October after closing in January. The Foster Brook Subway remains closed.

Closed:

- •Bradford Texas Hotdog Shop, 1020 East Main. Texas Hot sauce will be missed!
- •Hounds & Hunting. The business has been sold, and will be transferred to Indiana. *Hounds and Hunting*, once the largest single breed dog magazine in the world, moved from its old headquarters in the Bradford Printing Co. to a newly renovated building on Derrick Road in 1974.
- Crosby's Mini Mart at 151 Interstate Parkway closed January 3; the property was bought by Bradford Area High School and was remodeled to fit its needs.

Razed:

- •The Leonard Building on Mechanic Street. Built in the 1930s, it was the home to the Hospital Resale Shop for several years, but has stood vacant for some time. Located next to the creek, the building was in poor condition, and was razed this past summer.
- •Rink's Garage and Auto Dealership building on East Main Street. Closing in 2009 with the bankruptcy of the Chrysler Corporation, the property was razed in April 2010. The Rink Brothers Dealership, in business for 70 years, was the oldest original Chrysler dealership in the nation.



The Hall of Fame for Toys

Each year, the National Toy Hall of Fame in Rochester, New York chooses a toy (or two, or three) to be placed on their Hall of Fame list. Nominations are invited throughout the year, and the winner(s) are announced in early November. This year's winners are **The Game of Life**, and and **Playing cards**. Losing toys (but maybe they will win next year) were Cabbage Patch Dolls, the Magic 8 Ball, Rubik's Cube, Dungeons & Dragons, Lite Brite, the dollhouse, Hot Wheels, the game of chess, dominoes, and the pogo stick. The following is taken from the www.toyhalloffame.org website.

Playing Cards:

From Go Fish to Texas Hold'em, and from bridge to Old Maid, playing cards allow for more games than any other single type of gaming device. With origins in China, India, and Egypt, playing cards became widely known in Europe after the 1600s. The first American card decks came directly from England; after the Revolutionary War, American printers soon managed to print their own playing cards. From then onward, card decks became a fixture in many households and among groups of people looking for ways to play. Some small innovations developed over the years: Two-sided face cards (the royal cards) meant a player didn't have to turn his card to see a Jack's or King's face, and indices (the small numbers at the corners of cards) allowed players to hold their cards closer in a "fan," so other players couldn't see them. Still, the earliest American playing cards look very similar to the cards we all recognize today.

Do you remember the first card game you ever played? There are countless children's games with playing cards. Many of these are matching games, such as Go Fish and rummy, or card-shedding games, such as Old Maid. And playing cards are popular with people of all ages. Many adults belong to card-playing clubs. Travelers on trains or planes often play cards. Decks of cards amuse soldiers waiting in the field or in camp. And poker tournaments are popular television events.

Game of Life:

"You will learn about life when you play The Game of Life," went the original television jingle advertising for the Milton Bradley Company's popular board game. Bradley himself, the founder of the company, had printed and sold his The Checkered Game of Life 100 years earlier in 1860. Inventor Ruben Klamer patterned the 1960 game loosely on the earlier one, and the company hired popular radio and television personality Art Linkletter to make a "personal endorsement." Since then, the game, also known simply as "Life," has been updated several times, and both electronic and specially-themed versions are now widely available. One of the best-selling games of all time, Life has also been translated into at least 20 languages.

Playing The Game of Life parallels a person's life in several ways. Players must choose between "university" and "business" early in the game. Payday comes sooner for the businessperson, but college may mean higher paychecks in the end. Marriage and children usually occur during the game, and eventually a player may end up bankrupt or, if playing an earlier version, in the poorhouse. Or, a player can land happily in Millionaire Acres. In any event, chance and luck play the largest part in everyone's journey. The game has been criticized over the years for being based solely on luck and for rewarding risk-taking. But Life has stood the test of time, and family game night would not be as much fun without it.











Barbie	1998
	1998
Crayola Crayons	
Erector Set	1998
Etch A Sketch	1998
Frisbee	1998
LEGO	1998
Marbles	1998
	1330
Monopoly	
1998	
Play-Doh	1998
Teddy Bear	1998
Tinkertoy	1998
Duncan Yo-Yo	1999
Hula Hoop	1999
Lincoln Logs	1999
Radio Flyer Wagon	
1999	
Roller Skates	1999
View-Master	1999
Bicycle	2000
Jacks	2000
Jump Rope	2000
Mr. Potato Head	2000
Slinky	2000
Silly Putty	2001
Tonka Trucks	2001
Jigsaw Puzzle	2002
Raggedy Ann and Andy	2002
Alphabet Blocks	2003
Checkers	2003
G.I. Joe	2004
Rocking Horse	2004
SCRABBLE	2004
Candy Land	2005
Jack-in-the-Box	2005
Cardboard Box	2006
Easy-Bake Oven	2006
Lionel Trains	2006
Atari 2600 Game System	2007
Kite	2007
Baby Doll	2008
Skateboard	2008
Stick	2008
Ball	2009
	2009
Big Wheel	
Nintendo Game Boy	2009
Playing Cards	2010
The Game of Life	2010

Inducted toys are selected on the basis of the following criteria:

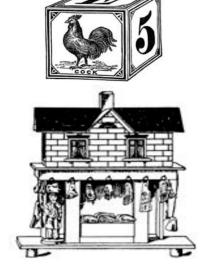
- •Icon-status: The toy is widely recognized, respected, and remembered
- •Longevity: The toy is more than a passing fad and has enjoyed popularity over multiple generations
- **Discovery**: The toy fosters learning, creativity, or discovery through play
- •Innovation: The toy profoundly changed play or toy design. A toy may be inducted on the basis of this criterion without necessarily having met all of the first three.



The National Toy Hall of Fame is an American hall of fame that recognizes the contributions popularity for many years. Established in 1998 under the direction of world renowned science educator Ed Sobey, the National Toy Hall of Fame was originally housed at A. C. Gilbert's Discovery Village in Salem, Oregon, United States, but was moved to the Strong National Museum of Play (now just The Strong) in Rochester, New York, in 2002 after it outgrew its original home.







The Bradford Landmark Society is now on Facebook! Not only do we have a great web page (www.bradfordlandmark.org), we are now part of the social media network that is making history in its own way. If you are a Facebook member, just type in "Bradford Landmark" or, if you are not sure how to find us, just search on google.com or yahoo.com with the words "Bradford Landmark Society Facebook" and you will be sent to our site. See you there!

Christmas Carols on the Radio and Christmas Creep

In the United States the playing of Christmas music generally begins after the Thanksgiving holidays, at which point Christmas decorations in stores and on streets appear, but in recent decades the music and related decor have been appearing increasingly early. This tendency for the length of the Christmas and holiday season to grow is referred to as 'Christmas creep'. (from Wikipedia).

Radio stations—responsible for so much of Christmas music broadcasting, popularization, and appreciation—are "going Christmas earlier and earlier", even the day after Halloween, because executives "think that listeners will stick with the first station to change to a seasonal theme." About 400 radio stations across the United States play Christmas music around the clock.

Although the Christmas season by definition runs until January 6 (Epiphany), and is observed until at least New Year's Eve by the public, almost all broadcasters skip the last Twelve Days of Christmas, abruptly ending all holiday music at or even before midnight on December 26, and not playing a single Christmas song again until the next November. (Several radio stations actually promote this, with ads that proudly proclaim to listeners weary of the Christmas music that the station's regular format will indeed return on December 26, as soon as Christmas Day is over.) It is not uncommon for broadcasters to market the twelve-day period leading up to Christmas (December 14 to 25) as the "Twelve Days of Christmas," contrary to the traditional definition. Much Christmas music is so closely associated with the holiday that it would be difficult or impossible to play after Christmas Day without bringing up references that the broadcaster may wish to ignore (such as those that involve Santa Claus, who has already come and gone by Christmas morning). On occasion, some Christmas music stations will continue to play at least some Christmas music through the weekend following Christmas, or even through New Year's Day, but never any later.

Many secular songs are regarded as "Christmas" songs due to the time of year they are most often heard or sung, despite never mentioning anything about the holiday. These songs include favorites such as "Winter Wonderland", "Let it Snow", and "Baby, It's Cold Outside". "Sleigh Ride"s standard lyrics mention not a Christmas party but a birthday party. The now hugely popular Christmas standard "Jingle Bells" was originally written to celebrate Thanksgiving.

Of these, the oldest songs are "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town" and "Winter Wonderland" which were both published in 1934. Some well known songs introduced through motion pictures are: "White Christmas" from Holiday Inn (1942), "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" from Meet Me in St. Louis (1944), and "Silver Bells" in The Lemon Drop Kid (1950).

The most popular secular Christmas songs in the last 25 years are as follows:

"The Christmas Song" (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire)

"Santa Claus Is Coming to Town"

"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"

"Winter Wonderland"

"White Christmas"

"Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!"

"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer"

"Jingle Bell Rock"

"I'll Be Home for Christmas"

"The Little Drummer Boy"

"Sleigh Ride

"It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year"

"Silver Bells"

"Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree"

"Feliz Navidad"

"Blue Christmas"

"Frosty the Snowman"

"A Holly Jolly Christmas"

"I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus"

"Here Comes Santa Claus" (Right Down

Santa Claus Lane)

Robbie Burns Birthday January 25, 1759

Scottish poet Robert Burns is widely regarded as the national poet of Scotland, and is celebrated worldwide. Famous for the song "Auld Lang Syne", he also wrote over 300 poems and is the best known of the poets who have written in the Scots language, although much of his writing is also in English and a "light" Scots dialect.

He is regarded as a pioneer of the Romantic Movement, and after his death became a great source of inspiration to the founders of both liberalism and socialism. A cultural icon in Scotland and around the world, celebration of his life and work became almost a national charismatic cult during the 19th and 20th centuries, and his influence has long been strong on Scottish literature.

Fans of his poetry celebrate his birth each January 25. These "Burns Suppers" have been held in his honor for over 200 years. The ritual was started by close friends of Burns a few years after his death in 1796 as a tribute to his memory. The basic

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format for the evening has remained unchanged since that time and consists of a meal of Scottish origin, the reading of Burns poetry, and tributes to haggis, women, and whiskey.

Where is the bosom, still unstirred By Robert Burns' poetic word: Of where the man of Scottish Tongue His deathless songs has never sung? Each eye for Burns will shed a Tear, In tribute to his Mary, dear, Each Scottish heart the humble shrine For the genius of her Bard, devine. In the 1930s, Bradford's own Robert Burns Club was founded. While the Bradford Landmark Society has little information on this club, a program in our collection dated January 1931 describes a soiree at the Hotel Emery in "Commemoration of the One Hundred and Seventy-Second Anniversary of the Poet's Birth".

Robert Burns Suppers feature Scottish cuisine, notably, haggis, which is best described as a dish containing sheep's 'pluck' (heart, liver and lungs), minced with onion, oatmeal, suet, spices, and salt, mixed with stock, and traditionally simmered in the animal's stomach for approximately three hours. Bradford's club served not only haggis, but Kilmarnock celery,

Dunoon Olives, Sonsy cuts Frae a Highland Stirk (choice cuts of young beef), Wee Pease (peas), Tatties (potatoes), Oat Cakes, Nuts, Mint Sweeties, Ice Cream, Scones, Kale salad, coffee and cigars.

Toastmaster Robert P. Habgood (editor of the *Bradford Star & Record*) was in charge of the evening, which featured a medley of Scottish music, a soprano solo by Mr. Werthman, a Highland Fling, a variety of Scotch songs, the double sword dance, and lastly, the singing of Auld Lang Syne. Undoubtedly, a grand time was held by all.

Bradford Landmark Society Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Bradford Landmark Society will be held February 12th, 2011, at 2PM at the First Presbyterian Church, East Corydon Street (right across from the Herbig Bakery). We invite all our members to join us. Reports on the Herbig Bakery, the Crook Farm, the Crook Farm Country Fair, and plans for the coming year will be presented to the general membership. Please plan on attending this very important meeting.



Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy & Prosperous New Year!

Thomas Nast's Santa Claus

Everyone knows what Santa Claus looks like, but it was an American artist, Thomas Nast, who "invented" the image in the 1860s. Nast first drew Santa Claus for the 1862 Christmas season Harper's Weekly cover and center-fold illustration to memorialize the family sacrifices of the Union during the early and, for the north, darkest days of the Civil War. The illustration at right appeared in a January 1, 1881 edition of Harper's Weekly. Nast is also credited with first drawing the Democratic donkey and the Republican Elephant. In 1902 Theodore Roosevelt appointed him as the United States' Consul General to Ecuador in South America. During a deadly yellow fever outbreak, Nast stayed to the end helping numerous diplomatic missions and businesses escape the contagion. At age 62, in 1902, he died of yellow fever contracted there. He is buried in the Bronx, NY.

