



THE BRADFORD LANDMARK SOCIETY

The Inkwell

45 E. Corydon Street, Bradford, PA 16701

814-362-3906

January 2010

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January

"The shortest day has passed, and whatever nastiness of weather we may look forward to in January and February, at least we notice that the days are getting longer. Minute by minute they lengthen out. It takes some weeks before we become aware of the change. It is imperceptible even as the growth of a child, as you watch it day by day, until the moment comes when with a start of delighted surprise we realize that we can stay out of doors in a twilight lasting for another quarter of a precious hour."

-Vita Sackville-West

January

January – named after the Roman God Janus. January, the gateway to the new year. January, the traditional second month of winter. One of seven months with 31 days. The birthstone is garnet, and the flower is a carnation. And in our case, the beginning of a new decade. Can you believe that ten years have gone past, since the Millenium of 2000? All the big fuss about whether computers could identify the four digits, or would they all shut down, world-wide, and create chaos. And yet, here we are, ten years in, doing just fine.

In historical terms, however, ten years is just a dot on the page of time. At the Landmark Society, we realize this, but we also know that history is being made every day. Sometimes we don't even recognize the moment in history for what it is. But be assured – the Landmark is watching, and recording, everything Bradford does.

This *Inkwell* is a tribute to the past year. Check out our annual Necrology of the Buildings and Businesses. Not surprisingly, in the current economic climate, there weren't many businesses that opened this year; but on the bright side, we lost no buildings to fires or demolitions, few businesses actually closed, and no major employer packed up and left.

We have included an article on that famous song, Auld Lang Syne, which is attributed to Scottish poet Robert Burns. January 25 is Burns' birth date and in Scotland and around the world wherever there are lovers of Burns' poetry, a Burns supper is often held as a celebration of the life and poetry of the poet. They say the two absolute items which must be present at such a dinner are Scottish whiskey, and the reading of poetry.

Be sure to check out page 2, which lists the news of the Landmark Society, and our article on snow. Living in Bradford, we all know about snow; but you might also be interested in finding out what happened on other January days of long ago. Life in Bradford doesn't stop just because we get a little snow! Some of our most "historic" days happened during the month of January.

And remember, we are at the doorway to the new year.

Make it a good one!

What's happening at the Landmark?

- We held a Christmas Open House on Saturday, December 5, and if you couldn't make it, you missed a very merry time at the Bakery, with cookies, hot chocolate, candy canes, Christmas music, and the entire staff on hand to help you choose the perfect "historical" Christmas gift. We decorated the front of the bakery and made a charming display of our books, mugs, DVDs, and yellow dogs. Lisa Duke, of Lisa's Hairport, brought down several of her digital paintings of Bradford buildings and the local area, and they made a very nice addition.
- The Bradford Landmark Society was awarded a grant in May to help with collections management at the Herbig Bakery, and the Crook Farm. Lynn Beman, a consultant from the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations visited us in June, and again in July, and issued a report in October. She made several valuable recommendations to the Landmark, concerning management of our historical collections including photographs, clothing, memorabilia, and other artifacts. We plan to implement several of her suggestions in an effort to maintain our mission as the historical repository of local history.
- Liz Sefton, a Bradford Landmark Society board member and our Treasurer, has resigned from her position. She and her husband have moved to Hilton Head, South Carolina, where we are sure she will miss all this snow and cold weather! Judy Yorks, also a board member, has volunteered to take over the duties of Treasurer. We will miss Liz, but welcome Judy as our new Treasurer.
- Don't just sit there- Square Dance! Square dancing is held at 7 PM every Tuesday night at The Crook Farm bank building on Seward Avenue Extension, one mile north of Bolivar Drive. Admission is \$3, and please bring a snack along to pass. Refreshments are served at 8:30 PM. Music is by the Crook Farm All Stars, with calling by Keith Blackmon and other guest callers.
- The Bradford Landmark has submitted a nomination to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission for a historic marker honoring Lewis Emery of Bradford. Emery, a local oil producer, entrepreneur, statesman, businessman and known for his support of independent oil producers against Standard Oil is eminently qualified for such an honor. The state reviews all nominations, and if accepted, will notify us in March. Bradford currently has two such markers; one honors the oil refinery and is located on North Kendall Avenue; the other honors the Holley Brothers and is located, aptly enough, on Holley Avenue.
- Due to technical difficulties, the publication of our book, *Welcome Home, 1909 Old Home Week*, was delayed. We had anticipated publication in late October; however the new publication date has been pushed back until the end of February. While the book has been delayed, it promises to be even more entertaining than ever, with nearly 200 pages of never-before published photographs and text.
- This year, we anticipate the publication of several other books as well, including Volume II of *Looking Down from Above*, by Mike Fuoco, an aerial photography book that will cover southern New York State; a comprehensive book on Bradford Houses by Sally Costik; and a collection of our popular "Time Capsules" articles. Molly Lindahl is also working on a book tentatively entitled *Death By Train* – a series of true articles on the dangers of railroads "back in the day".
- And for you Civil War buffs, beginning April 2011, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War. Through traveling exhibits, educational materials, regional events and a content rich Web site, Pennsylvanians will experience firsthand the American struggle for justice and equality, which reached a watershed moment in the Civil War and continues to this day. To learn more, visit www.PACivilWar150.com.

Necrology of the Buildings

Each year, the Bradford Landmark Society compiles a necrology of the buildings and businesses in Bradford that have moved, opened, erected, razed, or just plain changed or been affected by events during 2009. It is not surprising to many that our list is much smaller this year, as fewer businesses were opened. On the plus side, fewer businesses closed, however, and store owners continued to keep their businesses profitable.

- **Coffee Connixtion** at 23 Pine Street. Offered coffee, food and speed dating. Opened in January, closed by summer.
- **Joe's Deli Mart**, 976 South Avenue. Convenience store. Opened in January 2009; closed.
- **The Perfect Touch**, 4 Mechanic Street. Offers pedicures, manicures, and waxing. Opened in mid-June, still in operation.
- **McCool's Outdoor Power**, 20 Russell Blvd. Small engine repair, parts and service. Opened in June 2009.
- **Curtis Wallace**, 31 Boylston Street. Architectural Engineering – opened in June 2009.
- **Alleghany Wood Moldings & Custom Cabinetry**, 20 Russell Blvd. Wood supplier for moldings, cabinetry, custom furniture, solid countertop fabrication and wood hobby needs. Opened in February 2009.
- **The Neighbours' Kids**, 595 Seaward Avenue, licensed day care center for infants and children. Opened in February 2009.
- **Times Past**, Olean Road. Gifts, tin-ware and potpourri. Closed in May 2009.
- **Wear It Again**, 86 Main Street. Clothing consignment shop. Opened in September 2009, closing in early 2010.
- **The Airport Restaurant**. Opened in September 2009. Small restaurant at the airport.
- **Swanson's Fabrication**. 19 East Washington Street. Aluminum, stainless, and steel fabrication. Opened in October 2009.
- **Joseph M. Durphy**, 686 East Main Street. Personal trainer for physical fitness. Opened in November 2009.
- **Kimberly's Cool Beans Café**, 30 Boylston Street. Coffee shop and espresso bar. Formerly Emery Espresso opened in November 2009.
- **Sports Café**, 48 Davis Street. Changed owners; reopened in September 2009.
- **DeSoto Holiday House**, 515 South Avenue. Changed owners in August 2009.
- **Compu-Tech**, Changed locations, moved to 101 Main Street in July 2009.
- **The Hemlocks**, 1020 Route 219, Limestone. Flea market, farmers' market, crafts, jam sessions. Opened in July 2009.

And some more:

Rink Brothers, a car dealer located on East Main Street, closed in July after 70 years in business. It was believed to have been the oldest continually operating Chrysler dealer in the United States.

Microbac, a water testing company which was located at 101 Main Street for seven years, closed its doors in January 2009.

The Bradford Pharmacy closed its doors in December.

If we have missed your business or store, or made an error, we apologize in advance.



SNOW



Snow! One of my favorite songs in Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" is the one that Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney, and Vera Ellen sing while sitting at a table in a dining car on a train. Bing and Danny have just helped the girls escape from paying their hotel bill by helping them out a back window and onto a train, and they are all on their way to New England to an old Army buddy's holiday resort. They sing of snow . . .

Snow, snow, snow, snow, snow!
It won't be long before we'll all be there with snow.
Snow! I want to wash my hands, my face, my hair with snow!
Snow! I long to clear a path and lift a spade of snow!
Snow, oh to see a great big man entirely made of snow!

Well, even if you're not that much into snow or *White Christmas*, it's still pretty. And we need it; it helps to replenish the water table in the earth. Nature needs it as a resting period. And who doesn't like snowmen? They say that Eskimos have 52 words for snow. And while we only have one, it's a fact that we will have snow every year.

These are a few historic facts about snow in Bradford

- In 1912, there was snow on the ground for 52 days with no thaw.
- In 1878, there was snow on the ground for 78 days with no thaw.
- In 1901, 40 box cars were stuck in the snow in Mt. Jewett, with drifts as high as the cars.
- The first serious snowstorms usually hit the Bradford area in late November, with an average of about 54" of snow each winter.
- On July 11, 1884, it snowed on the hills around the city.
- In 1945, snow on May 11 forced the postponement of the opening day of Bradford baseball (Bradford Bees vs. Hornell Hornets).
- In 1945, on January 2, the temperature fell from 30 degrees at 5 PM in the afternoon, to 12 degrees at midnight.
- In 1958, Mayor Hugh Ryan ordered all parked cars on the streets towed away so that the snow plows could get through.
- In 1994, the roof of the Hanley Brick Company building in Lewis Run caved in with the weight of the snow melting.
- In 1921, W.M. Abrams, Jr., Olean, announced the Snow Shoe Club would make its annual hike to Bradford. Abrams had made this hike 50 times in his lifetime.
- Eleven persons were hurt as a snowplow crashed into a bus on Congress Street Extension; the Greyhound bus was proceeding north; six were hospitalized, January 25, 1945.
- In 1916, snow was removed from the sidewalks using a horse-drawn snow plow.



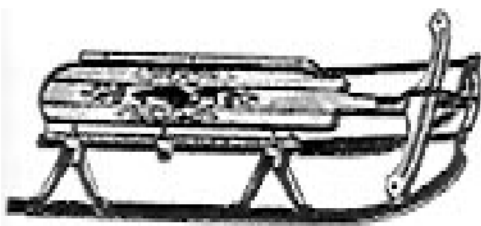
- In the early days, the streets were not plowed at all. Wagons were put away for the year, and sleighs were brought out. Salt was not used at all – as a matter of fact, in January 1886 a city ordinance was passed that made it illegal to use salt on the roads. The salt slowed down the sleighs. The ordinance reads: *That it shall be unlawful for any person to throw salt on any of the streets in the City of Bradford, or on the bed of the street railway. Any person violating this provision shall be fined \$100 dollars, and if not paid, would be imprisoned as the law directs.* In 1886, \$100 is roughly equivalent to over \$2000 today.

And, of course, to make snow you need cold. The coldest day on record in Bradford is believed to be on January 5, 1904, when the coldest temperature ever recorded was 42 degrees below zero at Hobson Place. East Main Street had 42 below; Congress Street had 38 below; and even at Limestone, Mt. Alton, Rixford, Custer City, and Cyclone, temperatures were recorded at least 36 degrees below zero. Brrr!

And now, some SNOW facts:

- Based on National Climatic Data Center records, New York state is home to the snowiest cities in the United States: Syracuse averages 115 inches of snow per year, and Rochester averages 93 inches per year.
- Buffalo, New York, is a close runner-up in terms of U.S. large cities with the most snow. A 39-inch snowfall in 24 hours in early December 1995 cost the city nearly \$5 million for snow removal.
- Almost 187 inches of snow fell in seven days on Thompson Pass, Alaska, in February, 1953, according to the National Snowfall and Snow Depth Extremes Table provided by the National Climatic Data Center.
- Each year an average of 105 snow-producing storms affect the continental United States. A typical storm will have a snow-producing lifetime of two to five days and will bring snow to portions of several states.
- In the early 1900s, skiers created their own terminology to describe types of snow, including the terms "fluffy snow," "powder snow," and "sticky snow." Later, the terminology expanded to include descriptive terms such as "champagne powder," "corduroy," and "mashed potatoes."
- Practically every location in the United States has seen snowfall. Even most portions of southern Florida have seen a few snow flurries.
- Nationwide, the average snowfall amount per day when snow falls is about two inches.

And don't forget, The 2010 Winter Olympics, officially known as the XXI Olympic Winter Games or the 21st Winter Olympics, will be held on February 12-28, 2010, in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada



In 1912, an Era reporter went bobsledding with a group of young men on Marshburg Hill, or as it is known today, West Warren Road. The night was cold, the road was icy, and the brave Era reporter went along for a bobsled ride down the hill. When they reached the bottom of the hill, he had clocked the sled going one mile in 45 seconds, or as we say, 80 miles per hour. Telegraph poles, he said, were just a blur as they zoomed by – and he wouldn't go a second time. Would you?

Auld Lang Syne

"I mean, 'Should old acquaintance be forgot'? Does that mean that we should forget old acquaintances, or does it mean if we happened to forget them, we should remember them, which is not possible because we already forgot?"

- (Harry, in the movie *When Harry Met Sally*)

If you were anywhere near a New Year's Eve party last December 31, or happened to be watching 'the ball drop' on TV, chances are you either sang, or heard, one of the best-known songs in the world. But have you ever wondered about the history behind it?

"*Auld Layng Syne*" is actually a Scottish poem attributed to Scottish poet Robert Burns in 1788. Over the years, it has been determined that Burns did not actually write *Auld Lang Syne* – he admitted himself that he wrote it down from the words to a folk song he had heard from an old man – but it is well known in many English-speaking (and other) countries and is often sung to celebrate the start of the New Year at the stroke of midnight. Its use has also become common at funerals, graduations, and as a farewell or ending to other occasions.

It was Canadian band leader Guy Lombardo who is often credited with popularizing the use of the song at New Year's celebrations in America. Lombardo's annual year-end broadcasts on radio and television began in 1929 and the song became his trademark.

Auld Lang Syne literally means "old long since", but a more idiomatic English translation would be something like "long long ago", "days of long ago", or "olden days". The song begins by posing the question whether it is right that old times be forgotten, and is generally interpreted as a call to remember long-standing friendships.

Most common use of the song involves only the first verse and the chorus. The tune to "*Auld Lang Syne*" is a Scots folk melody, probably originally a sprightly dance in a much quicker tempo.

The song has been sung all over the world, marking different occasions. A somewhat different use of the song as a farewell occurred in October 2000, when it was played as the body of former Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau left Parliament Hill in Ottawa for the last time, going to Montreal for the state funeral. On the sinking of the Japanese ship *Montevideo Maru* in World War II, carrying 1,053 Australians (mostly POWs), the Australians in the water sang this for their trapped mates as the ship went down. According to the book "*Freedom at Midnight*", the song was played to accompany the departure of the final British troops from India through Mumbai's "Gateway to India" in 1948; similarly it was used at the British hand-over of Hong Kong in 1997. On the 30th of November 2009, students and staff at the University of Glasgow sang the song in 41 different languages simultaneously.

The song is popular in many movies as well. In the 1937 film "Wee Willie Winkie", Shirley Temple sings the song to a Scottish soldier on his death bed. The song is sung in many of the films produced by Frank Capra, including It's a Wonderful Life, Mr. Deeds Goes to Town, and Mr. Smith Goes to Washington. In the 1972 film The Poseidon Adventure, the song is sung by the ship's passengers at midnight on New Year's Eve, moments before the ship is struck by a tidal wave and capsized. The song was played in When Harry Met Sally, the New Year's party in which Harry states he never fully understood what the song meant (see above). Towards the end of Ghostbusters II, the people of New York City sing, "Auld Lang Syne", which weakens the evil Vigo the Carpathian's power enough to be defeated. And the 1942 cartoon The Wabbit Who Came to Supper has Bugs Bunny suddenly claim that it is New Year's Day to stop Elmer Fudd from chasing him. Bugs starts singing *Auld Lang Syne*, only to have Elmer look at a calendar and realize that it is actually July.

**So as the year 2010 begins, let us all remember *Auld Lang Syne*, and may all of us have a
Happy New Year!**

IT HAPPENED IN JANUARY LONG AGO

- January 16, 1939. J.C. Penney Company announces they will be open for business at the new location at 63 Main St., transferred from 115 Main St. A pleasing feature of the new store is a completely furnished rest room for the convenience of tired shoppers.
- January 26, 1934. New Park Cut Rate store opens at 20 Main Street. Will feature toilet articles, rubber goods, patent medicines, tobacco & sundries. W.H. Killen, proprietor.
- January 29, 1931. New music store will open at 47 East Corydon Street, operated by Peter Monago estate; called Monago's Music and Appliance store.
- January 7, 1930. The Aurehaim Building at 76 Main Street, at the corner of Main and Chestnut streets, has been sold to the Forest Oil Corporation. Designed by E. Unruh, the building was erected in 1900 by Solomon Auerhaim as a department store.
- January 2, 1918. Due to the discontinuance of Erie passenger service, the local station is formally closed.
- January 27, 1917. A live female infant will be given away at the grand ball at the Armory on Jan. 30, 1917 by the Citizens' Band, Ed Bitner, director. *(Note, they never said the live female infant was human!)*
- January 1, 1925. Bradford celebrates a "dry" New Year's Eve, with a big crowd at Shea's Theater.
- January 18, 1924. The name Seneca Junction will be changed to "Bradford Junction" next Sunday as a result of action taken by the board of directors of the Olean, Bradford, and Salamanca Railway Company.
- January 17, 1924. The new National Meat Market at 5 Mechanic Street opens for meat sales. \$5 gold pieces are to be given to the first two lady buyers.
- January 31, 1921. Police captured, but later released, what appeared to be a bootlegger's blockade running motor trucks on Kennedy St. Although the vehicle had a number of compartments under the front seat, no liquor of any kind was found.
- January 10, 1921. 82 pupils found to be 15% or more underweight. 8 oz. of milk to be administered twice daily under the direction of Dr. Ben F. White, Jr.
- January 1, 1906. Tansy Jack (a local character), sleeping on the ice-covered sidewalk, was discovered by police Sunday. He was taken to the lockup and thawed out.
- January 10, 1902. L.L. Beal & W.A. Smith travel to the Pasteur Institute in New York for the treatment of rabies, having been bit by Mr. Beal's foxhound. The dog has also bitten a number of animals. As a result, every dog in Coleville has been killed.
- January 17, 1900. The Painless Dentistry Parlors at 53 Main St. offers inexpensive dentistry and teeth extracted without pain by their new discovery of Botanical, vitalized air, for 25 cents.

Remember?

Bradford Landmark Society

45 East Corydon St.
Bradford PA 16701

Mike Vitucci's Royal Italian Band, taken during Automobile Day during the Old Home Week Celebration of 1909. This is an early bus. The band was not actually from Bradford, but were members of the Johnny J. Jones Exposition, which was showing in Bradford that week, and often lent its carnival workers for various parades.





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April 2010

Spring has arrived and Summer is close at hand. The Bradford Landmark Society has big plans for the coming months. First of all, our school program starts down at the Crook farm on May 10th. Several area schools will be attending this year and it promises to be one of the best school programs we've had in years. All the volunteers and Crook farm staff are eager to greet the kids for a day at the farm and in the schoolhouse. Down at the Herbig Bakery, we are getting ready to paint the building this year. A fresh new coat of white paint will really spruce up the old building, built in 1876. Volunteers are welcome to help, especially if you know a little something about painting. A few weeks ago, the McKean County Historical Society graciously offered to present their play, "A Murder Trial," based on a real 1932 murder trial, for the benefit of the Landmark Society and it was a big hit. Over 125 people turned out on a lovely spring night and everyone enjoyed themselves. The Crook Farm is coming at the end of August; we have a few new ideas this year and we can't wait to show them off. Plan on attending. And even though it's still April, we are planning a Christmas House Tour again this December, and as a special event, we will be hosting Mike Randall, chief meteorologist from WKBW in Buffalo, who will present "A Charles Dickens Christmas Carol" on December 11. (You may remember he did a great job last year as Mark Twain). And we've been busy writing, too. Our book "Welcome Home 1909 Old Home Week" will finally go to press next week – and we hope to have it on sale for Father's Day. We also hope to have our "Houses of Bradford" book done by Christmas. The Landmark gets busier and busier, but we always have time to stop and help people do research, look something up, or just talk about the old days. Come on in!



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Gregory Ulyan

Barbara White

Gayle Bauer

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Charles Pagano

Pete Gardner



COMING THIS SUMMER AREA LECTURES, FAIRS & EVENTS

LECTURES:

The French & Indian War. Presented by Bill Robertson. May 20th, at 7 PM in the Old Jail Lecture Hall, McKean County Historical Society, Smethport, PA. Free to the public.

“Grandma’s House,” May 12th, 2:30 PM. Speaker program series, Lakeview Senior Care Center, 15 West Willow Street, Smethport, PA. Free to the public.

“Hats,” June 2nd, 2:30 PM. Speaker program series, Lakeview Senior Care Center, 15 West Willow Street, Smethport, PA. Free to the public.

The Apollo Moon Mission, June 24th, 7:00 PM. Presented by Bart Barton. Original pictures of Bill Barton will be shown. The Old Jail Lecture Hall, McKean County Historical Society, Smethport, PA. Free to the public.

Railroads of Smethport, June 25th at 2:00 PM. Presented by Dick Robertson. The Old Jail Lecture Hall, McKean County Historical Society, Smethport, PA. Free to the public.

How to Get Your Book Published, July 29th, at 2:00 PM, Old Jail Lecture Hall, McKean County Historical Society, Smethport, PA. Presented by Pat Costa Viglucci. Free to the public.

Dreams of an Author, July 29th, at 7:00 PM, Old Jail Lecture Hall, McKean County Historical Society, Smethport, PA. Presented by Pat Costa Viglucci. Free to the public.

Guns of the Revolution, August 5th, 7:00 PM, Presented by Bernard Hammond. The Old Jail Lecture Hall, McKean County Historical Society, Smethport, PA. Free to the public.



Events:

Bark Peelers Convention, July 3rd & 4th at the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum, US Route 6 between Galeton and Coudersport, PA. \$6.00 for adults (or 2-day combined fee of \$10), \$2.00 for children under 12. Check out the details at www.lumbermuseum.org.

The McKean County Fair, August 15th-21st, Fairgrounds, Smethport, PA. The 105th annual county fair. For more information: www.mckeancountyfair.net.

The Crook Farm Fair, August 28th-29th, Crook Farm, 476 Seaward Avenue, Bradford. Entrance fee. www.bradfordlandmark.org.

*Although I live in Bradford now, for the first thirty years of my life until I was married, I lived in Bingham up on "the hill," as that area around Gifford, Cyclone, Mt. Alton, Ormsby, Lafayette, Riterville, etc. is sometimes called. Historians and old books call it The Big Level, and this edition of **The Inkwell** describes a part of history that happened on "The Big Level" over one hundred years ago.*

Once, when I was about 5 years old, I was walking through the woods near Mt. Alton with my dad, and he pointed out a huge stump of a tree. To my little girl eyes it seemed enormous. The sides were covered with moss, and the top was splintered and jagged and green with age. It looked like it had been there for years. "This tree was burned," he told me. "There was a big forest fire here once, a long time ago. This is all that is left." I realize now, fifty years later, that the stump he showed me was a victim of a terrible forest fire that happened in the spring of 1900.

In May of that year, the woods were filled with wild flowers, but warm winds were drying out the old leaves, drying out the branches and drying out the undergrowth. Forest fires, always a danger, took hold and not just on the Big Level, but all through McKean County, completely destroying a small town, numerous oil rigs and burning hundreds of acres of forest and virgin timber. One man died trying to fight the fire and one woman proved that courage could be found in many places – even on a train in the middle of a forest fire.

We present to you actual excerpts from the newspapers of the day. Their words describe what we can only imagine of those terrible fires during the week of May 3-9, 1900.

The Big Level Fire, May 1900

Yesterday was another day of fire and smoke, stress and turmoil, in the woods. The day was warm and there was a mischievous breeze blowing. The breeze was one that had been left over from the recent March weather which we have been having in May; and it was a breeze that swept all dampness from the leaf-covered woodland. In the afternoon, the minor fires of the fore part of the day became active and extended. In all directions they continued to spread. The wind continued to blow at a lively rate and the air was soon surcharged with heavy, blinding smoke. The smoke settled in the nooks and valleys which the hills make in McKean County's landscape, and it rose high in the sky and obscured the sun. There were fires to the west of Bradford, and many of them, but in the direction of the Big Level the smoke was the densest and it was there the most damage was done.

In that section, the fires started in to do business up the Kinzua Valley and they ran along, tree-top high, in front of the winds towards Mt. Alton and Smethport. Miles and miles of forest were in flame at one time. The gale would pick up a burning mass of leaves and brambles and throw it far ahead of the regular fire line. In an incredible short space of time the flames were working about Mt. Alton and Bond Vein. Soon they were racing through the forest beyond those places. Over toward Bingham and Newton the flames rolled on. *The Bradford Era, May 9, 1900)*

Up the West Branch, the Nusbaum Chemical Company had a close call, but succeeded in saving their immense store of wood and other property. At Bond Vein, the Mt. Alton Chemical Co., in which Mayor Greenewald is interested, was threatened with destruction, but the flames were held in check. In the town of Mt. Alton, there was great danger of fire from burning brands, but a bucket brigade prevented trouble. A number of teamsters in the woods beyond Newton were in dire peril. Twelve wood-hauling teams were caught and eight of these, by being detached from wagons, were saved. The other teams of horses were unhitched and left to shift for themselves. They may have been cremated. *(The Bradford Era, May 9, 1900)*

Last evening word reached the city that a terrible fire was raging in the vicinity of Simpson. A special train on the B.B. & K. was chartered by parties interested and a force of about 60 men was taken out to fight the fire. Word was received at 11 PM that up to that time it had been impossible to do anything more than save the town of Simpson from destruction and that many rigs, tanks, boiler houses, steam boxes, etc. had been and would be destroyed. So far as known, up to that hour, fire had destroyed 17 rigs belonging to R.J. Straight; 13 rigs for the Associated Producers Co., and 6 rigs belonging to T. J. Melvin. The fire had crossed the B.B. & K tracks and was burning towards Beartown through a section in which a large amount of oil property belonging to the South Penn Company was sure to be destroyed. The fire was made more furious by the oil which it fed upon among the wells and the flames baffled all efforts to control them. If a rain does not soon come this fire around Simpson will go farther and do worse than any of the other fires so far reported. It started along the track of the B. R. & P. at a point between Newton and Bingham some days ago and has swept across the country over a wide area. (*The Bradford Era*, May 3, 1900)

The body of the man reported lost in Tuesday's fire was found yesterday morning. It was that of a man named Ernest Green of Ormsby, a woodcutter, who was employed by the Hamilton & Hilton Chemical Company. He was 33 years old and leaves a wife and two children who reside at Ormsby. The body was charred and burnt frightfully. One leg was burned completely off. The body was recognized by Roy Green, a brother, also a woodsman, who was employed by the same company. The unfortunate man ceased his work in the woods to help George Taylor fight the fire which threatened a house. When it was seen that they could not save the house, Taylor started for Mt. Alton, and urged Green to go with him but the latter declined to go. He started for his home in Ormsby, but the fire came up from two directions, completely encircling him. The body was removed to Ormsby and will be buried today by the County Commissioners, the family being poor and unable to bear the funeral expenses. While driving to Mt. Alton, George Taylor was severely burned about the head, hands, and arms. His horse was also scorched and its tail burned off. (*The Bradford Era*, May 11, 1900.)

From Glen Hazel came this message in the evening: "A large forest fire is raging a quarter of a mile south of Glen Hazel, taking in a space about one-half a mile wide, and blazing as high as the tree tops. It has reached a point about 200 yards south of the water works here and should the wind change the pump station and village would be in grave danger. (*The Bradford Era*, May 3, 1900)

Between Kinzua and Haffey, a stretch of territory five miles long, by as many wide, has been burned over and with heavy losses to oil and lumberman. At this hour, 5 PM, the flames are on the McKeown lease and sweeping everything before them. (*The Bradford Era*, May 3, 1900)

In Mt. Jewett and Kane, the people were almost panic-stricken as a giant blaze widely spread, rushed towards the town and threatened to wipe it out. The fire fighters fought as they never had before, against the invading enemy. It was a war for home and fireside and the battles of the villagers were successfully waged. The town was saved. The trains of the lumber roads running through that section did not haul any logs or lumber yesterday. They were carrying families out of the burning regions to places of safety and assisting the forest firemen.

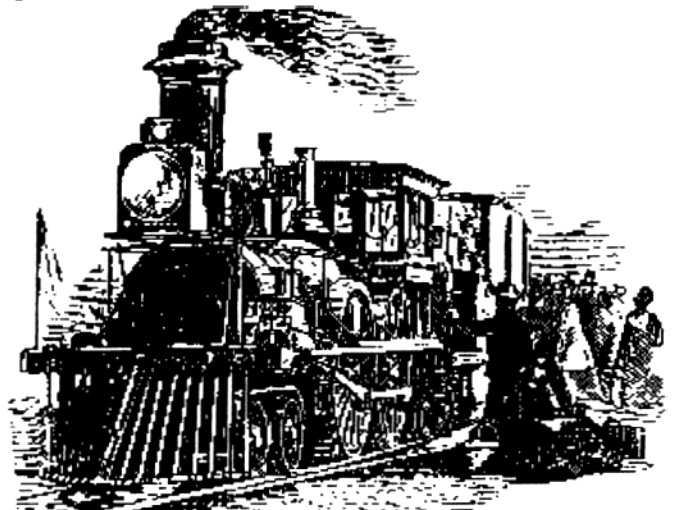
So near to the town of Mt. Jewett came the flames that a force of 200 men was required to guard the large Boyd glass plant which was threatened with destruction by the blaze that came out of the forest. A telephone message last night stated that the Boyd plant was then out of danger. Around the new town of Hazel Hurst fires raged all day and about Simpson and Ormsby a like condition of affairs prevailed. East of the city in the vicinity of Limestone, the woods were on fire as they had been for several days and up the West Branch and beyond in the Sugar Run section, there were fires, too, and bad ones. In fact, on all sides of Bradford, the situation was much the same and in the "round-up" of the consuming element many well owners have lost their rigs and many timber men their wood and logs, to say nothing of exposed lumber camps and other buildings.

(*The Bradford Era*, May 3, 1900)

A Woman's Heroism

Presence of mind and quick action of a young woman saved 20 people who were scorching and suffocating near Newton yesterday evening, at 5:30 o'clock. While a dozen or more strong men stood inactive and confused, this woman ran a distance of a mile through fire and smoke and brought assistance which saved the train and its passengers. The name is Mrs. Allan Parks of Mt. Jewett. Train No. 9 mail and express southbound, left this city at 4:30 o'clock in charge of Conductor Michael McGannon, with Engineer P. Hannon at the throttle. While climbing the mountainside the train encountered forest fires but as the trainmen thought the worst of the fires had been subdued by the rains in the early morning no thought of real danger was in their minds. They did not think of turning back. When the train left Bingham the fires along the track made their presence felt. Flames began to dart at the cars and into the windows. Passengers began to suffer from the heat and smoke. After passing Newton one of the passengers on board, an old railroad man, became alarmed and was just reaching for the bell cord when the train came to a sudden and violent stop. Passengers were hurled forward with terrific force. The passenger train had run into a gravel train. The place where the incident occurred was in the 14 foot cut, 400 feet south of the Fernwood switch.

A gravel train, which was standing in the cut, was in charge of Conductor George Jacoby and Engineer C.J. Wolfe, both of this city. About 30 laborers had been with this train and, it is said, the trainmen had been overcome with smoke and flames and were unable to move out of danger. Some of the men had run away. Others crouched in the ditches on either side of the cars while clouds of smoke and blistering heat made them helpless. The engine of the passenger train struck the tender of the locomotive attached to the gravel train. The pilot of the passenger engine lifted up the tender before it and threw it from the track. The engineer and firemen jumped for their lives. There was a sudden scattering of workmen. In the smoke and heat the situation was indescribable. In the coaches the passengers were badly shocked and stunned by their various plunges forward. Everybody on the train was hurt more or less, but those who were bruised seriously numbered only six. After the passengers had recovered from the shock most of them got out of the train. The sight that greeted them was enough to appall the stoutest heart. They were surrounded by walls of fire. In the ditches on either side of the track the men of the work train had dammed up the water and moistened their handkerchiefs to cover their faces in an effort to keep from inhaling the fire and smoke and keep alive. Those who were the least overcome ministered to those who were in a state of collapse. Passengers took their cue from the laborers with the work train and began to soak their handkerchiefs in the water and covering their faces with the wet linen. Meanwhile the fire swept fiercely over their heads. All were very calm and they had about made up their minds that death was inevitable. "Not a soul in the party expected to get out alive" said one of the passengers.



Mrs. Allan Parks, who was a passenger, after the first shock of the accident, realized that unless help was brought immediately, all the passengers on the ill-fated train would be in great peril. Without giving a thought to the danger to be encountered, she started back to get help. She knew there was a telegraph station and an operator at Newton. During the trip she was overcome by smoke three times and fell upon the track, but each time she revived and continued her run.

How They Were Saved

At last she reached Newton. The telegraph operator had been compelled to abandon his post on account of the fire, and she was in despair for a moment, but her heroic effort was still to be crowned with success. At the station she found Trainmaster Moulton of the Kushequa railroad. On the siding was a locomotive with steam up. Quickly explaining the situation to Moulton, she urged him to make all possible haste to help the sufferers in the cut. The locomotive was switched onto the BR & P track and after a lively run to the scene of the wreck, the engine was hitched to the passenger coaches and pulled the 20 passengers and others back to Newton.

When the train with the rescued passengers arrived at the station at Newton, Mrs. Parks was standing on the platform, laughing and crying alternately. The first inclination the passengers had of the little woman's heroism was when she asked for her hat. "I've lost my hat!" she said. "Were you on the train?" asked several in chorus. "Yes, I ran back here to get help" was the reply. In an instant all wanted to know her name, all thanked and blessed her. In the midst of the congratulations, Mrs. Parks said "Oh, I've lost my pocketbook, too." Instantly a hat came off, 20 hands went into as many pockets, and a shower of silver was the result. Every passenger took the young woman's name and address and she was the heroine of the day. Mrs. Parks is the daughter of James Doyle of Kushequa.

Mr. C.O. Lyman of Brockwayville, described the accident to *The Era*. "It was a perfect hell. The wreck occurred in a 14 foot cut three quarters of a mile beyond Newton. Just before the crash came the flames playing in through the window where I sat. I closed the window and we all began to suffer from the smoke. The men on the gravel train were fighting for their lives. They were in the ditches. I suppose the gravel train had been caught in the cut. They could not go south on account of the fire and dared not go north for fear of meeting our train. Not a soul expected to get out alive".

C. H. Bigelow said "None but the brave woman thought of going for help...All of us owe our lives to Mrs. Parks. I heard one of the trainman say that he would not have gone through the fire which she did if he were given the entire BR & P system. It looked like certain death. How she ever succeeded in getting through is a wonder." (*The Bradford Era*, May 9, 1900)

As a slight token of its appreciation of her actions, *The Bradford Era* presented her with a new hat and the lady was most grateful. (*The Bradford Era*, May 10, 1900)

One of the railroad men who had been sent to Newton was nearly exhausted at the end of his run. He was bleeding at the nose from the effects of inhaling the suffocating smoke. Mrs. Allan Parks is at the Bradford hospital suffering from nervous exhaustion and from bruises received on Tuesday during her thrilling experience near Newton. While in the train that collided with the work cars, she was hurled with much force against one of the seats and her subsequent run through the smoke and superheated air had a bad effect upon her. On returning to her home in Mt. Jewett, her nervous force gave out and she became quite feeble. Dr. Gibson, the attending physician, advised that she be taken to the hospital and kept there for a few weeks as quietly as possible. (*The Bradford Era*, May 14, 1900) (Note: She remained in the hospital until the middle of June.)

All told, 450 men were fighting fire in the Davis/Ormsby district Tuesday. (*The Bradford Era*, May 10, 1900)

A dance will be held at the Butts house in Mt. Alton for the benefit of the people of Newton. (*The Bradford Era*, June 12, 1900)

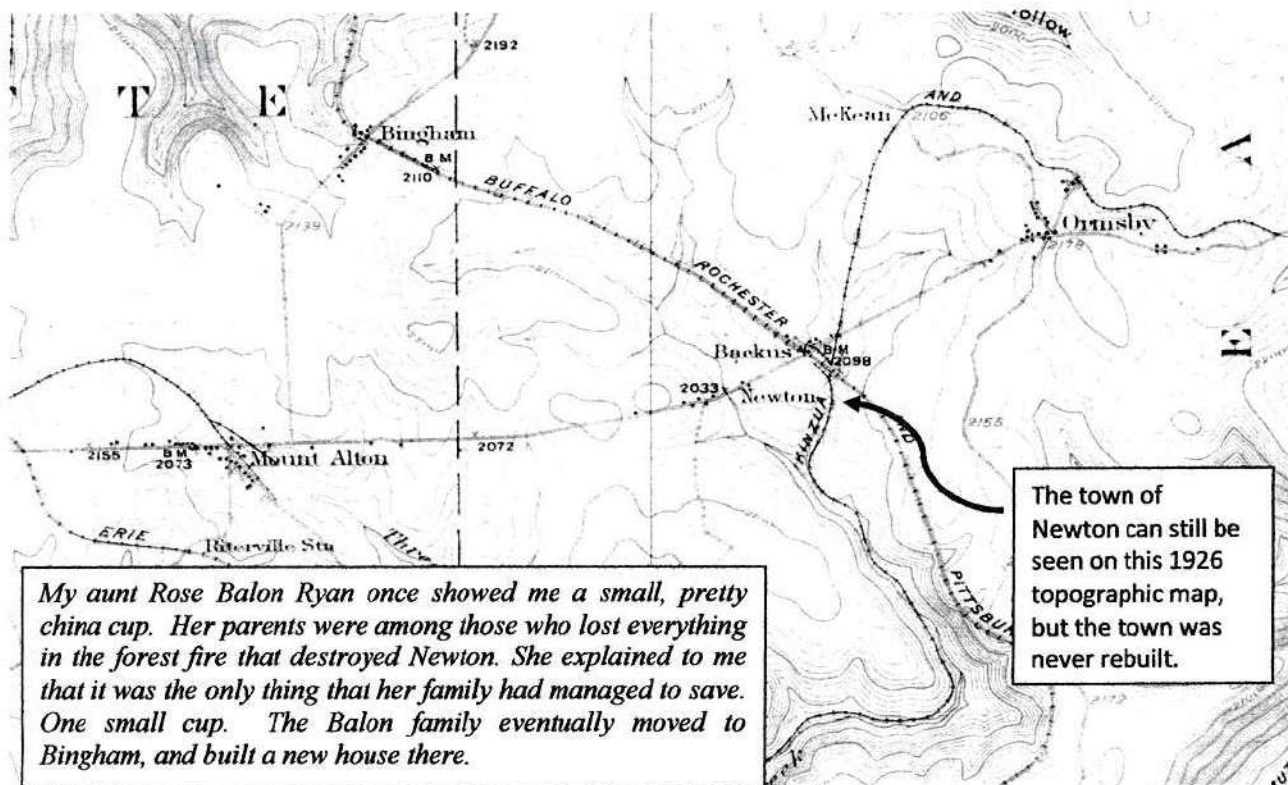
Newton in Ashes The Forests in All Parts of the County Ablaze Loss of Property and Hundreds of Homeless People Rain Checked the Flames

Shortly after noon, a boy rode a horse into the town from the direction of Mt. Alton and reported that the woods a short distance to the west of the hamlet to be ablaze. Realizing at once the awful danger that existed, a number of the inhabitants equipped with barrels of water and buckets, rushed towards the fire.

The great wave of fire swept them back and foreseeing the doom of the town, everyone prepared to save what they could. The intense force of the roaring flames, backed by a wind with a velocity of sixty miles an hour, left them scant time to save even their most prized possessions. With a terrorizing roar, the wind swept flames rolled out of the forest.

With the exception of three small houses in the western end of the town, every building in Newton is in ashes. The loss includes several buildings, the chemical works, the store, the school house, and about twenty dwelling houses, besides thousands of cords of charcoal wood, live stock, etc.

People were unable to save money, jewelry, and other valuables from their homes. Whole families are left with nothing in the world but the scant clothing which covers them. Following is a partial list of those that lost their homes: S.W. Hubbard, D. G. Marsh, Mrs. N. McGregor, F. L. Johnson, Clyde Sheldon, J. L. Wertz, Thomas Barber, John Maney, M. P. Hesley. W. W. Brewer lost seven horses, six of the 8 rigs on his lease, household goods, livestock, and other property. A number of foreigners were also burned out. Their names could not be learned. (*The McKean Miner*, May 8, 1900)



History of the Census

It's Census time again, but before you grumble about your right to privacy being invaded and complain that the government has no right to ask personal questions - well, yes, it does. Have the right, that is. The first census began more than a year after the inauguration of President Washington and shortly before the second session of the first Congress ended. Congress assigned responsibility for the 1790 Census to the marshals of the U.S. judicial districts. The pay allowed for the 1790 "enumerators" was very small, and did not exceed \$1 for 50 people properly recorded on the rolls.

The First Federal Congress established a special committee to prepare the questions to be included in the first census. The suggestions were likely debated in the House, and according to a report in a Boston newspaper, Virginia Representative James Madison recommended at least five of the initial six questions.

The six inquiries in 1790 called for questions on gender, race, relationship to the head of household, name of the head of household, and the number of slaves, if any. Marshals in some states went beyond these questions and collected data on occupation and the number of dwellings in a city or town.

The image shows a handwritten census document from 1790. The title is "An Enumeration of the Inhabitants of the town of Hingham after". The document is organized into columns for names, age, sex, and color. The names listed include John, William, and others. The document is written in cursive and is a page from a larger record.

The 2010 questionnaire is one of the shortest in history, and comes very close to the length and scope of inquiries asked in 1790. Everyone in the household answers seven questions: name, gender, race, ethnicity, and whether they sometimes live somewhere else. The head of household answers how many people live in the residence, whether it is a house, apartment, or mobile home, and provides a telephone number for Census workers to follow up if any information is incomplete or missing.

The first census in 1790 was managed under the direction of Thomas Jefferson, the Secretary of State. Marshals took the census in the original 13 states plus the districts of Kentucky, Maine, and Vermont, and the Southwest Territory (Tennessee). Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson was nominal supervisor of the census on Census Day, August 2, 1790.

Ever wonder what was asked on previous years?

The 1840 census asked the same questions as the 1830 census. Each head of family was listed and asked:

- The number of free White males and females, respectively:
- The number of slaves and free colored persons of each sex, respectively:
- The number of White persons and of "slaves and colored persons" who were deaf and dumb aged:
- and "slaves or colored persons" who were blind; respectively
- The number of White persons who were foreigners not naturalized

Questions Asked on the 1900 Census

- House number and street name for city dwellers.
- Name and sex of every person in the household.
- Relationship of each person to the head of household.
- Color or race of each person.
- Month and year of birth of each person and their age on their last birthday.
- Is the person single, married, widowed or divorced.
- How long has the person been married.
- How many children born to females and how many are still living.
- Place of birth of each person
- Mother's place of birth.
- Father's place of birth.
- If an immigrant, the year of immigration to the United States.
- How long an immigrant has been in the United States.
- Is the person naturalized?
- Profession, occupation or trade of each person over age 10.
- Number of months a person was unemployed in the year.
- Did the person attend school within the year.
- Can the person read and write.
- Can the person speak English.
- Does the family own or rent the home, is it mortgaged, is it a farm or a house.

For the 1930 census, the population questionnaire was basically the same as it had been in 1910 and 1920.

The biggest change was in racial classification. Enumerators were instructed to no longer use the "Mulatto" classification. Instead, they were given special instructions for reporting the race of interracial persons.

A person with both White and Black lineage was to be recorded as Black, no matter fraction of that lineage. A person of mixed Black and American Indian lineage was also to be recorded as Black, unless he was considered to be "predominantly" American Indian and accepted as such within the community.

A person with both White and American Indian lineage was to be recorded as an Indian, unless his American Indian lineage was very small and he was accepted as white within the community. In fact, in all situations in which a person had White and some other racial lineage, he was to be reported as that other race. Persons who had minority interracial lineages were to be reported as the race of their father.

For the first and only time, "Mexican" was listed as a race. Enumerators were to record all persons who had been born in Mexico or whose parents had been born in Mexico and who did not fall into another racial category as "Mexican."

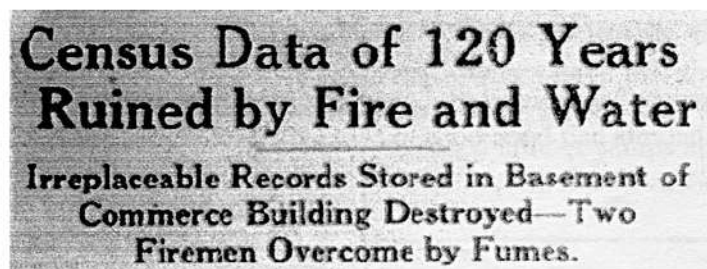
The 1890 Census

For 1890, the Census Office changed the design of the population questionnaire. Residents were still listed individually, but a new questionnaire sheet was used for each family. Additionally, this was the first year that the census distinguished between different East Asian races.

The following questions, listed by row number, were asked of each individual resident:

1. Christian name in full, and initial of middle name
2. Surname
3. Was this person a soldier, sailor, or marine during the Civil War (U.S.A. or C.S.A.), or the widow of such a person?
4. Relationship to the head of the family
5. Race - Enumerators were instructed to write "White," "Black," "Mulatto," "Quadroon," "Octoroon," "Chinese," "Japanese," or "Indian."
6. Sex
7. Age
8. Was the person single, married, widowed, or divorced?
9. Was the person married within the last year?
10. How many children was the person a mother of? How many of those children were living?
11. Person's place of birth
12. Place of birth of person's father
13. Place of birth of person's mother
14. How many years has the person been in the United States?
15. Is the person naturalized?
16. Has the person taken naturalization papers out?
17. Profession, trade, or occupation
18. Number of months unemployed in the past year
19. How many months did the person attend school in the past year?
20. Can the person read?
21. Can the person write?
22. Can the person speak English? If not, what language does he speak?
23. Is the person suffering from an acute chronic disease? If so, what is the name of that disease and the length of time affected?
24. Is the person defective of mind, sight, hearing, or speech? Is the person crippled, maimed, or deformed? If yes, what was the name of his defect?
25. Is the person a prisoner, convict, homeless child, or pauper?
26. Depending on the person's status in the questions in rows 22, 23, or 24, the enumerator would indicate on this line whether additional information was recorded about him on a special schedule.

But this information doesn't really matter, now, for this census was destroyed in a fire in Washington DC in 1921. This information would have been incredibly useful to family genealogists and historians, but except for a few random listings from a handful of states, nothing remains.



But What *Really* Happened to the 1890 Census?

Of the decennial population census schedules, perhaps none might have been more critical to studies of immigration, industrialization, westward migration, and characteristics of the general population than the Eleventh Census of the United States, taken in June 1890. United States residents completed millions of detailed questionnaires, yet only a fragment of the general population schedules and an incomplete set of special schedules enumerating Union veterans and widows are available today. Reference sources routinely dismiss the 1890 census records as "destroyed by fire" in 1921. Examination of the records of the Bureau of Census and other federal agencies, however, reveals a far more complex tale. This is a genuine tragedy of records--played out before Congress fully established a National Archives--and eternally anguishing to researchers.

As there was not a permanent Census Bureau until 1902, the Department of the Interior administered the Eleventh Census. Political patronage was "the most common order for appointment" of the nearly 47,000 enumerators; no examination was required.

This was the first U.S. census to use Herman Hollerith's electrical tabulation system, a method by which data representing certain population characteristics were punched into cards and tabulated and the original (and presumably only) copies of the schedules were forwarded to Washington.

Enumerators generally completed their counting by July 1 of 1890, but complaints about accuracy and undercounting poured into the census office, as did demands for recounts. New York State officials were accused of bolstering census numbers and the intense competition between Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota, resulted in no fewer than nineteen indictments against Minneapolis businessmen for allegedly "fixing" the census, by adding more than 1,100 phony names to the census.

Despite repeated ongoing requests by the secretary of commerce and others for an archives building where all census schedules could be safely stored, by January 10, 1921, the schedules could be found piled in an orderly manner on closely placed pine shelves in an unlocked file room in the basement of the Commerce Building.

At about five o'clock on that afternoon, building fireman James Foster noticed smoke coming through openings around pipes that ran from the boiler room into the file room. Foster saw no fire but immediately reported the smoke to the desk watchman, who called the fire department. Minutes later, on the fifth floor, a watchman noticed smoke in the men's bathroom, took the elevator to the basement, and was forced back by the dense smoke. A total of three alarms and a general local call were turned in.

While a crowd of ten thousand watched, firemen poured twenty streams of water into the building and flooded the cellar through holes cut into the concrete floor. With the blaze extinguished, despite the obvious damage and need for immediate salvage efforts, the chief clerk opened windows to let out the smoke, and except for watchmen on patrol, everyone went home.

Speculation and rumors about the cause of the blaze ran rampant. Some newspapers claimed, and many suspected, it was caused by a cigarette or a lighted match. Employees were keenly questioned about their smoking habits. Others believed the fire started among shavings in the carpenter shop or was the result of spontaneous combustion. At least one woman from Ohio felt certain the fire was part of a conspiracy to defraud her family of their rightful estate.

The census records, badly burned or water soaked, were considered unsalvageable and no attempts were made to copy or repair them. The surviving records were put into storage, only to be authorized to be destroyed by Congress on Feb. 21, 1933. Years later, some remaining scraps of the 1890 census were found - all told, only 6160 names are accounted for. In 1934, the National Archive - fireproof - was built.



Bradford, Bordell & Kinzua, 1895

A Murder Trial

On March 25, at the First Presbyterian Church of Bradford, the Bradford Landmark Society and the McKean County Historical Society Players joined together to present "***A Murder Trial***" a play based on a real trial that took place in the County Courthouse in 1932.

Beatrice Sullivan of Kane was put on trial for the shooting death of her husband, Neil Sullivan. In a sensational trial that rocked the county, prominent Bradford attorney Regis Mutzabaugh defended the woman on the charge of murder.

Using local talent, the play was a huge success. We had over 125 people join us as the play opened. One neat twist was choosing the all male jury from the actual audience in the auditorium. The players played their parts, the audience was enthralled, and the whole night was a great success. Thank you so much, McKean County Historical Society for offering your thespian talents over here in Bradford, and we hope that in the future, we can collaborate once more.



a
**Murder
Trial**

THE BRADFORD LANDMARK SOCIETY



The Inkwell

45 E. Corydon Street, Bradford, PA 16701

814-362-3906

October 2010

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This apple cider press was just one of the many things to see at this year's Crook Fair Fair.

Summer is over, and we are looking forward to the coming of the holiday season. It's been a great year – the weather was really excellent, and the Crook Farm Country Fair was a huge success. We changed the format of the fair this year a little, and from all reports, everyone loved it even more than they usually do. We had a lot more music, great food, dozens and dozens of vendors, great baked foods, interesting displays (did you see the quilts hanging in the barn?) and everyone had a great time. We can't wait for next year!

This December, the Landmark is sponsoring a very special event; Mike Randall will perform a one-man show on Charles Dickens' *Christmas Carol*. For those of you who saw him last year as Mark Twain, you know what a great performer he is. Yes, he is the same Mike Randall who is the Chief Meteorologist from Channel WKBW in Buffalo, but he is so much more than just the man who tells us it's going to rain, snow, or be sunny. Mike is a talented actor as well, and his presentation of Charles Dickens will be most entertaining. Please see the middle of this newsletter for more information on this coming event, which will be held December 11 at 2PM in the Bromeley Theater at the University of Pittsburgh. Tickets will be available at the usual local ticket locations, and we hope you will plan on joining us. Charles Dickens was the first literary superstar – his popular works reached a wider audience than any writer before him. With classics like *Oliver Twist*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Great Expectations*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, and *David Copperfield*, Dickens dominated the literary life of 19th-century England and the United States. His work has never been out of print.

What else is in this copy of *The Inkwell*?

Time Travel – a look back at 1900-1905

Halloween – does it scare the pants off you?

Bricks, Bricks, and more Bricks!

Crook Farm Country Fair 2010

Crook Farm Fair 2010

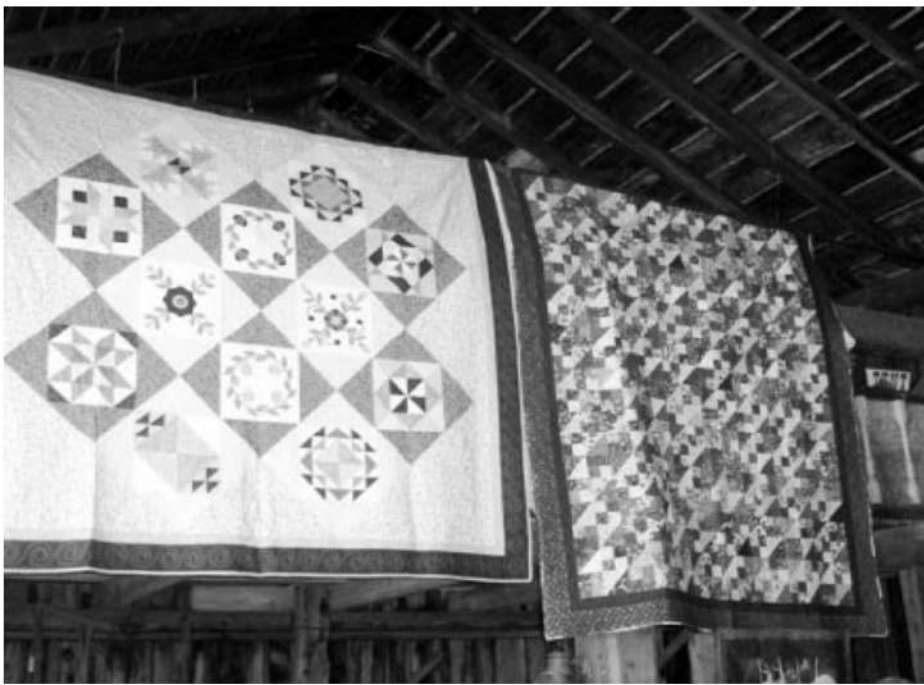


Old Time Country Music Festival & Crafts and Vendor Show

Over 60 vendors, craftsmen, and demonstrators made this year's Crook Farm Fair a huge success. With great food, crafts, and music, the crowds came out both days and had a great time. Mark your calendars for next year's Fair; we promise that it will be even better!



Bluegrass, Folk and
American Traditional
Music & Dance.

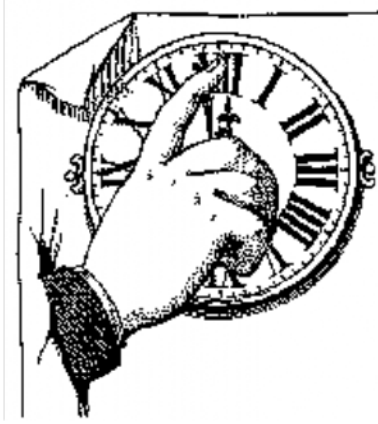


**The Crook Farm Fair
August 28 & 29.**



Time Travel?

The possibility of Time travel has always fascinated people. Recently on the Internet, we found a suggested list of books that deal with this very subject and that got us to thinking. Have you ever considered it? If you could travel back in time, when and where would you go?



May we suggest Bradford, at the turn of the 20th Century? At no other time in the history of the city has there been so much “going on” as there was in those early years, 1900 to 1905. We guarantee that a trip back in time to that time and place would astound you.

The population of the city in 1900 was 17,305. (Today, recent census figures put it at around 8,500 in the city) And that’s just counting those people that lived inside the city limits. These were hard working people; not just those in the oil industry, but hundreds of grocers, butchers, fish mongers, railroad men, bankers, cooks, blacksmiths, machinists, seamstresses, teachers, factory workers, farmers, bricklayers, bakers, trolley drivers, servants, construction workers, stone masons, office workers, housewives, and many others.

And if you were to visit the city back then, probably the thing that would impress you the most would be the number of buildings being constructed. It must have seemed like the entire city was being built, of brick, during those early years.

- In 1900, the Holley Hotel was built. Erected on the site of the recently burned Riddell House (December 1899), the new red brick Holley Hotel was the dream of Frank Holley, who quite naturally named the new hotel after himself.
- The brick Carnegie Library on Congress Street was built; with \$25,000 from Andrew Carnegie of Pittsburgh. It opened in July, 1901 with 1,000 people attending its open house.
- The Option House, a wooden landmark dating to the days of the original oil boom, was razed and a new, fancy brick and stone building; also names the Option House, was erected in its place in the summer of 1902.
- The Bradford Brewery on Fourth Street (the location is now under the Rte. 219 expressway) opened in February 1901 with a grand opening of the brewery for men on February 4th and 5th and grand opening for women on February 6th. It was built of Bradford Red Brick.
- Work on the S. G. Coffin building on Barbour Street, reported to be one of the largest brick structures in the city, was being rushed to completion in 1901. This building burned in 1924, and was replaced by the Star Garage.
- Joseph Tammero erected a 3-story brick building at 15 Chestnut Street in 1902. It still stands.
- The first Bell Telephone building, No. 11 Chestnut Street, also of brick, was built in 1903.
- The Arcade building, a brick structure that was unique in that it straddled the Tuna Creek from East Washington Street to Pine Street, was completed and opened in June of 1903.
- The James R. Evans building, designed in brick, was completed in the late summer of 1903.
- The Schonblom building, at 101 Main Street, on the corner of Kennedy and Main, was built of brick in 1902.
- The former Salvation Army building on Kennedy Street was built of brick in 1903.
- The Auerhaim Building, later Forest Oil, was completed in 1901 on the corner of Main and Chestnut Street. It was built of brick.
- The Odd Fellows building on the public square was destroyed by fire in 1902; it was rebuilt and reopened in January 1904. Made of brick.

- The old Pennzoil Building (now the Medical Arts building on Boylston Street) was erected by Solomon Dresser in 1903. It's brick, of course.
- The new Bradford Theater, later to be renamed the Sheas Theater, opened on South Avenue in November 1903. Brick.
- Several new, red brick hospital buildings were constructed on eight acres off North Bennett Street, Pleasant Street, and Summer Street and completed by the fall of 1904.
- The Bradford National Bank on Main Street was built. Brick and stone. 1904.
- The Dresser Mansion, of creamy pale yellow brick, was built on Jackson Avenue by Solomon Dresser. The family moved in June 1, 1904.

And that's not counting all the other buildings, houses, bridges, roads, fire towers, and factories that were also being built in this time period; many of them in brick as well.

And other, exciting things are happening, too. City Hall nearly burned to the ground in November 1901; the Era Hook and Ladder company moved into its new headquarters on Pine Street (now part of the hospital resale shop) in 1902; Carrie Nation visited the city in 1901, Susan B. Anthony visited in 1900; Marilla Reservoir was constructed in 1901; the Tuna Valley Pressed Brick plant at Lewis Run was completed in 1903; Dr. Roswell Park of Buffalo, spoke at the commencement exercises of the Bradford Hospital School of Nursing in 1901; LaStella Lodge was organized in 1902; Fifth Ward School on Elm Street was completed in 1903; and the Wizard of Oz, written by L. Frank Baum, was performed at the new Bradford Theater in 1903.

It was an exciting time. So gear up your time machine and set the dials to Bradford, 1900. You'll be glad you did!



H.G. Well's Time Machine. He is generally credited with the popularization of the concept of time travel using a vehicle that allows an operator to travel purposefully and selectively. The term "time machine", coined by Wells in 1895, is now universally used to refer to such a vehicle.

Interested in reading books about time travel?

Time and Again, by Jack Finney

A Wrinkle in Time, by Madeline L'Engle

The Time Machine by H. G. Wells

A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court by Mark Twain

The Time Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffenegger

The Door into Summer by Robert Heinlein

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

Bring the Jubilee by Ward Moore

Four Past Midnight (The Langoliers)
by Stephen King (2001)

Bid Time Return by Richard Matheson

*"It is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas,
when it's mighty founder was a child himself" A Christmas Carol*

In March of 1868, as part of his highly publicized, much anticipated and critically acclaimed America Reading Tour, famous English author Charles Dickens visited Buffalo, NY. Nearly 3000 people saw him LIVE each night as he performed two sold-out shows at St. James Hall. The first story he shared on that first night may be the best loved holiday tale ever written: "A Christmas Carol".

This December, The Bradford Landmark Society brings a talented actor and magnetic stage presence to the Bromely Theater at the University of Pittsburgh to recreate that moment. We invite you to join us, as Mike Randall presents a one-man show, recreating Mr. Dicken's presentation.

Charles Dickens Presents **A Christmas Carol** A Solo Performance Starring Mike Randall

December 11, 2010 at 2:00 PM

The Bromely Family Theater, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford

Tickets: Adults \$15.00, Students age 10 to 18, \$10.00

(Presentation not intended for children under 10 years of age)

Ticket outlets: Herbig Bakery, headquarters of The Bradford Landmark Society, John Williams Bakery, Graham's Florist, Tina's Hallmark, Ott & McHenry Drug Store, The Bradford Public Library

A lover of history, and a presenter of one person shows, when Mike Randall discovered that Charles Dickens performed in Buffalo in 1868 he decided to recreate Mr. Dickens's presentation of his most well known story. He spent over a year researching and studying to recreate Mr. Dickens' presentation of "A Christmas Carol". No detail was overlooked; Randall even took a woodshop class so that he could build a replica of Charles Dickens famous reading stand, the centerpiece for his performance.

Mike Randall has performed a variety of roles in theaters around the county and he continues to perform his critically acclaimed, one-man portrayal of Mark Twain Live! He has made more than 2000 appearances as the great American Author and appears annually at the "Huck Finn Jubilee" in California as their 'official' Mark Twain.

Mike Randall is Chief Meteorologist for WKBW-TV in Buffalo, NY. Also an award winning feature reporter, Mike attended Onondaga Community College for radio and TV and SUNY Geneseo for theatre arts. He received his Certificate of Broadcast Meteorology from Mississippi State University and earned both the American Meteorological Society and National Weather Association Seals of Approval. He is the only local TV meteorologist to hold both seals.



What Randall finds most intriguing about Dickens and his Readings is the way the author threw himself into the performances, not just reading the words but becoming the characters on stage. At one time Charles Dickens had almost become a professional actor. Even when he pursued writing instead, he continued to produce and perform in "amateur theatricals". His close actor friends claimed repeatedly that Dickens could easily have made a successful career on the stage. The Dickens Readings were not only an outlet for this amateur actor, but they became an absorbing, entertaining Tour de Force, a blending of the author/actor creating wonderful magic on stage.

Charles Dickens finished writing his "Little Carol" in time for it to be published for Christmas 1843. He whipped it out in a couple months with a plan to make some quick cash to pay off some of his debt. Dickens was intent on producing a lavishly bound, gilt-edged book with hand colored illustrations at a reasonable price. As a result, even though he sold six thousand copies in the first few days of release, the profits were disappointingly low. Little did he know that "A Christmas Carol" was destined to become one of the most enduring Christmas

stories of all time.

When Charles Dickens was invited to give a reading of "A Christmas Carol" as a fundraiser for the Industrial and Literary Institute at Birmingham Town Hall in 1852, it was the beginning of a new and exciting career. Who was more qualified to reconstitute his characters for an audience than the creator himself? In many ways, despite criticism from some of his peers and other literary types, the public readings were nothing more than an extension of the close connection that Charles Dickens already had with his readers.

A few years after that debut he hit the road as a public reader of his works, for profit, and remained in the spotlight performing "A Christmas Carol" and other stories until his death.



Join us on December 11 for a performance you won't forget!

...." the characters came alive with color and flourish....we were transported to Dickens' England and didn't want to come back...Randall's command of the work was jaw-dropping...the characters seemed life-like, as if Dickens himself were speaking of people who had just left the room". Peter Anderson Host Of Time Warner's "Crossroads"!

"a talented actor and magnetic stage presence...when Randall loses himself in one of those Dickensian bouts of rich description, he's at the top of his game." - Buffalo News

"The evening concluded with a standing ovation for Randall leaving us all with a true sense of the holiday season-- a sense of giving, hope, renewal and love for mankind. " - Arcade Area Chamber of Commerce

"as Charles Dickens in "A Christmas Carol" Randall hit the bulls eye..." - Barbara Tucker Tonawanda News

Beginning with Celts' celebration of Samhain, and its transition to All Hallows' Eve, Halloween has been the source of superstitions about marriage, luck and death. The following article is a look at Halloween, compiled and printed, in part, from various Internet articles.



Halloween



At its core, Halloween marks deep and abiding concerns about life and death itself, as well as a time of particular vulnerability. From fear of black cats crossing one's path to dreaming of death, it's no wonder that it's a rich source of superstition and myth.

The Celts' Celebration of Samhain

Samhain (pr. sow-wen), literally translated as "summer's end," was celebrated by the Celts to mark the end of the harvest and of the "light". Winter was "dark" season, associated with hunger and death. In short, Halloween is a time that is associated with the harvest, fertility, and life and death itself.

Visitations of the Dead

Celts believed that on October 31, the Lord of Death (Saman) would call together all the souls that had died the previous year in order for them to travel to the afterlife. Bonfires were built to light the way for spirits to make their way into the world of the living. All Souls Day, as defined by Christians, is the day on which all those who have died appear. These observances have led to speculations about visitations and what they portend, for example:

- If you happen to see a spider on Halloween Day, it is the spirit of a loved one watching over you.
- If you hear footsteps behind you on Halloween night, don't turn around, because it's the dead following you. If you turn around, you may end up dead soon.

Omens of Death

Halloween is also associated with "signs" that someone has died or is about to, for example:

- Dreaming of death is an omen of death.
- If a bird flies into the window of a sick person, it means the person will die soon.
- If a bird flies into your house, it means someone has died.
- If a clock that wasn't working suddenly chimes, a family member has died.



Related, sneezing on Halloween is considered especially dangerous. According to the Welsh, when you sneeze, the soul leaves the body – essentially a fleeting pass at death. Saying "God Bless you," originated from this superstition.

Halloween and Predictions of the Future

Halloween is a “marginal” time when distinctions such as past, present and future are blurred, and the veil between the living and the dead is thought to be at its thinnest. This makes it a propitious time for divining the future. A number of superstitions are related to omens predicting good luck or bad.

Halloween and Bad Luck

If you experience any of the following on Halloween, you will have bad luck:



- You hear three hoots of an owl, or hear a rooster crow at night.
- You see a white cat or the new moon over your left shoulder.
- You put your shirt on inside-out.
- You get out of bed left foot first.
- You sing before breakfast (you'll cry before dinner).
- You open an umbrella inside a building or house.

Halloween and Good Luck

Experiencing any of these events on Halloween will bring you good luck:

- You sleep facing south.
- The top of your head has an itch.
- You pick up a piece of coal lying in your path.
- A robin flies into your house.
- You sneeze three times before breakfast.
- You put on a dress inside out.
- You dream of a white cat.
- You hear a cat sneeze.

Bradford Ghosts . . . In December of 1890, a weird, ghostly ghost appeared to a BB & K flagman on the railroad near Ormsby. In 1900, the ghost of the Wood Rim factory was seen near the factory. “It was taller than usual, with a deeper voice which was quite strong for a wraith with no lungs. It groaned in a blood-freezing fashion” and was seen by two watchers. In 1904, in the Bosworth farmhouse in Limestone, NY, Bosworth’s sister is awakened by the tipping over of a huge dresser, then later a bookcase, without human hands.

Glimpsing One’s Future Husband

An unmarried girl could see aspects of her future husband on Halloween Night by following certain steps. For example:

- If she caught a snail and locked it in a flat dish on Halloween night, the first letter of her sweetheart’s name would appear in the morning.
- Putting fresh rosemary and a silver coin under her pillow on Halloween would allow her to see her future husband in a dream that night.
- If she carried a broken egg in a glass and took it to a spring of water, she would be able to catch a glimpse of her future husband.

Halloween is a magical time, when boundaries of life and death are thin, and distinctions of time are blurred. It’s not surprising that we are both fascinated and frightened, perpetuating myths and omens from one generation to the next.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HANLEY, OF BRADFORD, PENNSYLVANIA.

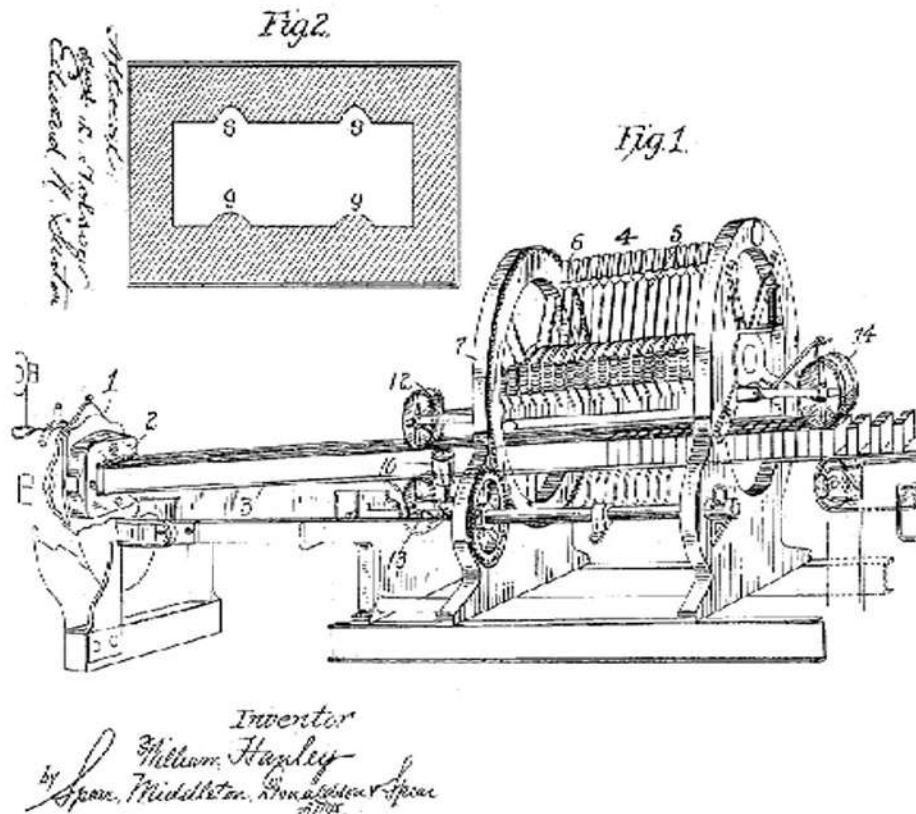
APPARATUS FOR MAKING BRICKS.

959,006.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 24, 1910.

Application filed August 5, 1909. Serial No. 511,343.



959,006.

APPARATUS FOR MAKING BRICKS.
APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION MAY 24, 1910.

Bricks! Bricks! Bricks!

Elsewhere in this newsletter, we listed the many buildings in Bradford that were made of brick in the early 20th century. And while there were at least five brick factories in the Lewis Run area supplying this essential building material, one man stands out among the rest for his business sense, knowledge, and entrepreneurship. That man was William Hanley.

Some of the Buildings built by Hanley:

City Hall (1898)
St. Bernard's Church (1892)
4th Ward School (1894)
Mansion House (1896)
Bay State Hotel (1897)
Hanley Mansion (1898)
McKean Theater (1910)
Schonblom Building (1902)
YMCA (1906)
1st Bell Telephone Building (1903)
Central Fire Station (1910)
Carnegie Library (1901)
Tuna Valley Milk Company (1907)
Post Office (1910)
Bovaird & Seyfang Engine House (1909)
Marilla Reservoir (1898-1901)
Erie Depot, Wellsville, NY
Hornell Court House, NY
Joseph Steep House, Titusville, PA
Trinity ME Church, Oil City
St. Joseph's Church, Oil City
Arlington Hotel, Oil City
First National Bank, Oil City
Oil City Trust Company Bank
Exchange Building, Olean

The Hanley Company was founded in 1893. Known as the Bradford Pressed Brick Company, the company owned just one press for making dry press brick and two old-fashioned kilns for burning the product; at that time, about 15,000 daily. In 1900, William Hanley acquired full ownership, and set about modernizing the entire brick manufacturing system. He held several patents in this regard, and by 1930, Hanley Brick was the second largest producer of face brick in the United States.

Hanley "possessed the vision and foresight to correctly analyze the face brick industry...and to predict a future condition under which only those face brick plants able to compete on a low cost basis could make a profit and survive." He junked the old obsolete and inefficient equipment, razed the original No. 1 dry press brick factory, and built a new one.

He installed a railroad tunnel kiln in Lewis Run in 1920; the first one ever successfully operated in a face brick plant. The next year, a second kiln was put into operation, and the capacity of the two Lewis Run plants increased to 3,000,000 bricks per month. In 1924, Hanley built another plant at Summerville, PA; a mammoth plant that covered three and one-half acres of floor space, and had a capacity of turning out 60,000,000 per moth.

Hanley made a fortune, and his famous "Bradford Red" brick can be seen on nearly every brick building in Bradford.



The Hanley Brick Company was a part of the Lewis Run area for years, but by 1984, Hanley production was moved south, and the plant closed.

Bradford Landmark Society

45 East Corydon Street

Bradford PA 16701



A new book is coming for Christmas! Watch for our publication announcement of a new “Historic Homes” book later this fall. Homes from all over the city will be included – maybe even yours!



The Inkwell

The Newsletter of the Bradford Landmark Society



December 2010

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Herbig Bakery
Curator

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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, from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, we were awarded the services of a consultant, Angela Breeden, who is an expert in fund raising for small museums and historical societies. We all enjoyed Angela’s visits, and look forward to her report which will be finished before the end of this year. One of her recommendations was to create a new logo for the Herbig Bakery and the Crook Farm – a more modern symbol of the Bradford Landmark Society. Look for that in the New Year as well.

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



45 East Corydon Street, Bradford, PA 16701. Phone 814-362-3906. Email: info@bradfordlandmark.org

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.

We Invite You to
The Bradford Landmark
Society

Christmas Open House

Friday, December 17, 2010

10 AM to 4 PM

at The Herbig Bakery

45 East Corydon Street, Bradford, PA

Cookies and Refreshments available

The Bradford Landmark Society has a wide selection of historic books on Bradford history, DVDs, yellow dogs, notecards, paperweights, and other items that make the perfect present.



Welcome Home 1909 Old Home Week by Thomas D. Jones, local author and Bradford native, is now available. Tom will be signing copies of this wonderful book, recently published by the Bradford Landmark Society. Don't miss it!

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 **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 Klammer 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.



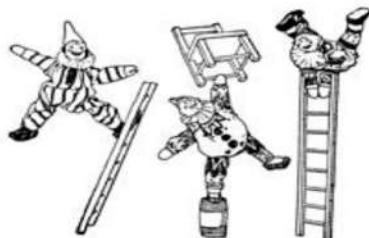
Barbie	1998
Crayola Crayons	1998
Erector Set	1998
Etch A Sketch	1998
Frisbee	1998
LEGO	1998
Marbles	1998
Monopoly	1998
Play-Doh	1998
Teddy Bear	1998
Tinkertoy	1998
Duncan Yo-Yo	1999
Hula Hoop	1999
Lincoln Logs	1999
Radio Flyer Wagon	1999
Roller Skates	1999
View-Master	1999
Bicycle	2000
Jacks	2000
Jump 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
Big Wheel	2009
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 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.

