

The Inkwell

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45 East Corydon Street, Bradford, PA 16701

March 2013

The official newsletter of The Bradford Landmark Society



Welcome to spring! Well, almost. Bradford history shows us that spring can arrive late. On March 23, 1994, the roof of the old Hanley brick plant in Lewis Run caved in due to the weight of melting snow; in April 1982, it was snowing during the dedication ceremonies of the new post office on Boylston Street. So don't plant the garden yet!

At the Landmark, we are making plans for the coming year at the Crook

Farm. The School Program starts May 20 and the annual Crook Farm Country Fair will be held August 24 and 25. The Boy Scouts of America are holding their first ever Camporee at the Crook farm in May as well. Calling it "Live and Learn", scouts are invited to camp on the grounds of the Crook Farm, watch demonstrations of old time crafts; have tours of the buildings, candlemaking, blacksmithing, play old fashioned games, work

on merit badges, and lots more. It sounds like a great weekend and we hope that the Scouts enjoy the farm as much as we do.

We are hoping to place some birdhouses, bat houses, and butterfly houses on the farm grounds this year as well. Anyone interested in making and donating any of these "houses", or are available to help do some "fixing up" at the farm, please contact the Landmark at 362-3906.

Inside this edition

- Vendor application for the Crook farm Country Fair
- The Big Year for Birders
- Bowling at the Bradford Club
- Hellbenders



Meanwhile, things at our downtown headquarters location, the Herbig bakery, are doing well, too. We have begun a cataloging program of all our "stuff" - books, furniture, documents, maps, advertising items, clothing, toys, household goods, dishes—all sorts of things. This is an ongoing project that should take another two years to finish, but when we are done, we will know exactly what is in our collection, and where it is located. For example, we found out that we have over 300 maps at the Herbig bakery; over 675 books at the Schoolhouse on the Crook farm, and nearly 200 advertising items. And did you know that we now have over 16,000 photographs of the Bradford area, its people, buildings, railroads, schools, churches, events, businesses, industries, etc. etc. etc.

Interested in being one of the vendors at the Crook Farm Country fair this August? Applications are now being accepted by the Bradford Landmark Society for those who wish to exhibit their crafts, products, or talents at the fair. Why just walk around and wish you could be a part of the fun? You can! Read on for a list of rules and fees.

33rd Crook Farm Country Fair

August 24-25, 2013

10 AM to 5 PM each day

Vendor Exhibit Space Application

Each year, the Bradford Landmark Society hosts an old fashioned country fair and bluegrass music festival at the historic Crook Farm on 476 Seward Avenue in Bradford. Vendors are invited to apply to become a part of this honored tradition. The fee is reasonable, and covers both days. There are several options and sizes for vendor space to fit every budget.

SIZE OF SPACES AVAILABLE

Fee

Open field, 10' x 10' space	\$ 69.00
Open field, 20' x 10' space	\$125.00
Open field with parking behind, 10' x 10' space	\$ 80.00
Open field with parking behind, 20' x 10' space	\$150.00

The Landmark does not provide tents, or side curtains. In case of rain, we suggest you bring tarps. We do not furnish tables or chairs and there is no electrical service available for exhibitors. Craft trailers will not be permitted to block the aisles for more than one-half hour while unloading. Country Fair personnel will not be available to assist in setting up or removing exhibitor's equipment.

Booths must have someone in attendance at all times when the fair is open.

Please include a photo with name and address on back (unless you were here last year) and a description of the work you wish to exhibit. Photos will not be returned unless requested. It may be necessary to limit the number of similar types of crafts.

Requests received after the deadline will be considered in the order received, provided space is available. We will keep a waiting list in case of cancellations.

ALL CRAFT APPLICATIONS WILL BE JURIED AND APPROVED BY THE VENDOR COMMITTEE. ALL CRAFTS NOT INCLUDED ON ORIGINAL APPLICATION MUST BE APPROVED. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REQUEST THESE ITEMS BE REMOVED.

Each vendor is requested to donate an item for the Country Fair Auction to be held during the fair, approximate value \$10. Receipts will be given for each donation.

It's easy to apply. Just decide on how much space you will need, fill out the application below, and send it to

Margie Harris
35 Derrick Rd.
Bradford, Pa. 16701

Send no money at this time. The application deadline is May 3, 2013.

Contracts will be mailed – June 1, 2013 (money due with contract)

I (we) wish to reserve the following space. Please indicate your first, second, or third choice:

1. _____ 10' X 10' OPEN - \$69.00
2. _____ 20' X 10' OPEN - \$125.00
3. _____ 10' X 10' OPEN/PARKING BEHIND - \$80.00
4. _____ 20' X 10' OPEN/PARKING BEHIND - \$150.00

Please provide the following information.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE () _____

E-MAIL _____

PA TAX NUMBER _____

DESCRIPTION OF CRAFTS YOU WILL BE EXHIBITING:

For further information about the Crook Farm Country Fair, visit our website at www.bradfordlandmark.org. or contact Margie Harris at (814) 362-1300 or (814)598-9903 or tuppermargie@verizon.net or call the Bradford Landmark Society at 814-362-3906.

SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!

A Big Year for Birders

If you are a bird watcher, or “birder” you know that for bird watchers, a “Big Year” is their jargon for an informal competition among birders to see who can see or hear the largest number of species of birds within a single calendar year and within a specific geographical area.

For the winner, there is no prize. No money. No fame, except the winner does get recognized by the American Birding Association. But for birders, it’s the ultimate thrill and a lifetime goal.

It’s based on an honor system. Many Big Year birders stake their birding reputations on their results, and offering proof of bird sightings is a sure way to substantiate each bird counted. The most common ways to do this are either to go birding with groups where other birders can also witness the sighting, or else to photograph each bird as sighting proof. Unsubstantiated sightings, particularly from unknown birders, may be questioned or rejected by birding authorities.



A “Big Year” can be expensive. Although birders rarely report what an actual year devoted to just chasing bird sightings around the country can cost, it is believed to be at least \$50,000 for an all out effort. Some birders spend much more than that. One couple drove 59,625 miles in 2012 and visited 42 states. Their budget was \$10,000, but that included driving a Prius and camping out many nights. They saw over 600 birds. In 2012, the “Big Year” record was set in Australia by John Weigel. As of December 15th he had seen 744 species. In the US, a birder named Anthony Collerton broke a big year NY state record with 361 species checked off, breaking the state record of 352 set in 2011. Renee Rubin and Michael Delesantro, both retired, tracked down 654 species in the lower 48 states; while in Canada, a couple decided to track both birds and mammals during their “Big Year Fur and Feathers” and came up with 76 mammals and 431 birds.



Now, why does this edition of the Inkwell talk about a “Big Year”? Well, the Landmark recently received a copy of the Roosevelt Wild Life Bulletin, published in March 1923. In this edition, a birder performed his own version of a “Big Year” by identifying all the birds that he found in Allegany State Park during the period July 3rd to August 13th, 1921. What’s even more remarkable is that the formation of the Park was not yet even signed into law (official day was July 31, 1921).

The birder’s name was Aretas A. Saunder (1884-1970), an ornithologist of repute whose books on bird song and identification are still sold today. That summer, he stalked the birds of Allegany State Park, tramping through fields, crawling through brush, lurking under trees, picking his way along streams, all while waiting patiently for a bird’s song, the flash of a wing, or the sighting of a bird on a branch.

He explained why he chose the early summer months. “Most birds are nesting and singing in June and early July and are easily observed then. By the middle of July, several species have ceased to sing. Fewer and fewer songs are heard as the summer advances, until by mid-August, nearly all birds are silent. The number of bird species seen is likely to be much greater in June and July than later in the summer.” Saunder also noted that birds molt in late summer, and puzzling plumages are likely to be seen then, hindering identification. And finally, he advised bird watching in the early morning, “the earlier the better. Birds begin their day with the first faint light of dawn and are most active in the early hours following.” Evenings are also a good time, “there is another period of bird activity toward evening. One may often be quite successful in finding birds in the last hours of daylight, and as twilight deepens such night-calling species as the Whip-poor-will and owl become vocal.”

Saunders listed all the birds that he found, where he found them, and how to distinguish them. The list is remarkable. However, Saunders did not record, for the most part, any game birds, such as Wild Turkey, quail, ducks, or pheasants in the park, concentrating on only songbirds, his specialty. Indeed, he reported that Ring-necked Pheasants had only been introduced to the Park in recent years, and he had not seen one, but they had been spotted in the Tunungwant Valley near Limestone. Saunders did not believe that this “exotic” species should be introduced to the park at all, at the expense of other game birds, notably the Ruffed Grouse. He also noted that turkeys could not be found in the park either, although they “occurred many years ago” and noted “it is now rare in most regions to which it was indigenous, and perhaps it is in danger of extermination” and suggested re-introducing the turkey to the park, in attempts to re-establish it.

For your enjoyment we present Saunders’ list here, in hopes that the birders among us might be inspired to do their own “Big Year”, even if just in the Bradford area, or McKean County. How many have you seen?

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Herring Gull | 36. Wood Pewee | 71. Yellow-throated Vireo |
| 2. Black Duck | 37. Least Flycatcher | 72. Blue-headed Vireo |
| 3. Bittern | 38. Prairie Horned Lark | 73. Black and White Warbler |
| 4. Great Blue Heron | 39. Blue Jay | 74. Tennessee Warbler |
| 5. Green Heron | 40. Crow | 75. Northern Parula Warbler |
| 6. Sora | 41. Starling | 76. Yellow Warbler |
| 7. Woodcock | 42. Bob-o-link | 77. Black-throated Blue Warbler |
| 8. Spotted Sandpiper | 43. Cow-bird | 78. Magnolia Warbler |
| 9. Killdeer | 44. Red-winged Blackbird | 79. Cerulean Warbler |
| 10. Ruffed Grouse | 45. Meadowlark | 80. Chestnut-sided Warbler |
| 11. Mourning Dove | 46. Baltimore Oriole | 81. Blackburnian Warbler |
| 12. Marsh Hawk | 47. Bronzed Grackle | 82. Black-throated Green Warbler |
| 13. Sharp-shinned Hawk | 48. Purple Finch | 83. Pine Warbler |
| 14. Red-tailed Hawk | 49. Goldfinch | 84. Oven-bird |
| 15. Red-shouldered Hawk | 50. English Sparrow | 85. Northern Water Thrush |
| 16. Bald Eagle | 51. Vesper Sparrow | 86. Louisiana Water Thrush |
| 17. Sparrow Hawk | 52. Savannah Sparrow | 87. Mourning Warbler |
| 18. Barred Owl | 53. Grasshopper Sparrow | 88. Maryland Yellow-throat |
| 19. Screen Owl | 54. Chipping Sparrow | 89. Yellow-breasted Chat |
| 20. Yellow-billed Cuckoo | 55. Field Sparrow | 90. Hooded Warbler |
| 21. Black-billed Cuckoo | 56. Slate-colored Junco | 91. Canada Warbler |
| 22. Belted Kingfisher | 57. Song Sparrow | 92. Redstart |
| 23. Hairy Woodpecker | 58. Towhee | 93. Catbird |
| 24. Downy Woodpecker | 59. Cardinal | 94. Brown Thrasher |
| 25. Northern Pileated Woodpecker | 60. Rose-breasted Grosbeak | 95. House Wren |
| 26. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker | 61. Indigo Bunting | 96. Winter Wren |
| 27. Red-headed Woodpecker | 62. Scarlet Tanager | 97. Brown Creeper |
| 28. Northern Flicker | 63. Cliff Swallow | 98. White-breasted Nuthatch |
| 29. Whip-poor-will | 64. Barn Swallow | 99. Chickadee |
| 30. Nighthawk | 65. Tree Swallow | 100. Wood Thrush |
| 31. Chimney Swift | 66. Bank Swallow | 101. Veery |
| 32. Ruby-throated Hummingbird | 67. Rough-winged Swallow | 102. Olive-backed Thrush |
| 33. Kingbird | 68. Cedar Waxwing | 103. Hermit Thrush |
| 34. Crested Flycatcher | 69. Red-eyed Vireo | 104. Robin |
| 35. Phoebe | 70. Warbling Vireo | 105. Bluebird |

Did you know that the Bradford Club once had their own bowling alleys, and competed against local and regional teams? The Landmark recently discovered a flyer in an old scrapbook, promoting the opening of the new alleys. While we could not specifically pin down the date, we believe that the bowling alleys described herein were opened around 1910 and were located on the second floor of the old Masonic Temple on Main Street (now the home of Bradford Little Theater and Eric Pogue's Edward R. Jones Investment offices).

Grand Opening of the Bradford Club's Bowling Alley

On Wednesday evening, February 8th, our respected and honored president will roll a gold ball down the alleys with almost incredible speed and accuracy, at 7:30PM sharp, and in a few short, but well chosen remarks in his happiest vein, will extend the freedom of the new room to the members.

The alleys have been placed in charge of "Mr. Whirlwind C. Purple", a very competent man and bowler who will be pleased at any time to give instructions to new bowlers, as well as advice to veterans. He will devote his entire time to making things at the alleys pleasant for the members and will be there from six in the morning until 12 at night, with a smile that won't come off and a welcome for all.

THE GREAT, THE ONLY KENNEDY! THERE IS BUT ONE (COUNT HIM) ONE!

We have engaged for the opening night Mr. T. Headpin Kennedy, who has a reputation as a bowler, which extends from Foster Brook to Toad Hollow. He will give an exhibition of fancy bowling in all branches of the game, Ten Pins, Nine Pines, Hat Pins, and Safety Pins.

Mr. Kennedy has a standing offer to bowl any man, woman, or small child, for Honor, Glory, or Government Bonds. He will conclude his share of the evening entertainment with one of his famous five minute talks to bowlers, entitled "I dreamed I bowled over 100". The members are requested to maintain perfect silence during this stunt, for fear of awakening Mr. Kennedy.

The alleys will then be thrown open to the members for twenty minutes bowling, at the end of which time all are requested to hold their breath for fifteen minutes while Mr. Barcroft, President of the Critics Club, assisted by a competent committee from that body, passes judgment on the alleys and officially accepts the same from the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company.

Now, who were "Whirlwind C. Purple", Mr. Barcroft, and Mr. T. Headpin Kennedy? All were members of the Bradford Club, of course.

T. "Headpin" Kennedy was Thomas H. Kennedy, Bradford banker and philanthropist who lived at 64 Jackson Avenue. He was involved in lumber, oil production, wood chemical and oil refining industries. He was a leading philanthropist, doing large sums of money to the Children's Home and the Bradford Hospital, as well as many other smaller charities. He died in 1941 at the age of 76.



"Whirlwind" was William C. Purple, a Bradford oil producer, who was heavily involved in fraternal and business organizations including the Masons, the North Penn Country Club, and the Bradford Country Club.. He was born in Wisconsin in 1859 and moved to Bradford at the turn of the century. He died in 1929.

Homer Barcroft was born in Petroleum Center in 1868, but came to Bradford at an early age and succeeded in the oil business, become field superintendent of Hazleton Oil for over 20 years. He died in December, 1941.



This photograph of a Bradford bowling alley is unidentified; however it is very similar to all bowling alleys found throughout Bradford. Notice the pin setter boys who were reset the pins. Over the years, various alley locations included the Masonic Temple, the Bowling Alley on the Public Square, above the Star Garage, an alley at the Knights of Columbus on Chestnut Street, and Bagnato's Bowling Alley on East Main in the 1950s. And of course, Bylle Lanes.

Bradford's Women's Literary Club Turns 125 Years Old!

Congratulations to the Literary Club, which was founded in 1888 and continues today as an active club for women.

Beginning in October 5, 1888, with Ella M. Boyce Kirk (first woman school superintendent in the United States) presiding, the club's goal was "the pursuit of study as a means of intellectual culture and general improvement."

We are sure that the past and present members, who now number nearly a thousand, would agree that their goal has been successful.

Allegheny Hellbenders

Whether you call it an Allegheny Hellbender, water dog, devil dog, Allegheny alligator, snot otter, mud devil, or mud puppy, the Allegheny Hellbender is one ugly looking specimen. The largest amphibian in North America, Hellbenders are giant, slimy amphibians with flat heads and bodies, gooey reddish-brown skin, and tiny, nearly sightless eyes. They can grow to over two feet in length, and live 30 years. Basically, they are a rather bizarre species of salamander, and believe it or not, are found in the Allegheny River.

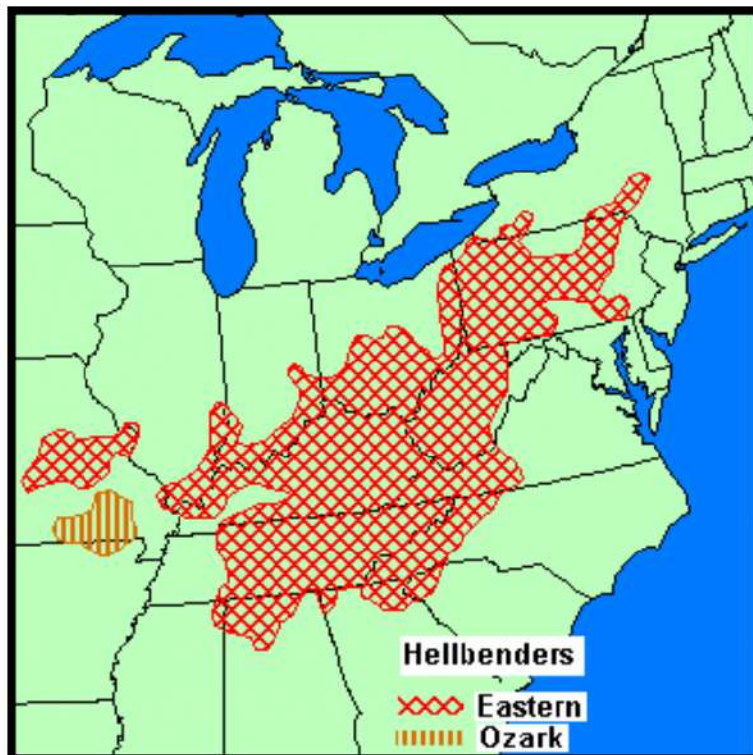
Early settlers or Native Americans gave hellbenders their striking name because they look like they crawled straight out of hell, biologists believe.

You may have seen a photograph of one on the cover of a book that the Landmark Society sells, called "Allegheny Hellbenders" by Larry Behan. He's a retired doctor who lives near Buffalo, NY, and has always been interested in these unusual creatures. (his book is available at the Herbig Bakery, or at the Mercantile store on Main Street, Bradford).

Recently, an effort has been made to re-populate these nearly extinct hellbenders back into the Allegheny watershed. The Seneca Nation of Indians Fish and Wildlife Department and other zoos are working to restore hellbenders to their natural habitat. The Senecas have opened a Hellbender Rearing Facility near the Seneca casino, and are soon ready for the spring release of this year's batch of Hellbenders. Ironically, one of the best spots to release them is in the Allegheny River where the Tuna Creek flows to join it.

Authorities say if you happen to catch one of these amazing yet harmless creatures, gently unhook it and throw it back in the water and report it to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Distribution and Habitat



Hellbender Salamander

Key Facts

- Largest aquatic salamander in the United States
- Average size is 12-15 inches, but can be as long as 29 inches
- Nocturnal
- Diet: crayfish, small fish, tadpoles, toads, water snakes
- Absorbs oxygen from the water through its skin
- A "near-threatened" species due to habitat loss

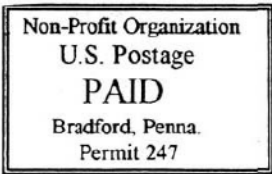
It's coming! 2013-14 Membership!

Soon it will be time for you to renew your membership. The continued growth and development of the Bradford Landmark Society depends on people like you who share an interest in the rich heritage of our city. As a member, you :

- Help support the preservation of the history of the Bradford area.
- Get advance notice of programs, events, workshops, and special events.
- Receive a free subscription to our quarterly newsletter, *The Inkwell*, outlining the news of the society and offering entertaining and educational articles on local history.
- Are entitled to vote at our annual meeting, and are eligible to serve on the board of directors.
- Can choose volunteer opportunities at the Herbig Bakery, or at the Crook Farm.

Watch your mail for important membership information, coming soon!

Bradford Landmark Society
45 East Corydon Street
Bradford, PA 16701



Return Service Requested



The Inkwell

The Newsletter of the Bradford Landmark Society

July 2013

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Herbig Bakery

Curator

Sally Costik

Crook Farm,

Director

Judy York

Genealogist

Molly Lindahl

Summer is at its half-way point. Of course, back to school supplies are already in the stores, but don't let that depress you—there are still plenty of hot lazy days ahead.

And of course, the Crook Farm Country Fair is coming. It may be just a pleasant way to spend an afternoon for most folks, but here at the Landmark Society it is so much more than that. Other non-profit organizations and local community clubs know how it goes—lots of work just getting ready for the big event. As for the Crook Farm Country Fair, the Fair Committee meets in early spring to start preparations; Margie Harris, who co-ordinates our craftsmen and vendors sends out letters to each person and maps out the locations on the farm property for each tent; other non-profits are contacted to ask if they want to join in by hosting a food tent; advertising is planned; the program is designed, posters are created and placed around town, social media is posted, Foster Township is notified, ambulance and security is arranged, and on and on and on. It's a lot of work, but we love it. The Crook Farm Country Fair has become a tradition in the Bradford area; and is ALWAYS held the last summer weekend before the Labor Day weekend.

This year is the 34th annual Fair and there have been some changes over the years. That first year, in 1979 (and 1980) the Country Fair was held in September for one day; admission was \$2.00. The Landmark realized immediately that one day wasn't enough for the vendors, craftsmen, or all the people who wanted to attend. So it was expanded in 1980 to two days, which has continued ever since.

The farm and the Fair looked very different in those early years. The barn was missing—it was moved from the Stack farm in 1980; the schoolhouse had recently been moved in the late 1970s; there was no bank building, no tractor shed, no outhouse behind the farmhouse, there was no parking lots, no split rail fence, no candle shop, and no weaver's building. The garden wasn't even growing yet! But it was popular, showcasing old time crafts such as broom making, weaving, candle making, wood carving, and cooking. And baked foods, of course!

The Landmark will once again have a booth and display inside the Bank Building where we will be selling memberships, books, and providing information about the history of Bradford. Plan on being a part of this year's event! See you there!

CROOK FARM COUNTRY FAIR AND OLD TIME MUSIC FESTIVAL

WHEN

August 24th & 25th
10am - 5pm

WHERE

Historic Crook Farm
476 Seaward Avenue, Bradford, PA

The Bradford Landmark Society's annual event features bluegrass, folk and American traditional music and dance, great food, crafts, vendors, demonstrations, and tours to learn about the way of life for Erastus & Betsy Crook, one of Bradford's pioneer families in the 1870s .

www.bradfordlandmark.org



ADMISSION \$4.00

CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE

The barrel house could handle 2,000 barrels of crude a day, and was split into two sections with a covered alleyway between. One half was used for gasoline, and the other half was for oils. The building was surrounded by sidings which switched onto the tracks of the B.R. & P. railroad. All the buildings were made of either brick or concrete and spaced far enough apart that fire hazards were minimal.

By the second week of February, 1923 with the plant nearly 90% completed (the filter house was not yet finished) the new refinery was producing 750 barrels a day. A new wax plant was scheduled to be in operation within the coming year, and ten new tanks cars were on order. A three-ton Packard truck made local deliveries. Things seemed to be going great.

And they were, for nearly 17 years. In 1937-38 an improvement program at the refinery saw more than \$500,000 spent to install a gasoline reforming unit to produce gasoline from naphtha and other stocks, a dewaxing plant for high grade lubricating oils, a new boiler, new fencing, additional facilities for compounding, barreling, and canning oil, and other modern additions. Eventually, the gasoline unit could turn out one million gallons of motor oil a month, with the capacity of the lubricating oil plant reaching 25,000 gallons daily. The storage capacity reached 2,500,000 gallons of various types of oil products.

But time and history have a way of changing things. In early 1940 Adolf Hitler began his drive through western Europe. Foreign overseas markets dried up and lead to the loss of US oil export markets. The Bradford Refinery was heavily invested in those markets. Financially overextended by the recent upgrades to the refinery and the depressed prices for Penn Grade oil products overseas proved to be the downfall of the Bradford Refinery and led to the suspension of refinery operations in December 1940.

By April 1941, the refinery was in the hands of Citizens National Bank and bond holders. A public auction was held on August 8, 1941 and bidding was brisk. Opening bid was from a local scrap dealer, J. Reichenbach, who offered \$25,000. E. Kent Kane of Kushequa, raised to \$35,000. Harry Goodman, acting on behalf of Associated Metals (a conglomerate of scrap dealers) offered \$75,000. United Refining of Warren bid \$150,000, Alliance Oil of New York City countered with \$175,000. Quaker State Oil Refining Corporation upped the bid to \$180,000, as Pennzoil of Oil City jumped in with \$190,000. Harry Goodman hiked his offer to \$200,000 as Kendall Refining Company finally joined the bidding war with Bert Fisher bidding \$205,000. After that, all other bidders but Kendall and Pennzoil dropped out as the two competing oil companies battled it out. When the final gavel hit the auctioneer's block, Kendall had won with a final bid of \$350,500—beating out the last Pennzoil offer of \$350,250 by just \$250.00!

Kendall's successful bid for the entire Bradford Refinery Operations did not include oil inventories, supplies, retail pumps, trucks, automobiles, office furniture or 1000 feet of 3-inch pipe formerly used in running crude from Music Mountain. As for what Kendall planned for its purchase of the old refinery? J. B. Fisher announced that "our interest in the Bradford Oil Refining company's plant is primarily in connections with the development of specialty products from Pennsylvania oil and from the standpoint of light oil storage. These developments cannot be accurately foretold, but we feel confident that the use of Pennsylvania products in this field is going to expand." The rest, as they say, is history.

One cannot help, but wonder though, if the Bradford Oil Refinery had managed to hang on just a few months longer, would it have survived its financial difficulties? Our entrance into the World War II was less than five months in the future—would it have made a difference? Might we still have two different refineries operating in Bradford today?



If you saw the photo on the front page of the Bradford Era recently, or drove down Bolivar Drive lately, you may have noticed a large painted sign on an old brick building inside the refinery property, which says “All Pen Motor Oil”. The sign was uncovered when an old storage building was torn down, and to the great surprise of nearly everyone in Bradford, the old advertisement for All Pen Motor Oil appeared. This raised a lot of questions about the sign – when was it painted, who painted it, and what was All Pen? Well, we can answer one of those questions, maybe the most important one – What was All Pen?

The story goes back to 1922, when 133 Bradford area oil producers banded together to form the Bradford Oil Refining Company. These men had the experience, the oil resources, and most importantly, the financial ability to fund such an undertaking. And it was quite an undertaking, with plans to build 49 miles of pipe line, ample crude storage facilities, a modern refinery with tanks for refined storage, and a full complement of tank cars, drums, and packaging necessary to market their oil. Operations began in February 1923 on the site of the old Foster farm.

The concept was simple: only crude oil from the area would supply the new refinery, and only the highest quality of oil would be produced. The company believed that it had the capability to become a success, not only in Pennsylvania, but world wide. Ironically, as you will see, the dependence on European markets in the late 1930s would doom the Bradford Oil Refinery to bankruptcy.

But initially, the men at the helm of the new company certainly had the experience. J. Harvey Rose of Bradford was the first president and other prominent company officials included Lewis Mallory, James Lewis, J.W. Matthews, W. R. Miller, T.F. Connelly, F. D. Korner, E.E. Slingerland, Homer Barcroft, Dr. W. J. Fredericks, James Paul, and Francis Nash. The refinery began construction in 1922. Projects included:

- six 5,000 gallon storage tanks for incoming crude oil, two 500-barrel steam stills constructed by Southwestern Engineering Company, enabling the Bradford Oil Refinery to produce a lower end-point gasoline than was possible with the old type condensers and to get more gas from a given quantity of crude (or so they said).
- A new power house, equipped with two Gould’s 6 x 8 triplex pumps and two 6 x 12 pyramid direct driven pumps all driven by motors, power for which was purchased from the Bradford Electric Company.
- A new boiler house, equipped with a 200 horse power Sterling boiler and a 6 x 12 fire pump with a capacity of 750 gallons of water a minute. This was connected to a large reservoir of 10,000 barrels of water to be used in case of fire.

The receiving house (called the jail house by the refinery men) claimed to be the latest in refining technology. Because of the location of the new plant, it was possible to run oil by gravity from nearly all the oil produced within a ten mile radius into the refinery’s tanks. Inside the receiving house, were centrifugal pumps with a capacity of 250 gallons a minute of water for cooling the condensers, and two pumps for pumping hot oil. Connected to the receiving house were 10 tanks of 600 barrel capacity for storing the different products produced.

You’re Invited to Tea with Mrs. Crook

Please join Mrs. Crook (skillfully portrayed by Linda Larson in costume)



for tea and cookies at the Crook Farm farmhouse

476 Seaward Avenue, August 10th, from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

\$7.00 per person.



“Mrs. Crook” will entertain you with stories of life on the farm and serve delightful goodies and treats and pour delicious tea.

Bring your friends, but space is limited.

Please call the Bradford Landmark Society at 362-3906 for reservations.

Win this lovely Wooden Bowl!

Several years ago, one of the magnificent maple trees near the Crook Farm farmhouse had to be taken down. A local wood turner, Jack Northrop of Kane, offered to turn a bowl for the Landmark made of the wood of that tree which was over 100 years old. This year, we are raffling off that beautiful, solid maple bowl. It measures 11” across and approximately 4.5” tall with maple leaves engraved along the sides, and Northrop’s name signed on the bottom.



Tickets are \$1 each, or 6 for \$5, and will be available at the Crook Farm Country Fair and Old Time Music Festival in the Bank building, OR at the Herbig Bakery at 45 East Corydon Street, OR online at our website, www.bradfordlandmark.org. Call us at 814-362-3906 for more information. Wouldn’t you just love this bowl? Buy a ticket! You have to be in it — to win it!

The United States Hotel (aka Star Lunch)

Whether you remember it as the Star Lunch, Charlie’s Pub, or the newer name, the Lighter Side, the little building on the corner of Mechanic and Barbour Street is probably a lot older than you can imagine. It is an indelible part of Bradford history, though, and deserves to be remembered as one of our oldest and continuous businesses.

It was built as early as 1883, during the early oil boom years, and served as a hotel and a restaurant during those exciting years. Back then, it was named the United States Hotel, and was owned, and operated by Patrick Mulqueen. An Irish immigrant, Mulqueen had a talent for the hotel business and ran the United States hotel – successfully - for over 13 years. In 1896, he sold his interest in the United States Hotel to George Crooker, purchased another lot and erected another hotel, the Mansion House, just down the street.

Crooker had been born in Bradford in 1846, the son of D. H. Crooker, proprietor of the first store and hotel in the city. He knew the hotel business well. Crooker did the first remodeling of the old United States Hotel, making extensive improvements, including plastering the interior of the entire second story and tearing down an old wooden building at the rear that had been used as a kitchen. The Industrial Post of 1896, a small newspaper, reported that “*The hotel is now practically a new structure in every respect. It has a large, roomy, and pleasant office, a handsome new bar, a light and commodious dining room, and 16 large, well equipped sleeping rooms.*”

In 1913, Crooker sold the building to A. W. Eygabroat, who in turn sold it the next year to two men, Cleary and Murray. History gets a little fuzzy here, but the building was not longer used as a hotel for by the spring of 1922. C.E. Gunton of the Red Rock Rosery, opened a florist shop here, and in 1929 a small furniture store, the Home Furniture store owned by J.M. Ertz and Arthur Cohen was located here for a short while.

By 1934, though, the United States Hotel building was reborn as the Star Lunch Restaurant, owned by Art Johnson. The name was probably chosen due to its close proximity to the Star Garage which was located next door on Barbour Street. Johnson operated the restaurant until 1944, when two World War II buddies, Gene Rizzuti and Tony Frisina, bought the restaurant when they returned to Bradford, promising “steaks, chops, beer, wine, and liquor”.

By 1947, however, Rizzuti had left for California, and in 1950 Frisina sold out to John Lekas. Lekas and his wife had owned and operated several restaurants in Bradford, including the Old Spain and the Mayflower, and jumped at the chance to own the popular Star Lunch. In 1952, the front was covered by perma-stone and the interior was remodeled again. The grand opening was held on June 19th, 1952.

In 1958, a new banquet room on the second floor designed to accommodate 125 people was opened. A service bar ran the length of the back, with refrigeration, sinks, and cupboards running up to the ceiling. The Lekas family continued to operate the “Star” for many more years.

In 2006, the Star was renovated once again, this time renamed Charlie’s Pub. Today it is under new ownership, and is called The Lighter Side. Just recently, the exterior side facing Barbour Street and the Zippo parking lot was resided, and the old United States Hotel is looking good once again.

This photo dates from August 1909, during the Old Home Week celebration. The bunting was used in many downtown businesses that summer.



Compare the above photo to this one, which was taken just a week ago.





The Inkwell

45 East Corydon Street, Bradford, PA 16701

814-362-3906

December 2013

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The Bradford
Landmark Society
is a
501c3 non-profit
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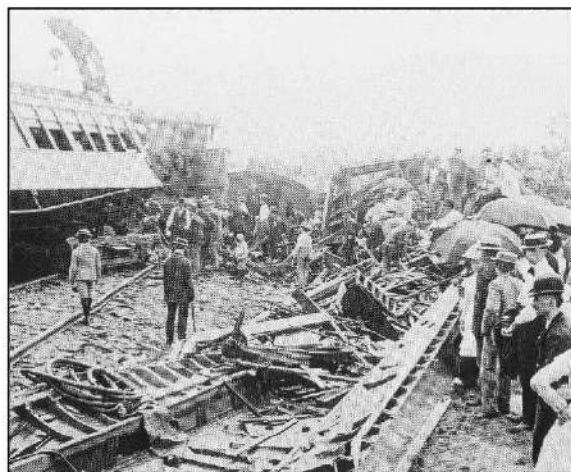
Membership in our
society is welcomed.

It's been a great year for the Landmark Society. The Crook Farm has been undergoing some needed restoration and repair, the Herbig Bakery continues to educate people on the history of the city; the Crook Farm School Program was a success, and who could forget the annual Crook Farm Country Fair! Always a great time at the end of August. And the weather was wonderful. Because the success of the fair depends heavily on sunny weather, we all did a little "anti-rain" dance for weeks ahead of time. And it worked!

We also took a survey this year at the entrances to the fair, to determine exactly where most of the fair visitors come from, and were surprised to find that many of them come from the Buffalo/New York State area; and a good amount come from very far away. We believe that these "far away" visitors (from Arizona, California, Oregon, etc.) were visiting with family in the area, and came to the Fair as part of a family outing. What a great idea! If you have any visitors next summer, bring them along,

The Landmark wrote another book! Its called "Death By Train" and if you know any train buffs, or anyone interested in local history, or anyone who just likes to read interesting articles; this is the book for you. Its compiled from the actual newspaper reports that were printed in the local newspapers, from 1879 to 1927. Bad grammar, "politically incorrect" wording, odd spelling, etc. Here are a few chapter headings (there are nearly 100 chapters) in the new book:

Six Men Blown to Eternity
A Shroud of Flame
Hurled Into Eternity
The West Branch Horror
Plunged from a Trestle
Italians Capture a Train
A Narrow Escape
Death's Sudden Summons
Killed by the Cars
He Was Unmindful of Danger
Failed to Hear the Warning Whistle
A Wild Ride to Death
Rushed to Destruction



We also included dozens of photographs of train wrecks that happened throughout the United States.

Inside this Newsletter—an invitation to our Christmas Open House, the Chronology of the Buildings 2013, the new inductees into the National Toy Hall of Fame, and an interesting article on Martha, the last surviving Passenger Pigeon, who died in 1914.

Announcing the publication of the Bradford Landmark Society's latest book, "Death by Train"

Now available at the Herbig Bakery at 45 East Corydon Street, the Main Street Mercantile, or on-line at www.bradfordlandmark.org.

Cost is \$22 plus shipping if ordered online.

Call 814-362-3906 for more information.

Death By Train

Horrifying yet True Stories
of Train Wrecks and Accidents
1879-1927

from *The Bradford Era*
and Other Local Newspapers



The Bradford Landmark Society
Bradford, PA

Train travel could definitely be dangerous, not only to the passengers, but also to the men that worked on the railroad the engineers, brakemen, firemen, and conductors.

People were frequently killed by trains, often by merely not paying enough attention to oncoming trains as they walked on the tracks, tripping at an unfortunate moment, or simply by being aboard when the train derailed or crashed. Trainmen were often "crushed between the cars" as they went about their daily jobs, slipped under the wheels, or jumped from the locomotives when control was lost.

Newspaper reporters delighted in describing such accidents in the most descriptive wording possible (it sold more papers that way!) and the Bradford Landmark Society has complied nearly 100 of these articles, presented exactly as written in the various newspapers when they occurred.

Stories include the famous 1883 wreck of the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railroad, described as "a carnival of death"; the 1884 B. B. & K. "runaway train on a track of fire", and the 1917 "Death Harvest at a R. R. Crossing." Learn what happened to the famous monorail, the Peg Leg Railway; the circumstances behind a peculiar accident; the first recorded incident of a train hitting an automobile in 1915, and dozens of others, each a fascinating look at the dangers of traveling by rail.

You're Invited!
to the Bradford Landmark Society's Annual

Christmas Open House

Friday, December 13, 11 AM to 4PM

At the old Herbig Bakery at 45 East Corydon St.

Stop in and have some cookies, candy, cocoa, or coffee. Look at our new book, "Death by Train" and other gifts for Christmas giving. Working on your family history? Tell us how you're doing! Have an interesting story? We love stories about Bradford's history. Thinking about decorating your house with photographs from Bradford's past? We can help you pick some out. Or just stop by and sit awhile. It's Christmas! Time for friends, fun, and food.

Chronology of the Buildings and Businesses

Once again, at the end of each year, we try to list the businesses in Bradford that have opened, moved, closed, changed owners or names, or simply vanished out of business. We know that we don't catch all of them, but try our best to keep track of things during the year.

It's all history in the making!

- Great Lakes Home Health Care Service at 195 East Main Street changed its name to MedCare Equipment Company in early January.
- Liberty Tax Service opened at 30 Davis Street in February.
- Ameriprise Financial Services expanded at the Union Square Plaza in early February
- Morrisroe Services moved to 311 High Street in February.
- J. C. Penney Catalog Store (inside Cavallaro's Paint and Decorating store) on Kennedy Street was closed in February.
- Dallas-Morris moved its home office back to 103 South Kendall Avenue.
- Rehabilitation Today moved to 550 Chestnut Street in March.
- Wood Chiropractic opened at 15 Barbour Street, in the former Bradford Print Shop building in early spring.
- Moments to Remember opened on Kennedy Street (and soon will move to 60 Main Street).
- Roseart Company moved "back home" to its original location at 12 Lincoln Avenue in July.
- Clearfield Wholesale Paper opened at 44 Main Street in July.
- The Sweet Spot on Main Street opened, selling balloons, candy, and novelty items and closed almost as quickly a few months later.
- Angel Kiddies, a children's clothing store, moved in April into 24 Pine Street, the site of the Bradford hospital auxiliary SACKS Resale store, which closed in the spring.
- Steve Cavallaro opened the "How Ya Brewing" store featuring beer making supplies and equipment, at 12 Kennedy Street.
- Main Street Fitness moved from 80 Main Street to Eldred in August.
- Wrights Music Shed moved from 26 Davis Street to 80 Main Street in September.
- A new Mexican restaurant, La Mixteca, opened in November at 109 Main Street at the site of the former Tortuga Restaurant (and before that, La Herradura Mexican restaurant).
- Sehman Tire Service at 11 East Corydon Street closed in November.
- Colligan Real Estate at 7 Main Street was sold and renamed Chosen Acres in November.
- Bradford Chiropractic Center at 119 Main Street closed this summer.
- Jennifer McMillan, State Farm Insurance, is renovating the building at 1006 East Main Street and will move her business there shortly.

- The old Bates building on Main Street underwent a facelift with a new coat of paint this summer.
- The Lighter Side bar at 18 Mechanic Street got “fixed up” with new doors and new green siding this summer.
- The former AAA building, and State Farm Insurance Agency building on Congress Street was newly sided this summer as well.

We are sure that there are others that we have missed (and we apologize), and wish you success in 2014!

And in another type of Chronology, what happened 100 years ago, in 1914?

- Jan 7th - 1st steamboat passes through Panama Canal
- Jan 14th - Henry Ford introduces an assembly line for Model T Fords
- Feb 12th - In Washington, DC, the first stone of the Lincoln Memorial is put into place.
- Mar 27th - 1st successful blood transfusion (in Brussels)
- Apr 9th - 1st full color film shown "World, Flesh & Devil" (shown in London).
- Apr 22nd - Babe Ruth's 1st professional game (as a pitcher) is a 6-hit 6-0 win.
- May 8th - Paramount Pictures is formed.
- May 9th - President Wilson proclaims Mother's Day
- May 21st - Greyhound Bus Co begins in Minnesota
- June 2nd - Glenn Curtiss flies his Langley Aerodrome
- Jun 28th - Franz Ferdinand, Archduke of Austria and his wife Sophie are assassinated in Sarajevo by young Serbian nationalist Gavrilo Princip at 10.45, the cause of World War I.
- Jun 30th - Mahatma Gandhi's 1st arrest, campaigning for Indian rights in South Africa
- Jul 17th - Giants outfielder Red Murray is knocked unconscious by lightning after catching a flyball, ending 21 inning game, Giants win 3-1
- Jul 29th - 1st transcontinental phone link made between New York City & San Francisco.
- Aug 5th - 1st traffic light installed (Euclid Ave & E 105th St, Cleveland)
- Aug 11th - John Wray patents animation
- Aug 15th - A male servant of American architect Frank Lloyd Wright sets fire to the living quarters of the architect's Wisconsin home, Taliesin, murders seven people and burns the living quarters to the ground.
- Oct 19th - US post office 1st used an automobile to collect & deliver mail
- Nov 20th - US State Department starts requiring photographs for passports
- Dec 12th - The largest one-day percentage drop in the history of Dow Jones Industrial Average, down 24.39%.

What will happen in 2014?

The Last One—or is it?

Next September—September 1, 2014, to be exact—marks the 100th anniversary of the death of the last Passenger Pigeon in the world. Martha, age 29, died in captivity in the Cincinnati Zoo in 1914.

Now, thanks to DNA and the possibility of cloning, the passenger pigeon may return in a what scientists are calling “de-extinction.” There are over 1500 specimens of the passenger pigeon in various museums around the United States—and DNA from these may provide the basis of recreating the famous bird.

Everyone knows the story of the passenger pigeon.

In 1914, the news of the death of the last passenger pigeon made the *Bradford Era*, which wrote “the death of Martha, according to all ornithological record is of great importance in the eyes of naturalists as the death of a Kaiser to Germans throughout the world. Martha had been in ill health for several years in her cage at the Zoological Garden in Cincinnati. Many efforts had been made to find a mate for her, or to discover some other specimen of the wild pigeon, but they were without avail. According to all ornithological data available, Martha was the last of her tribe in the world.”

What did a passenger pigeon look like? Well, it was larger than the common Mourning Dove, which can be seen frequently in the Bradford area, had a small head and neck, long and wedge-shaped tail, and long, broad, and pointed wings.

The Passenger Pigeon was an excellent flyer, and is estimated to have averaged 62 mph during migration. At roosting sites the Passenger Pigeons packed so densely on branches that even thick ones often broke under their collective weight.

And of course, there were so many of them. It has been said that, at the peak of their population of three to five billion birds, the Passenger Pigeon may have been the most numerous bird on Earth which makes its extinction even more remarkable. John James Audubon described one flock he encountered with the words:

“I dismounted, seated myself on an eminence, and began to mark with my pencil, making a dot for every flock that passed. In a short time, finding the task which I had undertaken impracticable as the birds poured in in countless multitudes, I rose, and counting the dots then put down, found that 163 had been made in twenty-one minutes. I traveled on, and still met more the farther I proceeded. The air was literally filled with Pigeons; the light of noon-day was obscured as by an eclipse; the dung fell in spots, not unlike melting flakes of snow; and the continued buzz of wings had a tendency to lull my senses to repose... Before sunset I reached Louisville, distance from Hardensburgh fifty-five miles. The Pigeons were still passing in undiminished numbers, and continued to do so for three days in succession.”



Martha's body was frozen into a block of ice and sent to the Smithsonian Institution, where it was skinned, dissected, photographed and mounted. Currently, Martha is in the museum's archived collection and not on display. A memorial statue of Martha stands on the grounds of the Cincinnati Zoo.

While it was no surprise that the bird was being hunted to extinction, conservationists were ineffective in stopping the slaughter. By the mid-1890s, the Passenger Pigeon almost completely disappeared. A bill was passed in the Michigan legislature making it illegal to net pigeons within two miles of a nesting area, but the law was weakly enforced. . In 1897, a bill was introduced in the Michigan legislature asking for a 10-year closed season on Passenger Pigeons. This was a futile gesture. Similar legal measures were passed and disregarded in Pennsylvania as well.

By the end of the 19th century, the birds were rare; the last confirmed sighting of a wild passenger pigeon was in 1900. (Although the sighting of a pair of Passenger Pigeons in Olean in 1928 - unverified - was reported in the local newspapers) This article is from the Smithsonian:

“One of the last authenticated records of the capture of a wild bird was at Sargents, Pike County, Ohio, on 24 March 1900. Only a few birds still survived in captivity at this time. Concerted searches were made and rewards offered for the capture of wild passenger pigeons. From 1909 to 1912, the American Ornithologists' Union offered \$1,500 to anyone finding a nest or nesting colony of passenger pigeons, but these efforts were futile. Never again would man witness the magnificent spring and fall migratory flights of this swift and graceful bird.

Attempts to save the species by breeding the surviving captive birds were not successful. The passenger pigeon was a colonial and gregarious bird and needed large numbers for optimum breeding conditions. It was not possible to reestablish the species with a few captive birds. The small captive flocks weakened and died.

The death of Martha, the last surviving pigeon (named for Martha Washington) made world wide news.

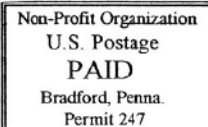
"Martha" was on display in the Bird Hall in the 1920s through the early 1950s, and in the Birds of the World exhibit that ran from 1956 until 1999. She has left the Smithsonian Institution twice since arriving here. In 1966 she was displayed in San Diego at the San Diego Zoological Society's Golden Jubilee Conservation Conference. In June 1974 she returned to the Cincinnati Zoological Gardens for the dedication of a new building named in her honor. Both times she was flown first class, with an airline flight attendant escorting her for the entire trip.



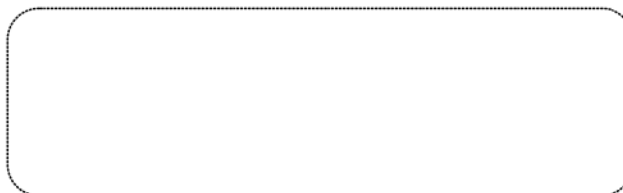
A depiction of a flock of passenger pigeons, being hunted, 1875. In our region, the largest flock of Passenger Pigeons seen was in Elk County in the late 1860s.

Bradford Landmark Society

45 East Corydon Street
Bradford, PA 16701



Return Service Requested



2013 Toys in the National Toy Hall of Fame

Each year, in the last newsletter, we also list those toys that have been newly inducted into the Toy Hall of Fame in Rochester, NY. Maybe it's the child in all of us, but it is heart warming to see that many of the toys we played with as children are considered "classic". This year is no different. The winners of 2013 are:

The Rubber Duck!

Chess!

Chess is one of the world's oldest games. Playing chess well involves both strategy—planning for long-term advantage over the opponent—and tactics—short-term moves. Smart players employ both methods to win. Experts agree that chess masters tend to rely on hundreds of patterns memorized through extensive practice. However chess also helps develop intelligence in average players. - Rochester Hall of Fame site

Rubber toys first appeared in the late 1800s, when manufacturers made use of Charles Goodyear's process for rendering rubber into malleable material. The first **rubber ducks** didn't even float: they were cast solid and intended as chew toys. Rubber ducks naturally inspire water play that develops muscle strength and coordination. With their bright color, smooth texture, and (for some) squeaky or quacky sounds, rubber ducks sharpen toddlers' senses. Their presence in the bathtub soothes youngsters' fears of water and water immersion and makes good clean fun of the routine hygiene they're learning. - Rochester Hall of Fame site

Regrets to the other nominees who were not chosen: Bubbles, the game of Clue, Fisher Price little people, Magic 8 Ball, little green army men, Nerf toys, My Little Pony, Scooter, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, and Pac-Man.

Better luck next year, toys!