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<https://theheritagevillage.org/pa-heritage-festival> contact us: [heritagevillage231@gmail.com](mailto:heritagevillage231@gmail.com)

## BCHA Party Line Volume 14 Issue 3 March 2024

### *Upcoming Events*

#### Junction Canal, 1858 - 1871

Power Point Presentation by Mary Ellen & Ron Kunst  
Sometimes called Arnot's Canal, it was 18 miles long with 11 locks. Work began in 1853.

Originally designed to move coal and produce to the Erie Canal by way of the Susquehanna and Chemung Rivers.

**Saturday April 20, 2024 1PM**  
Museum, Free Admission to the program



Maple Festival—April 27 & 28 10AM-4PM, visit the Carriage House, Children's Church, Sugar House and main museum as part of your Maple Festival ticket.

The 2024 Museum Guide is at the Printers, Thank you to the many businesses who placed an ad and 'Friends of the Museum' folks. The Guide will focus on Silos of Bradford County.

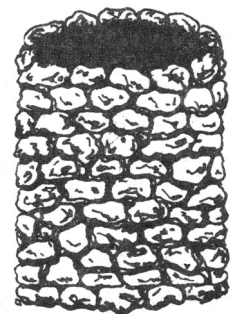
#### HISTORY OF THE SILO

##### 1. Origin & Early History

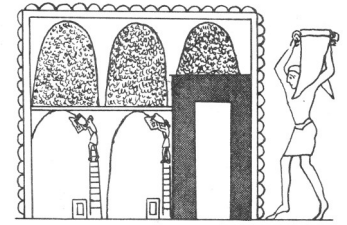
The dawning of civilization was characterized by the development of farming practices around 10,000 B.C. By 3,500 B.C. the domestication of sheep and cattle had occurred, as well as the domestication of rice, barley, wheat, and corn. This required the development of a means of storing grains for food supplies and for future crops. Evidence of the use of pottery and underground pits for storing grain has been discovered by archeological excavation.

The Syro-Palestinian excavations in the late 1960's discovered several complete Philistine housing complexes with threshing floors and circular stone grain storage structures lined with the earliest known plaster. These structures dated to 1850 to 1750 B.C.

Historical records indicate that bean and other leguminous grain preservation were utilized during the time of King Pyrrhus (318 to 272 B.C.). Caverns in Greece were used and records reveal that some grains were discovered in a good state of preservation after being stored for about two hundred and twenty years.



The early Egyptians developed a system of grain storage that consisted of separate storage buildings housing rooms containing masonry structures. These structures had vaulted roofs and were filled through a hole near the top. The grain was later removed from a door at the base of the structure.



The Roman scholar Varro (116-27 B.C.), in his travelogue of his journeys through Carthage, Thrace, and Spain, described the use of the pits for storing food supplies. Varro stated that pits were dug in dry soil, lined with chaff or stubble, and filled with grain or millet. He claimed that grain could be stored successfully for fifty years and millet for a hundred years.

During this same period of history, Julius Caesar utilized the Teutonic practice of cabbage preservation. As he marched through Gaul, Caesar stored peas, beans, clover, cabbage, and other green crops in pits, six to ten feet deep, which were lined and covered with stones. The location of these pits were marked and recorded for use on the return journey. A year later, the pits were opened and provided food for the Roman soldiers and their horses. These pits, unlike field crops, were not easily discovered by the conquered Teutonic tribes. When Pliny (23-79 A.D.) compiled Natural History, he referred to Varro's writings and recorded the observations of his own travels. He observed, in the countries now known as Turkey and Greece, corn was harvested with mowing machines worked by cattle and preserved in trenches called "siros". It should be noted that Romans referred to grains in general as "corn". When stored unthreshed, the grain was referred to as stored "in the ear". Pliny states that particular care was taken to dig the siros in dry soil. A layer of chaff was placed in the bottom and then the trench was filled with corn, which was always stored in the ear. They believed that if no air was allowed to penetrate to the corn, no noxious insects could breed in it and it would be preserved in perfect condition.

In Latin, the word "sirus" or "syrus" denotes a kind of cave, well, or pit, sunk in the ground for storing grain and other products. In Spanish, French, and Italian, the word "silo" is used. In Spanish, the verb "ensilar" is used to signify putting corn in a crib to preserve it. (to be continued)



The Collections committee has completed the cataloguing of the 'on display' toy artifacts. Among the items are Tinker Toys.

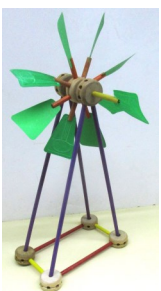
**Tinkertoy** was invented in the early 1910s by Charles Pajeau, a stonemason from Evanston, Illinois, and his partner Robert Petit. They were inspired by watching children create abstract shapes using sticks, pencils, and old spools of thread. To create Tinkertoy, they added holes on all sides of a round wooden wheel and included specially sized sticks in the set. Charles formed the Toy Tinker Toy Company to manufacture the toy and a construction set was designed in 1914



The cornerstone of the set is a wooden spool roughly 1.4 inches (3.6 cm) in diameter, with holes drilled every 45 degrees around the perimeter and one through the center. Unlike the center, the perimeter holes do not go all the way through. With the differing-length sticks, the set was intended to be based on the Pythagorean progressive right triangle.

The sets were introduced to the public through displays in and around Chicago which included model Ferris wheels. Tinker Toys have been used to construct complex machines, including Danny Hillis's tic-tac-toe-playing computer (now in the collection of the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, California) and a robot at Cornell University in 1998.

One of Tinkertoy's distinctive features is the toy's packaging. Initially, the mailing tube design was chosen to reduce shipping costs. Early versions of the packaging included an address label on the tube with space for postage. To assist buyers in differentiating between the various offerings, sets were placed in mail tube packages of different sizes and also delineated with a number (e.g.: 116, 136) and a name (e.g.: major, prep, big boy, junior, grad). A colorful "how-to" instruction guide accompanied each set. In the 1950s, color was added and the wooden sticks appeared in red, green, blue, and peach.



Tinker Toys were inducted into the National Toy Hall of Fame at The Strong in Rochester, New York, in 1998. Hasbro bought the Tinkertoy brand and currently produces both Tinkertoy Plastic and Tinkertoy Classic (wood) sets and parts. The US rights are now owned by Basic Fun!. Wikipedia Eileen Deuschle created this windmill for the display.





2024-0075

**“The Game of the District Messenger Boy”.**

This vintage board game, published by McLoughlin Brothers in **1886**, offers a glimpse into the past and reflects societal values of that era. The object of this game was to see who would become first to become the President of the Telegraph Co.

Using a spinner, you moved your game piece through the board spaces which included: opportunities for advancement as well as penalties for ‘laziness’

The box and playing board was made of very sturdy cardboard .



2024-0075  
Tos, J. Schell



2024-0075



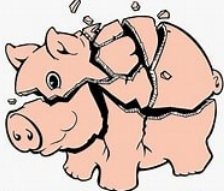
Our Tuesday work crew has completed a variety of projects. Silo door, plumbing, cleaning, repairs,

Metal Game pieces and detachable spinner.



Students participating in the Serve Inc. program weave grape vine into the wattle fence of the Three Sisters Garden. Thankyou Dave Page for the donation of grape vine.

## Did You Know-

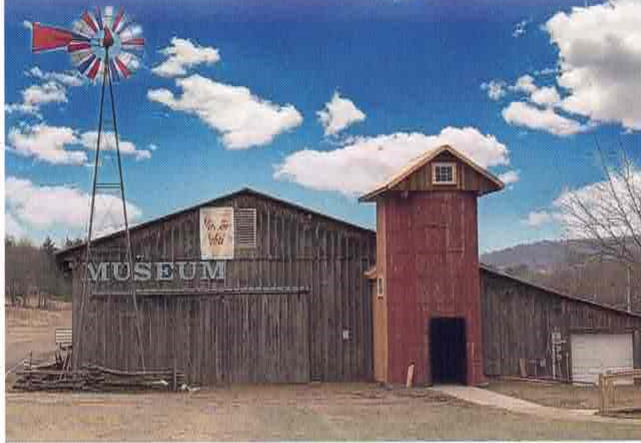


To ‘Break the Bank’ refers to the act of using up all of one’s resources or exceeding one’s budget. It is believed to have originated from the game of craps, in which a player can win all of the money in the “Bank” at the craps table by rolling a certain combination of dice. Some sources suggest that the phrase may have originated as early as 1600, when gamblers won more money than the house (bank) could afford to pay, or in 1873, when a roulette player won \$350,000 (an enormous sum for the day) at Monte Carlo. (Why Do We Say That?)

Break The Bank



# 2024 SILOS OF BRADFORD COUNTY



## HERITAGE VILLAGE & FARM MUSEUM

TROY, PENNSYLVANIA

DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE HERITAGE OF BRADFORD COUNTY

Managed by The Bradford County Heritage Association

**MUSEUM OPEN  
MAY-OCTOBER  
TUES & SAT 11AM - 3PM**


*Admission Fee Charged to Enter Museum*

**HERITAGE FESTIVAL  
SEPT. 21 & 22, 2024**

Alparon Park, 231 Gate 2 Lane  
TROY, PENNSYLVANIA

Located a half mile north of the intersection of Routes 6 & 14 in Troy, PA.  
Visitors should enter Alparon Park Gate 2.

570-297-3410 • heritagevillage231@gmail.com

www.theheritagevillage.org  @TheHeritageVillage

Funded in part by The Bradford County Room Tax Grant. Only Service Dogs allowed on the grounds.

\*All pictures shown are for illustration purpose only.

**SEE OTHER SIDE**



**Group  
Tours  
Available**



Check out our newest exhibit of this 20th-century wooden silo donated by Pauline Swingle.

Then proceed through 10 buildings, representing the bygone eras of yesteryear in the Heritage Village!

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**SEE OTHER SIDE**



Farm Days 1866 is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday May 13 & 14. 9AM-2PM. We are expecting over 800 4th grade students over the 2 days. Volunteers and financial sponsors are welcome. Contact Barb Barrett bbarrett362@comcast.net 570-786-9482

### 2024 BCHA Board of Directors

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