



PO Box 265 Troy PA 16947 / 231 Gate #2 Lane, Alparon Park, Troy PA 570-297-3410
<https://theheritagevillage.org/pa-heritage-festival> contact us: heritagevillage231@gmail.com

BCHA Party Line Volume 13 Issue 7 July 2023

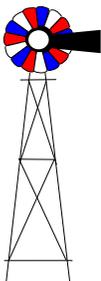
The museum is now open for the season, Tuesdays and Saturdays 11AM-3PM and by appointment.

Troy Town Band Concert & Ice Cream Social

The weather was beautiful. The music the best and the Ice Cream delicious. Thank you to the Band and to the many who came out. Included was a tour of the General Store.



The windmill project is progressing. The concrete foundation is complete and the pieces gathered nearby. Lining up the base and drilling holes for bolts



Thank you Gary Pierce who recently power washed the background, caulked and painted the silhouettes.



Uncovering PA

Jim from web site Uncovering PA visited the museum recently. You can find his coverage of the museum via his web site
<https://uncoveringpa.com/category/history>

Thankyou Bradford County Probation Community Service Volunteers who have helped clean several buildings.



This year is a celebration of our **Country Stores** and are pleased to bring you stories researched and written by Dave Lenington and Chelsea Wagner.

Osborne Store 1906 in Big Pond



Big Pond , By C. R. Wagner

At the turn of the century, Big Pond was the cultural, religious, educational and trading center for its region. There were a number of mills, powered by the water from the big mill pond that flowed into Mill Creek. Hence, Big Pond was originally named Mill City.

The first merchant in Big Pond was Lucius French, who made patent medicines that he sold in his store.

Big Pond also had several special shops including a harness shop, a shop for manufacturing wooden churns, a cooper shop, a creamery and a shoe shop that may have been in conjunction with a hardware store. It also had several blacksmith shops run by William Passage and Norman Varney.

The store that was in operation for the longest time was built about 1898 by Byron Leonard. It was first owned and operated by Orson Roby. In 1906 it was the Osborne Store. The owner for the longest period of time was Willis Soper. In about 1931 Ed and Agnes Hollister bought it. Agnes ran it for a number of years after Ed passed away.

The next owners were LaRue and Madelyn Dunbar Montanye. They sold it to Paul and Mildred Baker Rawald.

In 1945, Bert Smith rented the first floor of the Grange Hall in which to start a hardware store. It was located across the road from Rawald's store. Three years later, he added groceries and two years after that he needed to expand. He and partner Floyd Lee purchased the Rawald Store.

The next owners were Clyde and Esther Lathrop. After several more times changing hands, it was finally purchased by Dilmon and Lola Dunbar, who operated it as a store and then remodeled it into an apartment building. Today it is still in use as an apartment building.

Florence Strobridge Hoose remembers the general store when it was run by her Aunt Agnes Hollister. Florence's mom along with Aunt Agnes used to go down to the "back house" (the outhouse) to sit and gossip just to get away from the men and all the kids. Rightly so, since Florence's aunt had 15 children!

In more recent years, Bonnie Smith remembers the gas pumps at the general store.

"They gave people credit," said Bonnie. "But often they didn't get paid."

Today, Big Pond has seen the changes in transportation, making it more convenient to shop in nearby Elmira and the Sayre/Athens area. Those neighborhood stores and mills have closed. Big Pond no longer even has a post office.

The people have found employment where transportation has been able to take them for better jobs and opportunities. The Grange Hall is now used by the Big Pond Lions.

There may no longer be places in Big Pond for the locals to shop, but it seems that some of the local black bears have been able to "shop" there. One day a few years ago, an 800-pound black bear got into one of those old buildings, opened the freezer on its back porch and had a feast eating the frozen chicken!



Built in 1898 and a general store in Big Pond, it has been remodeled into apartments and still used today.



Smith and Lee Store in Big Pond, From left: Raymond Dubert, Lavern Dunbar, Frank Dunbar and Savill Grace inside the store



Museum volunteers set up hand's on activity at Canton's downtown celebration. The 'Fishing Hole' and "Bessie" Bessie also went to the fair.



A Vogue Ginny doll is a toy model of a girl made by the Vogue Doll Company starting in 1948. Vogue was established in 1922 by Jennie Adler Graves in Somerville, Mass. Ginny dolls were Vogue's most popular dolls and had extensive clothing and accessories. They were made from hard plastic, vinyl, porcelain, and other materials. Vogue created the dolls with jointed bodies and full heads of hair. The company sold Ginny dolls through promotions such as "Dress Me Ginny" and new release parties.

Named after Graves's daughter Virginia. While earlier American dolls for children wore simple clothing, the Vogue Ginny doll was one of the first dolls with separate outfits for purchase.

Vogue broadly advertised Ginny: "Hi! I'm Ginny ... A Vogue doll and the fashion leader in miniature doll society. I have fifty outfits for you to select from Retailers such as Gimbels in New York and White House in San Francisco could not keep enough Ginny dolls and clothes on the shelves in the dolls' heyday of the early 1950s. Ginny doll sales topped \$2 million in 1953, and the highest production year for Ginny was 1957. Vogue made thousands of Ginny dolls and outfits annually during these golden years.

Ginny dolls were marketed at New York and Hollywood Stork Club parties, where celebrities such as Esther Williams, Ronald Reagan, and Jayne Mansfield attended with their daughters. Vogue created a Ginny fan club for the 25% of American girls between ages three and ten who owned a Ginny and opened a Ginny doll hospital run by Vogue Doll Nurses. Vogue produced Ginny dolls for the next several decades as the company changed hands between Tonka, Lesney Products, Meritus Industries, and R. Dakin & Co. Dakin produced Ginny dolls until 1995 when Ginny was sold to the renewed Vogue Doll Company Inc., founded by Suzanne and Linda Smith.

Route 6 Maker's Market



Meet Artisans & Craftspeople at the PA Heritage Festival

Sponsored By:

 PA ROUTE 6 ARTISAN TRAIL

 Endless Mountains Heritage Region
 Hosted by the Heritage Village & Farm Museum in Troy, PA

The PA Route 6 Alliance and the Endless Mountains Heritage Region (EMHR) are pleased to announce their joint effort to host a Maker's Market in conjunction with the *Pennsylvania Heritage Festival*. September 16 & 17

Vendor applications are available on line <https://theheritagevillage.org/pa-heritage-festival/makers-market-registration/>

The public is invited to the next BCHA Board meeting
 Wednesday August 16, 1PM at the Museum

2023 BCHA Board of Directors
 President– Karen Tworsky Vice President– Helen Mickley
 Treasurer– Marie Seymour Secretary– Barbara Barrett
 Deb Lutz, , Walt Wittie, Dale Palmer, Sue Conner. Val Baker, Ralph & Priscilla Knapp, Mike Kelly, Terren Smith, Casey Smith , Roberta Wood

PENNSYLVANIA HERITAGE FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 16 & 17, 2023

SATURDAY 10 A.M. - 5 P.M. & SUNDAY 10 A.M. - 4 P.M.

* FREE ADMISSION - BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY *

CRAFTS, FLEA MARKET,
AND DIRECT SALES

HANDS ON CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

LARGE LOCAL ARTIFACT COLLECTION

Route 6 Maker's Market



Meet Artisans & Craftspeople
at the PA Heritage Festival

Sponsored By:



PA ROUTE 6 ARTISAN TRAIL



Endless Mountains
Heritage Region

Hosted by the
Heritage Village
& Farm Museum
of Troy, PA



Living History
Demonstrations



Civil War Reenactments,
Encampment & more!

**FREE
ADMISSION
TO FESTIVAL!**

**WHILE YOU'RE AT THE FESTIVAL
ENJOY THE HERITAGE VILLAGE**

Museum Open May-Oct. • Tues & Sat 11am - 3pm
Admission Fee Charged To Enter Museum

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.

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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.



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Volunteers, Demonstrators, Maker's Market, Direct Sales, Flea Market Vendors,
Non-Profits promoting their mission,

For more information contact Barbara Barrett bbarrett362@comcast.net

309 W Keller St. Lock Haven PA 17745

You are
Invited!