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<https://theheritagevillage.org/pa-heritage-festival> contact us: heritagevillage231@gmail.com

BCHA Party Line Volume 14 Issue 9 September 2024

September was a whirlwind of activity as we got ready for the *Pennsylvania Heritage Festival* setting up the event, the event held with beautiful weather, tearing down and putting everything away. Our Thanks to everyone who supported the Festival. Finishing the Gregory Inn project, painting, tending to landscaping issues. Howard Energy employees: Eli Rice,

Bill Bingman, Ryan Ball and Josh Cole, participated in a United Way 'Day of Caring', spending 2 days building shelving in the Inn garage. This project also included adding a closet accessible from the Inn back porch.

A welcome addition for storage of Inn program items.



The belfry got a new coat of paint and metal shingles. Thanks to Michael Putnam of Troy Granit for sandblasting the bell. Repainted by Dale Palmer. The bell can now be rung.



Downsizing the Herb Garden— Marie Seymour, Deb Lutz, and Vivienne Slear. Thanks to Cummings Lumber for a delivery of mulch and to Chesapeake Energy employees for spreading the mulch. The Friendship and Dye Gardens also got attention by the Heritage Garden Club



The back porch of the Inn was power washed, the Inn wall, doors and window frames painted. windows washed, one window replaced. The railing got a coat of clear finish. The sitting bench was painted and electric wiring updated. Yet to do set - up the back porch exhibit.




Two Carved Stone horse hitching posts donated by Terry & Deb Lutz were installed by Mike Kelly and Dale Palmer. One at the north end of the Inn porch and one in front of the Barber Shop.

Thanks to Alparon Park for the use of heavy equipment for our many projects



Sue Ann Barrett, Marie Seymour Power Washing the Carriage House

The Pennsylvania Heritage Festival would not be possible without the many volunteers. Planning, preparation, the event itself and cleaning up. Chesapeake Energy employees Jeremiah Chilson, Jake Horton, Tom Vitella, Dalton Donnelly, Dylan Russell, Jim Wood, Josh Fents and Jerry Ogden, again assisted us in putting up the three 20x40 foot tents. Another United Way 'Day of Caring' project.

 **Volunteers- The Heart of the Museum, programs and events**



BCHA Party Line September 2024



Ken Ely returned to demonstrate his stone wall building skills. Begun last year but rained out, Ken finished this fine example.

Ken Ely specializes in fieldstone wall design, construction, and restoration.

2024 Pennsylvania Heritage, Press Release by Sarah Caudill
(edits by Barbara Barrett, to include additional information for clarification)

A Look at the Pennsylvania Heritage Festival from the People

Hello, my name is Sarah Caudill, an 8th grade student at Troy High School, volunteering at the Pennsylvania Heritage Festival held annually the 3rd full weekend in September. This event as well as the 'Farm Days 1866' educational program for area 4th grade students, offers students a site/opportunity to complete our 'Community Service Requirement'.

Each of us is given a role/assignment for the day: welcoming visitors into one of the buildings in the Heritage Village, assisting a demonstrator, helping in the Food Booth, taking photographs, helping vendors with set up and tear down, helping museum volunteers with last minute chores, assisting in putting everything away at the end of the event.

Students gain valuable life experiences- public speaking, leadership, accepting responsibility, interactions with folks of all ages, as well as an education via 'Living History' which is the focus of this event.



My assignment was to interview folks and write an article. I first met Craig and Mary Ellen Shedd who have been here before, but not since Covid in 2019. They especially love the antique tractors, the sleighs in the Carriage House and learning about the different styles.

Another favorite is the Civil War's exhibits. Both Graig and Mary Ellen 'highly recommend coming to this event, check it out and look around'.

Next, I interviewed Chelsea Wagner, a museum volunteer in the Thomas One Room School. She started with a story about a boy named Charlie. When Charlie was 11 or 12, he decided he wanted to start a Children's Church. He took an old chicken coop and cleaned it out to create a small church. Then began asking people for chairs. He became Pastor of this Church through high school until entering the Service. (WWII). Upon his return he became a teacher.

He continued to maintain the church building and keep it beautiful. Chelsea found out the 'Charlie' she worked with as a teacher was this 'Charlie'. Chelsea remembers him as a wonderful, kind man.

Chelsea also said volunteers are needed to maintain our history presentations.

So, thankyou Chelsea for your wonderful story! Keep, telling it.

The Children's Church can be visited here at the Heritage Village and Farm Museum.

Next, we have Ralph Knapp, who has volunteered since 1991. When asked what he does at the museum, Chelsea said "What doesn't he do?" and you know what, that statement is so true. Ralph helps maintain the buildings, identifies artifacts, and gives tours. When asked why he enjoys the Heritage Festival he said "I enjoy what I am doing and it is fun to volunteer". He knows so much about this because most of it was in use when he was a kid.

Ralph said he would "like to see more volunteers, they don't know what they are missing", and Ralph is right the Pennsylvania Heritage Festival is amazing.



Pennsylvania Heritage Festival

Thank you to our event financial sponsors: Bradford County Tourism Bureau Room Tax Grant; Mountain Lake Electric and Construction; Grange Mutual Fire Insurance; Penn Troy Manufacturing; Troy Chamber of Commerce; Chemung Canal Trust; Roger-Osgood-Reuter; Wm and Beverly Smith; Ralph Wilston.

In- Kind donations– Northern Tier Solid Waste, Smith Refrigeration, Millers Maze, Joan & Loren Roy, Gardiner’s Orchard, Alparon Park, Robert & Donna VanBlarcom. First Citizens Bank, Gillett, Deb Lutz, Ralph Wilston, BCHA Board Members



The Troy Fine Arts Council Exhibit

Upcoming Events



Troy High School 8th grade student volunteer James Smith demonstrates how to prime and use a hand water pump. Jackson Knerr showed visitors how to grind corn. Students: Zoey Sheridan, Leah Barkely, Gracie Brown, Lydia Wolf, Lucas Newton, Shelly Bing, Sara VanNoy, Sadie Comfort, Malcolm Mulvaney

Basket Weaving Workshop

By Jo Page

Tuesday Oct 8, 2024 or Saturday Oct 26, 2024 11AM-3PM

In the community area of the main museum

Cost \$38, class limit 8,

Reservations - call Barb Barrett

570-786-9482

bbarrett362@comcast.net

Checks to be made out to B.C.H.A



Museum Food Booth at Miller’s Maze
931 Sopertown Rd. Columbia Cross Roads, Pa
Friday Oct 4 & Sat Oct 5

A project spearheaded by Chelsea Wagner and Marie Seymour and finished in time for the Pennsylvania Heritage Festival.

The “Ye Olde Library” is currently a work in progress. Formerly a ticket booth, the volunteers at the Heritage Village and Farm Museum have transformed it into a small free library for the community. It will be open year-round, with books available for all ages. Come take a book; leave a book. Enjoy!



The public is invited to the next BCHA Board meeting
Wednesday October 16, 6PM at the Museum
As in recent years the Annual meeting will be conducted via US Postal mail.