



The Bradford County Heritage Association Heritage Village and Farm Museum

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BCHA Party Line Volume 12 Issue 9 September 2022

Pennsylvania Heritage Festival

The *Pennsylvania Heritage Festival*, a 'Living History' family oriented event offered something for everyone. The Museum and Heritage Village buildings were open with exhibits, demonstrations and tour guides. Hands-on activities and a touch of fall, food and music.

Held September 17 & 18 on a beautiful fall weekend the event celebrated the 200th Anniversary of the Gregory Inn a.k.a. the Mitchell house.

Through the years, it's been known by many names, most recently, local folks know it as 'The Mitchell house', but it started as an Inn for stagecoach travelers.

1821– Purchased by Dr. Alfred Parson, he named his farm Alparon. He continued his medical practice into the 1850's when the railroad became a problem, noisy, dirty, flying sparks. He moved his practice to Troy and the house became a tenant house. His son John retained the home and 2 acres leasing 66 acres of farm land to the newly formed Alparon Park Assoc. to be used as a community park and the Troy Fair moved to this site in 1882.

The property passed through a series of owners: the last to be Harry (Budd) and Florence Mitchell. The Bradford County Heritage Association purchased the property in 1995, and it provides the cornerstone of the Heritage Village.



Perhaps you had a chance to stop in and visit with Nathaniel Mitchell, son of Budd and Florence. He shared stories from his youth and life in this beautiful old building. Learned about the underground Railroad, a presentation by Val Baker, or have your picture taken sitting in the stagecoach, tour the Inn and learn its history



The Native American Exhibit's related programs included: *Susquehanna Jack*, the storytelling persona of John L. Moore, a Northumberland writer whose specialty lies in telling true stories about real people who lived on the Pennsylvania frontier. This period of history roughly spans the years of 1600 to 1800. John told stories about the Three-sisters Garden and Frances Solcum.



Rich Gulyas and Terry Lutz explained Indian artifacts and their use, furs and a cordage demonstration



The Three Sisters Garden explained by Carolyn Weathers, Megan Rought and Nancy Menio, Master Gardner,

Mason Smith and Raevyn Callian learn how to make Dream Catchers from Chelsea Wagner

"The Escape of the Girls from Penns Creek," Puppet Show by Patchwork Gen2 .

Tiffany Clark, Ben Cook and Linda MacAlusan



Pennsylvania Heritage Festival is an all volunteer endeavor to bring to the community an educational, family oriented event, demonstrate 'Living History' and pursue the Heritage Village and Farm Museum's mission to 'educate and preserve our agricultural heritage.'

The museum has no paid employees and relies on the enthusiasm and willingness of dedicated volunteers. The success of the PA Heritage Festival is an excellent example.

A tremendous amount of planning by the Festival Committee, coupled with volunteers who provide the demonstrations of yesterday's skills and exhibits. Village building guides, Civil War Encampment, craft, direct sales, non-profit organizations flea market vendors. A week of set up, which included the assistance of Chesapeake Energy employees, the event and clean up require much physical labor.

Twenty-five High school student volunteers helped in a variety of roles. Assisting a volunteer, hands-on activity stations, food booth and building monitors.

We are thankful for all willing to help in so many ways.

Thank you to folks who posted on Face Book, coverage in the Towanda Daily Review, Sayre Morning Times, The Canton Independent Sentinel and Wyalusing Rocket.

To [Troy Home Page | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/troyhomepage), <https://www.facebook.com/troyhomepage>

And [Volunteers mark 200th anniversary of historic Inn | WVIA \(wvianews.org\)](http://www.wvianews.org)

The September issue of the Bradford County Living magazine featured two articles by C.R. Wagner 'The Longest and Youngest at the Museum' and 'Bradford Co. Buildings Celebrating Centuries'. Happening's Magazine fall issue highlighted the Festival.

B.C.H.A. Annual Meeting— Conducted by US Mail in 2020 & 2021 due to Covid, will again be conducted by mail in 2022. This option was approved by the membership via ballot in 2021. Correspondence will be sent in October.



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2022 Pennsylvania Heritage Festival
Financial Sponsors

Bradford County Room Tax Grant/ Tourist Promotion

Penn-Troy Manufacturing, Mountain Lake Electric

Chemung Canal Trust, Troy Lions Club

Troy Chamber of Commerce, UGI Utilities

Grange Mutual Insurance,

BCHA Board Members



Ben Kopeton tries his hand at Jeff Deutschle's hand operated wood lathe

Photo- Canton Independent Sentential

Ben Deutschle using a froe to create wood shingles

Vicki VanNoy at the Broom Sweeping Contest

Marty Roloson checking the temp of the maple Sugar



Join us at Miller's Corn Maze Saturday & Sunday
October 1 & 2, 2022 931 Sopertown Rd Columbia Cross Roads PA
Food Booth, hands-on Activities



Tuesday's work crew are putting the finishing touches on the Walkway/Ramp/ Porch project to date



2022 BCHA Board of Directors

- President- Karen Tworsky
- Vice President- Helen Mickley
- Treasurer- Marie Seymour
- Secretary- Barbara Barrett
- Deb Lutz, Bonnie & Gary Pierce, Walt Wittie, Dale Palmer, Sue Conner.
- Ralph & Priscilla Knapp, Mike Kelly, Terren Smith, Val Baker,

The public is invited to the next regular BCHA Board meeting
Wednesday Oct 19, 2022
1PM at the Museum