

## Group continues efforts

The Coplay kilns got special consideration during the two-day Coplay Community Days event.

Lou Jany and Annie Prince manned a booth touting the historical significance of the cement kilns both nationally and locally.

Jany serves as president of the Saylor Cement Kilns Preservation Society. He also works for Essroc as a quality control manager, so he knows the importance of the cement industry to the region. Without it, many of these communities would have never existed.

"This is where the cement industry started," he said.

He wanted to preserve that

history, and needed to do so quickly because Lehigh County planned to tear down the kilns.

So far their group has raised enough money to restore four of the kilns. They'll need to raise another \$500,000 to complete the job, he said.

In their booth they had a number of unique items for sale, including picture sets, ceramic tiles, and decorative, hand-painted spoons.

Jany is optimistic they can achieve their goal.

"It's all working together very well," he said.

Anyone wishing to help can visit their Web site at [www.saylorcementkilns.org](http://www.saylorcementkilns.org) or contact the preservation society at 610-262-6088.