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My Grandfather passed away a few years ago. He left me some inheritance to put toward what I pleased. I decided the best thing I could do is build a workshop for my business to help expand my working capabilities. After waiting a few months from delays due to the pandemic, the construction crew from J & L Amish Depot arrived in my driveway early in the morning on the 23rd of November. A crew of five Amish men set to work right away, not letting the rain from the night before or the brisk wind slow them down. They unloaded their truck and had the walls up in no time.

I watched them from a chair in my yard as they worked tirelessly with the utmost efficiency. It was my entertainment for the day and the following morning as well. It was truly a thrill watching them build something so large without hardly breaking a sweat. Within two hours the walls were up and mostly stable when the trusses arrived. A large crane hoisted them onto the structure while the men nailed them in place. Before I could blink, the trusses were secure and the roof was being laid down, shingles and all. Another team from the group were installing the windows while still another team attached the siding to one of the sides. The sun began to set with the roof complete and the building stable for continued work the next day.



Only two men returned the next day to finish the siding and hang the doors. Bright and early they were out there hammering away. They finished by noon. We shook hands and they were on their way. I thanked them profusely for their astounding work and exclaimed what a pleasure it was to watch. My house was built in the 1850's by the Amish and I joked that we would now see which structure would last the longest: modern Amish or antique Amish. The foreman had a hardy belly-laugh at this and assured me of his great confidence in his team and their work.

This new building has already started to and will continue to change my life in the coming years. It will take a bit more work to get it up to snuff for major piano rebuilding, but it is on the right track. In the next couple of years I will be able to offer complete restringing work and eventually even soundboard replacement in addition to the action rebuilding and tuning services which I offer now.

I think what I am most excited about is restarting my *Curro Baby Grand* miniature piano production. I was heartbroken for the few years that I was unable to participate in this endeavor. I plan to start diving into furniture making and repair too, though I currently have limited experience in that field.

The "Thomas V. Curro" workshop is built and Curro Piano Service, LLC is open for business!

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