



# Bradford County Newsletter

*Your Government Working for You!*

## Commissioners Recognize Planning Committee Members

By: Michelle Shedden



Front from Left: Glenn Aikens, Emerson Abell, Robert Kendall  
Back from left: Doug McLinko, Mark Smith, John Sullivan, Ray Stolinas

At the Commissioners' meeting held on July 23, 2009, the board presented some members of the Planning Committee with certi-

icates of recognition for more than 28 years of service. Emerson Abell was appointed in 1979, Glenn Aikens in 1981 and

Robert Kendall in 1983. The Commissioners stated that "each of these men have given years of commitment and through the years have ultimately contributed to the overall health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of Bradford County. Their knowledge and guidance in the community planning process have benefited overall growth and development in our communities. We sincerely appreciate their years of service and recognize them for their generous gift of time and effort".

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## Saving Money with a Guaranteed Energy Savings Project Bradford County Works Toward Energy Efficiency

By: Mark W. Smith and Michelle Shedden

Bradford County Commissioners are currently evaluating ways to reduce utility and building costs through what is known as a "Guaranteed Energy Savings" project. The project would consist of energy efficient upgrades to county owned buildings such as the Courthouse, Manor, Library and Correctional Facility. The outcome of this project is to get county owned buildings fitted with improvements such as up to date heating and cooling, windows,

saving measures.

### What is Guaranteed Energy Savings?

"Guaranteed Energy Savings" is a program in which municipalities in Pennsylvania can enter into with an ESCO (Energy Savings Company). The ESCO must guarantee that the energy efficient upgrades done will pay for themselves. If the upgrades guaranteed by the contractor do not pay for themselves then the contractor must pay the difference be-

tween the cost of the upgrades and the cost of the utility bills.

Guaranteed energy savings programs in Pennsylvania are regulated by the "Guaranteed Energy Savings Act". It was enacted in 1998 and was amended in 2003. It enables Pennsylvania "state agencies, universities, local governments and school districts to use energy performance contracting to implement large capital-improvement energy projects and reap the associated long-term energy-saving benefits .

### Why does Bradford County need to implement this Program?

As you might expect Bradford County uses a large amount utilities such as electric, gas and water to keep its operations running. The day to day operations of Bradford County cost an estimated \$500,000 per year. Facilities such as the Manor and the Correctional Facility run 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Projects such as the windows in the courthouse will, more than likely, be a large expense to replace or refurbish. However, it is a

project that is under serious consideration as part of the overall project. The courthouse windows have never been replaced. They are original to the courthouse and were installed in 1897. Another issue being considered in the courthouse is the fact that the dome is has no insulation. Issues such as these are just a few being considered throughout this process.

**Other projects may include:**

- Air conditioning at the courthouse. Currently the first two floors are cooled by over 27 window air conditioning units.
- Utilizing hot water generated by the landfill's methane engine to heat and cool the Manor, Jail and possibly the library as well.
- Boiler replacement at the Manor and Courthouse. Both are more than 50 years old.
- Lighting upgrades in all county buildings

Those are only a few of the upgrades being considered.

**Where does the project currently stand?**

The energy committee reviewed five (ESCO) Energy Service Companies, Honeywell Building Solutions, ConEdison Solutions, CM3 Building Solutions, Inc., Johnson Controls and Building Construction Services, after careful consideration of the five companies the committee chose to request proposals from Johnson Controls, Honeywell Building Solutions and Building Construction Services. The three companies selected submitted the most in depth presentation with their letters of interest. These companies offered good references, and had completed projects that were comparable to the size and scope of Bradford County's project. The energy committee is currently reviewing the proposals and will make a final decision in the fall.

## County Building Utility Costs 2006-2007

Building	Electric	Gas	Water
Courthouse/Annex	\$41,175.09	\$37,500.00	\$1,650
Manor	\$125,265.00	\$134,785.00	
Library	\$6,650.00	\$2,704.84	
Correctional Facility	\$41,609.61	\$49,419.98	
Planning Dept	\$3,700.00	\$1,777.00	
Daycare/Star	\$8,500.00	\$21,000.00	\$1,176.00

**Some program guidelines include:**

- Project engineering & design
- Tax exempt project financing options.
- Hiring local contractors
- Guaranteed savings for the life of the contract.
- Project monitoring
- Any necessary training

**Right:** A window located in the courthouse circa 1897. There are currently 27 window air conditioning units cooling the bottom two floors of the Courthouse.



## County Parks Committee to Hold Public Forums

Bradford County is in the process of developing plans for the improvement of Larnard Hornbrook,

Sunfish Pond and Mt. Pisgah County Parks. As part of the planning process the park design consultants would like to meet with campers, anglers, boaters, and

other users to share your thoughts and ideas about how the county parks can be enhanced to better serve you , our guest , and other residents of Bradford County.



**Larnard/Hornbrook Park**  
 Friday August 7, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.  
 Lanard-Hornbrook Pavilion

**Sunfish Pond Park**  
 Friday August 7, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.  
 Sunfish Pond Pavilion

# Natural Gas Map Updates on County Website

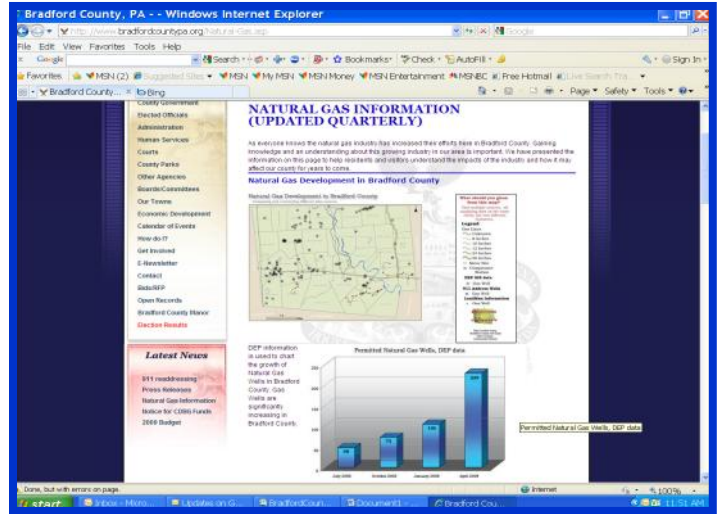
By: Michelle Shedden

Bradford County office of Planning and Grants recently updated the maps for the Natural Gas page on the website. With the many new gas wells, pipelines and water withdraw sites it is important to try to update the information as often as possible. We appreciate the planning office personnel for their diligence in retrieving as much of this information as possible and putting it into a format that is easy to read and understand. The information will be updated on a quarterly basis.

**Information available on the site:**

- Comparing and Contrasting different data sources
- Chart showing growth of DEP permitted wells in Bradford County
- Map of natural gas wells in the county.
- Map of water withdraw sites in the county.

**Right:** A screenshot of the natural gas information page located on the [Bradford County website](http://Bradford County website).

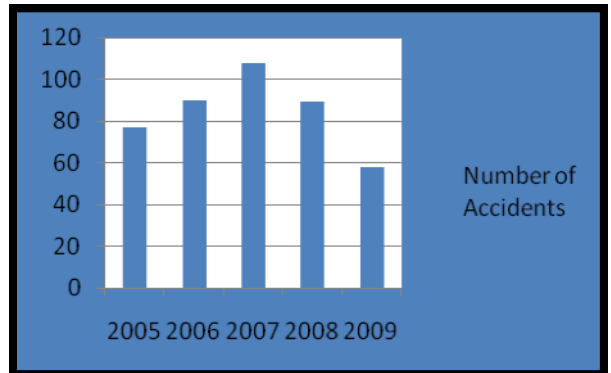


## Safety First

By :Michelle Shedden

Bradford County is extremely conscious of the safety of our employees and the citizens of our county. We recognize the need to ensure the safest workplace and environment for the public. In 2004 the commissioners adopted a safety policy that is strictly enforced today. The Bradford County Safety Committee meets once a month and administers an aggressive loss control program for the county. On July 15, 2009 the committee was visited by Gary Nicholson, Senior Loss Control Specialist from CCAP (County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania). Mr. Nicholson presented the committee with facts regarding workplace accidents. Of the 422 accidents occurring in the county, 166 were

strains or sprains, 100 from slips and falls, and 31 from other injuries. The cost for strains and sprains was \$725,537.00, slips and falls \$216,582.00 and other injuries \$73,090. Out of 422 accidents, 60 employees had 162 accidents. 38% of accidents were repeated. The safety committee will work towards improvement in the following areas: conduct accident investigations to identify root causes, provide return to work modified duty for each loss injury and maintain a current medical physician panel. The safety committee meets a minimum of six times a year, conducts safety inspections and quarterly audits.



Rank	Cause	Number
1	Strains & Sprains	166
2	Slips & Falls	100
3	Workers	31

Top 3 causes account for 70% of all accidents

## Voter Registration Deadline

- Election Day is Tuesday, November 3rd, 2009 is Municipal Election Day.
- Register to vote you must do so by no later than October 5th, 2009
- To change your party, address or other information, the deadline is October 5th, 2009.
- Questions contact the Elections Office at 570-265-1717 or 1-888-270-VOTE.
- Registration forms and absentee ballot applications available on the [Bradford County Website](http://Bradford County Website)

## Quick Updates....

**Courthouse Roof Repair:** On July 23, 2009 the Commissioners awarded Charles F Evans, Co. Inc. with the lowest bid of \$140,807.00.

**Commissary Bids awarded:** At the Commissioners meeting held on July 23, 2009 the Board awarded the bid for Commissary Services at the Bradford County Correctional Facility to Keefe Commissary of New Jersey.

## County Website Stats

**County Website Statistics:** We recently received our county website usage report. We were happy to find that we have had over **19,918** hits to our site in a three month period! These are impressive numbers, with **64%** of the viewers being new visits.



From Left: Rob Davidson, Special Assistant to Department of Ag, State Senator Gene Yaw, Commissioners Mark Smith and John Sullivan

## Commissioners Compete in Troy Fair Milking Contest

By: Michelle Shedden

It was quite a night at the Troy Fair as Bradford County Commissioners John Sullivan and Mark Smith, Senator Gene Yaw and Rob Davidson, a representative from the Department of Ag, participated in the milking contest. I would like to report that they were the undis-

puted champions, but unfortunately their combined experience was not enough to beat the stiff competition. Commissioner Sullivan has taken a lot of flak for picking the unlucky cow, but who could have known that the cow that looked so

promising would be so disappointing! The audience enjoyed the show and Commissioner Smith is already planning his strategy for next years competition.

## County Government Directory

Accounting	265-1723	Treasurer	265-1700
Assessment	265-1714	Veterans Affairs	265-1704
Auditors	265-1716	Victim Witness	265-1759
Human Services	265-1760	Penn State Agricultural Extension	265-2896
Bradford County Manor	297-4111	Area Agency on Aging	265-6121
Collections	265-1746	Airport	265-4900
Commissioners	265-1727	Library	297-2436
Courts	265-1707	Correctional Facility	297-5047
District Attorney	265-1712	911 Center	265-9101
Domestic Relations	265-1718	Conservation District	265-5539
Elections	265-1717	Coroner	297-0720
Hearing Master	265-1711	District Justice (Troy)	297-3880
Jury Commissioners	265-1732	District Justice (Towanda)	268-5057
Personnel	265-1722	District Justice (Wysox)	265-9393
Probation	265-1706	District Justice (Athens)	888-6324
Prothonotary	265-1705	Emergency Management	265-5022
Public Defender	265-1713	Planning	268-4103
Register & Recorder	265-1702	Grants	268-4193
Sheriff	265-1701		

**Bradford County Court House**  
 301 Main St.  
 Towanda, PA 18848  
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 Fax: 570-265-1729  
[www.bradfordcountypa.org](http://www.bradfordcountypa.org)