



Bradford County Newsletter

Your Government Working for You!

Bradford County Conservation District Held Record Tree Seedling Program

By: Sheri McHenry, Administrative Assistant



Bradford County residents in line at the Conservation District's Annual Seedling Program.

Over 1,500 Bradford County landowners lined up on Saturday, April 21st to pick up 47,000 seedlings along with bluebird boxes, and wood duck boxes in the Conservation District's annual seedling program. By all indications, this is a new record

for not only the number of people but also the number of seedlings passed out.

The overwhelming factor that contributed to the number of participants was Chesapeake Energy's offer to give 10 flowering kousa dogwoods to each of their lease holders, which accounted for over 1,000 participants. Another may have been the early spring weather that got landowners thinking early about spring planting.

The Conservation District holds the seedling program each spring in an effort to

make trees, ground cover, and wildflower seed available to county residents and others at an affordable rate. Any profits realized by the Conservation District go towards supporting the educational programs they hold for the schools and general public.

"This is my 32nd year of being part of the seedling program and over that time the district has handed out well over 1 million seedlings," commented the Conservation District Manager Mike Lovegreen. "It's nice to know that the county is just a little bit greener as a result of something we did."

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County's Oldest Residents Honored



On June 23, 2012, hundreds of people gathered at the courthouse for the recreation of an event held by

the Bradford County Historical Society on the courthouse square each June for nearly 30 years.

The event featured displays from local museums in the county, a Civil War encampment and demonstration, and a bicentennial parade.

Senator Gene Yaw and Representative Tina Pickett presented citations to the commissioners from the House

and Senate in recognition of the 200th anniversary of Bradford County. Prizes were awarded to the oldest man and woman who attended the celebration. The eldest man was Newman Benson and the eldest woman present was Florence Gowin Smith.

The Bradford County Historical Society did a wonderful job planning this event and we would like to ex-

press our appreciation to all those who helped make it a great success.



Representative Tina Pickett reads citation.

What is Prevention ?

By: Lorie Radney– Drug and Alcohol Prevention Specialist

Prevention is a number of different things to different people. There are public health models which are developed to prevent health conditions such as diabetes and cancer. Public health models look at the risk factors for a certain disease and then look at the protective factors that might reduce your risk of getting that disease. They look at the number of people who have that disease and the possible causes of the disease. They teach people ways to reduce their risk by helping them to recognize what they have to change. They provide alternatives for people and teach skills that are necessary to live a healthy life.

Prevention of abuse of alcohol and/or other drugs can be approached in much the same way. There are risk factors in our communities that heighten the chance that a young person might start using drugs, drop out of school, get pregnant, or make really bad choices such as stealing or vandalizing property. The public health model looks at the risk factors that are present in the community and tries to develop a plan of action that will provide young people with skills that will reduce their chances of negative behaviors. What are risk factors? "Risk factors are conditions that increase the likelihood of a young person becoming involved in drug use, delin-

quency, school dropout, and/or violence." (Pennsylvania Youth Survey). Examples of risk factors are Perceived Availability of Drugs, community disorganization, poor family management, parental attitudes favorable to alcohol, tobacco and other drug use, academic failure, lack of commitment to school, friends' use of drugs, favorable attitudes towards antisocial behavior, and low perceived risks of drug use. Risk factors are something that the community can change, that is you the parents, the grandparents, the minister, the teacher, the police office, the neighbors, etc. Risk factors can also be changed by providing young people with the skills they need such as socialization skills, assertiveness training, decision making, coping with anxiety and anger, communication skills, and conflict resolution. Providing young people an opportunity to practice what they learn through role playing has been shown to be effective in reducing risk factors.

Protective factors are also a way of reducing the risk of young peoples' negative behaviors. "Protective factors are conditions that buffer children and youth from exposure to risk by either reducing the impact of the risks or change the way that young people respond to risks." (Pennsylvania Youth Survey). Protective factors

are things that help young people develop strong bonds with family, school, community, and peers. Protective factors include things like parents and other adults setting good examples of healthy choices, communicating appropriately with young people, providing young people an opportunity to make meaningful contributions to their family and community, and to recognize their contributions. Young people look to the adults in their lives to see how they act and do things in order to learn what they should do. Too many times, what young people see is selfish adults who only want something for themselves and do nothing for others, or lie and cheat to get ahead. Protective factors come from the home, community, and environment in which we live.

The majority of the people in the community are good, but a lot of the time, young people who are struggling with risk factors may only see the negative influences in their lives and not the positive ones.

We all know, bad is more fun than being good. Today's society is a fast-paced world and whether intentionally or not, a lot of the young people have not had the opportunity to learn and practice the protector factors that will help them against the risk factors of life.

However, there is a lot that can be done to help

our young people be prepared for a fast-paced life. The Bradford/Sullivan County Drug and Alcohol Program is commissioned to provide prevention programs to people in the community. There are various places that prevention programs can be done.

Schools sometimes are the most likely place to provide young people with prevention programs. Years ago prevention programs were big events that came into the schools for an hour or two and did an assembly type program. These programs were usually done by a parent who had lost their child to a drunk driving situation, or someone who had been an addict and is in recovery. Various organizations would do programs from magic shows to big productions with music and lights.

These programs were attractive to the students as well as to the schools as it provided information to a lot of students at one time. Other programs may have been someone coming and talking to smaller groups about specific drugs, such as alcohol, pot, meth, tobacco, etc.

The Sullivan County Sheriff's Office for a number of years has provided the D.A.R.E. program to fifth grade students. However the D.A.R.E. was proven ineffective in the way it was done providing drug specific information to students. The euctions, scare tactics, and motiva-

Continued from Page 2

drug specific information to students.

This program has since been revamped and is now being provided again in numerous schools throughout the country. The Sullivan County Sheriff's Office is going to be providing the new version of D.A.R.E. to the fifth grade students. It is called keepin' it REAL (Refuse, Explain, Avoid, Leave).

These are the programs that are provided in the school. There are other programs that are done in the community such as the Nurse-Family Partnership Program, Guardian Angel, and Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol.

The Bradford/Sullivan County Drug and Alcohol Program is also mandated to provide information to the community on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and to provide Student Assistance Program in the schools. The SAP Program provides a level of care assessment for students who are referred due to violations of the schools policies or there is concern that they are involved with drugs and it is affecting their school performance and other areas of their lives.

Communities That Care (CTC), is a collaborative partner of the Bradford/Sullivan County Drug and

Alcohol Program. Communities That Care is one of the committees that is overseen by the Partners in Family and Community Development. The vision of the Communities That Care is "Bradford County residents will be happy, healthy, productive, and safe". In this regard this committee is constantly looking at the risks factors and protective factors that occur in our communities, and are promoting ways to enhance the protective factors and decrease risk factors. As part of the action plan for CTC, Partners in Family and Community Development have helped with such projects as bring-

ing the Nurse-Family Partnership to Bradford and Sullivan Counties. They have worked with schools to do a voluntary drug program that helps junior and senior high school students to be rewarded for being drug free. A member of their staff chairs the Safe Kids Coalition in conjunction with staff from the YMCA. In an effort to localize prevention activities, a Sayre CTC was recently started. All community members are needed to help provide our youth with the skills they need to make good decisions in life.

The Alms House Cemetery Dedication

By: Sheri McHenry, Administrative Assistant

On May 10, 2012, the Bradford County Commissioners, committee members, guests, and members of the press attended a dedication ceremony for the Alms House Cemetery in Burlington, PA.

The cemetery is located on the hill behind the Bradford County Correctional Facility inside the prison fence. The cemetery was a burial ground for indigent guests of the former Alms House who did not have a place to be buried. The Bradford County Farm was first a home for the poverty stricken and elderly, and presently is the Bradford County Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Bradford County resident David Shadduck

became interested in rehabilitating the cemetery after reading comments on the Bradford County Historical Society website about the burial site not being cared for.

Mr. Shadduck's passion for history lead him to become the cemetery project leader and form a committee to determine the needs of the cemetery.

The committee members included: David Shadduck, an avid historian and county resident; Matt Carl, Historical Society Curator; Gene Osmun, Veterans Affairs Director; Kim Corbett, Maintenance Supervisor; James Shadduck, Manor Administrator; and Donald Stewart, Prison Warden.

After an initial tour by the cemetery committee,

improvements were started by the Bradford County Manor maintenance department and Bradford County Correctional Facility work release inmates.

As you look at the beauty of the cemetery today it is hard to imagine just a short time ago it was overgrown with weeds and trees that completely hid the grave markers. It is now a tribute to the power of people working together to make a difference.

Special thanks to Richard Young of Warren Center for the large bluestone which he donated for the cemetery entrance marker; Jody Cooley and Ted Dydynski of H. MacDonald & Son Monuments of Athens for engraving bluestone; Northern Tier Solid Waste Authority of Burlington, PA, for their assistance in setting the stone and the



Above: David Shadduck, Commissioner Mark Smith, Richard Young, Commissioner Doug McLinko, Jim Shadduck and Commissioner Daryl Miller.

roadway work; Bradford County Manor Maintenance and Sewer Treatment staff for their supervision and labor; the Bradford County Correctional Facility for the use of the inmate labor; and all volunteers who participated in this project.

Pennsylvania Department of Corrections Secretary Visits County

By: Michelle L. Shedden, Chief Clerk

Secretary of Corrections John E. Wetzel and Wayne J. Gavin, Superintendent of the State Correctional Institution in Waymart, PA, visited Bradford County on Friday, May 11, 2012.

The purpose of meeting with Secretary Wetzel was to exchange information regarding overcrowding at the Bradford County Correctional Facility.

The commissioners had the opportunity to ask the secretary questions and discuss the issues facing

Bradford County with the large number of inmates in the jail.

Secretary Wetzel encouraged the commissioners to do a justice study prior to any construction. He also offered some suggestions from his own experience with overcrowding at jails.

A luncheon was held for Secretary Wetzel, Mr. Gavin, and members of the Bradford County Criminal Justice Advisory Board at the Bradford

Inn. Following the meal, Secretary Wetzel answered questions from the board. Some issues that were discussed included alternative housing, a justice study, and day reporting centers.

Secretary Wetzel's final stop for the day was a question and answer session with the local media in the Commissioners' Conference Room at the courthouse.



Above: Commissioner Mark Smith, Secretary Wetzel, Commissioner Doug McLinko and Commissioner Daryl Miller.

Photo Courtesy of Rick Hiduk



Recognizing Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees

The commissioners recently attended a luncheon honoring members of the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees (PASR) who are 90 years of age or older. There were 27 members recognized.

The PASR is celebrating 75 years this year. Members who could not be present were visited by PASR committee members and presented with their awards.

County Government Directory

Accounting	265-1723	Treasurer	265-1700
Assessment	265-1714	Veterans Affairs	265-1704
Auditors	265-1716	Victim Witness	265-1759
Bradford County Manor	297-4111	Penn State Cooperative Ext.	265-2896
Collections	265-1746	Area Agency on Aging	265-6121
Commissioners	265-1727	Airport	265-4900
Courts	265-1707	Library	297-2436
District Attorney	265-1712	Correctional Facility	297-5047
Domestic Relations	265-1718	911 Center	265-9101
Elections	265-1717	Conservation District	265-5539
Hearing Master	265-1711	Coroner	297-0720
Human Services	265-1760	District Judge (Troy)	297-3880
Jury Commissioners	265-1732	District Judge (Towanda)	268-5057
Personnel	265-1722	District Judge (Wysox)	265-9393
Probation	265-1706	District Judge (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		



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