

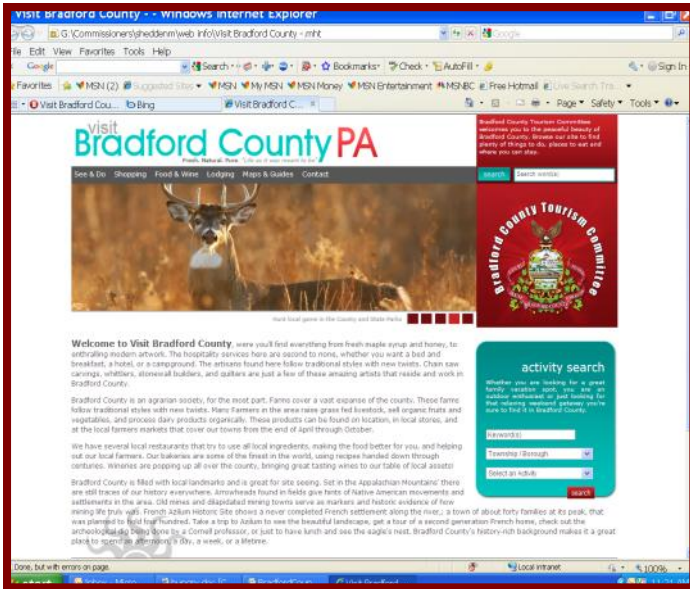


Bradford County Newsletter

Your Government Working for You!

Bradford County Tourism Committee Launches New Website

Press Release



The Bradford County Tourism Committee is proud to announce the launch of the county's newly designed and

updated tourism website. The site www.visitbradfordcounty.com went live on Friday, June 12,

2009. Much time and effort went into the restructuring of the website. The Commissioners Office in conjunction with the Tourism Committee worked closely for several months with the professional staff at CQ Services, a Sayre-based website hosting and development business, to create a site that will help the Bradford County visitors and residents find everything they want to see and do while visiting the area.

The site is user-friendly with easy to "surf" sections including See & Do, Shopping, Food & Wine, Lodging, and Maps & Guides. The Bradford County tourism website was made possible through a tourism grant awarded by the Endless Mountains Visitors Bureau – the state and locally recognized tourism promotion

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agency for Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, and Wyoming counties. Any tourism-related business in Bradford County can be listed on this website and can do so by filling out the forms found on the site under "contact." or by contacting commissioners office.

[For a list of new features see page 4.](#)

Commissioners Support Dairy Farmers in Bradford County

By: Michelle Shedden

The dairy industry is a critical component of Bradford County's economy and it is estimated that our local dairy producers are being paid substantially less for their milk than the costs associated with the production of that milk. On June 18, 2009 the Commissioners signed [Resolution 2009-07](#) in support of Dairy Farmers in Bradford County and encouraged lawmakers to consider making a change in the way that milk is priced to help provide a fair compensation for their hard work. They also approved a [proclamation](#) declaring June as Dairy Month. Amy Van Blarcom-

Lackey, branch manager at Ag Choice Farm Credit read the proclamation and introduced the Dairy princess contestants. The Dairy Princess spoke about her year as the representative for Bradford County and each of the contestants gave a brief speech. Dairy punch was enjoyed by all.

Standing: -Allison Waltemyer 2008-2009 Bradford County Dairy Princess, Candidates Heidi Kelsch, Jessica Rockwell and Kali Terrel.

Front Row: Commissioners-Doug McLinko, Mark Smith, John Sullivan



Fallen Deputies Memorial

By: Michelle Shedden

In the spring of 2007 a group of Bradford County Deputy Sheriffs formed a committee to design and raise funds to build and dedicate a memorial in honor of their fallen brothers, Chris Burgert and Michael VanKuren.

With generous donations from the public, hours of volunteer service by the committee and the help of the Bradford County Maintenance Department in the preparation of the base and the placement of the monument, the Deputy Sheriff Memorial was put in place last week. The Sheriff's department would like to thank everyone for their generosity. This memorial would not have been possible without the generous donations of the community.



Top Right: The Memorial Stone, **Bottom Right:** Maintenance Department employees set the memorial in place, **Left:** Picture of new clock and memorial in front of courthouse

County Parks Public Input Meeting Held

By: Mark W. Smith



On June 24, 2009 the Bradford County Parks Committee and YSM, the contractor hired to do the plan, held the first public meeting of the Bradford County

Parks Master Planning process at the Bradford County Conservation District office in Wysox.

There were approximately 40

people in attendance. There were many ideas and opinions exchanged and the committee answered questions from those who attended. Some ideas presented for Larnard/Hornbrook were that the park should take better advantage of the river, park should be advertised outside of local area, improve signs and way-finding, improve the restrooms, movie night in the park, consider opening the island for camping.

Some concerns were access to water is difficult during low water.

Sunfish Pond ideas and concerns included water supply, showers and restrooms. A water softener system was suggested and motion sensors near rest-

rooms. A railing for boat tie up, a playground, increased tent facilities, paddleboat concessions, open the road to Laquin, swimming, another pavilion, upgrade the store, and a charcoal pit for dumping coals.

Ideas for Mt. Pisgah included, new lookout tower, hiking trails, restrooms and water supply, map, camping, mountain biking and cross country skiing.

The next step in the project will be to continue to gather input and develop alternative designs for each park. The planning portion of the project is expected to be completed by spring of next year.

A Look At Bradford County Food Pantries

By :Michelle Shedden

One out of every eight people in America is hungry. We have all heard about it, some of us may even have experienced it, but most of us don't really pay any attention



because it doesn't seem real to us. All across America, governments and food pantries are feeling the pinch. The [Hunger Study 2006, done by America's second harvest](#) found that 4.5 million people receive emergency food assistance from the system in any given week. The government figures 28 million Americans will be using food stamps this year, the highest level since the program began in 1960. Here, in Bradford County

we have 6 food pantries. Bentley Creek Food Pantry, Canton Food Pantry, Troy Food Pantry, TACO (Towanda Area Christian Outreach) and Salvation Army in Sayre, and People Helping People, Wyalusing. All of the pantries are operated by volunteers, some of whom have been giving of their time and money for over 20 years. We can't thank them enough for their efforts. Their dedication to those in need is unwavering and truly appreciated by

everyone in our office. Last year our pantries served over 5500 families and 16500 individuals. Eight years ago I became the administrator for the food pantries in Bradford County. There are two programs that our office is responsible for, one is the State Food Program and the second is Surplus Food Program. The state food program distributes

a certain amount of money each year to Bradford County to use for the purchase of food. The surplus food program allows our pantries to receive free food that the federal government has distributed to the state. These programs are vital to the food pantries but the pantries still depend on the communities for donations to fill their inventory. Before I began working in the Commissioners office I didn't even know we had food pantries in our area. It isn't the way you think. I thought it was only in the city where there are homeless people and people in shelters, but that isn't always the case. There are many people in the rural areas that are struggling just as much. The volunteers at

our pantries have all told me about the increase of families looking for help, and how the food is just not stretching like it used to. They have seen a dramatic decrease in the kinds of food they receive as well as the volume they are getting. I hope the next time you see the signs posted around for collection of food for the food banks you will remember that someone next



to you could be the person who desperately needs that food and you can be the one to make a difference in their life.

Contact Information for Food Pantries

TACO

Hours of operation: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 A.M.-2 P.M.

Location: Wysox

Contact: Pearl Fox- 265-4422

Troy Food Pantry

Hours of operation TH 11:30 – 2:00

Location: 448 Canton Street Troy PA 16947

Contact :Rev Rich Noggle- 297-3070

Salvation Army

Hours of operation TU thru F 9-12

Location: 314 S Elmer Ave Sayre PA 18840

Contact: Captain Shaffer-888-2153

Bentley Creek Food Pantry

Hours of operation- 1st Th of each month 9– 12

Location: Bentley Creek Wesleyan Church

Contact: Diane Husted- 596-4466

Canton Food Pantry

Hours of operation- Monday and Thursday by appt.

Location: Behind Post Office- Troy Street

Contact: Kay McCoy- 673-7732

People Helping People

Hours of operation- Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter

Location: Wyalusing High School

Contact: Iddings Insurance- 746-3434

Quick Updates....

Bradford County Historical Society Launches new website: The Bradford County Historical Society has announced the launch of a new website which will include new features, more information, photos, downloadable forms and much more available at www.bradfordhistory.com

Bradford County Energy Committee: Request for proposals (RFP) were sent out in April to selected companies to respond by June 11, 2009 with a sealed proposal. RFPs have been received from Johnson Controls, Honeywell and BCS. The proposals are currently being reviewed by the County's Energy Committee. Interviews with the various companies will be held in late July and a decision will be made by August.



Courthouse Roof Repair and Replacement: Bradford County received two bids for the repair and replacement a section of the courthouse roof: One was from the Charles Evans Co Inc of Elmira NY for \$140,807.00 and the second was from James W Cox & Son, Inc. of Scranton PA for \$189,811. The commissioners will be reviewing the bids over the next few weeks.

Some Features of the New Website

See & Do: Includes Event calendar, Fairs and Festivals, Arts and Culture, Family Fun, Historical Places and Parks.

Shopping: Antiques and Collectables, Farmers Markets, Arts and Crafts, and Specialty

Food & Wine: Bakeries and Cafes, Restaurants, Taverns and Wineries

Lodging: Hotels & Motels, Inns, Campgrounds, Bed & Breakfast and Cabins

Maps & Guides: Includes local area maps



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		

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