



# Bradford County Newsletter

*Your Government Working for You!*

## County Moves forward with Guaranteed Energy Savings Financing

By: Michelle Shedden and Steve Gates

On July 22, 2010, the county received proposals from six financial institutions in regards to the Guaranteed Energy Savings project financing. After much deliberation, the commissioners decided to reject all proposals submitted and instead issue tax-

exempt general obligation bonds in the amount of approximately \$3,000,000. Resolution 2010-06 approved the County's intention to issue debt in accordance with the Local Government Unit Debt Act. The county appointed RBC Dain Rauscher Corp. of

Scranton to serve as the financial advisor for the borrowing. Under the provisions of the GESA project, the projected financing is for 15 years at 4.5%. The terms of the new financing will be for seven years, at 1.86% for an additional net

savings of approximately \$800,000 to the taxpayers of Bradford County. The project is well underway. For example, at the Manor a new chilling unit has already been installed.

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## Northern Tier Solid Waste Authority Contributes Money to County for Special Programs

Volunteer Emergency Responders Grant Program, County Parks Rehabilitation Fund and Bradford County Environmental Education Grant Program are Created

Press Release

The Northern Tier Solid Waste Authority (NTSWA) will share revenues generated from the disposal of Marcellus Shale drill cutting waste with Bradford, Sullivan and Tioga counties. The NTSWA understands

the hardships that each county faces with dwindling funding, increased demand for services, and limited revenues from other sources especially in a time of immense growth. Beginning July 1, 2010, the NTSWA will

donate \$3.00 for each ton of Marcellus Shale drill cutting waste received and disposed of at the NTSWA facilities. Based upon the drill cuttings received January 1, 2010. Each county could potentially receive about

\$100,000 every 12 months. The NTSWA will donate an initial amount of \$35,000. However, if the drill cuttings are not received and disposed of at the NTSWA dis-

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## 2010 Director of Nursing of the year Award

By: Lori Foust



Above: The 2010 Director of Nursing of the year award recipient is Connie Taylor, Bradford County Manor Director of Nursing

Bradford County is proud to announce that Bradford County Manor's Director of Nursing, Connie Taylor with the 2010 Director of Nursing of the Year Award. The award was presented by Complete Healthcare Resources the county's management company at the Manor.

Connie obtained her Practical Nursing Degree from Williamsport Community College in 1973. She began her nursing career at Bradford County Manor working as an LPN charge nurse. Over the course of her 37 years of

employment, Connie has served in many capacities. She has served as the Staff Development Coordinator, Staffing Coordinator, and In-Service Director/Safety Coordinator. Connie went on to further her education, earning an Associate Degree in Nursing from Corning Community College in 1990. She worked as an RN Supervisor and was the Assistant Director of Nursing before becoming the Bradford County Manor Director of Nursing in 2008. When asked about receiving this prestigious award, Connie credited the

dedicated nursing staff at Bradford County Manor, saying that, "a Director of Nursing is only as good the staff is. They are the reason why our facility is so successful," she said. "I feel it is a privilege to work with them." Co-worker Lori Foust, Marketing Director, had this to say "Connie is 100 % committed to ensuring the residents are given on-going, quality health care. She is a team player and recognizes how important it is to keep the lines of communication open. Connie is truly a valuable asset to Bradford County Manor."

# Bradford County Awarded CCAP 2010 Newsletter of the Year

## Press Release



Left to right: Commissioner Mark Smith , Administrative Assistant Michelle Shedden , County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania President Joe Jiles

The Bradford County Commissioners Office was honored to receive the 2010 Newsletter of the Year Award during the 124th Annual County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) Conference

held in State College August 9-12, 2010. The award was presented for outstanding communication efforts in assuring the messages of county government are known and understood. Commissioner Mark Smith

and commissioners' office employee Michelle Shedden accepted the award on behalf of Bradford County.

Commissioner Smith noted the importance of building an on-line presence for the county government saying, "The on-line presence of the county has increased the openness of our government and the e-mail newsletter is an important piece of that. I am happy with the success of the newsletter and especially happy that we consistently have new subscribers added every single month."

Smith thanked the commissioners' Administrative Assistant, Michelle Shedden, for her hard work on the newsletter. The county website gets an average of 8,500 visitors per quarter. Commissioner Smith noted that, "Keeping current with online

content is challenging. The county website was re-designed and launched almost two years ago." He said they, "are currently developing updates to the county website to make information easier to find and add content." The county will be launching updates over the course of the next few months."

# Pass on the Newsletter!

## Subscriptions to Date: 1890

### Sign Up Here!

# 911 Readdressing Update: Region 4 Being Delivered

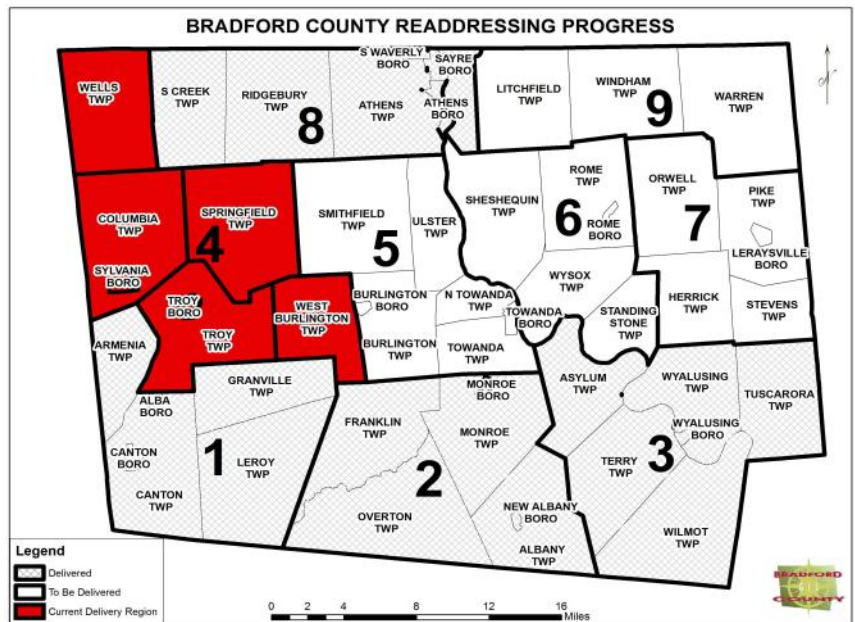
By: Scott Molnar

Bradford County has announced that the next region of the countywide readdressing project began on August 27th 2010. All addresses for Region 1, 2 and 3 have been delivered. Region 5 addresses have been submitted to the United States Postal Service for approval.

**Region 4**, is scheduled for delivery of new 911 addresses by **September 3, 2010**. The addresses have been approved by the Post Office. Letters will be delivered to each addressable structure in Region 4. The Post Office will also verify that this process is approved by them and will give some

additional information concerning changing your address.

The addressing questionnaire delivery phase of this project is complete. Although the response rate for the first few regions was successful. It is extremely important that residents in the remaining regions return their questionnaires as soon as possible. All residents can return their questionnaires by mail or use the web version of the form at the county's website at: [www.bradfordcountypa.org](http://www.bradfordcountypa.org)



The RED section of the map is currently being delivered. Questions please call:

**570-268-4103**



# Natural Gas News

News in Relation to the Emerging Industry in Bradford County

## Local Governments Fight for a Share of any Imposed Natural Gas Severance Tax

By: Michelle Shedden

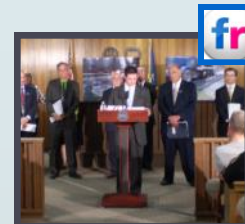
On Friday August 27, 2010, commissioner's and township officials gathered in Wellsboro, Pa. At the press conference local officials from across the Northern Tier expressed the necessity of a large local share of any natural gas severance that may be imposed by the state of Pennsylvania. Tioga County Commissioner Erick Coolidge

expressed the importance of local governments to "be at the table during any severance tax discussions. Clearly our impacted counties deserve and should receive the benefit of the harvested product. Furthermore, I believe that it is the responsibility of elected officials in position at this time, all officials, despite party affiliation, have the re-

sponsibility to make a decision that puts in place a structure that will benefit future generations. When we look back we can say without question that we did the best job we could and when future generations receive it they will say thank you. Water is important, environmental issues are important, and we have an obligation to

take care of this. We have only one opportunity to do this right."

Bradford County Commissioner Mark Smith spoke about the local impacts related to the developing natural gas. To see Commissioner Smith's full remarks [Click Here](#).



## Bradford County Natural Gas Advisory Committee Update

By: Tom Henson, Member, Natural Gas Advisory Committee

The Bradford County Natural Gas Advisory Committee recently held their quarterly meeting on August 3, 2010. Committee reports were received from Economic Development, Government Relations, Public Safety, Planning, Environmental, Public Relations, Public Education, and Infrastructure.

Bradford County continues to be the center of activity for natural gas exploration due to four very significant factors: quantity, quality, proximity to markets, and in-place pipeline infrastructure.

Development continues to unfold across the county. Members of the committee

from the Central Bradford Progress Authority and Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission continue to report that opportunities associated with the natural gas industry are driving day-to-day workloads.

According to the PA Dept. of Labor & Industry, Bradford County's employment rose from 28,300 in March 2009 to 30,400 in March 2010. This was the highest increase in employment of any county in the state. The next highest was Centre County, where employment rose by 1,200 over the same period. The unemployment rate in Bradford County fell from 10.0% in March 2009

to 7.4% in March 2010. Bradford County was one of only five counties in the state where the unemployment rate declined over the past year. The 2.6 percentage point improvement in unemployment rate in Bradford County was the best in the state.

The Advisory Committee assumes that the majority of the favorable employment figures are due to Marcellus Shale development. Local companies and agencies lose key employees to the gas industry, so there is continuing concern that recruitment issues for local businesses and agencies exist.

Members of the Advisory Com-

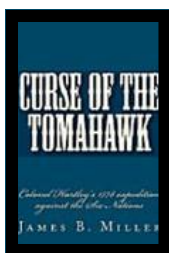
mittee were involved in planning the first ever Northern Tier Marcellus Shale Business-to-Business Expo at Alparon Park in Troy. The event was in response to local businesses seeking opportunities within the industry. The event was a success with approximately 250 exhibitors and 5,000 people attending the expo. Positive feedback was received from companies that attended and established strong potential business leads. A second expo has already been scheduled for June 25, 2011.

Another initiative being pursued is an Economic Impact Study. This is being coordinated with [Penn State and the Marcellus](#)

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## Author: James B. Miller speaks at Library

By: Jeff Singer



The Bradford County Library presents author James B. Miller discussing his book "Curse of the Tomahawk" on Saturday, September 11 at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Miller will be discussing the early settlements of

Wyoming, the area along the Susquehanna River from Tioga Point (present Athens) all the way down the river to present Berwick. It is said by many historians no area in the American Revolution suffered more in propor-

tion to population as did the Wyoming settlers along the Susquehanna. Mr. Miller will discuss the whole rich area of history including the Wyoming Valley Massacre, Hartley's Expedition, and the Sulli-

van Campaign against the great Six Nations and the British. This program is free and open to the public. Space is limited, so please call the Library at 297-2436 to register.

## Quick Updates....

The Bradford County Sheriff's Office will be upgrading its license to carry a firearm system. The scheduled start date is Sept. 22, 2010, at which time people will start being issued a drivers style permit. Note, we will be unable to issue or process any permits from Sept. 13, 2010, until Sept. 23, 2010, Sheriff Walters would like to apologize for any inconvenience and appreciates your patience.

Commissioners award bids for construction materials at the 200 Main St. Building renovation. General Construction was awarded to C.C. Allis for \$45, 444.81; Plumbing to C.C. Allis for \$4,309.45; The Electric bid was awarded Denney Electric-\$12,109.17.

Convection Steamer bid at the Bradford County Manor was awarded to Singer Equipment Co for \$10,720.00

At 9:15 a.m. August 27, 2010, the courthouse fire alarms went off and within minutes the building had emptied and everyone was safely away from harm's way. This was only a drill, but if a real emergency does occur the employees at the courthouse will be prepared. Several times a year the safety committee surprises the employees with a fire alarm to make sure that everyone knows the proper procedures to follow. We thank the Sheriff and the deputies for making sure everyone was safely evacuated and giving us the all clear to return to their desks.

### Gas Committee: Cont. from page 2

[Shale Education & Training Center](#) and entails a study of the economic impacts felt by the five-county Northern Tier region to date and what can be expected over the next several years. This will be a great tool to assist with planning area growth and also to assess weaknesses in service provision that can be addressed. The study is expected to be completed in the spring of 2011.

Statistics such as the unemployment figures, are now available helping to enable the measuring of the economic development activity associated

with the Marcellus Shale.

The Public Relations committee reported that new educational opportunities are being developed in cooperation with Penn State Cooperative Extension. They also reported progress towards the development of a new web presence for the committee. This will present new information and ways to access information regarding the natural gas development in the county. Residents are encouraged to check out the [Natural Gas Information](#) page on Bradford County's Website.

The Government Relations committee reorganized and elected a new chairman. The committee is currently trying to recruit new members from inside various government agencies. One of the goals is to find an efficient and accurate way to track and understand the various pieces of legislation regarding natural gas development.

A special committee was formed to develop formal by-laws for the committee. The intention of this is to bring the committee ahead from an ad-hoc advisory group to a more formal board.

The Public Safety commit-

tee reported work with various training avenues for local emergency responders. Bradford County's Public Safety Director is working towards getting all the natural gas companies to utilize a standard well-site address sign. All gas drilling companies are complying with the county's request to have a 911 address for each gas related work site.

Recently the commissioners appointed new members to the committee: Wyalusing High School Principal Gary Otis, Sheriff C.J. Walters and State Police Sergeant Chuck Sands.

Monthly committee meet-

ings are planned throughout the remainder of the year for the above mentioned committees as the Advisory Board continues to work towards successful outcomes for our people locally.

### NTSWA Cont. from page 1

positional facilities then no funds will be available. Bradford County Commissioners will utilize the funds from NTSWA in the following ways:

**50%** of the funds received from the NTSWA will be used to create a special county fund known as the "Bradford County Parks Rehabilitation Fund." This fund will support capital projects for the Bradford County Parks Master Plan which is due to be released this fall in cooperation

with the County Parks Advisory Committee. This money will be used for capital equipment and capital improvements in each park. It will not be utilized for the purposes of operating expenses.

**25%** of the funds will be used to create "Bradford County Environmental Education Grant Program" through the Bradford County Conservation District. This will enhance informational and educational opportunities for a wide range of Bradford

County decision makers at multiple levels of age and will be fundamental in enhancing and preserving the outstanding environmental quality we all expect in the County. This fund will provide seed funding to assist efforts in several areas of interest; local schools, landowners/general public and our municipal and organizational levels.

**25%** of the funds will be used to create the "Bradford County Volunteer Emergency Respond-

ers Grant Program". The grants will be available and awarded to volunteer emergency responders throughout Bradford County. This program is intended to provide our struggling volunteer emergency services with one more potential resource for funding in a time of growth, difficulty, and change. The grants will be aimed at providing opportunities to volunteer service providers in relation to the development of natural gas throughout the county.