



# Bradford County Newsletter

*Your Government Working for You!*

# Happy New Year!

## A Year in Review 2009

The end of the year is a great time to reflect on what has transpired over the last year. A lot has happened over the course of 2009. So in this issue of the county newsletter we are sharing some of the positive things that have been reported on via this monthly newsletter.

### Deputy Sheriffs' Memorial



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 the Deputy Sheriff Memorial was put in place in July 2009.

### Work on the Courthouse

Work on the cornice restoration began on April 20, 2009. Evergreene Paint Studios began by repairing existing plaster surfaces where material was missing, cracked or otherwise damaged. They repaired and patched holes. Following the repair they began to clean all the original paint areas to prepare for the painting to begin. Painting was completed on May 14, 2009.

Roof repairs on the courthouse began in September 2009.



## Honoring our Veterans



The Hometown Heroes project was launched in May to honor Bradford County Veterans. It was organized by Bradford County resident Kelly Bradley of Wyalusing. Over 150 banners featuring Bradford County Veterans and current service members now grace the streets of Towanda.

On September 18, 2009 the Veterans of Foreign Wars held a ceremony on the front steps of the courthouse honoring Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action.

The first weekend of June the Veterans Day Picnic was held at Hornbrook Park.

## Putting Inmates to Work

In March the county print shop was moved from the Courthouse to the Bradford County Correctional Facility to utilize inmate labor and offset county workforce cost. Also in 2009 laundry services were moved from the Manor to the Bradford County Correctional Facility.

In November the Bradford County Prison Board initiated the Community Workforce Inmate Program to provide labor to community groups and local governments via approved work release inmates from the Bradford County Correctional Facility.



## Enhancing the County's Online Presence

In February 2009 the county launched a newly designed and updated website representing a progressive move forward in the way Bradford County presents and conducts business. Also added throughout the year were an online store, natural gas information, an open government page and social networking such as [Flickr](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

In June 2009 the Bradford County Tourism launched its new user-friendly site with easy to "surf" sections including See & Do, Shopping, Food & Wine, Lodging, and Maps & Guides.

## 911 Re-addressing

Hand delivery of questionnaires to each resident was completed in 2009.

Bradford County implemented a new page on the website to show the progress of the delivery.

In September the Commissioners and staff helped make follow up calls in an effort to keep the project on schedule and the cost at a minimum. The county has received approval from the post office to move forward with the final Addresses in the Canton/Troy area (region 1). Final address delivery is expected to begin in the next few weeks.

## "Wii" like to play at the County Manor

In November of 2009 Nintendo Wii, arrived at the Bradford County Manor. Many of the residents and staff enjoy competing on the new Wii system. Residents are adapting to newer technology and will be enjoying wireless internet access this year.





## Energy Savings Project Moves Ahead

The Bradford County Energy Committee was appointed by the Commissioners and was charged with reviewing proposals from companies to perform a large scale energy savings project for seven county buildings. After months of reviews the committee recommended Johnson Controls, Inc. to perform the work. Since then the company has been performing a detailed energy audit of the county buildings. In the coming year the Commissioners will decide the merit of each solution the company has proposed and move the project forward.



## Changes for Bradford County Library      County Parks Master Planning

Jeff Singer was hired as the new library Director on August 20, 2009. The way Library Systems are administered has changed, being that a systems administrator will perform all state required grants, aid and any other necessary work for all the libraries in the county. David Lafrance was hired on December 31, 2009 as the new Systems Administrator. The library will undergo some much needed renovation including Handicap accessible restrooms, due to a CDBG grant accepted by the Commissioners. Also a roof replacement is planned for 2010.

Bradford County began the process of designing a Master Plans for its three county parks, this plan will explore the assets of each park and determine how the park sites can be enhanced to better serve the recreation needs of Bradford County residents. Several public meetings were held for each park with input from the citizens being utilized in the final plan which will be presented to the Commissioners sometime in the near future.



## Chairman's Report and Budget

Commissioner Smith discusses the challenges of working with the shortfalls from the state budget, the rising cost of healthcare to employees and the opportunity for the county to make some major improvements in our infrastructure. You will find an agenda for the next year, clearly and concisely discussing the major initiatives we will be doing in 2010.

[Bradford County 2010 Budget](#)

[Chairman's Report to the Taxpayers](#)

## Cow Milking Contest

It was quite a night at the Troy Fair as Bradford County Commissioner, John Sullivan, Senator Gene Yaw, a representative from the Department of Ag, and Mark Smith participated in the milking contest at the Troy Fair.



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## Meetings Set for 2010

Commissioners, Salary Board, Election and Assessment board: Thursday of every week at 10:00 a.m.

Monday-Weekly

10:00 a.m. with Kim Corbett-Maintenance Director and Mike Jones Parks Director; 10:30 a.m. with Teresa Jones, Personnel Director; 11:00 a.m. with Joan Sanderson, Fiscal

Director; 2:00 p.m. Robert Repasky, 911 Director and Jim Vajda, EMA Director, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday; Donna Roof-Assessment Director

Superfund Amendment and Authorization Act (SARA III meetings): 9:00 a.m. at the Emergency Management Agency on: March 16, 2010, June 8, 2010,

September 14, 2010 and December 14, 2010.

Agricultural Land Preservation Board: February 17, 2010, June 16, 2010, September 15, 2010 and November 17, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at the Stoll Natural Resource Center in Wysox, PA.

Intermediate Punishment Board: March 10,

2010, June 9, 2010 and October 13, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Conference Room at the Bradford County Courthouse.

Retirement Board: February 4, 2010, May 6, 2010, August 5, 2010, and November 4, 2010 at 11:00 a.m., in the Commissioner Chairperson's office.

Bradford County Prison Board: Second Thursday of every month at 11:00 a.m.

## Bradford County Employee's Recognized for Years of Service.



By: Mark W. Smith

At the Commissioners meeting held on December 17, 2009 the board recognized employees who had over 35 years of service. There was cake and punch served from 12 to 2 p.m. and an opportunity for the Commissioners to hand out service pins to employees for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 years of service. Congratulations to everyone who celebrated a special year!



35 year pin recipients: Kathy Spencer, Daisy Parks, Cindy Blokzyl, standing Doug McLinko and John Sullivan

## 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  
 Phone: 570-265-1727  
 Fax: 570-265-1729  
[www.bradfordcountypa.org](http://www.bradfordcountypa.org)