



Bradford County Newsletter

Your Government Working for You!

Bradford County Budget and Chairman's Report

The Bradford County budget for the fiscal year of 2011 is \$58,724,438. The 2011 budget is built on last year's budgetary decisions, and reflects the difficult decisions made to keep the finances of the county under control and sustainable over the long term without a tax increase. The proposed budget includes proposals to improve

county infrastructure, to modify staffing and salaries to keep the county budget sustainable over the long term, and to provide the necessary services to residents of the county. In the "State of the County Report," 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. The agenda for 2011 again is an aggressive one that requires much hard work from employees and elected officials alike.

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



Above: Bradford County Correctional Facility Warden Don Stewart jumps high and shows why his Bradford County team came out on top in an overtime victory over local law enforcement and State Police officers.

Toys for Tots Charity Basketball Game

By: Mark Smith, Commissioner

You could feel the excitement filling the Epiphany School Gymnasium in Sayre as onlookers filed into the stands.

The basketball game was organized by the Bradford County Correctional Facility to benefit the US Marine Corp Toys for Tots campaign. Each year new unwrapped toys are collected and distributed to needy children in the community. The game pitted county employees against law enforcement agen-

cies in what turned out to be a game that was decided in overtime.

Led by Warden Don Stewart the Bradford County team took an early lead in the first quarter, only for that lead to be decimated just after half time. It was an aggressive showing by both teams as the game wore into the last quarter. The score remained

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Bradford County Tourism Committee Awards Grants

By: Michelle Shedden, Administrative Assistant

These grants were awarded by the Bradford County Commissioners on the Recommendation of the county tourism committee. The grants are funded by the Bradford County Tourism Committee and Endless Mountain Visitors Bureau.

Bradford County Tourism Committee-Website Maintenance	\$ 6,500
Bradford County Tourism Committee- Advertising	\$ 3,000
Bradford County Heritage Association-Heritage Festival	\$ 7,000
Bradford County Regional Arts Council- Marketing	\$ 2,200
Endless Mountain Music Festival	\$ 1,650
Greater Wyalusing Chamber of Commerce- Quilted Corners of Wyalusing	\$ 5,000
Wyalusing Heritage Trail	\$ 1,200
French Azilum- Promotion	\$ 3,800
Endless Mountain Antique Tractor & Machinery	\$ 1,000
French Azilum, Inc.- Wayfinding Signage	\$ 3,000
Troy Fair- Promotion	\$16,000
Endless Mountain Maple Festival	\$ 3,000
Historical Society-Bicentennial Brochure	\$ 4,000
Wyalusing Valley Museum Association-Wine Festival	\$ 6,000
LeRoy Heritage Museum, Inc.- Brochure	\$ 2,000

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Central Bradford Progress Authority Provides Economic Development Services to Bradford County

By: Michelle Shedden, Administrative Assistant

Bradford County has an ongoing service contract with the Progress Authority to provide economic development services throughout the County. The Progress Authority was formed in 1993 by the municipalities of Towanda Borough, Towanda Township, North Towanda Township, and Wysox Township. Since that time, the Progress Authority has grown to provide coverage in all of Bradford County and all of Susquehanna County.

The organization is structured as a general-purpose municipal authority, an industrial development corporation, and an industrial development authority. The Progress Authority has a staff of three: Executive Director Anthony Ventello,

Economic Development Manager Brian Driscoll, and Administrative Assistant Kim Kulick. The Progress Authority's activities are directed by a 20-member Board of Directors.

The Progress Authority's efforts are focused toward the encouragement of investment in Bradford County and the retention and creation of employment opportunities. Typical activities involve business financing, infrastructure development, funding applications, site preparation and marketing, workforce development initiatives, and federal, state, and local government and agency coordination. The Progress Authority also administers the Bradford



Above: One Progress Plaza is managed by Central Bradford Progress Authority Building on Main Street in Towanda. The building houses Social Security office, Department of Welfare, Army Recruiter, Legal Services, Hunt Engineering, Senator Gene Yaw, Bradford County Dental, and EMTA

County Enterprise Zone program and a local revolving loan fund.

Much of the agency's recent projects have involved the natural gas industry, but the Progress Authority remains committed to assisting small and large businesses in Bradford County as they contemplate investments and work to grow the local economy.

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close as the crowd cheered at every point the players scored. In the end, Bradford County, aided by Corrections Officers Josh Clark and Travis Peppard, took Bradford County to victory in a 65-64 overtime victory. At the end of the night the charity basketball game raised a total of \$678 and collected a large number of toys. There were refreshments sold and a bake sale by the Valley Kiwanis Club.

Players for the local police departments and Pa. State Police were:

Athens Township Police: James Shaw and Tom VanFleet; Athens Borough Police: Derek Dekar; Sayre Police: Derek Watkins; Capt. STAR Program: Carla Dieg; Pa. State Police: Jim Kerrick, Wayne Dunkling, Matt Knock; NY State Police: Greg Vaughn; Devin Shaw, Towanda Borough: Mitch Osmun and Sheriff's Office: Tyrell Lehman.



2010 Bradford County Team: Front Row: Judge Smith, Magistrate Shaw, Corrections Officer Mike Shultz, Probation Officer Elisa Slotter, Corrections Officer Sara Paritsky, Corrections Officer Josh Clark, and Corrections Officer Travis Peppard. **2nd Row:** Kevin Prickitt, Commissioner Mark Smith, Warden Donald Stewart, Kelly Stewart, Correction Officer Patrick Knecht, and Probation Officer Poppvich.

Natural Gas News

News in Relation to the Emerging Natural Gas Industry in Bradford County

Marcellus Gas Wealth Management Seminar Set for December 10, 2010

Submitted By: Penn State Cooperative Extension

Marcellus Gas Wealth Management Seminar Set For Dec. 10

Video conference to address landowner financial and tax issues on gas leasing.

Signing a Marcellus shale natural gas lease is a life-changing event for landowners lucky enough to be on top of the major find. But huge questions arise and need to be answered before and after any landowner signs a lease.

That's why *American Agriculturist*, Ag Choice Farm Credit, Penn State Cooperative Extension, and Cornell Cooperative Extension have teamed up with experienced professionals with crucial answers. They'll host a live video conference on Friday, Dec. 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with links to at least eight sites in

Pennsylvania.

A six-member panel will tackle issues arising before you sign a gas lease all the way through managing risks, handling of royalties, and landowner succession planning. The panel includes: Attorney Gary Heim, CPA Jim Leonard, Penn State Extension's Marcellus Team Coordinator Dave Messersmith, farmer and lease consultant Jackie Root, and Ag Choice Farm Credit's Tim Sutherland and Amy Van Blarcom.

You can attend one of eight host sites in Pennsylvania and sites yet to be named in New York State. You'll also be able to get your questions answered live via the conference hookup. For more details and to make advance reservations, contact one of the following

host sites:

In New York, please e-mail: marcel-lusshale@cornell.edu .

Penn State Extension - Wayne County: Contact: Dave Messersmith, dttm101@psu.edu or call 570-253-5970 x 4110

Penn State Extension - Tioga County: Contact: Craig Williams, jcw17@psu.edu or call 570-724-9120

Penn State Extension - Forest County: Contact: Scott Weikert, siw128@psu.edu or call 814-755-3544

Penn State Extension - Sullivan County: Contact: Rick Smith, rss7@psu.edu or call

570-928-8941

Penn State/University Park: Contact: Mike Jacobson, mj2@psu.edu or call 814-865-3994

AgChoice Farm Credit - New Stanton: Contact: Doug Huston, dhus-ton@agchoice.com or call 724-696-3276 or 800-487-4135

AgChoice Farm Credit - Butler: Contact: Kathy Hartzell, khartzell@agchoice.com or call 724-482-2173 or 800-829-0056

AgChoice Farm Credit - Lewisburg: Contact: Erin Bingaman, ebingaman@agchoice.com or call 570-524-2204 or 800-223-3276

Quick Updates....

The bid for the carpet project at Bradford County Courthouse was awarded to Jay Carpet One of Athens with a low bid of \$13,400.

The Bradford County Library presents a class on photographing "Holiday Portraits" with Martin Perez on Monday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m. This photography class is free and open to the public, but space is limited, so please call the Bradford County Library at 297-2436 to reserve a seat.

The 2011 Community Development Block Grant first public meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 14, 2010, at 11:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Conference Room at the Courthouse.

Manor Chosen as Next Collectible Building Replica

By: Lori Foust, Marketing Director



Above: John Hurlburt, Maintenance Director and Lori Foust, Marketing Director are seen with collectables.

Lori Foust, Marketing Director at Bradford County Manor, is pleased to announce that The Troy Area Chamber of Commerce has chosen the Bradford County Manor to be the 10th building in a series of past and present Troy area business building collectibles.

The entire collection is on display in the lobby area of Bradford County

Manor. This collectible, as well as the rest of the collection, is available for purchase at the price of \$18 each. Please contact Lori at (570) 297-4111 ext. 3073 for more information.

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	Magistrate District Judge (Troy)	297-3880
Jury Commissioners	265-1732	Magistrate District Judge (Towanda)	268-5057
Personnel	265-1722	Magistrate District Justice (Wysox)	265-9393
Probation	265-1706	Magistrate 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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www.bradfordcountypa.org