



Bradford County Newsletter

Your Government Working for You!

Commissioners' Proclaim Veteran's Appreciation Day

By: Sheri McHenry, Administrative Assistant

At a Bradford County Commissioners' meeting held on July 12, 2012, the board proclaimed July 22, 2012, Veteran's Appreciation Day.

The proclamation states that the security of our nation depends upon our ability to defend ourselves and that young men and women of Bradford County have been called upon to serve in the Armed Forces of Pennsylvania and of the United States of America. These veterans deserve the admiration, respect and gratitude of all Americans who they have defended. Therefore, it was proclaimed by the Bradford County Commissioners,

that July 22, 2012 would be observed as Veterans Appreciation Day.

On July 22, 2012, an annual Veteran's Picnic was held at the Wysox Fire Hall.



(Back Row from left) Commissioners Mark Smith, Daryl Miller and Doug McLinko, Gene Osmun (Second Row) Ralph Jennings, Bonnie Crandall and Bob Brenner. Front Row: Roxie Wells, Bob Crandall, Representative Tina Pickett, and Tom and Diane Elliott.

Inside this issue:

Veterans Appreciation Day Voices of Agriculture	1
Library Receives Grant Tourism Committee offers map Voices of Agriculture cont.	2
Endless Mountain Visitors Moves State Food Purchase Program Cuts Juvenile's Grow Produce	3
Quick Updates Guardian Angel Project	4



The Many Voices of Bradford County's Agricultural Future

By: Michael Lovegreen, Bradford County Conservation District

Bradford County has a long and rich agricultural heritage. Farms, their products, and the industries that they support, serve as primary drivers and backbone of the county and regional economies, and serve as a wellspring of its work ethic and quality of life values.

There are over 1,400 farms in Bradford County, producing over \$121,000,000 in direct farm product revenue. Another estimated \$2.4 million in

farm related sources are generated in Bradford County. The income generated from these sources support the rural communities that have been built around the agricultural operations in the region. Additionally, the open space, environmental stewardship, and numerous other values that the farming community provides are constant reasons cited why individuals live in the region or come to visit. The importance of agriculture in maintaining economic and quality of life benefits is acknowledged and

sought within municipal and county comprehensive plans, Open Space, Greenways, and Outdoor Recreation plans, local watershed plans and the guiding plan for the Endless Mountains Region.

Most of the families engaged in farming throughout the county are families that have owned the land and operated there for several generations. They have historic and hereditary ties both to the land and to the operation. This strong farm

connection has resulted in significant interest in assuring that the "family farm" is maintained and continually used for farming, even in cases where their farm may be sold. Economic conditions, an aging farmer population, and the migration of youth from the area are some of the concerns spurring increased interest by farmers to find strategies to assure that the "family" farm will live on. The benefits of keeping farming "communities" intact and viable are being increasingly recognized by

Continued on Page

Bradford County Library Recipient of Environmental Grant

By Jeffrey Singer, Library Director

The Bradford County Library has been selected as one of this year's Bradford County Environmental Grant recipients.

Through this grant, the Library has been able to purchase the DVD "The National Parks: America's Best Idea," a film by Ken Burns.

The national parks spring from an idea as uniquely American as the Declaration of Independence and just as

radical: that the most precious portions of the land should be preserved, not for royalty or the rich, but for everyone, for all time.

These are the stories of those magnificent places and the unforgettable people who kept them from destruction, set against a backdrop of stunning beauty and grandeur.

Nearly a decade in the

making, "The National Parks: America's Best Idea", a six part documentary from acclaimed filmmakers Ken Burns and Dayton Duncan, is a breathtaking journey through the nation's most spectacular landscapes and a celebration of the people who fought to save them for future generations to treasure.

Funding for this Environ-

mental Education Project has been provided partially or in full by Bradford County and the Northern Tier Solid Waste Authority.

The Bradford County Library is located on US Route 6, one quarter mile west of the town of Burlington. For further information, please call the library at (570) 297-2436.

Tourism Committee Offering Street Maps

By: Lauren Hotaling, Economic Development Manager

The Bradford County Tourism Committee will be distributing 15,000 road maps of Bradford County that illustrate the new 911 road name changes throughout the County.

The map was designed by Bradford County GIS Planning Analyst, Samantha Edwards and will be printed by Gambal Printing.

The map features a grid pattern with all

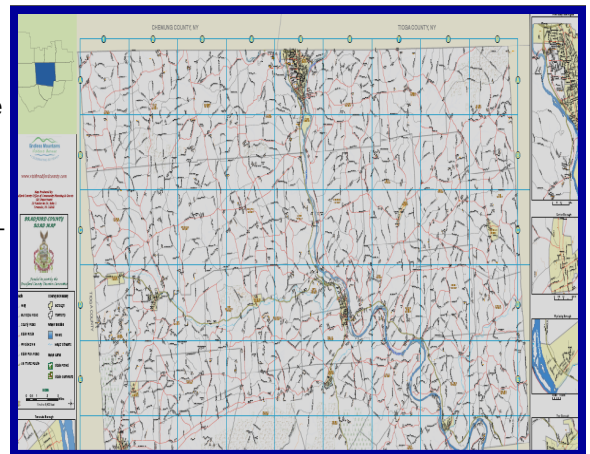
road names listed on the back of the map in alphabetical order and includes the Municipal or State Route number, followed by the tile where each road is located on the map.

As Bradford County has undergone a 911 readdressing program that creates a physical address for every building, there has yet to be a road map produced by PennDOT (Type 10 County Maps) to reflect any road name changes that

have occurred through this process.

This map will serve as a great benefit to the local community as well as any visitors that are new to the area. This project was made possible by the Bradford County Room Tax Funds.

Maps will be available in the upcoming weeks and can be picked up at the commissioner's office.



The Bradford County Tourism Committee street map that will soon be available.

The Many Voices of BC Agriculture Future

(Continued from page 1)

planners, economists, residents and community leaders.

Add to this emphasis, burgeoning natural gas development and the environmental regulatory focus on the Chesapeake Bay which cover this region; conditions that have further developed a heightened interest to

perpetuate the farm and production on which high "cultural" and "family" value is placed.

This call to "rally around the farm" has brought together a diverse coalition of the many varied interests of Bradford County Agriculture.

The goals of this coalition and the effort underway would not only result in the development of a strategy

and process for implementation, but perhaps more significantly, create the cornerstone for regular communications and cooperation between many agricultural interests. The goal of the conference is to call awareness to the integral part agriculture plays in the culture, environment, quality of life and economy of Bradford County.

Mark your calendar now and plan to join us because your voice matters: November 7, 2012 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Wysox Fire Hall. For more information and to register call the Bradford County Conservation District at (570) 265-5539 ext. 6 or Check online at agcoalitionbc.org.

Endless Mountains Visitors Bureau In New Location

By: Sheri McHenry, Administrative Assistant

The Endless Mountains Visitors Bureau felt there was not a better way to celebrate their 50th anniversary than to move into their new office located at 5405 State Route 6 in Tunkhannock, PA, where they welcome visitors out of the area and local residents.

Moving day for the staff was May 6, 2012, and they were opened to the public on May 11th. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on June 7, 2012, at 4 p.m. Bureau board members, local and state officials, as well as local businesses that participate attended the official opening of the new office and visi-

tors' center.

The Endless Mountains Visitors staff is available and ready to share a lot of great information on events and happenings in the Endless Mountains. There are videos and pictures which highlight opportunities for events and plans to be made right here in the Endless Mountains of Pennsylvania.

If you are passing through the area, or are a local resident please stop by and say hello. The staff would welcome the opportunity to help you make plans for your enjoyment, and acknowledge their

50 years of service to local tourism!

The Visitors Bureau business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You will also find throughout our local area a Guide to the Endless Mountains of Northeastern Pennsylvania 2012, which lists things to see and do, shopping, places to eat, where to stay, local amenities and annual events. The Endless Mountains Visitors Bureau celebrating 50 years of promoting tourism for the Endless Mountains of Northeastern PA.

www.endlessmountains.org

State Food Purchase Program Budget Cuts Affect Bradford County Food Pantries

By: Sheri McHenry, Administrative Assistant

The State Food Purchase Program (SFPP) has cut its' budget nearly \$25,000, shares Joyce D'Allesandro, Administrative Assistant in the Bradford County Commissioners office who administers the State Food Purchase Program. Joyce also is responsible for the surplus food program, which allows our pantries to receive free food from the federal government.

In Bradford County we have six food pantries that help our county residents: the Bentley Creek Food Pantry, Canton Food Pantry, Troy Food Pantry, TACO (Towanda Area Christian Outreach), Salvation Army in Sayre and People Helping People in Wyalusing.

The state food program distributes a certain amount of money to Bradford County to use for the purchase of food through our food pantries. With a cut in the budget such as this, the supply deficit will be significant.

There are many people in our county who are struggling. With the increase of need and families looking for help, the food and funds is not supplying the demand like it use to. There is a significant decrease in the kinds of food they receive as well as the volume they are getting.

We would like to create an awareness that there will be a need for help for our area food banks. The pantries depend greatly on community donations to fill their inventory. If your

church or organization is interested in taking on a project that will benefit the residents of Bradford County, won't you consider an event or collection that will help. What a difference you will make in the lives of those in need.

The Bentley Creek food pantry is open the 1st Monday from 9-12 p.m., the Canton Pantry, is open Monday & Tuesday by appointment; Troy Food Pantry, is open Thursday 11:30-2:00; TACO, Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10-12:00 p.m., Salvation Army in Sayre, open Tuesday-Friday 9:00 - 12:00 p.m.; People Helping People, holidays by appointment.

Juveniles Help Grow and Maintain a Community Garden

By: Sheri McHenry, Administrative Assistant

Fresh produce can be purchased in front of the Bradford County Courthouse every Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Juvenile offenders, with the help of the Bradford County Probation Depart-

ment have been working together to grow and maintain a community garden.

The vegetables came from a community garden in Athens. A special "thank you" to Tim Rob-

inson for providing the land, plants and his expertise.

Also special "thank you" to Cindy Gannon of Athens who has offered her guidance and works with the youth to maintain the vegetables grown in the garden.

All the proceeds from the Community Garden will be donated to the Bradford County Guardian Angel Project.

(Read more about the Bradford County Guardian Angel Project on page 4).

Quick Updates....

A note of thanks to District Attorney Dan Barrett, and his staff. On Thursday, July 19, 2012, the courthouse employees were invited to attend the 5th Annual Hot Dog Day from 11:30-1:30. There were hot dogs with ten topping options, and meal sides for all to enjoy.

We have 200th Anniversary T-shirts available in the Commissioners Office. Sizes L, XL, XXXL for \$18.00 and \$20.00. . We also have Autism Hearts T-shirts available in youth sizes for \$12.00. Please call Joyce D'Allesandro in the Commissioners Office (570) 265-1727 if you are interested.

Guardian Angel Project

By: Sheri McHenry, Administrative Assistant

The Guardian Angel Project was founded in 2002 by Sgt. Ivan Parrish of the Keokuk Police Department in Keokuk, IA.

It's purpose was to find a creative approach to the problem of juvenile delinquency in their community. The idea was to place positive role models from the community with troubled youth, working together for a period of eight weeks. During this time they would paint a ceramic Guardian Angel figure. At the end of the

eight weeks, the youth and their mentors would deliver their Guardian Angel to sick children at the Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse, NY.

Projects such as this play a positive role in doing something good for someone else. Using their talents helps the youth gain a sense of pride and self satisfaction. It also introduces them to positive role models in their communities. They come away from the program feeling fortunate and thankful for their lives and

the fact that no matter how bad they think they have it, they are still healthy and capable of doing good things for others.

Sue Ide created the local program in memory of Penny Farley, a former Probation Department employee, who lost her battle with cancer in 2009. It was a way to honor Farley's commitment to young people.

The program has supporters at many levels from official sponsors, and local support.

Some funding is provided by the Juvenile Accountability Court, which is supported by the Bradford County Commissioners.

For more information about this program please visit their website at:

www.bradfordcountyguaudianangelproject.com

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 Extension	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		



Bradford County Court House

301 Main St.

Towanda, PA 18848

Phone: 570-265-1727

Fax: 570-265-1729

www.bradfordcountypa.org