



# Bradford County Newsletter

*Your Government Working for You!*

## Sayre Borough Celebrates 120th Birthday

By: Mark W. Smith, Chairman

On January 29, 2011, the Borough of Sayre celebrated its 120<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The Bradford County Commissioners, Mark W. Smith, John M. Sullivan and Doug McLinko attended the event at the Sayre Historical Society and presented the Mayor of

Sayre Borough with a proclamation from the county stating: "Whereas, the citizens of the Borough of Sayre, past and present, have developed a proud, busy, prosperous, vibrant community of homes, schools, churches, businesses, and industries and has grown into being the largest municipality in Bradford County, therefore be it resolved that the Bradford County Commissioners extend to the citizens and residents of the Borough of Sayre a wish for a



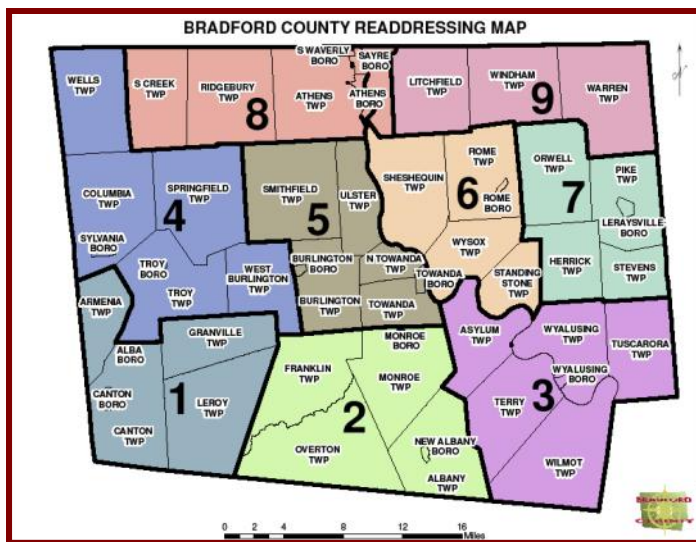
Left: Commissioner Mark Smith, Representative Tina Pickett, and Mayor Denny Thomas presented proclamations at the Birthday Party.

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## 911 Readdressing Delivery Complete



Above: Bradford County Readdressing "Order of Operations" Map. All regions have received new 911 addresses.

The Bradford County Readdressing effort has successfully delivered all matched addresses in all nine regions of the county.

Currently 89% of the county is updated with new addresses. There is still a considerable backlog of calls but be assured that we will be answering each and every call that we have received. If you have not received an address in Regions 1 - 4, feel free to call (570) 268-4103. If you are anywhere in the rest of the county, letters will be going out within the next 2 months to follow up on any

incomplete addresses. Bradford County appreciates your patience as the 911 Readdressing comes to a successful completion.

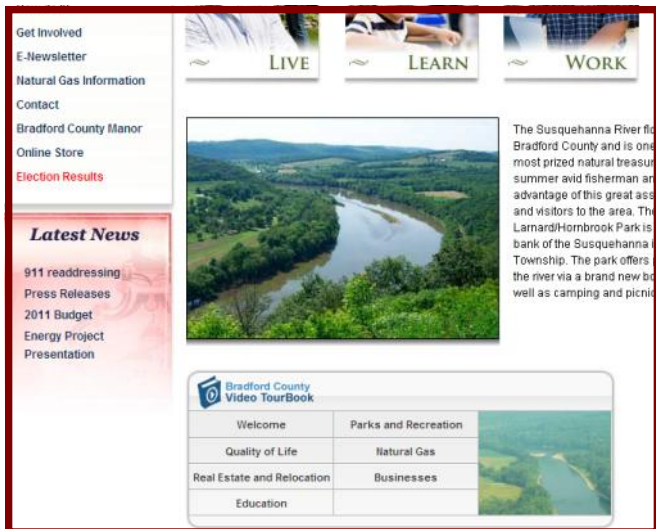
### Tip of the Month

If residents need to check if an address has been updated, whether it is their own or someone in their address book, a useful link is [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)

Click the upper left corner "Find a Zip Code." Type in the old address and hit enter and the new address will appear if it has been updated.

# County Videos Now Online

By: Michelle Shedden, Administrative Assistant



[Click here to view online videos](#)

In July of 2010 the county partnered with NACo (National Association of Counties) to publish community videos for our county website. There are seven videos total. Each video runs approximately three minutes and covers different areas of interest. The first video is a welcome. The other videos cover education, real estate, parks and recreation, business, quality of life, and natural gas. Although it is impossible to show everything our county has to offer in

three minutes, we hope this will interest visitors and new residents enough to explore all the options we have available. We felt this was a great opportunity to showcase the beauty and resources of our county.

After months of editing the videos are now available on our website for everyone to view.

We hope you will take the opportunity to view each of these videos.

## Business Videos and Links

Below is a list of businesses who advertised on the new video pages. (click on the links below)

[Arey Building Supply](#)

[Deborah Barr Law Office](#)

[Doctor Nicki Rook](#)

[Bishop Brothers Construction](#)

[Bishop's True Value plus Mini Mart](#)

[Lawrence Busch DMD](#)

[Butler Land Surveying](#)

[Century 21 Jackson Real Estate](#)

[Chesapeake Energy](#)

[Citizens & Northern Bank](#)

[Coldwell Banker Preferred Properties](#)

[Danko Chiropractic](#)

[First Citizens National Bank](#)

[Gannon Associates](#)

[Hearts @ Home Playschool](#)

[Henry Dunn Inc.](#)

[Joanne Kiser Real Estate](#)

[Laurel Hill Veterinary Service Inc.](#)

[Jay E. Lowery Funeral Home Inc.](#)

[Memorial Hospital Inc.](#)

[Mountain Lake Electric](#)

[Northern Tier Counseling](#)

[Peoples State Bank](#)

[Attorney Rosenbloom](#)

[Randy's Greenhouse](#)

[Shedden's Wholesale](#)

[S & S Custom Auto Body](#)

[Stanley White Construction](#)

[State Farm Insurance – Tom Burns](#)

[C. A. Thrush Agency Inc.](#)

[Towanda Creek Animal Hospital](#)

[Welch Insurance LLC](#)

[Williams Auto Group](#)

[Williams Oil & Propane](#)

[Leslie Wizelman CELA](#)

## Construction on Energy Saving Measures Underway

By: Lori Foust, Marketing Director

In the county's ongoing effort to become energy efficient, a work crew from Northern Tier Solid Waste Authority (NTSWA) has started work to provide hot water and heating to Bradford County Manor. This process of co-generation will convert electricity waste from the NTSWA methane generator into hot water and heating at a significant savings and will reduce the natural gas cost for

Bradford County Manor and the county correctional facility. The NTSWA crew has laid some pipe and are in the process of boring a 20" hole under Route 6 that will connect the lines from the Bradford County Correctional Facility to the Bradford County Manor.

**Right: Shown in the photo operating the excavator is Northern Tier Solid Waste employee, Tommy Hickok.**



## In Depth Look at Legal Issues in Bradford County

By: Michelle Shedden, Administrative Assistant

Like any other business Bradford County government must retain legal counsel. For the past 26 years Jonathan Foster, Sr. has been the county solicitor. Foster handles many different aspects of county legal issues, including our assessment hearings, planning department representation, election department issues, and the Commissioners' Office.

When a citizen requests an assessment appeal, Bradford County Assessment Board hears the case. The county must have legal counsel to determine that all the laws are followed. The planning department may require le-

gal advice to make sure a subdivision or land development request follows

the ordinance. If there is a violation of the ordinance, legal counsel must interpret the ordinance and would represent the county in court to make sure that the ordinance is upheld.

Foster is instrumental in reviewing language in any



**Jonathan Foster Sr.**

new ordinance, making sure it is legal and up to date. He would also handle any liability issues with the 52 county bridges. In the Election Office there may be a need to enforce the Hatch Act or any violation of the county code.

He reviews all contracts with the county for legality, oversees the bid process which must adhere to the county code, interprets ordinances, is involved in the process of creating a new ordinance, resolutions, passage of county policy, and the purchase or sale of county property. Foster is also the counsel for the Human Resources

Department in unemployment compensation hearings. He operates a law firm in Athens with his son and utilizes his 36 years of municipal law experience representing boroughs, townships, authorities, and zoning boards.

Other personnel issues are handled by the public labor law firm of Campbell, Durant, and Beatty. Chris Gabriel is the counsel for the county in labor union negotiations, Right To Know requests, termination cases, and any other personnel related issues that require interpretation of the law.

# Natural Gas

News in Relation to Bradford County's Emerging Industry

## Road Safety Meeting Held at EMA Office

By: Gary Wilcox, Director of Public Safety

The Bradford County Commissioners and Bradford County Emergency Management hosted a Road Safety meeting January 25<sup>th</sup> at the Bradford County Emergency Operations Center. Representatives from the Pennsylvania State Police, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, local fire chiefs, local law enforcement, Bradford-Susquehanna EMS Council, as a well as major operators of the natural gas industry were present.

The intent of the meeting

was to bring all of the various agencies together to discuss the sharp increase in motor vehicle accidents in Bradford County and discuss what actions they presently take or plan to take to make the roads safer to travel on.

Local fire chiefs stated that they as well as others in the county have experienced a dramatic increase in emergency calls and the volunteers are being taxed to the point where it is getting hard to get firefighters to

respond. It was also stated the steady increase in traffic is making it more difficult to get to the emergency scene in a timely manner.

Representatives from Penn-Dot explained that they expect to see further road deterioration this spring due to the heavy truck traffic. They also addressed the roads gas companies have constructed and heard complaints concerning the shoulders of the roadways and lack of guard rails on the new roads.

Chesapeake Energy, Talisman Energy, Chief Oil and Gas, and Southwestern Energy were all invited to address driver safety, contractor orientation with regard to safe driving practices, and other programs that will result in safer driving conditions.

This meeting was the first step to a long process to improve the safety for our citizens. Each agency represented here understands that we have safety concerns on the roads and they need to be addressed in a timely manner.

## Quick Updates....

**Bids and Requests for Proposals:** Bradford County currently has one bid out for the purchase and installation of approximately 400 square yards of carpet, 1720 square feet of ceramic tile and 3 square yards of linoleum. Bids will be due in the Commissioners' Office on February 10, 2011. This is for Phase II of the building renovation located at 200 Main Street, Towanda.

**Carpet Installation has begun at the County Courthouse:** The Commissioners' Office carpet was installed on January 12, 2011, followed by the Domestic Relations Office and the Sheriff's Department. There are still several offices to complete, including the Commissioners' Conference Room.

**New window Installation on the First Floor of the Courthouse is Almost Complete:** The B.R. Johnson Co, Inc. from East Syracuse, NY have done an excellent job, especially in this extremely cold weather. The second floor installation began on February 1, 2011.

## Municipal Primary Election May 17, 2011

By: Marie Zbyszinski, Director of Elections

The Municipal Primary Election will be held on May 17, 2011. Any one interested in running for county, municipal or school board offices may contact the Bradford County Board of Elections at 570-265-1717 for more information.

The first day to circulate and file nomination petitions is February 15, 2011, and the last day to file

petitions is March 8, 2011. Petition packets may be obtained from the Elections Office located in the Annex Building behind the courthouse 301 Main Street, Towanda.

**Dates to Remember**

**Sample Ballot**

**Pass on the  
Newsletter!**

**Subscriptions  
to Date: 2066**

**Sign Up Here!**

## 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 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](http://www.bradfordcountypa.org)