



The Inkwell

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Looking Forward to Summer

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By the time that you read this newsletter, Bradford will know if we have been chosen by the Weather Channel at weather.com as the country's toughest weather city. The contest has been running for a few weeks, and so far we've beaten Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Caribou, Maine as one of the worst places to live, winter weather-wise, in the Northeast. As they say, one doesn't know whether to be happy, or to cry about it. Either way, Bradford has been getting the votes, and while we will only win bragging rights, still, Bradford deserves the honor.

Summer lies ahead. Just the words sound nice. It's been a rather long and snowy winter. The Crook Farm Country Fair has already started gearing up for the festival in August. The School Program is getting organized; they will be starting in May and continuing through June.

And we have two new programs tentatively scheduled for this summer as well. One is a Summer Ecology Camp, which will be held July 12 through July 15, from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Under the direction of Fawn Miller, a teacher at Otto-Eldred School, the program will teach kids about the outdoors. It will be held at the Crook farm.

Another workshop planned this summer is a Genealogy Workshop. Titled, *Puzzles of the Past*, it will be held July 30 (that's a Saturday) at the Crook Farm. Topics such as Military Records, Courthouse Research, Scrapbooking Your Family Tree, Gravestone Rubbing, Census Records, and a Keynote Speaker PLUS a free lunch will round out the day. It looks like a lot of fun.

Watch for further information to come your way as more definite details about these two new events shape up.

Our annual meeting was held in February. Since we no longer will be hosting a Patron Party at the Crook Farm Fair, we have moved the annual meeting and election of officers to February. Our membership drive will start in July as always, however, and this year our goal is 50 new members! Watch for your membership packet in the mail.

And finally, the Bradford Landmark Society had a booth at the Kinzua Outdoor and Travel Show, held February 26 & 27. This is our third year at the show, and each year gets better and better. We had dozens and dozens of people stop by our booth and pick up literature, buy books, and inspect our display of old hunting and fishing photographs from the Bradford area. We're already planning on next year's booth to be even more entertaining!

Inside this edition of the Inkwell

- Does anyone really know what time it is? A look back at Daylight Savings Time.

- *The Evening Star & Daily Record* delivered to the Herbig Bakery.

- Petrolia Street, 1951.

- A silent movie filmed in Bradford. *The Manhaters*.

Does Anyone Really Know What Time It Is?



A few weeks ago, we all switched over to Daylight Savings Time. In other words, we set the clocks ahead an hour, and lost an hour of sleep. I asked anyone if they knew the history of Daylight Savings Time (DST), or if anyone knew the reasons we did it. No one did. Some thought it was a government thing, passed during the Depression so that farmers could work longer in the fields. One woman thought it was so that school children wouldn't have to come home in the dark. No one really knew – but everyone did know the little saying "spring ahead, fall back." Do we really "save daylight?" Let's find out!

Daylight savings time has caused controversy since it began. Daylight savings time decreases the amount of daylight in the morning hours so that more daylight is available during the evening. Not everyone benefits from the change. Farmers and others who rise before dawn may have to operate in the dark a while longer before daybreak. Pundits have dubbed it "Daylight Slaving Time."

Daylight saving time, however, can bring many benefits. Research has shown that more available daylight increases energy savings while decreasing the number of traffic accidents, traffic fatalities, and incidences of crime. Retailers, sporting goods makers, and other businesses benefit from extra afternoon sunlight, as it induces customers to shop and to participate in outdoor afternoon sports.

Most U.S. residents set their clocks one hour forward in spring and one hour back in fall. However, residents of Arizona and Hawaii – along with the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, among others – will do nothing. Those locales never deviated from standard time within their particular time zones.

Contrary to popular belief, no federal rule mandates that states or territories observe daylight saving time.

Daylight Savings Time is often credited to Benjamin Franklin, when, as an American envoy to France in 1784, suggested that the Parisians get up an hour earlier each day and proposed taxing shutters, rationing candles, and waking the public by ringing church bells and firing cannons at sunrise. But the real concept of actually setting the clocks ahead, or behind, was the idea of a New Zealander, entomologist George Vernon Hudson, who simply thought that longer daylight hours would help him in his hobby of studying insects. The idea slowly spread throughout the world, and starting on 30 April 1916, Germany and its World War I allies were the first to use DST as a way to conserve coal during wartime. Britain, most of its allies, and many European neutrals soon followed suit.

In the United States, things were a little different. Each town and community set their own clocks; and times could vary from place to place. These clocks were like many Americans themselves: individual and conforming to their own notions. There were hundreds of local times, each city setting its city hall or courthouse clock to match its own solar noon. When it was 12 p.m. in Chicago, it was 11:50 a.m. in St. Louis and 12:18 p.m. in Detroit. But that wasn't a problem because local time was all that mattered.

That changed when the railroads began unifying the country. The railroads ran by their own time, which vexed travelers trying to make connections. Many stations had two clocks, one for railroad time and one for local time.

To eliminate the confusion, railroads took it upon themselves in 1883 to divide the country into four time zones, with one standard time within each zone. To resist



could mean economic isolation, so at noon on Nov. 18, 1883, Chicagoans had to move their clocks back 9 minutes and 32 seconds. "It's as if the railroads had commanded the sun to stand still", *The Chicago Tribune* wrote. Louisville was set back almost 18 minutes, and *The Louisville Courier-Journal* called the change a "compulsory lie". In a letter to the editor, a reader demanded to know "if anyone has the authority and right to change the city time without the consent of the people?" In an 1884 referendum, three-quarters of voters in Bangor, Me., opposed the 25-minute change to "Philadelphia time".

By 1916, as Daylight Savings Time was becoming common in the European nations, it was still hotly debated here. The *Literary Digest* saw it as a trick to make "people get up earlier by telling them it is later than it really is." *The Saturday Evening Post* asked, in jest, 'Why not 'save summer' by having June begin at the end of February?' And an Arkansas congressman lampooned the time reformers by proposing that we change our thermometers: move the freezing point up 13 degrees and a lot of folks could be tricked into burning less fuel to heat their houses.

Still, in 1918, we adopted the Daylight Savings Time plan.

World War I's end swung the pendulum back. Farmers continued to dislike DST, and many countries repealed it after the war. Britain was an exception: it retained DST nationwide but over the years adjusted transition dates for several reasons, including special rules during the 1920s and 1930s to avoid clock shifts on Easter mornings.

The U.S. was more typical: Congress repealed DST after 1919. President Woodrow Wilson, an avid golfer who liked to golf and supported more daylight hours, vetoed the repeal twice but his second veto was overridden. American farmers rejoiced as the clock was set back to "God's Time". Only a few U.S. cities retained DST locally thereafter, including New York so that its financial exchanges could maintain an hour of arbitrage trading with London, and Chicago and Cleveland to keep pace with New York.

Wilson's successor Warren G. Harding opposed DST as a "deception". Reasoning that people should instead get up and go to work earlier in the summer, he ordered District of Columbia federal employees to start work at 08:00 rather than 09:00 during summer 1922. Many businesses followed suit though many others did not; the experiment was not repeated.

In 1930, Bradford had heated debates on the necessity of "fast time", but finally the Board of Commerce (now the Chamber of Commerce) and the Bradford Businessmen voted to accept Daylight Savings Time for the months of June, July, August and September. At least most businesses did, but in June 1930 it was announced that the Producers Bank and McKean County Trust banks would adopt Daylight

Savings Time, but the Bradford National Bank and Commercial Bank of Bradford would not – they would stay on Eastern Standard Time, explaining that their bank system required it.

For the next several years, some businesses in Bradford ran on Eastern Standard Time, and others on Eastern Daylight Savings Time. Announcements in the newspaper were always careful to list both times.



DAYLIGHT



BEGINS

Daylight Savings Time was adopted again during World War II. Called War-Time, the U.S. enacted FDR's year-round DST law just 40 days after Pearl Harbor. All combatants on both sides quickly adopted DST to save vital energy resources for the War.

Following the war, it left it up to the states and localities until 1966, when Congress once more decided it was a national concern.

In 1973, an oil embargo by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries led Congress to enact a test period of year-round daylight-saving time in 1974 and 1975. The test period was controversial; it ended after complaints that the dark winter mornings endangered children traveling to school. The U.S. returned to summer daylight-saving time in 1975.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 changed both the starting and ending dates. Beginning in 2007, daylight time now starts on the second Sunday in March and ends on the first Sunday in November. This year, we will revert back to Standard Time at 2:00 AM, on the first Sunday in November, the 6th.

At present, Day Light Savings time will now be in effect for 238 days, or about 65% of the year. So enjoy the sunshine. It's been a long, long winter.

Pie Plates Wanted!

Do you have any old pie plates, or pie pans that you just don't need anymore? The Bradford Landmark Society is looking for donations of pie plates. Each year, the Baked Food Tent at the Crook Farm Country Fair has delicious pies baked by volunteers. Pieces of pie, or whole pies, are sold. And each year, we need extra pie plates. Glass would be preferable, but we will take any spare pie plate that you might have. Just give us a call at the Herbig Bakery, 362-3906, email us at info@bradfordlandmark.org, or stop in and drop them off. We'd appreciate it!



Recently, the Bradford Landmark Society received a letter from Dianne Herold Warner, a former Bradordian now living in Washington State. She had been cleaning out some things, and had discovered an old Civics paper that she had written in ninth grade, at School Street Junior High School. Her teacher was Desta Cole, and the paper is dated 1951. It is such an interesting report that I called Dianne, and asked her permission to reprint her delightful report in this issue of The Inkwell. Please read her words and enjoy!

Enclosed is a copy of a Civics paper I did on Petrolia Street for Desta Cole 's Civics class in 1951 at Bradford Junior High. I found the report in a collection of high school photos and memorabilia. I have a lot of it as I am Class Historian for the BHS Class of '54 and because we Herolds, Downs, and Bovairds tend to collect everything.

For the record, I am a compulsive counter. I count train cars at intersections, steps to the mail box, and people assembled at gatherings. Counting has served me well. I 've been a teacher of very young children and I never lost a kid. Some of my professional friends cannot say that.

I am not sure what prompted me to count the bricks on Petrolia Street, but I remember it took a while. I spend several days at it. I resorted to chalk to mark counts up the hill on the curb after losing count a couple of times. Then, when I had the information, what to do with it? Hence, the Civics Report, though I suspect I had to wait a while for an opportunity to freeform the article. I kept the card with the vital information of the count on it in a wooden jewel box. A true treasure.

Petrolia Street, 1951 by Diane Herold Warner

One of the minor streets in Bradford, but a very important one to those who live there, is Petrolia Street. Because of being a hill, the city has much to do to keep it in satisfactory conditions for driving, especially in winter when the cinder trucks and snow plows are the main part of its traffic.

The street consists of 641,376 bricks, 32 across and 20,043 rows upward. The houses, ranging from Dresser's huge mansion at the corner, to Taylor's small cottage two thirds of the way up, are well taken care of and most are well built.

There are 16 houses, 10 driveways with 23 families and two boarders. Also are six children not within school age, two of which are still babies. There is one fire hydrant halfway up, five telephone poles, two of which serve also as street lights, and six different types of sidewalks. The fire alarm box stands at the foot of the hill. Many of the members own and farm small gardens and grow flowers and vegetables.

The children attend Fourth Ward, Junior and Senior High School. The occupations range from Allegheny State Park electrician, nurse, newspaper worker, to an architect. As mentioned before, the street serves this community well.

* * *

Diane concluded... "There is no grade on it, though I am not sure what that means...It has Desta Cole 's initials on top. She may not have thought the report worthy of a grade ".

We don't care that it never got a grade – we think it's an entertaining report and thank her for sharing it.

The Evening Star and the Daily Record Comes Home

Last October, the Bradford Landmark Society was contacted by the Archives at the Pennsylvania State Historical and Museum Commission in Harrisburg. They had recently de-accessioned some old newspapers that had originally been published in Bradford, and asked us if we thought that we would like them. The papers were *The Evening Star and Daily Record*, and the *Sunday Herald*, dating from 1888 to 1943. You bet we did!

They told us that these particular newspapers had been stored at the Drake Oil Well Museum in Titusville for a number of years, but that museum had undergone renovation, and while construction was ongoing there, the newspapers had been sent to Harrisburg for microfilming. When the project was done, the Oil Museum did not want the original newspapers back; the PSHMC thought about it, and decided to offer them to us, sort of like sending them home again. It turned out to be 125 volumes of bound newspapers, all boxed up and sitting on two pallets in the shipping department of the state museum. And, oh yeah, each pallet weighted 1000 pounds.

Microfilm of these newspaper had never been done before and there are no paper copies (well, a few random ones here and there) in our area. We had thought that the rest were lost and destroyed over the years, so were thrilled to have the opportunity to lay our hands on the real thing. *The Evening Star* in particular, which was published until the 1940s, seems to be a much more “community”-oriented paper; more photographs, more news about the city and its citizens, more social comment.



Negotiations followed concerning shipment details; but the state finally agreed to pay 75% of the costs. All we had to do was find someone with a forklift, and a place to store them.

Preparations on our end began around Christmas, as we cleared off shelves, moved boxes, and basically made enough room to hold 125 bound newspapers, weighing a total of 2000 lbs. We contacted Doug Wingard at Bradford Pipe, and asked nicely if one of their men could forklift off the pallets, and store them inside one of their buildings down on Chestnut Street. They were very agreeable and pleased to help the Landmark. This photo shows the first pallet coming off the truck.

At 8:30AM, last Wednesday morning, in six inches of snow, the papers arrived. Bradford Pipe did a great job unloading the pallets, and we had the state delivery truck back on its way to Harrisburg in a matter of minutes. We then unwrapped the pallets, and took several boxes at a time, shuttled back and forth, between the Herbig Bakery on East Corydon Street, and Chestnut Street. By 9:20 AM, all the newspapers were safe inside the Landmark, all stowed away on shelves. We even amazed ourselves how fast and easy it was. And now the fun starts!



Here is a photo of the shelving that holds about half of the shipment. The newspapers are still in their boxes at this point. We will unbox, sort, and index each one. A preliminary inspection shows us the earliest one is dated 1888; the years follow consecutively until 1929 – the 1930s appear to be all missing; and then a few random volumes from 1942 and 1943. That's it. Most years come in four bound volumes; each quarter of the year bound together, i.e., January through March, April through June; July through September, and October through December.

The Evening Star was originally owned by Rufus B. Stone. Robert P. Habgood bought the newspaper from Stone in 1902. *The Daily Record* was owned by Lewis Emery; Habgood bought that newspaper in 1908 and merged it with the *Star*. In 1922, he purchased the *Sunday Herald* from the estate of Ada Cable, Bradford's pioneer newspaper woman. In 1939, the *Herald*, *Star*, and *Bradford Era* merged into one company, titled Bradford Newspapers. Habgood died four years later in 1943, at the age of 74.

The Man Haters

A silent movie filmed right here in Bradford!

In July of 1916, the city of Bradford was thrilled to watch a real movie filmed on the streets of Bradford. A "silent" movie – talkies won't make an appearance until the mid 1920s – *The Man Haters* was filmed in conjunction with a Bradford Era contest to find the perfect leading lady. And boy, was it action packed!

Every scene was filmed in Bradford or vicinity, and every member of the cast was local. Filming took two weeks. The plot involved Ruth, the leading lady (Marion Holbrook), who elopes with Henry (played by Harold Osborne) and a merry mix up cast of characters as they are chased throughout the town. Even H.H. North, mayor of Bradford in 1916, gets a cameo role at the end of the movie as he marries the young couple.

The scene opens at Ruth's home on Congress Street (filmed at Lewis Emery's mansion). Ruth is depicted escaping from an upper story window of her home by a convenient ladder placed there by Henry. The couple is intercepted by Heinie (Vincent Roy), a would-be-detective, and Ruth's maid (Lucile Friday). During a confrontation, Ruth's sister Edna (Agatha Gillen), enters and throws Heinie down the steps. Henry's sister Alice (Mary Williams) appears in this scene as well.

On Main Street, three scenes were enacted, one at Thompson & Woods drug store, one before the Greenwald Store, and the other in front of and inside the Johnston store. The filming attracted a large and interested crowd of spectators which at times blocked the street and seriously interfered with traffic.

East Main Street was chosen for the car chase, as the eloping couple flees. Director Donald Ryan and Frank Bender of the McHenry Film Corporation rode in front with a megaphone shouting directions to the actors following in the getaway cars. In another scene, Heinie, the detective, has bundled Ruth's maid into a push cart before a fast moving trolley car. Ryan and Bender again rode in a car ahead of the trolley, with the camera trained on the action behind them.

Half a dozen scenes were made at the Mallory residence on School Street (Henry's home), behind Thomas Kennedy's home on Walker Avenue in the garden and under the pergola, May's Grocery Store, the Women's Club House on Chautauqua Place, the woods behind the Children's Home, and the Public Square.

One of the most exciting chase scenes was filmed in Derrick City, Henry and Ruth, still trying to elope in an auto, drive right through the water near the bridge over Foster Brook. The entire cast of pursuers follow.

The finale "rivaling in daring the most thrilling Scenes in the Perils of Pauline", the entire cast is trapped on the upper floor of the St. James Hotel at the head of Main Street. Dense clouds of smoke pour out of the windows as Bradford's finest firemen dash through the crowded streets to the rescue. With hoses at the ready, they storm into the building, followed by Henry. He soon appears at a window, carrying Ruth, who has fainted, and just like a hero, carries her to safety.

And of course, yes, Henry and Ruth "elope" successfully. Mayor H. H. North performs the ceremony, and concludes by kissing the new bride, to the great amusement of the assembled multitude. The pursuers arrive too late to prevent the marriage but in the excitement, Heinie, the detective, and Edna, Ruth's sister, faint dead away. The movie opened on Wednesday, July 12. *The Era* wrote: The Manhaters Score Tremendous Triumph.

