



The Inkwell

info@bradfordlandmark.org

July 2012

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Local fairs	2
Country Fair	4
Music Schedule	5
Talkies	6
Grilling Class	2
Landmark news	8
Mayor's Report	10

The official newsletter of The Bradford Landmark Society



We've had a very busy spring and early summer, here at the Herbig Bakery. First of all, our beautiful awning was finally delivered, and installed just in time for the hot weather. It's a green and white striped awning, with the words "Bradford Landmark Society" embroidered on the flap at the front. It really makes the old bakery look so nice. And we are sure that it is appreciated by those who might stop underneath it to cool off or in case of

rain. Stop by and take a look. The cost of the awning was donated by



Betty Pfohl, one of our volunteers. We also participated in the town wide yard sale this spring, too, and with the

profits bought ten new shelving units which we put upstairs to use for storage of our collection. They were certainly needed, and thanks to Mike Fuoco, another one of our dedicated volunteers, the Landmark is slowly getting organized, sorted, and neatly stored.

Check inside for more information on our new project at the Crook Farm!

The Crook Farm Country Fair is Coming

The 33rd Crook Farm Country Fair will soon be here on August 25 & 26. August is always such a busy month in the Bradford area. Check inside this edition of the

Inkwell for the details on the Crook Farm Country Fair, the Italian festival, the McKean County Fair, Mt. Jewett's Swedish Festival, the Big 30 Football game and Port-

ville, NY's 175th Anniversary Celebration. All these events are a great way to end the summer before Labor Day. Join in, and support our local towns, and people!

Local Fairs, Festivals, & Celebrations Coming in August

August seems to be the best month for hosting events. Maybe because it's the last month of summer, maybe because school starts at the end of the month, maybe because that's when most people travel. But it's a fact, at least in this area, that August is packed with things to do. Here are some of the best from around the area:

August 4. The Don Raabe Big 30 Charities Classic

The Don Raabe Big 30 Charities Classic is a high school football all-star game held in the Twin Tiers region of Western New York and northern Pennsylvania. The game is held annually each August at Parkway Field on the campus of Bradford Area High School in Bradford.

Each team consists of 43 players from a 15 school-district area in each state (15+15 being the "30" indicated in the game's title). New York's team covers mostly Cattaraugus County, portions of Allegany County, and two small districts in southeastern Chautauqua County, while Pennsylvania's team covers a five-county area including Warren, McKean, Cameron, Potter and Elk Counties. The players are mostly high school graduates; some go on to play college football but for many, who do not, it's the last hurrah of their football days.

August 5 through 12th. 175th Celebration of Portville, NY

Portville will be hosting a seven day festival in honor of the town's 175th anniversary. Some of the events "in the works" include: Horse Pull on Sunday, Antique Tractor Pull on Monday, "Taste of Portville" on Tuesday, Firemen's Day with demonstrations by local fire departments on Wednesday, Portville Historical and Preservation Society Open House on Thursday, Opening night of a new play with the Olean Theater Group on Friday, a 10K run and a parade on Saturday. The grand finale birthday party, with cake and a fireworks display will be held on Sunday.

August 9, 10, and 11. Bradford Festa Italiana

The Italian Festival is held each year to celebrate the Italian heritage of the Bradford residents. The festival showcases local Italian cuisine along with children's games and rides and live entertainment and draws many former residents of Bradford back to town for this nostalgic reunion of friends, families and visitors.

August 11 - 18. The McKean County Fair.

Annual McKean County Fair with amusement rides, tractor and farm equipment show and parade, antique tractor pulls, livestock exhibits and judging, parade, pageant, pet show, Full Productions tractor pull, live music and entertainment, stock car racing, Motocross Show, Beauty Baby Contest, demolition derby, arts and crafts, food, and more. This year, several traveling exhibits promise to educate as well as entertain.



The Mobile Energy Education Training Unit (MEET-U) was designed by the Drake Well Museum in 2007 to take an oil and gas industry energy assembly experience around Western PA and educate both children and adults. The 44 feet long, 13 feet high trailer will be at the Fairgrounds on Tuesday, August 14th.



PA Farm Bureau's Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab may be just what you're looking for! A mobile agriculture education science lab, complete with all supplies and a certified teacher, travels to different elementary, middle schools, and fairs in Pennsylvania. The lab is designed to target grades K through 8.

A 32 ft. trailer, complete with heating and air conditioning, the mobile lab contains 12 work stations. Each station provides space for 2-3 students to complete hands-on experiments. The lab accommodates up to 900 students per week, by teaching (5-6) 50 minute science classes per day. This exhibit will be at the Fairgrounds Tuesday August 14th - Saturday August 18th.



The Pennsylvania WoodMobile is a traveling exhibit that provides information on the state's forest resource and the state's forest products industry. Patrons to the exhibit will see how the forests of Pennsylvania have shaped the history of the state and nation, learn how today's forest differs from 100 years ago, touch the various hardwood species produced in Pennsylvania and see how deer impact today's forest. They will also

learn about Pennsylvania's forest products industry, see how products are made, learn how the forest is managed in a sustainable fashion, and experience how common and unusual forest products touch our lives every day. The WoodMobile will be at the Fairgrounds on Thursday August 16, and Friday, August 17.

August 12, 13, and 14. Mt. Jewett Swedish Festival.

An annual, three day, community wide festival celebrating the Swedish heritage of the Mt. Jewett area. Maypole dance, Scandinavian Folk Dance, Norwegian story teller, Swedish dancers, the annual "mystery gift" from the King of Sweden, lots of good Swedish food, book sale at the library, window displays, etc.

August 25 & 26. The Crook Farm Country Fair.

The Crook Farm Country Fair is a tradition with most Bradfordians, who flock to the historic farm on Seaward Avenue the last weekend before Labor Day to hear Blue Grass music, buy handmade crafts, eat delicious food, watch great demonstrations throughout the grounds, including the blacksmith shop, carpenter's shop, the weavers shed, and dipping candles; tour the farmhouse, visit the quilters in the barn, look at exhibits in the bank building, buy raffle tickets for the Chinese laundry, meet with friends, and have a great time. For two days! The Crook Farm, which is owned and operated by the Bradford Landmark Society, which purchased the farm in 1974. The house, probably the oldest dwelling in the Bradford area, was accepted on the Pennsylvania Register that year, and on the National Register of Historic Places the following year. It has been restored and furnished in the period of the 1870s.

SCHOOL HOUSE NO. 8 was built 1850 (or 1889) at West Corydon Street Extension and moved to the Crook Farm in 1975. The BANK BUILDING was constructed at the Farm site by Friends of the Society. A replica bank tellers' cage and a large old Cary safe are housed in the two-story structure. It is used as a Society meeting place, craft shop, rainy day refuge & classroom for student visitors, and Old Time Music and dancing.

SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!

Sponsored by The Bradford Landmark Society

CROOK FARM COUNTRY FAIR

August 25 & 26
10AM-5PM each day

Live Music Festival, Handmade Crafts,
over 50 Vendors, Great Food & more

\$3.00 Admission, Children under 12 are free



33rd Annual Crook Farm Fair Old Time Country Music Festival

AUG 24, 25, 26 2012

BRADFORD, PA Seaward Ave at Tuna Crossroad
Bradford, PA (814) 362-3906 <http://www.bradfordlandmark.org/>
MORE INFO: Howard Blumenthal howard@blumenthals.com 814-368-4057

**Allen Hopkins / Curt Osgood / Fraterigo Family
Allegheny Hellbenders
Crook Farm All Stars (host band)
Square Dancing - Keith Blackmon Tribute
Sunday Morning Gospel Sing w/Larry Combs
Flatfoot Mountain Dancing w/Charlie Burton
PLUS LOTS MORE!!**

Historically the Crook Farm has featured traditional Bluegrass, Folk and American Traditional Music & Dance. This year is no exception with an expanded line-up featuring top-notch local and regional talent. This year we will be encouraging all local, traditional musicians to participate in and around the fair grounds, & join in at the Jam Tent.

- **FREE ADMISSION** -- for musicians entering the fair grounds
- **CONCERTS** -- Main Stage with host band CF All-Stars & others
- **WORKSHOPS** -- Flatfoot Dancing, Erie Canal & Civil War Songs, Instrument Repair and more
- **OLD TIME ROUND & SQUARE DANCING** -- Main Stage Sun. Bank Bldg Sat Eve.
- **IMPROMPTU JAM SESSIONS** -- Encouraged around the Fair all weekend
- **JAM/ SONG TENT** -- All Day SATURDAY & SUNDAY
- **SUNDAY MORNING GOSPEL SING AROUND** -- with Sunday Morning Harmony & Larry Combs
- **FREE ROUGH CAMPING** -- Friday & Saturday nights in the field next to the farm

THE SCHEDULE: Check on-line for the most recent schedule!

http://bradfordlandmark.org/images/upload/country_fair_music_schedule.pdf

- ***FRI EVE (Bank Bldg) 7:30 - 11PM Country Music Jam & Round Dance (come to dance, sing or play)
- ***SAT EVE (Bank Bldg) 7:00 - 10PM SQUARE & ROUND DANCE (open band, open calling)
- ***SAT EVE (Jam Tent) 7:00 -? Open Jam, Campfire song-swap
- ***SAT / SUN Workshops (schedule posted at fair)

MAIN STAGE

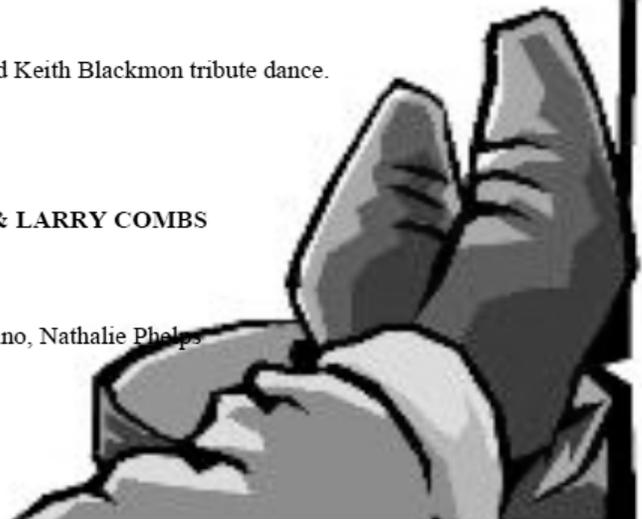
***Saturday Aug. 25th

12:00 - 12:30 ----- Drew Danielson / Mike Hampsey
12:45 - 1:30 ----- Allegheny Hellbenders
1:45 - 2:45 ----- Crook Farm All Stars & Virginia Reed Keith Blackmon tribute dance.
3:30 - 4:15 ----- Mutt & Geoff
4:30 - 5:00 ----- xxx

***Sunday Aug. 26th

10:30am - 11:45am - SUNDAY MORNING HARMONY & LARRY COMBS
Gospel Sing Around.
12:00 - 12:50 ----- xxx
1:00 - 1:30 ----- Fraterrigo Family Band
1:45 - 2:45 ----- Old Time Square Dance w/Ernie Pagano, Nathalie Phelps
3:00 - 3:40 ----- Sandy Bull & Friends
3:45 - 4:30 ----- xxx

MORE INFO: (814) 362-3906
<http://www.bradfordlandmark.org/>



The Talkies Come to Bradford

A popular movie right now, and one that won this year's Best Picture of the Year at the Academy Awards, is "The Artist", which is a silent movie, filmed in black and white. The story takes place in Hollywood, between 1927 and 1932, and focuses on the relationship of an older silent film star and a rising young actress as silent cinema falls out of fashion and is replaced by the "talkies". "The Artist" has been acclaimed all over the world as a tribute to the silent film era and has won dozens of prestigious awards.

It is ironic, perhaps, that it is hailed as "a magnificent piece of film-making" as a silent film when all other films have sound. Back in the 1920s, when silent movies were the only kind there were, the new "talkies" movies where you could actually hear the actors' voices and sounds—were all the rage.

Bradford was mad for the talkies, and it is probably no surprise that the first movie theater in town to show a "talkie" was Shea's Theater on South Avenue. If you don't remember or know where Shea's Theater was located, it stood in the parking lot that is now behind the Seneca building. Shea's was a very deluxe theater, with box seats along the side and two tiers of seating. Built in 1901, it was the premium theater in Bradford for many years.

On May 7, 1928, Shea's Theater manager Robert Horning, announced that the theater had obtained the new Vitaphone apparatus which produced talking movies. The Vitaphone was a sound-on-disc system; the soundtrack was not printed on the film itself, but issued separately on phonograph records. The discs, recorded at 33 1/3 rpm (a speed first used for this system) and typically 16 inches in diameter, were played on a turntable physically coupled to the projector motor while the film was being projected. The Vitaphone was invented by Western Electric and Bell Telephone Laboratories. Vitaphone was widely used and commercially successful from 1926 to 1931. Following 1931, sound-on-film became the accepted method of movie making.

Previous to the Vitaphone, sound for silent movies was provided by an organ player inside the theater itself.

On May 12, Shea's ran the first movie in Bradford that had Vitaphone sound - a Warner Brothers production "Old San Francisco". Strictly speaking, it was not a 'talkie' since the Vitaphone version that was released by Warner Brothers had sound-on-disc recording of music and sound effects only—no dialogue. Still, it was exciting, and people flocked to the theater to see—and hear—the new movie.

The Era wrote "hardly had the program opened yesterday when everyone who had crowded into the theater began to smile in appreciation of the new feature and afterwards groups of patrons could be found everywhere about town discussing in glowing terms the merits of the dual attractions."

Six weeks later, "The Jazz Singer", the first feature-length motion picture with synchronized dialogue sequences arrived at Shea's Theater. Movie advertisements in the Bradford Era boasted that 9000 people had gone to the movie in the first three days at Shea's. "You See! You Hear! You Feel! Al Jolson's Personality! Al Jolson's Magnetism! Al Jolson's Songs! and Al Jolson's Joy! "Not merely an accompanied production, but you see and hear Jolson sing and talk." It was a huge success.

The next year, on October 31, 1929, the Grand Theater on Main Street, finally installed "the new talking and sound equipment" and presented the Douglas Fairbanks and Loretta Young movie, "Fast Life". Hundreds of people, even though it was Halloween, poured into the Grand Theater for the evening show and were just as enthralled there as they had been at the Shea's Theater the year before.

Talkies, or Speakies, were here to stay.



Al Jolson (1886 – 1950) was an American singer, comedian, and actor. In his heyday, he was dubbed "The World's Greatest Entertainer".

The Jazz Singer, starring Al Jolson, is a 1927 musical film that was one of the most significant developments in the history of motion pictures. It was the first film with synchronized sequences which heralded what became known as the "talkies" and the decline of the silent film era. The movie premiered on October 6, 1927, at Warner Bros.' flagship theater in New York City.

His performing style was brash and extroverted, and he popularized a large number of songs that benefited from his "shamelessly sentimental, melodramatic approach". Numerous well-known singers were influenced by his music, including Bing Crosby, Judy Garland, rock and country entertainer Jerry Lee Lewis, and Bob Dylan, who once referred to him as "somebody whose life I can feel".

In the 1930s, he was America's most famous and highest paid entertainer. Between 1911 and 1928, Jolson had nine sell-out Winter Garden shows in a row, more than 80 hit records, and 16 national and international tours. Although he's best remembered today as the star in the first (full length) talking movie, *The Jazz Singer* in 1927, he later starred in a series of successful musical films throughout the 1930s. After a period of inactivity, his stardom returned with the 1946 Oscar-winning biographical film, *The Jolson Story*. Larry Parks played Jolson with the songs dubbed in with Jolson's real voice. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Jolson became the first star to entertain troops overseas during World War II, and again in 1950 became the first star to perform for G.I.s in Korea, doing 42 shows in 16 days. He died just weeks after returning to the U.S., partly due to the physical exertion of performing. Defense Secretary George Marshall afterward awarded the Medal of Merit to Jolson's family.

Get Your Grill On!

Want to learn more about grilling and barbequing?

Learn tips and techniques of grilled food with local grillmasters Rev. Leroy Beckes & John Ryan as they cook up a delicious class on outdoor grilling!

August 18th, 3PM
Crook Farm on Seaward Avenue



Class size is limited.

Cost is \$25.00 each, with a delicious grilled dinner included.

Make your reservations today!

Call 362-3906, or email

info@bradfordlandmark.org

What's New at the Landmark?

If you've driving by the Herbig Bakery within the last two weeks, you might have noticed our new green and white striped awning hanging on the front of the building. It was recently installed by Jamestown Awning, and really makes the whole building look so nice. We painted the entire building last year, and redid the sign, so the awning is the finishing touch to a very worthwhile bakery improvement project.

Our awning mechanism is one of those old fashioned "crank 'em in and out" sort of system, probably from the 1930s. Years ago, when the previous awning was installed, it was put on at such an angle that we couldn't completely roll it up. Which meant that over time, snow laid on the part that was still unrolled and the weight eventually bent and cracked one of the roller joints. The old awning started to sag, badly, and eventually dipped so low that people walking down our sidewalk had to duck to miss hitting their heads on the cloth. So we took it off, had to get the cracked part fixed, as well as have a new awning made. We had Jamestown Awning come last fall and make measurements; it was too late in the fall to worry about a new awning at that time, so we decided to put a new one up this spring.

We kept the metal parts inside the building over the winter, but had to lay the 25 foot two inch pipe that the fabric wrapped around outside along the building by the vacant lot (it was too long to store inside).. And there it lay, all winter, until this spring, when someone stole it. Yep, came in the night with pipe cutters and carried off an important part of the awning support. We were crushed, mad, disappointed, and angry. And we had to buy another pipe (thanks, Bradford Pipe!) before the new awning could be installed.

But its done. Looks great. And should last for another ten years. Stop by, and take a look!



The Mayor's Message 1912

Did you ever wonder what Bradford was like a hundred years ago? The Bradford Landmark Society recently received several bound issues of "The Mayor's Message" – small books, dating from 1903 through 1913, each about 200 pages long, which gave detailed reports from various departments in the city, and an official address from the mayor. The 'message', or annual report, gives all sorts of fascinating information about life in Bradford a century ago, and in the interests of learning more about our past, we present some interesting items from the 1912-1913 issue. You will see that the old saying "The more things change, the more they remain the same" is very apt; 1912 had many of the same problems that Bradford is struggling with today.

The book begins with Mayor Spencer Degolia's official report. He begins by revealing the city's finances; noting an assessed valuation of over 5 million dollars but complaining that not enough money was spent for public improvements.

The salary of the mayor in 1912 was \$600 a year. The City Treasurer earned \$1200 as did the City Clerk and the City Solicitor but the City Controller only earned \$800. Every expense was listed for the city, and some of the entries are surprising and makes one wish that the Mayor's report had been a little more specific. Bury dog?

City property was listed, and very specifically, too:

Electric globes - \$56.70
Supplies - \$52.31
Lumber - \$1.15
Plumbing - \$52.58
Laundry - \$9.25
Books for Law Office - \$30.50
Furniture - \$40.00
Typewriter Repairs - \$29.75
Cuspidors - \$15.03
Fumigator and disinfectant - \$33.40
Freight and Express - \$3.30
Repairs to City Hall - \$67.13
Flags for City and Hose Houses - \$31.71
Suitcase for Sealer - \$4.50
Cannon repairs, Park - \$17.75
Lawn mower - \$10.50
Repair locks - \$3.70
Lime - \$90.00
Wiring Lockup - \$7.15
Floor Oil - \$2.60
Inspection for 6th Ward Hose - \$200.00
Salary of Janitor - \$788.06
Salary of Extra Janitor - \$51.94
Decorating buildings - \$100.00
Light City Hall - \$180.00
Heat City Hall - \$419.90

The Police Department was also listed.

And note, they really did feed the prisoners bread and water.

Salary, regular men - \$8029.04
Salary, extra police - \$543.75
Bread and Butter - \$89.82
Drugs - \$1.25
Helmets - \$32.00

The Health Department had an interesting year of expenses:

Examinations of Plumbers - \$10.00
Phones - \$16.00
Disinfectant - \$28.90
Feed - \$94.72
Bury dog - \$1.00
Tires for Rig - \$ 8.00
Garbage - \$.50
Isolation Hospital Repairs - \$ 6.00
Salary Health Officer - \$900.00
Salary Secretary - \$60.00

The Poor Farm expenses (later the Hannum Home, and now Heritage Suites on Minard Run) had, among other items:

- Salary of Poormaster—\$2473.00
- Phone—\$27.95
- Nurse—\$6.00
- Message and Railroad fares—\$133.52
- Groceries—\$2552.92
- Drugs—\$105.65
- Insane Care—\$ \$5388.43
- Ice—\$13.00
- Coal—\$12.00
- Cess Pool—\$40.15
- Pigs purchased—\$16.00
- Shoes—\$36.07
- Tobacco—\$10.91
- Court expenses—\$18.65
- Burial—\$4.50
- Furniture—\$27.00
- Horse purchase—\$200.00
- Churn—\$9.00
- Dynamite—\$6.25
- Farm Tools—%1.75
- Harness—\$22.70
- De Curlo voyage to Italy—\$47.00

The Fire Department, which had several stations, listed all the inventory of every one, very detailed lists and the value of each. The “new” fire station, which had just opened on the corner of Chestnut and East Corydon Streets, was well equipped. Here are some of the items that the Fire Chief reported to the Mayor in 1912:

- 2 story brick building, complete with baths, toilets, steam heating apparatus, gas and electric lights, building and lot—\$24,665.00
- 1 Chemical Automobile—\$2900.00
- 1 Combination Chemical Hose Wagon, complete w/ nozzles—\$1300.00
- 1 Segrave Truck, 250 feet of ladders, deluge set—\$1130.00
- 1 Chief’s wagon—\$125.00
- 1 set single sleighs - \$20.00
- 1 set double sleds—\$60.00
- 3 sets double harness—\$360.00
- 2250 2 1/2” fire hose—\$2250.00
- 5 horses—\$1500
- 1 Relief wagon—\$150.00
- 1 step ladder—\$1.50
- 1 horse clipping machine—\$15.00
- 1 Silsby Fire Steamer—\$2500.00
- 6 horse blankets—\$10.00
- 3 horse fly nets—\$1.50

Livestock on the poor farm consisted of 3 horses, 14 cows, 1 bull, 7 calves, 9 hogs, and 90 chickens.

And of course, the general well being of the city was listed as well, Included were

- the number of deaths the previous year (11 babies under the age of 6 month died, as well as 21 people over the age of 80, among others); the types of diseases that killed them (18 people died from pneumonia, 13 people died from tuberculosis, and 17 from heart attacks –the rest died from a wide variety of diseases)
- The numbers of those married (73) those widowed (54) and those divorced (2)
- The number of houses quarantined, and why—Measles (196)m Scarlet Fever (32), diphtheria (2) and many, many others.
- The number of births—155 boys, 154 girls
- The number of arrests—for drunkness (257), Suspicion)24), Carrying concealed weapons (3), Turning in false fire alarms (2), insane (5), incorrigible (1), inebriates (2), and on and on. Total—741.
- The police also were paid for escorting explosive nitro-glycerin trucks through the city, an earned \$93 for their efforts.
- The Mayor’s report also listed all the names of council members and where they lived, and all the names of every department head.
- It listed all the streets paved, new sewer lines, all fines paid to the city (but not parking—we didn’t have parking meters yet!)
- Building permits issues, fire calls, ordinances issued, a report on the new reservoir (Gilbert) that was under construction, the building inspector’s number of permits, bridges built (one on Barbour Street), etc.

It’s a very complete picture of what life was like, back in 1912 in Bradford and very enlightening!

Facebook

Are you a Facebook friend? Did you know that the Bradford Landmark Society has a Facebook page? Facebook is a social networking service and website launched in February 2004, owned and operated by Facebook, Inc., and as of May 2012, has over 900 million active users. Now, that's a lot.

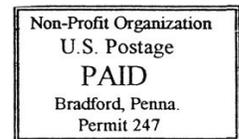
A January 2009 Compete.com study ranked Facebook as the most used social networking service by worldwide monthly active users, but even though the Bradford Landmark Society began a Facebook page last year, it was not kept up regularly or had posts, well, posted. I guess that we weren't one of those active users. Frankly, I considered the whole "Facebook" thing out of my realm, and while I occasionally put on a photo or an announcement on something 'Landmark', it was by no means consistent.

Then, last week, I went to a "Brown Bag" lunch at the Bradford Area Public Library, sponsored by the Bradford Chamber of Commerce. The subject was how to get more exposure for your business or organization, using Facebook. Shane Hvizdzak, St. Bonnie's grad and Bradford native, was the teacher. He seemed to really know his stuff.

Most of the people—about 30—in the audience, acknowledged that they (or their business) has a Facebook page, but most of us did not seem to be that expert in updating, posting, or even some of the simple tricks and advantages. I'd say that a lot of us were out of our league, but Shane explained some key factors of Facebook to the group, and made some recommendations and suggestions as to how to find the time to "keep it up", and the advantages of doing so.

So I tried it. Really made an effort to post interesting photographs, bits of history, things happening at the Landmark, etc. And surprise! That first week we reached 391 people who looked at our page (the week before, we had 7). So, it works. Now, that's great for the Landmark AND history buffs. So, I'll keep it up, and I invite you to "friend" us. And now we ARE one of the 900 million active viewers. —Sally Costik

Bradford Landmark Society
45 East Corydon Street
Bradford, PA 16701



Return Service Requested

