



The Inkwell

The newsletter of the Bradford Landmark Society
45 East Corydon Street, Bradford, PA 16701
Phone 814-362-3906 or email us at bradland@penn.com

January 2007

Published 4 times a Year

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Curator at Herbig Bakery

Sally Ryan Costik

Genealogist

Molly Lindahl

Researcher

Larry Richmond

Volunteers at the Bakery

Mary Ryan

Gordon Ernest

Bill Knight

Hours of Operation:

Herbig Bakery, 11AM - 2PM,
Monday Wednesday, Friday

Historic Crook Farm By Appointment

Its amazing, but we are already seven years into this new century. How time flies, indeed. Its been an interesting winter here in Bradford - hardly any snow, but lots of rain. But spring is coming, and along with that comes spring cleaning, which is exactly what we have been doing for the past two months at the Landmark. We were lucky enough to hire Mike Fuoco to help us. If you know Mike, he is an expert on machines, engines, and all things mechanical. He joins us through the Rural Opportunities program.

Meanwhile, we have been undertaking a vast, comprehensive survey and inventory of all the things that the Landmark has collected, had donated, or somehow or other ended up with over the past 28 years (yes, that's how long we've been here!). I must admit, there are things that we are uncovering that are new to me - and I've been here 12 years. Along with the inventory, we are cleaning and rearranging, filing, dusting, and finding all sorts of things that we didn't know we had, or had forgotten about. And there are some things that we can't even figure out what they are!

On another note, the new/old City Hall is just about completely restored, and its just gorgeous inside. The building is truly remarkable. Only in Bradford would the city keep a building empty for nearly 40 years, and then do such a fabulous job in its restoration. And by the way, there is a very strong possibility that the Bradford Landmark will be moving into the ground floor of the city hall in 2007. Its not a certainty yet, but the Landmark Board of Directors feel that it is in our best interests to move and the Landmark staff have gone through the building twice, just getting a feel for it. Keep your fingers crossed!

A special thank you goes to Steve Giordano of Temple Pharmacy in Kane, who so graciously donated a laser printer and scanner to the Landmark, so that we could be more efficient. Thanks Steve! We love them both and have put them to good use.

One of the events for the First Night 2007 celebration this year was "First Hike", which took place along the Tuna Valley Trail beside the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford. The Bradford Landmark was asked to supply 35 historical knowledge type questions, some hard and some easy, to be asked at certain points along the trail. Prizes were given to those who could get them correct. How many do you know?

Questions about Bradford for First Night 2007

1. What was Bradford's first name?
2. What was the name of the hotel that stood on the site of the present day Emery Towers?
3. Bradford has one of the world's first monorails back in 1880. What was it called?
4. Who invented the Zippo lighter? What did he name it after?
5. What ice cream treat made with ice cream, marshmallow, chocolate and Spanish peanuts was invented in Bradford?
6. What year did the University of Pitt at Bradford start?
7. Who is the famous opera singer that was born in Bradford?
8. When did the streetcars stop running?
9. What was the name of the airport that UPB is built on?
10. Where was Bradford's first high school located?
11. What event is held every other year, featuring Zippos?
12. What smelly vegetable grows each spring in the woods near Bradford?
13. What is the former name of the street now called Festival Way?
14. What six streets have the same name as US Presidents?
15. What is the real name of Tuna Creek?
16. What major ethnic group holds a three day festival each August?
17. What year was oil discovered in Bradford?
18. When did the Bradford Era start publication?
19. Who is buried in Daniel Kingsbury's grave?
20. How many bridges that cross waterways (not overhead highway bridges) are found inside the city limits?
21. What is the town slogan of Bradford?
22. What US President came through Bradford on his way to visit the Kinzua Bridge in 1884?
23. What was the first name of the Bradford Public Library?
24. What is the name of the historical society in Bradford?
25. What celebrity officially opened the new Dipson Movie Theater in the Hooker Fulton Building in 1935?
26. What was the name of the baseball league that Bradford was a part of in the 1940s?
27. What is the slogan on the masthead of the Bradford Era?
28. When was the present day Bradford High School constructed?
29. What is unusual about the siding of the Bradford hospital?
30. Where is Bradford's only PA state historical marker located?
31. Several years ago, Bradford had a mascot. What was its name?
32. What did ARG celebrate this year?
33. What famous magician visited Bradford in 1898 with the circus?
34. Who was the first woman Mayor in Bradford?
35. What happened in Bradford on Good Friday, 1947?

Find the answers inside this newsletter!

Introducing our latest fundraising idea –

A Miniature Replica of Your Own Home or Business as a keepsake miniature wooden building!

Over twenty years ago, a company called Cat's Meow created a new sensation when it began to make commissioned wooden miniature buildings for towns, organizations, church groups, clubs, and others. The concept of a local building becoming a collectible miniature was revolutionary and became an overnight success. Bradford became swept up in this phenomena and soon well known buildings like the Dresser mansion, the Carnegie Library, St. Bernard's Church, the old Post Office and others were being created. Now, in 2007, over thirty different miniature buildings representing various structures in Bradford are known to exist. Not all of them were manufactured by The Cat's Meow company, and most are now no longer available but they are still enjoyed and sought after by collectors. The Bradford Landmark Society has the only complete collection of all the small miniature buildings of the Bradford area in existence (or so we believe), and we even published a small collector's guide to these collectibles last summer.

The Bradford Landmark Society has been asked time and time again if individual houses could be created, and we are pleased to announce that we have entered into partnership with a talented northern Pennsylvania artist, Bernadette (Bernie) Oswald, whose delightful paintings of private family homes create the perfect gift for weddings, birthdays, graduations, baby showers, or any occasion. A resident of nearby Emporium, Bernie has been an award winning artist for over 30 years and sells her work both privately to select customers, publicly on Ebay, and is a commissioned artist with the Emporium Little Museum.

The cost is \$39.95 each, plus tax \$2.40, \$4.00 shipping, or \$46.35. The Landmark earns a commission for each house sold.

To order, first take a good quality photograph of your home. Make sure that the colors are correct and that the angle of the picture is the one that you want. Take some up close detail photographs of some hard to see areas, where shadows might hide details.

Bring or mail your photograph to the Bradford Landmark Society at 45 East Corydon Street, Bradford, PA 16701. Make checks payable to The Bradford Landmark Society and we will forward all materials and information on to Bernie. In just a few days you will have your own treasured keepsake as a reminder of your home or business for years to come.



At right, is the real photo, and the finished miniature house!



It Was A Very Good Year

Each year, the Bradford Landmark Society keeps track of all the new buildings or businesses that were erected, or started, and all the buildings or businesses that closed, were demolished, or for some reason failed. But, once again this year we are thrilled to report that many, many more businesses were opened, expanded, or relocated in the city than those that closed. Not all of the new businesses survived the entire year, but we applaud their efforts and optimism in the Bradford economy. Just like Time Magazine, who declared the Man of the Year to be all of us, The Bradford Landmark Society declares that 2006 was the Year of the Small Businessman. Or businesswoman, to be politically correct!

New Businesses in 2006

Compu-Tech, a new computer repair business, opened July 5 at 44 Main Street.

The Plaza Buffet opened May 9, at 127 Main Street.

Bradford Texas Hot Shop opened in Blaink Plaza off East Main Street, summer 2006.

The Internet Auction Block and Shipping store opened at 111 Main Street, late spring 2006.

Triple-A-Nail opened at 115 Main Street, spring 2006.

Hong Kong Buffet opened at Blaink Plaza off East Main Street, May 28, 2006.

All In One Sports and Scrapbooking opened at 443 East Main Street, April 30, 2006.

Bradford Subshop & Pizza opened at 17 Congress Street, late November, 2006.

Mad Tatter Tattoo Parlor opened on Mechanic Street, summer 2006.

Rent-A-Center opened at Blaink Plaza, early January 2006.

Pawsitive Expressions Pet Boutique opened on Glendorn Road, fall 2006.

Peking Buffet opened at Valu Plaza, December 2006.

Tender Mercies Massage Therapy, Russell Blvd., fall 2006

Creative Images, Barbour Street, fall 2006

This 'n That, East Pine Street, summer 2006

Christina's Used Furniture, 24 South Avenue, November 2006

Expanded or Relocated Businesses in 2006

Blueberry Country moved from the Mercantile Store to 82 Main Street

Keeping Ewe in Stitches moved from the Mercantile Store to 82 Main Street

Salvation Army moved from Kennedy Street to former Temple Beth El on Jackson Avenue

Temple Beth El moved from former temple on Jackson Avenue to Clarence Street.

Edward Jones Investments opened a second location at 30 Foster Brook Blvd. in November 2006.

Wasserott's Medical Supplies moved from South Kendall Avenue to Valu Home Center Plaza off East Main and changed its name to *Apri*

VFW moved from Riddell House to former Gleason Beer Distributing on Barbour Street.

McKean County Dental Clinic moved to Chestnut Street Extension.

Other Actions in the City

Family Video Store is being built on West Washington; *Green's Court* and a small house were demolished to make room for new store and parking lot.

McKean County SPCA constructed new kennels; a memorial gift from the family of Michael Quinn Wick, who, along with his dog, were killed in a traffic accident.

Paul C. Duke III Aquatic Center opened at UPB, August 2006.

Dr. Robert and Mary Weiss of Warren donated the *Seneca Building* to UPB in January 2006.

School Street Elementary School got a new playground in back of school, August 2006; the home of Mary Ann Johnston at 105 Pleasant Street was demolished to make room for the playground.

Fires and Demolitions

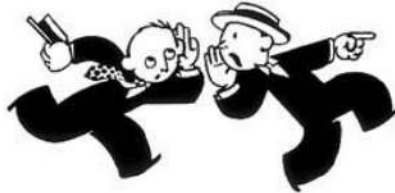
63 South Avenue burned, and was demolished. In 1900, while the Holley Hotel (present day Riddell House) was being built, Frank Holley, who named the hotel after his family name, rented this house while the hotel was under construction.

Four homes on upper Kennedy Street; 11 persons became homeless. Arson was the culprit.

Green's Court, a residential apartment house off West Washington Street, demolished to make room for new video store.

House belonging to the Church of the Ascension, was demolished after much controversy with the Historic Architectural Review Board and church officials.

May the year 2007 be as interesting, as challenging,
and as memorable as the old one!



A warm January; a cold May.
- Old Welsh Proverb

Historic District Building Threatened !

Elsewhere in this newsletter, we listed several buildings that have been demolished, burned, or otherwise lost to existence in the year 2006. We are sad to report that by this time next year, it looks as though another one of Bradford's historic buildings will be lost as well.

Several newsletters ago, we listed all the buildings in the historic district, and their location. One of them, the former Arcade building on East Washington Street, a large, two story yellow brick structure, was completed in early 1903 by S. A. Measley, H. Schoonmaker and C. L. Lane. It was an architectural marvel - called a "trans-Tuna" design - a large portion of the building was built over the creek, similar to what Frank Lloyd Wright envisioned at Falling Water. Designed to be a "superstore" - sort of indoor mall at the time, it had a bowling alley and skating rink by 1907, and a variety of shops and stores. During World War I it was used for storage of canned goods, sugar, tea, and flour, which caused that portion which spanned the creek to collapse into the Tuna. It was estimated that 200 tons of weight - approximately that of a locomotive - was stored on the beams that spanned the creek. No wonder it fell into the water!

A legal battle soon began, as the owners sued the Jones Brothers Tea Co. which had stored the too heavy canned goods. By 1921, it was declared that the Arcade building at the end of Pine Street must be either reconstructed or razed by order of the Bureau of Fire Protection, Dept. of State Police. Surprisingly, it was repaired, and in August of 1921 the collapsed section was removed, and the entire side of the building facing Pine Street was bricked over. It has survived since that time, with a variety of tenants.

This past fall and winter has been hard on the old building. Vacant now for about 10 years, it was put up for back taxes some years ago, but was unclaimed and today is officially part of McKean County's Tax Repository - basically a sort of purgatory for properties that are unable to be sold by the county. The roof facing east has collapsed down onto the second floor (the rafters can be seen resting on the second floor through the windows), and skylight can be seen through the boards. It seems only a matter of time before this building, too, will be gone. Do we have any suggestions as to what can be done? Unfortunately, no. A large brick building, especially this one so close to the creek, will not be easy to repair or demolish. And when it goes, an important part of Bradford's architectural history will be gone as well.



The Arcade Building on East Washington Street. Vacant for about 10 years, its roof has collapsed onto the second floor - what will become of this historic structure?

How many did you know?

Answers about Bradford for First Night 2007

1. Littleton.
2. St. James Hotel
3. The Pegleg Railroad
4. George Blaisdell. The zipper.
5. The Tubber.
6. 1963
7. Marilyn Horne
8. 1927
9. Harri Emery Airport
10. At the top of Mechanic Street
11. Zippo Swap Meet
12. Lecks
13. Webster Street
14. Kennedy, Jackson, Washington, Harding, Lincoln, Jefferson, Clinton.
15. Tunungwant Creek
16. Italians
17. 1871
18. 1878
19. Daniel Kingsbury, his wife Ruby, and his dog.
20. Thirteen. (Barbour, W. Washington, Mechanic, Willard, Hobson, E. Main, Kennedy, Davis, Mill, Main Street, Elm, Kendall, and Forman)
21. Cool town, warm hearts.
22. Ulysses S. Grant
23. Carnegie Public Library
24. The Bradford Landmark Society
25. Miss America.
26. The PONY (Pennsylvania Ontario New York) league.
27. The High Grade Oil Metropolis of the World
28. 1925
29. It was the first aluminum sided hospital in the world.
30. On North Kendall Avenue, near ARG.
31. Slick, the oil drop.
32. It's the oldest operating refinery in the world.
33. Harry Houdini.
34. Connie Cavallaro
35. The flood of 1947.

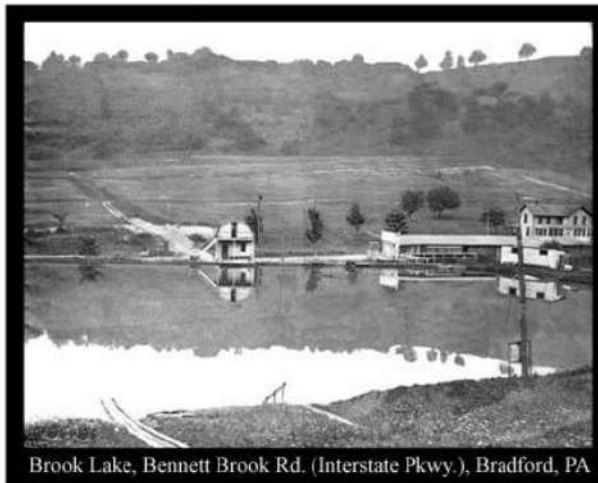
1 to 10 questions correct – You need to learn more about Bradford!

11 to 20 questions correct – You must be a native Bradfordian!

21 to 30 questions correct – You love history!

All the questions correct – Are you sure that you don't work at the Landmark?

Bradford Landmark Society
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Bradford, PA 16701

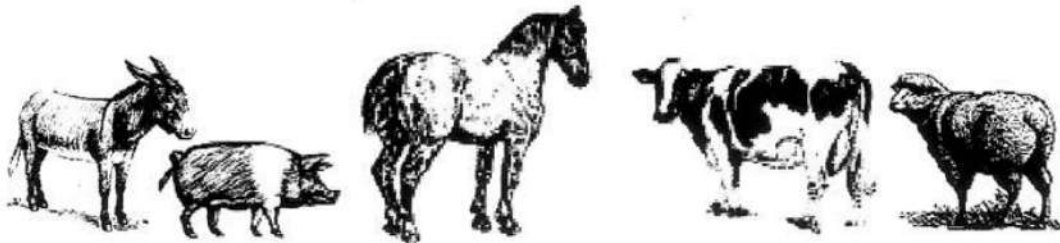


Brook Lake, Bennett Brook Rd. (Interstate Pkwy.), Bradford, PA

Don't be sad, spring is coming!

This notice appeared in The Bradford Era on March 2, 1882

Notice is hearby given that the legislature of Pennsylvania will be asked to pass a law to prohibit all cattle, horses, mules, sheep, and swine from running at large in the City of Bradford, Bradford Township, and Foster Township in McKean County, PA.





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Well, its nearly spring, but it would be hard to tell in Bradford, at least today – there is about a fresh 3” of snow on the ground, and more predicted for Easter weekend. That’s Bradford! They say that it will be the hottest summer on record, too – can’t wait for that.

This newsletter is dedicated to spring. There are articles on Daffodil Days of the American Cancer Society, the Red Poppy (Buddy Poppys) sold by VFW around Memorial Day, Victory Gardens, and of course, floods. You will be surprised how many floods Bradford endured before the flood control projects of the late 1950s. We’ve added some photographs of those floods, too, so you can appreciate just how warm and dry you are in 2007!

And our Antique Appraisal show promises to be THE Bradford event of 2007. It seems like everyone has treasures in their attic, just waiting to be discovered. We’ve had people stop us on the street, call us on the phone at the Landmark and at home, stop us in Tops, at Parkview, and through email. One lady wanted to know if she should come early with her camper and camp overnight! While we hope for lots and lots of people attending, that may be a tad overzealous. Anyway, we invite everyone to come, and there is more information inside this edition of the newsletter.

And then, just for fun, we’ve included a two page listing of things that happened “way back when” in Bradford’s past, all during the spring. People seem to enjoy reading about and remembering, events and dates from long ago.

Meanwhile, back at the Herbig Bakery, we are in the midst of researching a new “house” book and the Crook Farm is getting ready for the school program to begin in May. And don’t forget to keep an eye on new web site, www.bradfordlandmark.org – Molly, our webmaster, keeps doing a great job on keeping it up to date and interesting.

Happy Easter!

"What's It Worth?"

? An Antique Appraisal Show ?

Sponsored by The Bradford Landmark Society

? Sunday, April 29, 2007 ?
1:00 PM - 5:00 pm

? Ritchie Hall, St. Francis Drive ?

? Admission is \$5.00 for one, \$10.00 for two, or
\$15.00 for three items. Persons are limited to 3 items (or less).

General Admission \$3.00

Excitement is building as the Bradford Landmark Society gets ready for the Antique Appraisal show. Its been many years since an antique show has been in Bradford, and we have been thrilled with the response as people dig through their closets, attics, garages, and under their beds for all sorts of things that they always knew were worth something, but never had a chance to find out for real. Now they can! It promises to be a really busy day, so plan early, pack carefully, and come and have fun. See you there!

**Books, Paintings, Glass, Iron, Antique Guns, Oriental Rugs,
Lamps, Clocks, Stoneware, Folk Art, Jewelry, Items before
1850, Postcards, Paper items, Stereo Cards, Country
Primitives, Collectibles, and More! Come and have fun!**

Plenty of free parking at Ritchie hall and across the street
at Fretz Middle School.

THE APPRAISERS AND REPRESENTATIVES AND THEIR SPECIALTIES:

- **Hans Tanner** Locust Grove Antiques, Geneseo, NY - Paper Goods (books, paper, paintings, postcards, stereo cards and stamps).
- **Anne Serra** Cuba, NY - Glass, earthenware, lighting, toys, forged iron, early textiles and early wood items (ranging from 1750-1850).
- **Matt Cottone** Cottone Auctions, Mt. Morris, NY - Furniture, stoneware, folk art, art glass, lamps, oriental rugs, clocks and paintings.
- **Marshall & Evelyn Tyler** Coffee Mill Antiques, Bradford, PA - Stoneware, dating from 1800-1900.
- **Greg Souchik** Allegheny Arsenal, Bradford, PA - Antique guns and weapons.
- **Ron Yeager** Retired U.S. Postmaster, collector for 40 years, part-time dealer for 7 years. Accredited by American Philatelic Society. His specialty is U.S. stamps, but is also knowledgeable in international stamps.
- **Linda Meabon** Zippo Manufacturing Co. Rep., Bradford, PA - **approximate appraisal** of Zippo products, not collectible value.
- **Shirley Boser** W. R. Case and Sons Cutlery Rep., Bradford, PA - **approximate appraisal** of Case products, not collectible value.

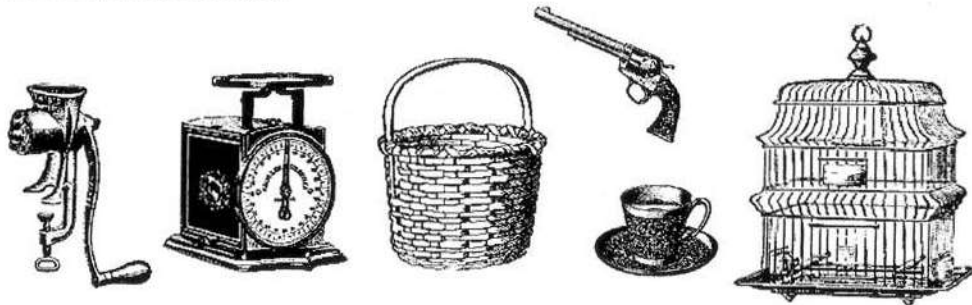


Each person is limited
to a total of three items



Only those items that you can carry in by yourself may be appraised. If you have a large item, such as furniture, please bring several photographs showing different angles and all sides, top and bottom. We will not provide people to help you carry items; all appraisals will be done inside Ritchie Hall.

If an appraiser offers to buy your item, you may do so; however, that is a transaction strictly between you and the appraiser. The Bradford Landmark Society has no involvement in such a sale. Food will be available.



Sometimes, it seems like only yesterday....We know that many of these happened before you were born, but its still fun to look back and learn from history.

The first camping season begins for Girl Scouts at Camp Kil-O-Qua, in Bingham	June 8, 1961
Cigarette blamed for fire gutting Webster street Italian club	May 11, 1961
A new seven unit telephone number system for Bradford and vicinity to be inaugurated Jan 17, 1960	August 25, 1959
Fire at 32 Mechanic Street damages Faulkner Market; this is third fire in recent years in this area of Mechanic Street, including the Paradise Grill fire in 1952 and the Texas Hot Fire of Dec. 12, 1958	February 2, 1959
Remodeled Johnson's Restaurant holds grand opening.	April 29, 1959
Final Kinzua Bridge excursion train with 16 cars holding 860 people aboard cross over the bridge as the Erie Railroad plans to abandon 14 miles of track from Lewis Run to Mt. Jewett.	April 22, 1958
Allegrette's Confectionary Shop closes after 66 years on Mechanic Street.	April 18, 1958
Bradford drops out of the PONY league in the first month of the 1956 season	May 18, 1956
Final movie performances are held in Shea's Theater	March 29, 1956
Old drinking fountains at Holley Hotel, Central Fire Station, and the Public Square are replaced with new ones.	May 23, 1952
Bradford is one of several cities allotted television channels by Federal Communications.	April 11, 1952
Construction moving ahead on new St. Francis Church, East Bradford	May 29, 1950
The Fraternal Order of Eagles will hold a grand opening of their new home at 460 South Avenue (currently Louie's Bar in 2007).	April 25, 1949
AKC Dog show planned at Valley Hunt Club on July 13, 1946.	April 29, 1946
Five Frontino brothers are discharged from the service.	April 13, 1946
John (Jack) Hermes now manages Kendall Service Station (formerly Bradford Filling Station) on corner of Main and Congress streets.(36 Main street).	April 4, 1946
John L. Sullivan, in a letter to the editor of the Bradford Era, says that he will be appearing in the Bradford in vaudeville, and will give \$1000 to any man that he cannot stop in four rounds.	March 6, 1906
Douglas Fairbanks, actor, visits Bradford.	March 22, 1918
Marian Anderson, famous black singer, in concert tonight at 3rd Ward school auditorium. (Landmark has autographed copy of program).	May 25, 1938

Remember When? We take a look back at some spring happenings from years ago..

The Bradford Community Industrial Corp. announces a new industry in the city Plexowood Inc. whose plant will be built on Holley Avenue	March 20, 1963
Work continues on schedule at Hamsher house which is being renovated for University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing at Bradford	June 9, 1963
Last and final dosage of the Sabin Oral Vaccine is received by 17,510 persons	June 16, 1963
Mammoth 90 foot, 22 ton steel beam for new high school auditorium building is pulled through traffic cleared streets.	May 4, 1964
UPB purchases Emery Hotel to be used as student dormitory.	May 14, 1964
Clark's Discount Department store, opens Thursday; located at 667 E. Main street, it promises to be a "shoppers wonderland". (note: Valu Home Center is here in 2007).	March 23, 1965
An "after hours" deposit box has been built into the front right wall of the City Hall on Kennedy street, with all deposits and payments dropping four feet into a secure heavy metal box.	April 8, 1965
Bottle of Beer Distributor holds grand opening at 100 Barbour Street.	May 29, 1965
Bradford Milling Co. building demolished for site of new Holiday Inn	March 19, 1966
Emery Hardware announces that it is going out of business	March 28, 1967
Dr. T. Edward Hanley dies, age 75, oil executive, art and book collector, at Bradford Hospital.	April 10, 1969
P. L. Webster has deeded to the City of Bradford a plot of ground in Oak Hill cemetery, in trust, as a burial place for the old Soldiers of the city. Mr. Webster's gift is highly appreciated.	April 20, 1896
William D. Burdick killed by nitroglycerine explosion in Rutherford Hollow; his head found the next day, April 25, 1899	April 24, 1899
City lot on the corner of Congress and Corydon deeded to the school district for library purposes	April 26, 1897
Bicycle Club is reorganized; new officers and new name Central Cycle Club of Bradford	May 2, 1895
Kinzua, Pa Post Office closes today permanently - an early casualty of the nearby Kinzua dam being constructed	June 30, 1962
Dr. E. H. McCleery, noted for his Kane Lobo wolves, dies at 94.	May 24, 1962
More than 900 people attend the dedication of the new \$1,630,000 Floyd C. Fretz Junior High School, the first school constructed in Bradford in 27 years.	April 29, 1962
Corning Glass Works in Bradford produces the world's largest piece of fused silica for a new telescope at the US Naval Observatory.	April 22, 1962

Floods and Springtime

As spring approaches – who knows, maybe it's already here and we missed it – many people remember the 'good old days' when springtime meant flood time. This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Flood of 1947, which most people assume was one of the worst floods ever, in Bradford history. Not so, however. But what is interesting, is the reason that so many people remember this flood – because it coincided with the first broadcast of WESB on that Good Friday in April, 1947.

Bradford, located on the Tunungwant Creek, and located in a valley surrounded by hills, is prone to floods and always has been. Major floods occurred in 1894, 1902, 1904, 1910, 1918, 1942, and 1947, and of course, 1947.

The flood of 1894 occurred on May 21, 1894, and was described by the Bradford Era as "water water everywhere". It had rained for four days and nights, and the flood that came on the fourth day "beat anything within its past history". The banks overflowed, and from the Blaisdell Wood Factory (off Congress Street) the water rushed down the Erie railroad yards. The B.B. & K. trestle near the shops of that railroad were shaky, but able to remain standing by parking railroad cars on it. The water went through Second Ward, through Webster Street, and up Main. The Oil City House, located where Tops Parking lot is today, reportedly caught live trout from the water rushing through the hotel; one proprietor was seen calmly reading the newspaper with his feet propped up while a "babbling brook" ran beneath his desk. Over on Elm Street, the oil barrels of the Haggerty Oil works floated away. Flood waters ran over Kennedy, Amm, Hilton, the Kendall refinery, Main, and Forman. Owners of wooden plank sidewalks, quickly tied them to trees so that they would not float away. And for a while, rumors that the dam at Marilla reservoir, seven miles west of the city, had broken and that a wall of water was on its way to flood the rest of the town had residents terrified. By Sunday evening, the waters began to recede, and the town breathed a sigh of relief.

The flood of 1902 happened in March, when twenty-five streets were inundated. This flood was caused by melting snow, and ice jams on the Tuna, especially near Barbour Street. As the water backed up over the banks, a "bayou" was formed at the intersection of Center and West Washington Streets, State, and Pearl Street. Lower Main Street, including the Riddell House, was flooded. Webster, Miller, Amm, Forman, Boylston, Bishop, Kennedy, Florence, and Davis Streets were all underwater. Finally, a group of men got together and decided to dynamite the creek. A man named Malone holding a bottle of nitro glycerin was lowered with a rope tied around him down to the ice, and dug a small hole, and carefully put the bottle in. Then, pulled back up, and safe, the nitro was touched off. "There was an explosion that re-echoed through the valley and pulverized ice was sent flying through space to crystalline spray, upward. The gorge began to move." Malone and his crew were the heroes of the day, and the water immediately started to recede.

Of course, this flood had its humorous moments, too. A rumor was started that city hall was giving away free rubber boots to everyone and a crowd descended on City Hall, much to the mayor's confusion; an "intoxicated comedian" who was entertaining an audience was seen swept away to the delight of the crowd; and "the usual acts of heroism were performed by eager gentlemen, such as carrying dainty ladies across wet places and giving them aid and comfort".

The flood of 1904 came in January that year, and once again Bradford streets were flooded. By now, it had almost become a habit - Bradfordians piled up their furniture and belongings, headed for the second floor of their homes, and waited until the water subsided. Because this flood happened in January, snow was still on the ground, and combined with the ice flows from the rising ice, created mini-gorges down the sidewalks. But like all spring floods, waters eventually receded.

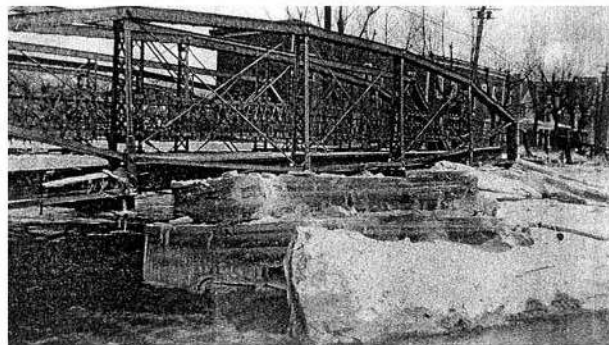
The flood of 1918 brought huge ice flows, which threatened to hit the Barbour Street bridge. Huge ice chunks, some as large as 2 feet thick, and 10 feet across, heaved up on the lower streets. We have included a photograph of some of the ice in this newsletter.

The flood of 1942 was again, disastrous to the city.

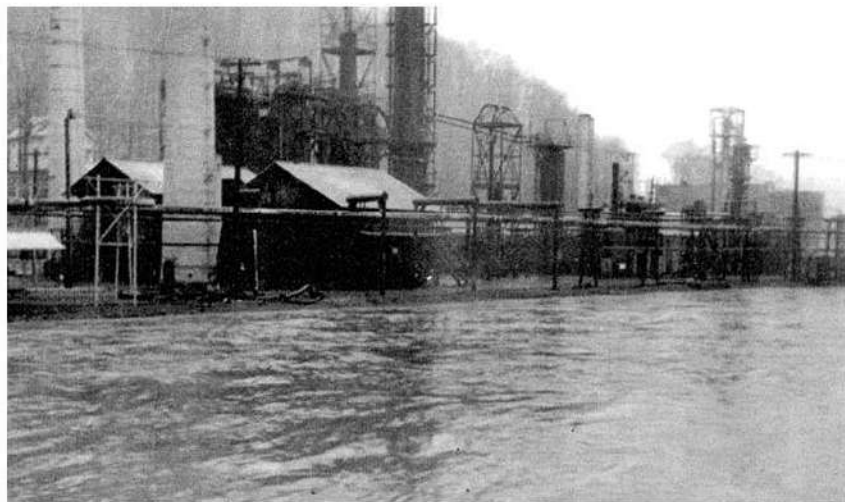
The flood of 1947 is well documented, and it is this flood that finally set the city on the quest for flood control. In 1948 the Flood Authority was formed, and by 1956 more than one million dollars had been spent in its only eight year history. The city felt that not only had it lost money in damages caused by floods but also that industries, like Corning, were hesitant to build here as long as floods threatened the better locations.

The work began down near the Tuna Crossroads, and continued towards Bradford over the next few years. Basically, the creek walls were dredged out, and retaining walls built in their place. The creek was widened in some places and some business owners (such as the Davis Bakery) that were located along the creek were required to surround portions of their land to the Flood Authority.

Today the Bradford District Flood Control Authority maintain the waterways, make repairs, remove sediment, maintain safety standards, and safeguard the system to ensure that the annual springtime floods are a thing of the past.



Barbour St. Bridge Feb. 1918





Edward Payson Weston

As spring approaches, people are spotted once again walking on the UPB trail. Walking is nothing new: older editions of the Bradford Era often reported people walking back and forth to Olean, to Buffalo, on foot and on snowshoes! We thought that you might be inspired by another walker, Edward Payson Weston, a man whom many credit the "sport" of walking. W. H. Hart, a druggist from Bradford in 1907, would often tell his friends that when he was a child he actually met Weston in person. After reading of Weston's feats (oh, that's a terrible pun) we are sure that you will agree that Edward Payson Weston was a remarkable person.

Edward Payson Weston (1839-1929) was a notable pedestrian, who was largely responsible for the rise in popularity of the sport of simply walking in the 1860s and 1870s.



Weston first received attention in 1861, when he walked 478 miles from Boston, Massachusetts to Washington, DC in 10 days and 10 hours, from February 22 to March 4. During the walk, he faced snow, rain, and mud, and he fell several times due to deep snow. His longest period of uninterrupted sleep was 6 hours, and he usually ate while walking. He arrived in Washington at 5:00 pm, and was strong enough to attend Abraham Lincoln's inaugural ball that evening.

The walk was part of the terms of a bet on the 1860 presidential election. The better whose candidate lost was to walk to Washington to see the inauguration of the new president. Weston lost when he bet against Lincoln, and received only a bag of peanuts for his trouble. However, he also received newspaper coverage and a congratulatory handshake from the new president, which inspired him to further pedestrian feats.

In 1867, Weston walked from Portland, Maine to Chicago, Illinois, covering over 1200 miles in 26 days, winning a prize of \$10,000. He received several death threats from gamblers who had bet against him, and was attacked once. He gave lectures to crowds of spectators on the health benefits of walking, both during the walk and afterwards.

Over the next few decades, Weston continued his professional walking career. While he was sometimes beaten in indoor multiday races, he held numerous records for long-distance endurance events. In 1869 he walked 1058 miles through snow-covered New England in 30 days. In 1871, he walked backwards for 200 miles around St. Louis, Missouri in 41 hours. Weston spent 8 years touring Europe, starting in 1876. In 1879 he defeated the British champion "Blower" Brown, in a 550 mile match which he walked in 141 hours 44 minutes.

In 1907, at the age of 68, Weston repeated his Maine-to-Chicago walk of 1867, beating his own time by over 24 hours. In 1909, he walked a "devious" 4000 miles, from New York, New York to San Francisco, California, in 100 days. His last great journey was in 1914, when he walked 1546 miles from New York to Minneapolis, Minnesota in 51 days. Oh, and by the way, he was 75 years old at the time.

Weston spent most of the remainder of his life urging others to take up walking for exercise and competition, warning that automobiles were making people lazy and sedentary. Weston was severely injured when he was struck by a New York City taxicab in 1927, and never walked again. He died in his sleep two years later.

If you are inspired by Weston, we urge you to try the entire Tuna Valley Trail system, including the UPB trail (officially, named the R. E. McDowell Trail), which is 1.5 miles from end to end; the Marilla Bridges Trail which encompasses a one mile path around the Marilla Reservoir shore line on West Washington Street; or the 7.4 mile "Indian Pipe" trail which winds through the forest from Marilla Reservoir to Interstate Parkway. And if that *really* gets you excited about hiking, try the North Country National Scenic Trail which stretches for about 4,600 miles, linking communities, forests, and prairies across seven northern states, starting in upper New York State. In Pennsylvania, the trail runs from the New York State border at the southern end of the Allegany State Park near Salamanca, New York, and south through the Allegheny National Forest. You can find where it crosses Rte. 59 about 2 or 3 miles this side of the Kinzua reservoir.

Happy Hiking!



FLOWERS FOR CHARITY



Daffodil Days

*I wander lonely as a cloud, that floats on high o'er dale and hill.
When all at once I saw a crowd, a host of golden daffodil.
Beside the lake, beneath the trees, fluttering and dancing in the breeze.*

I saw a host of golden daffodil the other day, and it took me back to Miss Zias's room, fourth grade at M.J. Ryan School in Lafayette. Miss Zias was an unusually, hmm, *strict* teacher (we kids all called her a witch) but one lesson we all learned, and I still remember, was the monthly recitation of poetry. This poem was just one of nine, full length classic poems that we had to learn by heart. From all the stanzas to the Star Spangled Banner, to Edgar Allen Poe's "The Raven" – all of us fourth graders learned each poem enough – more or less – to recite it aloud. Each month, Miss Zias would line us up in the back of the room, in front of the wardrobe (remember wardrobes – large wooden closets with hooks and shelves, long before the days of steel lockers) and one by one, we had to recite – by memory – the selected poem of the month.

I think of William Wordsworth and his poem, every spring, during the American Cancer Society's "Daffodil Days". By the time that March and Daffodil Days finally get here; I am more than ready to buy a bunch of spring flowers! Daffodil Days, a fundraising effort conceived by the Canadian Cancer Society (CCS) in the 1950s, was adopted by the American Cancer Society in 1970. In the 35 years since the ACS adopted the fundraising practice, it has become one of the two largest cancer fundraising efforts in the United States, providing over \$2.5 billion for research. The local ACS branch hosts Daffodil Days here in Bradford each spring but if you missed Daffodil Days this year, don't worry – they will be here next spring, too.

Red Poppys

During the days before Memorial Day, members of the VFW – Veterans of Foreign Wars can often be found throughout Bradford, selling little red poppy flowers, to wear on your label. These red poppys became associated with war after the publication of a poem written by Col. John McCrae of Canada.

The poem, "*In Flanders Fields*," describes blowing red fields among the battleground of the fallen. Selling replicas of the original Flanders' poppy originated in some of the allied countries immediately after the Armistice.

In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League began the first nationwide sale of poppies to benefit children in the devastated areas of France and Belgium.

Madam Guerin, who was recognized as the "poppy lady" from France, sought and received the cooperation of the VFW in 1922 after the Franco-American Children's League was dissolved. The VFW conducted its first poppy sale before Memorial Day in 1922 becoming the first veterans' organization to organize a nationwide distribution. The poppy soon was adopted as the official memorial flower of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. In February 1924, the VFW registered the name "Buddy Poppy" with the U.S. Patent Office. A certificate was issued on May 20, 1924, granting the VFW all trademark rights in the name of Buddy under the classification of artificial flowers. The VFW has made that trademark a guarantee that all poppies bearing that name and the VFW label are genuine products of the work of disabled and needy veterans.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (the VFW) in Bradford began selling the red poppy as a way to raise money for disabled soldiers in May of 1928.

The Bradford Landmark Society
45 East Corydon Street
Bradford, PA 16701



Nellie Kibbie, owner of Bradford Lunch, 125 Main St., Bradford, PA



The Victory Gardens of World War II

As spring finally arrives (although today it is April 6 and there is a fresh 3" coating of snow on the ground), many people turn to their favorite pastime, gardening. And many people reading this newsletter got their inspiration and love of growing things, from the war years, when growing food was a patriotic duty.

During World War II, and especially after 1942 when certain foods began to be rationed to help the war effort, the Dept. of Agriculture, The War Food Administration, The War Advertising Council, and the Office of War Information all banded together to promote the idea of home gardening. By 1943, the program was well underway, and Bradfordians joined the effort. Donald Graham was chosen as head of the Victory Garden Program in March 1943, and later that month, Kendall Refinery donated plots of land for gardening to its employees. By May, lectures were being given to help food growers get the most produce from their efforts, as gardens sprang up all over the city. The Bradford Era encouraged "The country is looking to you - yes, you who are reading these lines, to grow more leafy vegetables, more yellow vegetables, more tomatoes, beans, beets, and onions".."Food Fights for Freedom!". That year, 1943, saw six million Americans planting gardens. By 1945 it was estimated that 20 million home gardens produced 40% of all the fresh vegetables grown in the United States - as estimated 9-10 million tons of food.

Rationing did not end until 1946, but after three years of "use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without", Americans rejoiced in the ability to eat meat, butter, and sugar again. Gardening efforts were mainly abandoned, as people eagerly began to rebuild their lives and welcome the soldiers home.



The Inkwell

The newsletter of the Bradford Landmark Society

45 East Corydon Street, Bradford, PA 16701

Phone 814-362-3906 or email us at info@bradfordlandmark.org

July 2007

Published 4 times a Year

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Researcher

Larry Richmond

Volunteers at the Bakery

Mary Ryan

Gordon Ernest

Bill Knight

Hours of Operation:

Herbig Bakery, 11AM - 2PM,

Monday Wednesday, Friday

Historic Crook Farm By Appointment

Summertime. It had been predicted that this would be "the hottest summer on record" but so far, its been rather lovely. Oh, a few hot days, but we should appreciate the warmth while we can. Go swimming, play tennis, garden, or play ball - or just sit in the wonderful July sunshine. And don't forget the Crook Farm Fair in August!

The Herbig Bakery was recently given a tremendously important historic gift, courtesy of Ed Smith, who worked for the architectural firm of Abbey, Coatsworth, and Hemmingway before his retirement. We are talking about blueprints - hundreds of them - from Bradford and the surrounding areas. Just seeing all the work that went into these architectural works of art is amazing, and we thank Ed Smith for thinking of us when he was looking for a new home for his collection. These blueprints date back to the 1950s - and depict buildings, houses, stores, and factories from Coudersport to Buffalo, and of course, Bradford. Mike Fuoco, our expert on such things, has been transporting all these blueprints to the bakery - and then sorting all of them, depending on their geographical location. We've already seen some great original blueprints of Swarts Hall - except that it was called the Academic Building back then - the Zippo office on Barbour street, additions to churches such as the Presbyterian, St. Bernard's, Evans Memorial, and others; schools, businesses, and private homes. We even found copies of the original 1878 E.Curtis architectural drawings of the 1898 City Hall - the one that was so recently restored.

Where do we put them all, you ask? Well, Mr. Smith was kind enough to give us all the map cases as well. Because we can't possibly store all of them, we will be offering the "foreign" blueprints - those that represent areas not close to Bradford, such as Mansfield, Smethport, Buffalo, Warren, and Olean to name a few - to the appropriate organizations. That will still leave us with dozens and dozens of "one of a kind" drawings; a truly wonderful and historic gift to the Landmark Society. Thank you again, Ed Smith!





Hey Kids, Let's Go Camping



The Bradford Landmark Society
is sponsoring an overnight

“Crook Farm Kid's Camp”

on the grounds of the historic Crook Farm
on Seaward Avenue.

August 4th, starting at 4PM.

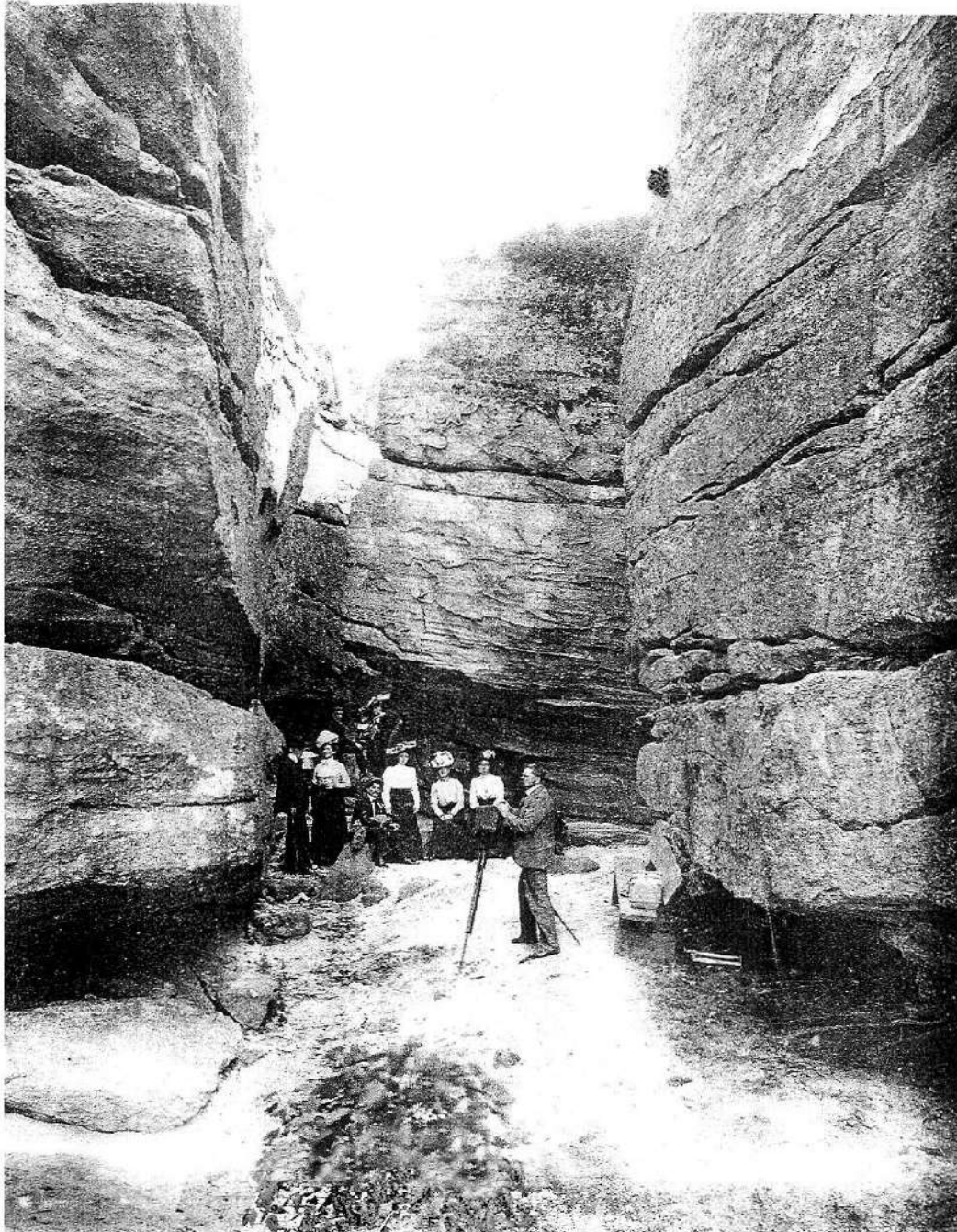


All children, ages 4 to 10, and their parents are invited to attend. A nature scavenger hunt, games, sing-a-long, and a campfire will be part of the fun! Dinner, campfire snacks, and breakfast will be served. Modern restrooms will be available inside the Bank Building at the farm.

Bring your own tent, small RV, family van, or camp inside on the floor of the Bank Building. Don't forget to bring a sleeping bag, flashlight, pillow, and tent if you have one.

Cost is \$10 per adult, and \$5 per child. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Reservations are required, and can be made by calling The Bradford Landmark Society at 362-3906 or at info@bradfordlandmark.org.

Rock City Park



Looking for something to do this summer? Rock City is a great way to spend an afternoon among giant rocks. These visitors from the 1890s thought so, too!

The Bradford Landmark Society

proudly announces the first-ever reprint of

The Dresser Mansion



For Our Friends

The Dresser Mansion, For Our Friends, was a book privately published by Solomon R. Dresser in 1903 on the occasion of the completion of his mansion. Over 300 copies of this book, a celebration of the architectural wonder that was the Dresser mansion, were personally autographed by Solomon R. Dresser, and given as Christmas presents in 1903. The Landmark is fortunate to have three copies of this book in our collection.

The original book contained 26 full size photographs of the interior of the mansion, along with detailed descriptions. In addition, a drawing of the outlay of each of the four floors was included. For the reprint, we have scanned Dresser's book as it appears in its original form, and have also added information on Solomon R. Dresser, his family, and the history of the mansion, along with details and photographs of the fire.

As you may remember, the mansion burned to the ground in 1986, and one of Bradford's greatest architectural accomplishments was lost forever. This book, which has never before been reprinted, will be a great addition to your collection of historical books on the city of Bradford.

Cost is \$20.00, and we are taking advance reservations of this book, which will be available in August, 2007. Please call the Landmark at 362-3906 to reserve your copy of this truly special book.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Number of Copies _____

Several "sneak" previews of some of the pages of the book are shown below (these pages have been reduced to fit inside this newsletter. The full size of the book is 8.5" x 11").



HERE stands on a commanding elevation overlooking the broad Pennsylvania valley, in which Bradford is located, a superb residence. It is gray white and from afar it seems like one of the magnificent palaces of ancient Spain. Beautiful green hills form its background. The view from its spacious porches is a panorama of vast valley and booming mountains.

The favorite name of this famous house is Bellevue Terrace—a name in truth suggestive of its charm of location and beauty of surroundings.

From inception to completion nothing was left undone to make this mansion one of the finest in the land. Its outline in general was suggested by the renowned Michigan Building at the Pan-American Exposition, a building which attracted thousands of admirers of its architecture. The designer of the one was the designer of the other, Mr. Louis Kamper of Detroit, Mich. He furnished all detail plans and drawings. The builder was Mr. E. N. Ulrich of Bradford. He had charge of the work during the entire construction, from beginning to end.

The exterior of the house is Colonial and is built of gray-white brick with trimmings of gray crayon sandstone. The terraces and porches are of stone with floorings of Terrace in marble.



Bradford Legends – Myth or Truth?

There is currently a show on the Discovery Channel called "Myth Busters". On it, two men prove, or disprove, commonly held beliefs that may or may not be true. Bradford is a lot like that show. We have a variety of myths that have sprung up over the years, and just like those men on TV, The Bradford Landmark Society is determined to "bust" them or prove them true.

Myth 1. The Wizard of Oz Myth.

Our first myth is one that refuses to die. The way the story goes, L. Frank Baum, the famous author of the book "Wizard of Oz" founded the Bradford Era. Or he was a reporter on the Era. Or he wrote the Wizard of Oz based on true life oil producers that he knew in Bradford. Truth? The Landmark has done extensive research and there is no record that Baum himself ever even stepped foot in Bradford, and we know for a fact that he *did not* found the Bradford Era in 1878.

Myth 2. Henry Ford secretly visited the Holley Brothers in Bradford to negotiate the purchase of their carburetor.

Holley Carburetors, invented by Bradfordians Earl and George Holley in 1903, were used extensively by Henry Ford during the early days of Model T automobile production. The Holley brothers moved to Detroit in 1907 and created the Holley Brothers Company which manufactured carburetors for Ford. There is no proof that Ford himself ever visited Bradford.

Myth 3. Solomon Dresser intended to make his mansion on Jackson Avenue the Governor's mansion after he was elected Governor of Pennsylvania.

Truth? Solomon Dresser never ran for Governor, and actually died just 7 years after the mansion was completed in 1904. He was a United States Representative (1903-1906) but suffered a severe stroke in late 1903, and returned to Bradford, an invalid, for the rest of his life. Dresser died on January 21, 1911.

Myth 4. Babe Ruth once visited Bradford.

Truth? No. But he did visit Olean once, in the 1920s.

Myth 5. Al Capone often visited Bradford and was shot here.

This myth pops up now and then. There is no evidence that Capone ever visited Bradford, although the city was definitely a part of the "Prohibition" gangster era. At the Landmark, we believe that most people confuse Al Capone with Al Ritchie, who was indeed gunned down in a gangster slaying in 1931. A woman once told me that she met Al Capone when she was a girl in 1944, on River Street, and that he handed her a gold dollar. Truth? Well, from 1934 to November 1939, Capone was in Alcatraz; released in late 1939 with a STD, he spent the last few years of his life in exclusion in his home in Miami, dying in 1947. Unlikely that he came to Bradford during those last few years. In addition, Capone was a "Chicago style" gangster; Bradford's access to illegal liquor was more through Buffalo connections.

Myth 6. The Tuna Creek once flowed where Main Street is today, but was diverted so that the town could be built there.

We see this myth every now and then, and geologically speaking, it's possible, but that would have happened hundreds of thousands of years before there was even a Main Street or a Bradford. Minor changes in the path of the creek may have taken place (for example, there was a mill pond at the head of Main Street in the 1860s) but no, it's a myth.

Myth 7. City officials wanted to extend Main Street to Bushnell Street, but Grace Emery wouldn't permit it.

Actually, true. When Lewis Emery died in 1927, Grace Emery, his daughter, decided to erect a hotel in his honor, and tore down the old St. James Hotel at the head of Main Street. In June of 1928, before the new Emery Hotel could be built, she was asked by the Mayor and City Council if she would sell them the land instead, so that Main Street could be lengthened. She refused. The Emery hotel was built and opened the next year, in 1929.

Myth 8. The huge front portico of the Dresser mansion on Jackson Avenue was removed in the 1930s to avoid paying a mandated "porch tax".

There has never been a "porch tax" in Pennsylvania, and even if there had been one in the 1930s, the Dresser family was easily wealthy enough to pay it. Dorette Dresser, granddaughter of Solomon Dresser, once confirmed that the large portico was removed because it was sinking and had become structurally unsafe.

Myth 9. Andrew Carnegie not only paid to have the library on the corner of Congress and East Corydon Street erected, the Carnegie Foundation continued to support it financially for years.

No, no, no. Actually, Carnegie gave only \$25,000 to the Library as an incentive to build it in 1901, and an additional \$5000 gift on the day it officially opened. Carnegie believed that people, governments, and organizations should stand on their own two feet; he used his vast financial wealth to provide *opportunities* (especially libraries) but felt that the future operations and maintenance should be the responsibility of the recipient. The Carnegie Foundation never gave any money to the Bradford Public Library.

Myth 10. Hollywood Helen is an Undercover Drug Agent.

Go ahead, laugh. I actually heard this myth one day at my daughter Leah's soccer game two years ago. A man who is a guard at the prison was talking to another spectator, and remarked that he had always heard that whenever an announcement of Hollywood Helen's trip to Las Vegas appears in the classified section of the Bradford Era, that the announcement was really a secret signal to the undercover drug agents in the Bradford Era that a drug bust was about to happen. So I've been watching and observing and whenever Helen announces that she is going to Las Vegas, I read the paper carefully over the next few weeks to see if a drug bust really does take place shortly thereafter, and well.....I'll let you investigate this myth or truth yourself!

You decide....Fact or Fiction?

"It Was a Very Good Year"

Remember that old Frank Sinatra song? It was always one of my favorites. In this summer edition of *The Inkwell* we thought that we would test our readers on how well they remember in what "very good year" certain things happened in Bradford. We chose only items that happened within the last seventy five years, so if you have been paying attention to history as it happened, or heard your parents or grandparents talking about certain events, you should have no trouble placing things correctly in the right year. We'll give the answers further on in this newsletter. Good Luck!

- 1) Parking Meters start appearing on our city streets.
 - a. 1933
 - b. 1965
 - c. 1945
- 2) Two former G.I.s, John Miller and Harold Shadd open "The Musical Bar" at 127 Main Street; on the site of the former Old Spain restaurant.
 - a. 1959
 - b. 1946
 - c. 1950
- 3) An "after hours" deposit box for paying city utilities is installed to the left of the front door at City Hall.
 - a. 1950
 - b. 1965
 - c. 1945
- 4) Regulations regarding the trapping of skunks in the city are announced; a two dollar bounty will be paid by the Health Department. Only box traps can be used.
 - a. 1935
 - b. 1989
 - c. 1966
- 5) Reckless and fast horseback riding on Harding Avenue is deemed dangerous to children, and is cited by the City Council.
 - a. 1942
 - b. 1952
 - c. 1962
- 6) Kiwanis and Key Clubs to start construction of an ice skating rink at Hanley Park .
 - a. 1935
 - b. 1942
 - c. 1948
- 7) Bradford joins other areas across the nation in reporting the appearance of "flying saucers" when one of the mysterious discs is reported seen over East Bradford.
 - a. 1937
 - b. 1947
 - c. 1957
- 8) YWCA holds ground breaking ceremonies at 24 W. Corydon Street.
 - a. 1938
 - b. 1948
 - c. 1958

- 9) The Fraternal Order of Eagles will hold a grand opening of their new home at 460 South Avenue (currently Louie's Bar).
- a. 1934
 - b. 1949
 - c. 1972
- 10) Ground is broken for new St. Francis Church in East Bradford.
- a. 1950
 - b. 1955
 - c. 1960
- 11) Old drinking fountains at Holley Hotel, Central Fire station and Public Square replaced with new ones
- a. 1936
 - b. 1949
 - c. 1952
- 12) Old fire bell, which has hung in the city building tower since 1889, sounds its last alarm as workmen begin razing the tower.
- a. 1941
 - b. 1946
 - c. 1952
- 13) Pincus Cohen is named general manager of the Bradford Community Baseball Club.
- a. 1933
 - b. 1943
 - c. 1953
- 14) Last class of nurses graduates from Bradford Nursing school.
- a. 1948
 - b. 1956
 - c. 1962
- 15) Bradford's new swimming pool is scheduled to open early next month at Recreation Park.
- a. 1932
 - b. 1939
 - c. 1940
- 16) Veterans of Foreign Wars move to their new home at 11 Chestnut street from 80 Main street.
- a. 1936
 - b. 1946
 - c. 1956
- 17) Officials announce that Tops Friendly Market will move into the former Family Bargain Center (FBC) on Main Street by summer.
- a. 1968
 - b. 1974
 - c. 1986
- 18) Formal opening of the recently completed St. Bernard auditorium
- a. 1933
 - b. 1939
 - c. 1949.

Happy Birthday Koch-Chatley-Gaeto-Galati Funeral Home

120 Years Old!!!

For any business to remain in existence for even twenty years can sometimes be a real struggle. But Bradford is lucky to have a business that was founded right here in the city – 120 years ago. It has changed its name from time to time, but the very nature of its business has never changed – and even improved!

It is said that Death and Taxes are inevitable. Well, add undertakers to that statement! One of our first early settlers – Philip Webster, the stepson of Colonel Levitt Little – grew up to be one of the town's first undertakers. Another one of the earliest was Otto Koch's Undertaking Establishment. Koch was originally from Chautauqua County, and attended business college in Buffalo before coming to Bradford in the early 1880s.

Koch founded his undertaking parlor on June 12, 1887, and in 1909, Otto's brother, Louis E. Koch, joined the business and the name was changed to Koch Brothers. In 1906, at the age of 39, Otto Koch took over as president of Kendall Refining and in 1929 sold his interests in the mortuary to his brother, Louis; later the name was changed to the Louis E Koch Memorial Chapel.

Otho B. Chatley became associated with the business in 1919 and, in 1936 purchased an interest in the business. In 1946, when he was named Secretary, the name was changed to The Koch Chatley Memorial Chapel, Inc.

The business was located for many years at 31-33 South Avenue, in buildings built by Mr. Koch. In 1963, Mr. Chatley purchased the Lewis E. Mallory home at 20 School Street, and in February, 1964, Koch Chatley Memorial Chapel moved to that location. Chatley died in 1983, at the age of 84.

In 1985, Koch Chatley Memorial Chapel joined the Galati Funeral Home at their Kennedy Street location. On February 1, 1991, Vince and Rebecca Gaeto purchased the Koch Chatley Memorial Chapel, merged it with the Galati Funeral Home, and changed the name to Koch Chatley Gaeto Memorial Chapel, Inc.

The Galati Funeral Home, built in 1967, was the first funeral home in Bradford to be designed and built specifically as a mortuary. The exterior of the building is of Williamsburg Colonial design, constructed of red brick and white siding, with a two story circular portico covering the entrance.

It was built by Nick Galati, a long time Bradford resident. Born in Italy in 1927, Galati served in the United States Medical Corp. during World War II, and first practiced mortuary science in Harrisburg, PA. Well known in Bradford, Galati retired to Hawaii, where he died in 1993 of Lou Gehrig's disease. He was 65.

In the summer of 2004 the name was changed to Koch Chatley Gaeto Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Inc. It is the oldest funeral home in this community, having just completed 120 years of continuous service to the people of Bradford and its surrounding community.

It was a very good year, wasn't it? Answers to our quiz....

- | | | | |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1) c. 1945 | 6) c. 1948 | 11) c. 1952 | 16) a. 1936 |
| 2) b. 1946 | 7) b. 1947 | 12) c. 1952 | 17) b. 1974 |
| 3) b. 1965 | 8) b. 1948 | 13) c. 1953 | 18) a. 1933 |
| 4) c. 1966 | 9) b. 1949 | 14) b. 1956 | |
| 5) b. 1952 | 10) a. 1950 | 15) b. 1939 | |

Recent Accessions to the Bradford Landmark Society

We thank the following donors who thoughtfully brought in these items and signed them over to the Landmark. We encourage everyone who owns a part of Bradford history to remember us in their wills, when cleaning out your garages, attics or basements, or when you find a particular piece of history inside your photo album or family papers. Our collection was built on the kind donations of people like you, and we appreciate every single item that we have been given.

January 31, 2007. Donor - Minnie M. Stover of Bradford.

- One linen map of East Main Street featuring the Clark farm area, dated 12/19/1920. Measures 30" x 36".

January 31, 2007. Donor - Peter Digel of Smethport, PA.

- Receipts from various Bradford businesses.

June 4, 2007. Donor - Theda Young (brought in by Janice M. Hutchins Smith).

- Photograph, Kreinson's first store, interior photograph showing saleswomen; (16 women seated in store; seven identified).

June 13, 2007. Donor - Genny Hartman.

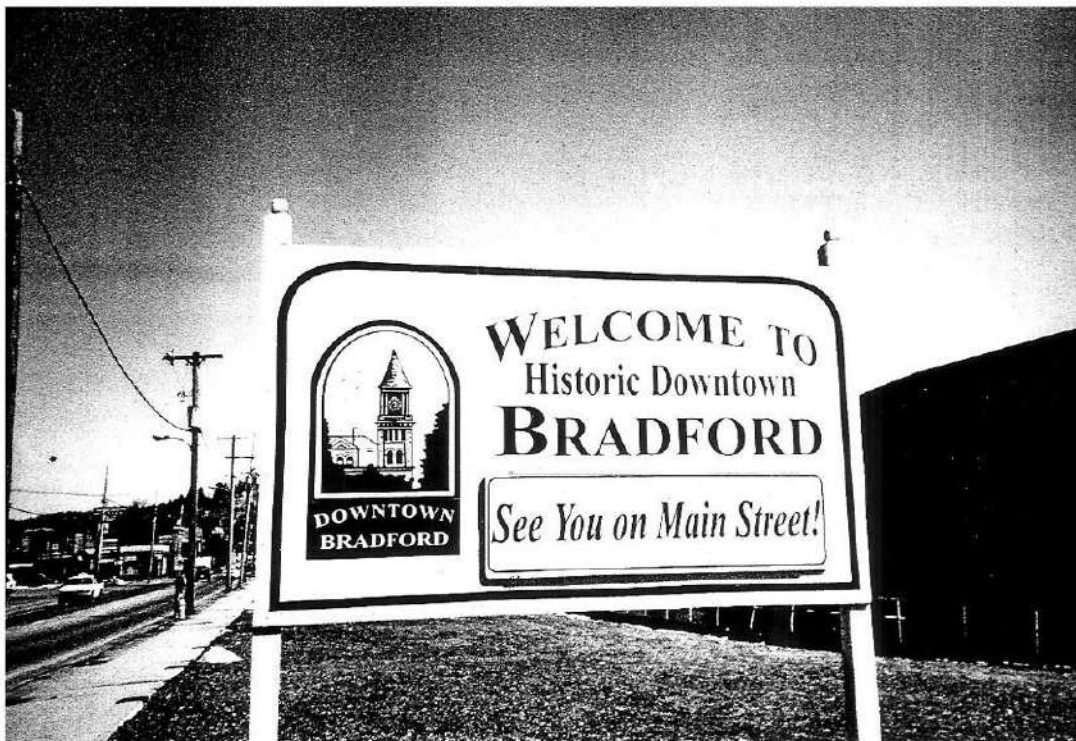
- One Bissell manual carpet sweeper.
- One set curtain stretchers.

June 22, 2007. Donor - Fred Proper.

- Convention pins of Virgil Poling, last Union president at Kendall Refinery before breaking of Union in 1954.
 - Official Score Card, 1949 Bradford Phillies baseball team.
- Newspaper clippings and tear sheets from City Limits magazines concerning the Phillies baseball team.
 - Photograph, 1949, Bradford Phillies baseball team, all identified.
 - Clippings from the Bradford High School Courant magazine.
 - Two pair leather baby shoes, and one pair pink felt baby slippers.
 - Pink brush and comb set.
- Dad's Day Program, St. Bonaventure vs. Louisville University Cardinals, Oct. 27, 1951
 - Barker yearbooks, 1948, 1949, 1950.
 - Student handbook, 1948-1949, Bradford High School.
 - Dance Program, Class of 1950 presents Woodland Fantasies with Shep Fields.
- Two playbills, Tom Drake in "Heaven Can Wait" and Susan Peters in "The Glass Menagerie".
 - Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus magazine, 1949.
- Union leader Virgil Poling's scrapbook with photographs, of the Kendall strike of 1954.



Write it down, the Crook Farm is coming Aug. 25 & 26th.





The Inkwell

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Robert Esch

Curator at Herbig Bakery

Sally Ryan Costik

Researcher/Genealogist

Larry Richmond

Researchers

Mike Fuoco
Tom Jones

Volunteers at the Bakery

Mary Ryan
Gordon Ernest
Molly Lindahl
Bill Knight

Hours of Operation:

Herbig Bakery, 11AM – 2PM,
Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Historic Crook Farm by Appointment

Happy November! It's been a really wonderful year at the Bradford Landmark Society, and we hope that you are getting ready for the coming holidays. From the school program days at the Crook Farm earlier this spring, to the music that is "jammed" each week at the Crook Farm, to the Crook Farm Country Fair this August, the weather was great all year long and many people enjoyed themselves.

At the Herbig Bakery, we were lucky enough to get a huge pile of blueprints of local buildings, met lots of family genealogists and researchers, and made great strides on some of our 'pet' projects, such as aerial photographs, typing databases, and doing research. One of our best efforts was the reprinting of the Dresser Mansion book, which has been finished – we are waiting for delivery from the publisher.

Another project that is currently underway is another 'Historic Homes' book. Not exactly a reprint of our first house book, this coming book will include information on over 100 homes in the Bradford area that are historically significant, either because of its architecture, the importance of its original builder or owner, or simply because something unique happened there. This compendium of homes is sure to be a favorite among our readers.

We were sad to see one of our Board members, Glen Washington, leave Bradford for a new job at a hospital. He was a great friend, and really will be missed at the Crook Farm. His home was directly across the street from the farm on Seaward Avenue, and he and his wife Mary often fed the chickens and planted and maintained the vegetable garden. Glen originally purchased chickens that were historically significant to the time period of the Farm (c. 1850) and became so attached to the flock that he actually took all the chickens with him to West Virginia. Lets hope that they enjoy their new home, too!

News and more!

- Another wonderful summer has passed. And if you passed by the Crook Farm or went to the annual Crook Farm Craft Fair, you may have noticed that the farm never looked as good as it did this past year. Mowed, painted, and just plain neat and tidy and it was all thanks to our two workers, Jim and Linda Irwin, who we hired through the Rural Opportunities program. The Crook Farm is closed for the summer now, but we hope to have Jim and Linda back again next summer.
- And at the Bakery, we have hired a second worker, Tom Jones, in addition to Mike Fuoco, to lend a hand with research and special projects. Mike is currently working on creating a computer database of all our photographs, and Tom is in charge of creating a series of PowerPoint presentations that we will be offering to the middle schools of the area, and selling to the public as well. These PowerPoint programs will cover such topics as Early Bradford, Trains and Trolleys, Main Street, Industry, Schools and Churches, Prominent Men and Women, Floods, Historic District, etc. It's a big project, but one that we feel will be a great way to educate the younger students on Bradford's history and just plain interesting for the rest of us.
- The Dresser Mansion Book is almost here! It was delayed for several months due to production problems, but we have solved them all, and it is definitely on its way to Bradford in the next week or so. For those of you who pre-ordered your copy, we will be calling you when the book arrives, and if anyone would like to order or buy a copy, just stop into the Bakery, on Monday-Wednesday-Friday from 11AM to 2PM.
- We have had some interesting visitors over the summer, including 13 members of the Newell family, who traveled from all over the United States to a family reunion down in Clear Creek State Park, and all of whom trooped into the Landmark one day to do research on their family tree. A delightful family and one that old Bradford pioneer Augustus Newell should be proud to have as descendants. On a side note, the Landmark helps to promote our local restaurants as well by steering our visitors to places on Main Street that serve lunches. Apparently doing family research makes people hungry!
- We also had two college girls doing research on the old poor farm (located out Degolia). They were so thrilled with our records that they came back a week later with a plate of brownies as a thank you.
- We were given a huge amount of blueprints by Ed Smith, who was part of Preston Abbey and Associates Architectural firm. While we will be offering the out-of-town blueprints for sale (the collection includes items from Olean, the Buffalo area, Mansfield, and so on) we donated a batch of courthouse blueprints to the McKean County Courthouse, which was very appreciative of our gift.
- We are still in the investigation stages of finding a way to reproduce – scan, actually – the 5 x 7 negatives of Donald Tanner, a Bradford aerial photographer from the 1950s and 1960s. When we get that capability, we will publish a book. Donald Tanner's grandson, D.B. Tanner III, stopped in one day (he was visiting from Colorado) and officially signed over the copyrights to the Landmark Society.
- And oh, there will be a movie filmed in Bradford. No title yet (“Little Chicago” has been suggested), but it will be loosely based on the life, and death of Al Ritchie and the rest of the Prohibition era. Over 1000 people showed up at the first casting call, and just about that many called the Landmark wanting to borrow 1920s clothes, get information on hair “dos”, styles, and information on the 1920s. None of us tried out, but we are all anxious to see how well old Bradford looks under movie lights.

The History of Veterans' Day

Veterans' Day is the anniversary of *the end of the fighting* in World War I which officially ended on June 28, 1919, with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles. The actual fighting between the Allies and Germany, however, had ended seven months earlier with the armistice, which went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918. Armistice Day, as November 11 became known, officially became a holiday in the United States in 1926, and a national holiday 12 years later.

In 1927 Congress issued a resolution requesting President Calvin Coolidge to issue a proclamation calling upon officials to display the Flag of the United States on all government buildings on November 11, and inviting the people to observe the day in schools and churches, but it was not until 1938 that Congress passed a bill that each November 11 "shall be dedicated to the cause of world peace and ...hereafter celebrated and known as Armistice Day."

That same year President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a bill making the day a legal holiday in the District of Columbia. For sixteen years the United States formally observed Armistice Day, with impressive ceremonies at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, where the Chief Executive or his representatives placed a



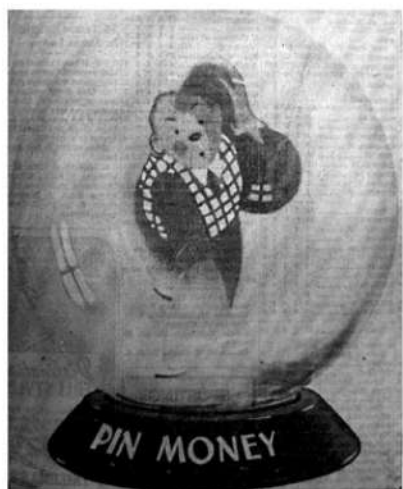
wreath. In many other communities, the American Legion was in charge of the observance, which included parades and religious services. At 11 A.M. all traffic stopped, in tribute to the dead, then volleys were fired and taps sounded.

After World War II, there were many new veterans who had little or no association with World War I. The word, "armistice," means simply a truce; therefore as years passed, the significance of the name of this holiday changed. Leaders of Veterans' groups decided to try to correct this and make November 11 the time to honor all who had fought in various American wars, not just in World War I. On June 1, 1954, the name was changed to Veterans' Day to honor all U.S. veterans.

On November 11, 1954, a ceremony held in the Public Square honored the city's war dead and officially changed the name of Public Square, to Veterans' Square as a permanent memorial to all veterans.

In 1968, new legislation changed the national commemoration of Veterans' Day to the fourth Monday in October. It soon became apparent, however, that November 11 was a date of historical significance to many Americans. Therefore, in 1978 Congress returned the observance to its traditional date.

Today, Veterans' Day is celebrated all over the United States, and this year, Nov. 11 through Nov. 17 has been designated as National Veterans' Awareness Week. Americans are urged to remember the valor and sacrifice through ceremonies and prayers.



THE BRADFORD NEWSPAPERS

MORNING
ERA

EVERING
STAR-RECORD

SUNDAY
HERALD

PRESENT THE NEW IMPROVED GLASS

BUBBLE BANKS

"See Your Savings Swell"

There's Only One Place But **3**
Ways to Get Yours In Bradford

October 1st to October 8th is National Newspaper Week from coast to coast and your Bradford Newspapers are celebrating it with Banners and Bubble Banks.

We are proud to represent the people of McKean County and to speak the voice of the highest grade crude oil market in the world.

We are happy to operate three modern newspapers with but one single, united objective: to make the homes into which these papers go the happiest, most patriotic, self-respecting and prosperous homes in America. We go to press every day to bring YOU the news, the features, the information, the entertainment and the merchandise that will be of most value to EVERY citizen in EVERY inch of the territory we cover.

If you don't read the Era, Star Record and Herald... we're both missing a lot. If you subscribe to one and not the others we are not serving you as well as we can and we want to change that RIGHT NOW DURING NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK THAT STARTS TUESDAY AND WE ARE OFFERING YOU ABSOLUTELY FREE OF COST A BEAUTIFUL NEW GLASS BUBBLE BANK... HERE IS HOW TO GET YOURS:

WAY NO. 1 With every new 3 months subscription to either the Era or Star-Record we GIVE ONE BUBBLE BANK FREE. This subscription will cost \$1.95, payable 60 cents down and 15 cents each week, or \$1.80 if paid in advance. Subscriptions may be placed using the coupon below or at our office or with any of our newsboys or canvassers.

WAY NO. 2 With every 6 months subscription to The Bradford Sunday Herald at a total cost of \$1.25 YOU GET A BUBBLE BANK FREE!

WAY NO. 3 Without subscribing to either of the above offers you may secure a Bubble Bank at our Booth on Main Street or at our office at 50 cents each, which is the wholesale cost. In every case the bank will be delivered in an individual carton.

ABOUT THESE BUBBLE BANKS...

Without question this new glass BUBBLE BANK is the most sensational item in years and the finest stores in New York, Chicago, Cleveland, Boston are featuring them in main windows at \$1.00 retail.

The Bradford Newspapers have contracted for the exclusive sale of these in Bradford and on Tuesday morning when they go on sale we will have several huge shipments on hand to meet first orders but we must warn all our readers who would like a Bubble Bank that the sale is far exceeding the supply everywhere and there may be a delay in securing more.

GET YOURS NOW. BUY AS MANY AS YOU WISH WHILE THEY ARE HERE. THERE ARE THREE DIFFERENT SUBJECTS TO CHOOSE FROM. EVERYONE WHO BUYS ONE WILL WANT HALF A DOZEN.

GET YOURS TUESDAY AT THE SPECIAL BOOTH IN FRONT OF THE BRADFORD NEWSPAPER OFFICES.

COUPON FOR ERA or STAR

Date

THE BRADFORD NEWSPAPERS,
BRADFORD, PA.

Please order my 3 months subscription to The Bradford Era or Bradford Star-Record (mark which) starting at once at \$1.95 total. I agree to pay 60 cents and will pay balance at rate of 15 cents per week in advance or earlier date. This entitles me to the new Bubble Bank. I will call at the Bradford Newspapers office and receive my Bubble Bank FREE of charge. It is understood that this is a new subscription.

Name

Address

COUPON FOR SUNDAY HERALD

Date

THE BRADFORD NEWSPAPERS,
BRADFORD, PA.

Please order my 6 months subscription to the Sunday Herald for which I agree to pay \$1.25 in advance. This entitles me to the new Bubble Bank. I will call at the Bradford Newspapers office and receive my Bubble Bank FREE of charge. It is understood that this is a new subscription.

Name

Address

HAPPY SAVING

Vic Moran and His Bubble Banks

For only 94 cents in the 1940s, you could purchase a Glass Bubble Bank through Sears and Roebuck (remember them?). Bubble banks, as they were called, originated right here in Bradford – the brain child of a man named Vic Moran. And if you had, and saved it, you might have had a truly valuable collectible today, because some of them are worth over \$1000!

Vic Moran was born in Canada in 1890, and came to Bradford with his family at the age of 9. His father, Harry Moran, ran a small clothing business, and it was here that Vic Moran began to specialize in advertising opportunities. He became interested in the idea of a round glass bank with a removable wooden bottom that could serve as an advertising medium in a fun, yet practical way.

He was first granted a patent on his “bubble banks” on January 14, 1941 and successfully marketed his design both locally and nationally through Sears and Roebuck catalogs. He described his invention as a “new, original, and ornamental Design for Coin Bank”.

Occasionally, the *Bradford Era* or *Star Record*, or *Sunday Herald* (all Bradford newspapers) would offer a free bank for a three month subscription. Many of these banks are believed to have been sold, or given away, in the Bradford area.

Each bank was approximately 6” in diameter, made of glass, that either had a two part wooden base with a slot cut in the middle for the cardboard insert; a one part wooden base with a simple slot for the insert, or a one part wooden base with larger holders for three black rubber balls to attach the glass bubble to the base.

It is unknown how many bubble banks were made in Vic Moran’s lifetime (he died unexpectedly in Jamestown, NY in 1949) but his family carried on the business for several more years.

Today, these banks can be frequently found on Ebay and prices range from very affordable (under \$20) to over \$1000 for an Uncle Sam bank. Most sell in the \$100 to \$200 range. As you can see from our list at right, several banks are believed to exist, but have not yet been verified. It seems certain that these banks would bring a high price to collectors.

So, the next time you are poking around in your attic or old bookcase, and spy a round glass object, it just might be an authentic Vic Moran Bubble Bank!

Types of Bubble Bank Inserts

Bubble banks came with a wide variety of cardboard inserts, each guaranteed to urge you to save money. Each insert was different, and urged you to save money for a variety of reasons.

The following list of Bubble Banks (named for their cardboard insert) was compiled several years ago in “The Collector’s Guide to Glass Banks” by Charles V. Reynolds. Banks with variations of the same “theme” are marked with an asterisk*.

Chicken Feed*
Pin Money (Man Bowling)*
Snowman with Broom
Pin Money (Man and Women Bowling)
A Little Doe*
Moo-La
You Can Bank on America
Drop It in the Trunk Elephant
Save for a New Home
You Can Bank on Uncle Sam
Save for a Rainy Day
Change for the New Baby*
Save for the New Car
A Little Jack Rabbit
Save for the New Ford
Save for the Kids
Reddy Kilowatt Says
Stop Monkeying Around and Start Saving*
Swami, the Fortune Teller
King of the Jungle Lion
I Like Ike
Save for the Day He Returns

Believed to exist but not yet found:

Girl with Umbrella
A Penny A Drill Fits the Bill
Save for Vacation
Save for War Bonds
Save for the Tax Man
Save for Summer Fun
Save for Christmas
Save for College

It Happened in November

True, sometimes it seems like nothing much happens in November, except rain and cold weather. But you may be surprised to see that (sometimes, really) things really do happen in November in Bradford!

Women forming Political Equality Club	November 11, 1889
Bradford houses of ill repute have been closed	November 11, 1895
Forty buildings over a two-day period are destroyed by fire, including the original Riddell House and others. Fire begins in Comique Theater, estimated losses of \$150,000.	November 16, 1878
Tuna Creek frozen solid. Venturesome youth skate.	November 26, 1888
Woman in Bradford claims to be a witch.	November 27, 1889
George Bodine's new hardware store on corner of Mechanic and Barbour streets is one of the finest establishments in the city.	November 9, 1889
Brick work for the 4 th story of the new Riddell House is underway. Work is also progressing at the new Carnegie Library with the cutting of the large stone pillars that are to adorn the main entrance being done on Congress St.	November 13, 1900
Beamer's Livery stable on Kennedy Street catches fire and kills 38 horses; adjoining City Hall is nearly destroyed in blaze; several other buildings on Kennedy Street also catch fire.	November 9, 1901
Salvation Army building is being erected on Kennedy Street.	November 23, 1902
A brakeman, while engaged in switching cars near Mt. Jewett, falls beneath the train and was ground to a shapeless mass.	November 24, 1903
Schlatter, the healer, will terminate his visit to Bradford after failing to cure anyone, saying that his subjects were not possessed of sufficient faith to command divine aid.	November 4, 1904
Rapid progress is being made on the new YMCA building on Boylston Street	November 15, 1906
Bradford Army-Navy Supply Depot opens November 12 at 7 West Washington Street.	November 11, 1921
The Foursquare Gospel Church at 52 Mechanic Street, formerly known as the Bradford Gospel Church, marks its 25th year of founding. Later becomes location of Tommy Dorsey Cardamone barbershop.	November 14, 1953
Ground is broken for construction of 50 apartments; units sponsored by the Bradford Kiwanis Housing Corp.	November 25, 1970
Richard M. McAfee, manager of the FBC store, corner of Main and S. Davis St., announces that the store presently employing approximately 25 people will close after the Christmas shopping season due to a decline in business. (Current site of Tops Market).	November 24, 1973
Lester Brauser is elected president of the Seneca Highlands Players for 1975, with Allan Jones his vice president.	November 20, 1974
River Associates purchases bankrupt W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery and 200 employees are told to reapply for jobs.	November 30, 1990

*Who remembers the old '40 & 8' Locomotive that used to appear in every Bradford parade? Surely you remember the loud "boom" as it came down the street – I used to cringe at the sight of it coming, knowing that the sound would be so loud that babies would cry and grownups would cover their ears. It hasn't been seen in several years and The Bradford Landmark Society doesn't know where – or if – it still exists. But like so many things, the 40 & 8 had a story behind it ... (and if you do know what happened to it, please contact us). **Update – the 40 & 8 is tucked away in a garage right here in Bradford, PA.***

The 40 & 8 Society

The Forty & Eight was formed in 1920 by American Legionnaires as a fraternal organization of Army veterans, many of whom had been transported to the battle front in France during World War I on narrow gauge French railroads inside boxcars (Voitures) that were half the size of American boxcars. Each French boxcar was stenciled with a "40/8", denoting its capacity to hold either forty men or eight horses. These boxcars were stubby, only 20.5 feet long and 8.5 feet wide, and carried little more than half the capacity of American boxcars. Needless to say, it was a real squeeze.



Although memories of riding in them were not always pleasant, this ignominious and uncomfortable mode of transportation was familiar to all who traveled from the coast to the trenches; a common small misery among American soldiers who thereafter found "40/8" a lighthearted symbol of the deeper service, sacrifice and unspoken horrors of war that truly bind those who have borne the battle (from www.fortyandeight.org history).

Later, many of these same boxcars were used during WW II to transport troops to and from the front. In 1945, many American troops (including POWs) were transported from Germany to France for return to the States in a rough-riding

40 and 8, especially in November and December. Veterans' memories of travel in the rickety, unheated cars are pretty vivid; some men even resorted to building fires inside them to keep warm on the long, slow trips.

In June of 1939, Marguerite Shelgren, majorette in the Sons of the Legion Drum Corps, and the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Shelgren of Interstate Parkway, christened the newly-constructed locomotive of the McKean Voiture of the 40 and 8, "Ole Hank" in a ceremony here. We assume that it is the same vehicle that appeared in the parades of my childhood. A photograph of the locomotive as it passed by during a parade of West Washington Street in 1946 appears below.



Bradford Landmark Society
45 East Corydon Street
Bradford PA 16701



Happy Thanksgiving November 22!

Christmas Shopping Ideas from the Landmark

- **The Dresser Mansion.** A reprint of the original 1903 book given as a Christmas present by Solomon Dresser, with added text and photos regarding Dresser's family, and the fire that destroyed it. Buy it at the Landmark office or the Mercantile Store (in the stores by early December). **\$20.00.**
- **The Bradford Oil Refinery.** Published last summer, it's a photographic historic record of the Kendall refinery (the oldest in the world), and American Refining Group. **\$20.00.**
- DVDs of movies filmed in Bradford in the 1930s. Take a trip back in time. Two different DVDs – *Bradford in Reel Life*, and *The Story of Bradford*. **\$22.00 each.**
- The Armory. Wooden collectible building (like a Cat's Meow). Add to your collection. **\$15.00.**
- Cast iron yellow dog oil field replica lantern. Always a popular item and a wonderful icon of Bradford and the oil days....**\$20.00.**
- *Collectors Guide to the Small Wooden Buildings of Bradford.* Complete guide to all Cat's Meow type buildings that commemorate Bradford buildings – over 30 different ones! **\$10.00.**
- Stop in for more ideas! Or visit the Mercantile Store on Main Street.