



PROGRESS

A Newsletter Dedicated to Business in Bradford County

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CBPA Holds 14th Annual Dinner Meeting

The 14th annual dinner of the Central Bradford Progress Authority was held in April, 2007 at the Towanda Country Club. The Authority this year honored State representative Tina Pickett as its Citizen of the Year, and Leprino Foods as its Business of the Year.

CBPA president Paul Kreischer presented the Business of the Year award to Jim Whitney, plant manager of Leprino Foods. He noted that Leprino Foods employs over 200 and is a leading cheese manufacturer in the eastern United States.

In presenting Representative Pickett with the Citizen of the Year award, Mr. Kreischer praised her and her staff for being so

responsive to the constituents of the 110th district.

Barry M. Granger, Vice President and General Manager of DuPont Imaging Technologies, was the keynote speaker at the meeting. Mr. Granger spoke of the recent \$80 million addition to DuPont's North Towanda facility, which produces components used to make liquid crystal displays (LCD) for televisions and laptop computers. Mr. Granger stated that the dynamics around the recent investment at the Towanda site indicates that the state and local communities understand what it takes to win in today's competitive global market. He closed by thanking the CBPA for the opportunity to recognize

the leaders and members of this community in embracing the DuPont company. Together, he stated,

we have and will continue to be partners in enabling growth and prosperity in today's global economy.



Rep. Tina Pickett accepts the CBPA Citizen of the Year award from President Paul Kreischer.



Jim Whitney, Leprino Foods plant manager, accepts the CBPA Business of the Year award from President Paul Kreischer.



CBPA President Paul Kreischer presents a clock made from native hardwoods to Barry Granger of DuPont.

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CONTACT INFORMATION:

Central Bradford Progress Authority
One Progress Plaza • Suite 3
Towanda, PA 18848

Toll Free..... 888.263.0937
Local..... 570.265.0937
Fax..... 570.265.0935
Web..... www.cbprogress.org
Email..... cbpa@epix.net

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The Value of CBPA's Newsletter

Message From The Director

Over the year, the CBPA board of directors and staff constantly evaluate our performance as it relates to a meaningful economic development strategy. As always, investment that yields sustainable employment is foremost. However, keeping people informed of CBPA projects and services is vital to satisfying our mission. Both our newsletter and our website have proven to be powerful marketing tools to an organization with limited resources. We have most recently experienced new business opportunities as a direct result of this media.

Being a staff of 3 professionals, newsletter development does require a special effort. This effort is well worth the time. We thank our sponsors who help offset our costs, as this newsletter does not pay for itself.

This newsletter contains a special report focused on Bradford County

employment. This report is one measure of the effectiveness of the implementation of CBPA's local strategic economic development plans. Please take extra time to review this update.

Please contact our office directly to be placed on our free mailing list, or go to our website:

www.cbprogress.org

to view new and past newsletters and organizational information.

As always, the CBPA remains focused and dedicated to economic development. For all of Bradford County's residents.



Tony Ventello

Sayre Enterprise Center Holds Rededication Ceremony

Sayre Incubator, Inc. celebrated the 10-year opening of the Sayre Enterprise Center. The Sayre Enterprise Center on South Elmer Avenue was opened in 1997. The former Blue Swan Mill building was purchased and renamed the Sayre Enterprise Center, and became a site to facilitate new businesses via multi-tenant occupancy. The 145,000 square

foot building currently houses 19 companies employing 100 people.

Attorney Joe Landy, one of the original board members, thanked Tim Phinney, the incubator's director, for their success. Landy also expressed appreciation to his board, past and present, the Ben Franklin Partnership Program and the CBPA for their support of the incubator.



Tim Phinney, director of the Enterprise Center.

OSRAM Sylvania Initiates Hydrogen Generation On Site

The hydrogen generation project has been implemented to assist in the replacement of high-cost liquid hydrogen with lower cost, gaseous hydrogen produced at the Towanda industrial campus. Hydrogen is a key energy component of the manufacturing operations carried out at this location. It is currently recycled and put back into the manufacturing process.

The benefits through this technology reduces the reliance on fossil fuel dependence and transporting flammable liquid hydrogen from the Gulf states and Canada. This was especially critical after Hurricane Katrina, which created a severe hydrogen shortage throughout North America.

As an added benefit, hydrogen is viewed as a fuel source of the future. Currently, many industries are continuing research to

establish fuel cells as an alternate energy source. Hydrogen is one source of fuel for fuel cells.

The CBPA assisted OSRAM Sylvania with the development of an application to the state of Penn-

sylvania's Energy Harvest Program, which is currently under review by the state.



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Farr Manufacturing Acquires Leech Industries in Sayre Enterprise Center

The CBPA worked with Leech Industries employee Alan Farr on a business buy out. Mr. Farr served as local manager of Leech Industries since 1977. Leech Industries, located in the Enterprise Center, is a manufacturer of electronic components. A large share of their business is the reconditioning of IBM printer cartridges and seeing growth in a new product for fuel injection engines.

Leech Industries is headquartered in Meadville, PA and announced plans for the Sayre location to shut down. The CBPA utilized countywide Enterprise Zone program RLF funds to partner with other public and private lenders to make this a reality for Mr. Farr.

The Sayre Enterprise Center is a multi-tenant incubator located in the Enterprise Zone and is a designated Keystone Opportunity Zone, which provides tax abatement incentives. The project retained 7 employees.



Alan Farr, owner of Farr Manufacturing located in the Sayre Enterprise Center.



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CBPA Continues Strong Business Development Relationship with Frontier Industrial Technologies

Frontier Industrial Technologies is a flagship business for the Enterprise Zone program in Bradford County. Frontier first utilized CBPA in 1994 and has since consis-

tently involved the CBPA in their business development needs. Frontier requested CBPA Enterprise Zone RLF funding to support a building expansion at their North Towanda

Township manufacturing site. The expansion is to accommodate new machine orders. Frontier manufactures custom web winding and material coating ma-

chines, and works with local manufacturers like E. I. DuPont. They also provide products worldwide. The project will assist in retaining 11 employees.



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Oak Hill Veneer Enhances Operations with New Equipment Purchase

Oak Hill Veneer is owned and operated by its president, Lee Cummings. Oak Hill Veneer is located

in Troy Township within the Bradford County Enterprise Zone. They currently employ 65 people

in the 80,000 square foot facility. They provide key value-added veneer processing for our local hardwood resources.

By adding new equipment to their existing operations, production volume will increase dramatically,

(Continued on page 11)



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Towanda Dry Kiln & Specialties, Inc. Expands

Towanda Dry Kiln and Specialties, Inc., located in Asylum Township in the Enterprise Zone and a long-term client of CBPA, recently completed a 4,800 sq. ft. expansion project.

The owners, Woodrow (Woody) and Hannalore Brown, have successfully grown the business since its start in 2001. They manufacture sawn wood dimension hardwood board and cants from low-grade hardwood logs. Towanda Dry Kiln currently em-

ployes 20 people, and has grown from 20,000 board feet per day to a high of 40,000 board feet per day.

Towanda Dry Kiln's expansion includes a building addition and equipment to provide resawing of lumber to further finish the product to meet customer specifications and increase product value.

Towanda Dry Kiln will conservatively create 5 new jobs and has filled 3 positions to date.



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Barnstead Pantry Receives Enterprise Zone Assistance

Recently, the CBPA closed a loan from the Bradford County Enterprise Zone Revolving Loan program to assist Terry and Martha Detweiler with the acquisition of Adlerfers Bulk Foods, located on Route 6 in Troy Township. This well-known and successful business will continue in the Enterprise Zone to their well-established clientele.

Partnering with First Citizens Bank, the Detweilers plan small store renovations and expanded store hours. It will continue as a family run business.



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Troy Veteran's Club Access Road Revitalization Funded by Senator Roger Madigan

Through a cooperative effort between Senator Roger Madigan, the Troy Veteran's Club Home Association, CBPA and the Allen F. Pierce Foundation, a much needed reconstruction was completed to Veteran's Drive in Troy Borough. The drive services the Troy Vet's Club Home Association, a non-profit organization that hosts a wide variety of community functions and services the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Veteran's Drive was badly in need of drainage, sub-base and pavement surface repairs. Senator Roger Madigan spearheaded a \$90,000 Community Reinvestment Fund grant through the PA Department of Community and Economic Development. The CBPA provided project management and coordinated design and construction.



Left to right: Jim Smith, Troy Vet's Club board member; Senator Roger Madigan; Larry Simcoe, Troy Vet's Club board member; Lou Judson, Troy Vet's Club manager; Paul Kreischer, CBPA president.



Canton Borough Water and Sewer Infrastructure Project Nearing Completion

The Canton Borough Authority is in the final stages of completing a massive water and sewer infrastructure project in Canton Borough and Canton Township. As part of the project, 25,000 feet of water mains have been replaced. 7,000 feet of combined sewer lines were replaced and separated into stormwater and sanitary sewer lines. The project has also allowed the resurfacing of several streets in Canton Borough.

This project has led to several accomplishments. The existing water mains had been installed in the early 1900's and were experiencing a water loss of greater than 50%. That excess water is now conserved. A new water tank has been constructed, and oversized mains to local business and industry will provide drastically improved fire flows and suppression capabilities. Also, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has recognized Canton as the first community in its Northcentral PA region to eliminate a combined sewer overflow by separating its storm and sanitary sewer lines.

Financing for this project was provided by First Citizens National Bank, PennVest, USDA's Rural Utilities Service, the Community Development Block Grant Program, and an Appalachian Regional Commission grant sponsored by Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission and the CBPA.



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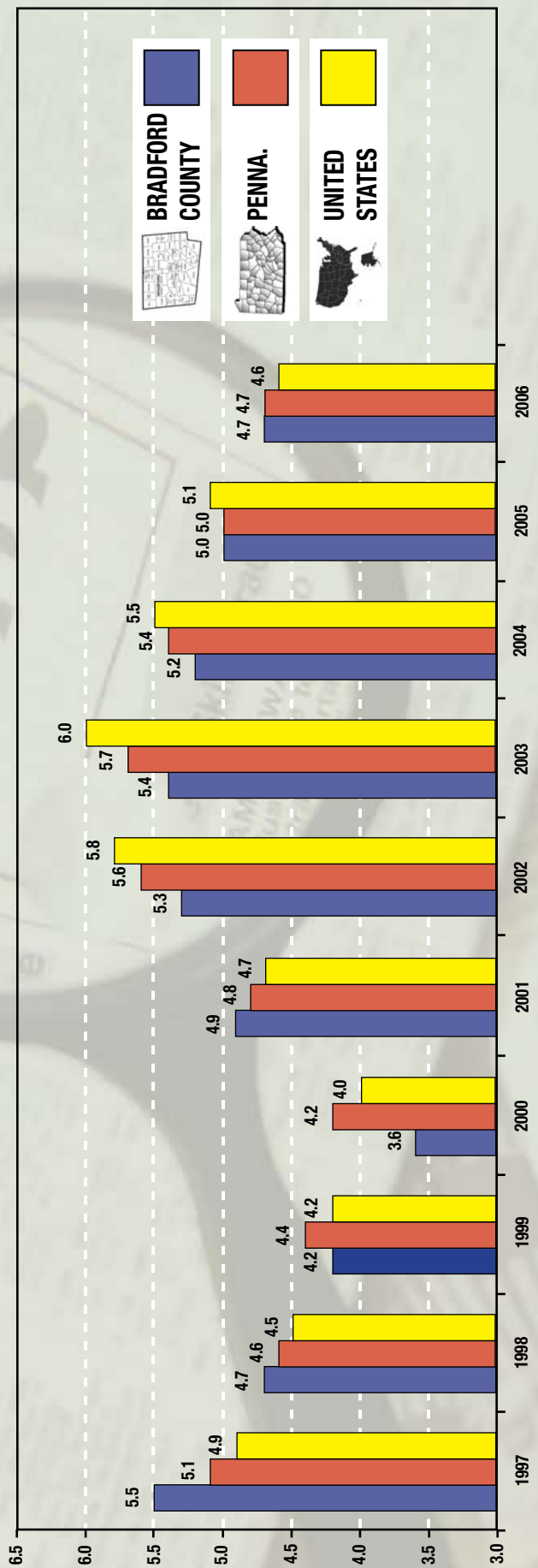
Bradford County Employment Update

Bradford County's economy has historically suffered from higher unemployment rates than state and national averages. Fortunately, the Central Bradford Progress Authority has lately observed that this trend has reversed. Due to an intensified economic development program and strategic investment by area industries, Bradford County's employment picture has stabilized and outperformed state and local averages in recent years.

The county unemployment rate fell to historic lows in 1999 and 2000 due largely to the impact of the Mill's Pride project in Athens Township. While the Bradford County unemployment rate rose slightly in 2001, since then it has been lower or comparable to the Pennsylvania and United States averages. Anytime the unemployment rate is near 4%, it is a positive sign because most economists agree that it is nearly impossible to sustain a rate below 4% due to natural economic pressures. Despite the national unemployment rate being slightly more favorable than the county's in 2006, year-to-date figures through August 2007 show Bradford County's rate at approximately 4.46% and the U.S. average at 4.65%.

While these statistics are welcome news for our local economy, the CBPA realizes that many areas of the county remain in need of more high-wage employment opportunities. The CBPA is committed to building on recent successes to continue improving Bradford County's economic landscape. (Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

Unemployment Rates 1997 – 2006



CBPA Assists Winding River Players with Main Street Theatre Project

The Winding Rivers Players are a well-known, all volunteer community theatre company. The Players recently purchased the building at 415 Main Street in Towanda to headquarter their group and develop a 40 seat black box theatre for live performances. The CBPA provided financial assistance via the Enterprise Zone Revolving Loan Fund to aid in the theatre's construction.

The CBPA is excited to assist the Winding Rivers Players in their continued support to promote theatre arts for people of our area.

Photo at right: Building at 415 Main Street in Towanda, purchased by the Winding River Players for their headquarters.



Oak Hill Veneer Enhances Operations with New Equipment Purchase - Continued from page 6

which directly relates to the strategic business development plan for the Enterprise Zone. Oak Hill Veneer is a local, family owned business. They are anticipating 17 new jobs once the equipment is installed and operational.

The CBPA provided Enterprise Zone Program Revolving Loan funding to assist in the equipment acquisition.



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Yanuzzi Drive Project Construction Advances

South Waverly Borough recently approved project agreements with PennDOT to finalize funding and design for the Yanuzzi Drive relocation project, East Side.

A complex project involving both state and federal funding, Yanuzzi Drive will be realigned to remove the tight intersection, improve Lepirino plant access, safety and traffic flow to I-86 and Fulton Street.

The project green light was received after the completion of complicated right-of-way acquisitions, obtaining full project funding and authorizing engineering design services. Potent-

tial construction is targeted for late summer of 2008.

Future plans include a road realignment of the West Site of Yanuzzi

Drive in front of the Lepirino Manufacturing facility.



Existing Yanuzzi Drive/Fulton Street, to be re-designed.