



# PROGRESS

*A Newsletter Dedicated to Business in Bradford County*

**CENTRAL BRADFORD PROGRESS AUTHORITY • RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT • PROGRESS FOR PEOPLE**

**April 10, 2008**



15  
YEARS  
1993 to 2008

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# The Power of Legislative Relationships

## Message From The Director

It's hard to believe that Senator Roger Madigan's legislative career is coming to an end. The working relationship that Senator Madigan has formed with the CBPA is beyond words. I have had the great fortune to know the Senator for many years and his interest and responsiveness to the CBPA's requests is evident in project completion and success. The CBPA would not be what it is today without Senator Madigan's direct support.

Senator Madigan always took the time to meet with us, often on short notice, and quickly reacted to our needs. We knew to be prepared, as he would seriously shepherd projects to maximize their impact to the County's development needs.

The board of directors and staff consider him a great friend. Senator



*Tony Ventello*

Madigan will be sorely missed, and we wish him well with a happy and healthy retirement.

# Interoperability Emergency Communications Upgrades

The Progress Authority was recently made aware of a critical emergency services issue by local industries. At the current time, there is an impediment to communications between police, fire, emergency management and industrial entities during an emergency because of the different radio frequencies that each agency operates on. These frequencies are assigned by the FCC.

A specialized interoperability communication system is necessary in order to enable 2-way communications between all of the agencies during an emergency. The system uses a portable radio unit from each entity and interconnects them so that they will operate on one frequency. This will enable emergency responders and industry responders to communicate with each other.

As an added benefit, many of our area industries maintain specialized, highly trained emergency services personnel. These industrial

safety and response personnel are maintained in a full-time capacity for cases such as fire and hazardous waste material disasters. The industries have provided a willingness to assist local communities with emergency response due to the establishment of interoperability. The local volunteer emergency services will be fortified with emergency management professionals to increase their capabilities once homogenous communication is established.

Senator Roger Madigan, when approached by the Progress Authority, immediately recognized the importance of establishing emergency interoperability and authorized \$75,000 in state funding assistance to help purchase the necessary equipment. With the Senator's support, the Progress Authority is moving forward with this project that has great impacts for local industry and the entire surrounding community.



# Recognizing Senator Madigan's Assistance

The Central Bradford Progress Authority's 15th anniversary coincides with the planned retirement of Senator Roger A. Madigan. Since the Progress Authority's inception in 1993, Senator Madigan has been a tireless advocate for the Progress Authority and the entire region. Without the Senator's support, it is safe to assume that the Progress Authority's impact through the years would have been substantially muted.

Senator Madigan was instrumental in securing a circuit-rider grant from the state to enable inter-municipal cooperation in the Towanda area, and this initial investment resulted in the Progress Authority becoming a staffed, professional organization. The Senator also helped in the approval process for the Central Bradford Enterprise Zone, which has been the springboard for numerous Progress Authority projects and substantial investment and employment impacts.

Early in the Progress Authority's timeline, our organization relied heavily on Senator Madigan's assistance to facilitate

the initial projects that helped to build our organization's identity. These included the X-Ray Coder at DuPont, the Metadyne project, and the Frontier Industrial Technologies project.

In the 15 years since, Senator Madigan has been a tremendous friend of the Progress Authority. His role as the Chairman of the PA Senate Transportation Committee and his background in agriculture and business have been invaluable assets to promote project development. To his credit, even since announcing his retirement, Senator Madigan has not taken a break, pushing hard to complete projects. Recent breakthroughs have included efforts such as the Road C industrial access highway at Valley Business Park in Athens Township and the interoperability emergency communications initiative involving numerous area industries.

Senator Madigan's commitment to our organization and our area has been very apparent throughout his distinguished career. While we will miss seeing the Senator in his office



*Senator Roger A. Madigan*

in the Progress Building, we are committed to sustaining his efforts as we continue to promote busi-

ness development in this region. We wish Senator Madigan a happy and healthy retirement.

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# Senator Madigan Assisted Projects 1993 to 2008

◆ Circuit Rider Program, DCA	◆ Towanda Printing Company expansion, PIDA and Enterprise Zone programs
◆ Enterprise Zone Planning Grant	◆ Wysox Municipal Water Study funding
◆ Enterprise Zone Basic Grant	◆ Lackawanna College Roger A. Madigan I-Tech Center
◆ Enterprise Zone Competitive Grant for E. I. DuPont	◆ Ongoing Enterprise Zone grant support
◆ PIDA loan for Metadyne	◆ OSRAM/DuPont security upgrades through the Enterprise Zone program
◆ Enterprise Zone Tax Credit for E. I. DuPont	◆ Grant support for Bradford County Dental Health Services
◆ ISTEA Trail Project	◆ Bradco Supply PIDA support
◆ Legislative Initiative for Riverfront Park	◆ DuPont Opportunity Grant secured
◆ COG I/P Grant	◆ Taylor/Excel transportation improvements
◆ CERP Proposal/Marketing Strategies	◆ Riverstreet extension project funding support
◆ PIDA Loan for OSRAM Sylvania	◆ Valley Business Park Road C funding
◆ Enterprise Zone Competitive Grant for Frontier Industrial Technologies, Inc.	◆ Brownfield Program support, Sayre railyards
◆ PIDA loan for Leprino Foods	◆ Pendu Corporation Opportunity Grant and PIDA loan
◆ Enterprise Zone Competitive Grant for Metadyne	◆ Craftmaster Manufacturing Opportunity Grant and Enterprise Zone Competitive Grant
◆ One Progress Plaza	◆ Central Bradford County Joint Intermunicipal Comprehensive Plan funding
◆ Sayre Incubator phase I funding	◆ Ingersoll Rand Opportunity Grant secured
◆ IDP funding for industrial infrastructure	◆ Continued support for Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program
◆ Support for joint sewer planning	◆ Enterprise Zone Program Competitive Grant for Arrow United
◆ Provided state funding for One Progress Plaza	◆ Funding for Yanuzzi Drive secured
◆ Assisted Ingersoll Rand with incentive assistance	◆ Troy Vet's Club Community Reinvestment Program
◆ Recreational funding, Key 93 for Riverfront Park	◆ Endless Mountains Athletic Complex Capital Budget – RCAP
◆ Keystone Opportunity Zone support	◆ Canton Borough water and sewer upgrades
◆ Capitol Budget Support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Towanda Main Street Program</li> <li>• Bradford County Regional Arts Council (Keystone Theater)</li> <li>• Bradford County Museum (Old jail)</li> </ul>	◆ Interoperability equipment funding secured
◆ OSRAM Sylvania Opportunity Grant	
◆ Towanda sewer and water improvements	
◆ Towanda Dry Kiln Enterprise Zone RLF assistance	
◆ Towanda Airport expansion, DOT funding	



# Downtown Redevelopment Funding Secured

Congressman Chris Carney recently announced \$310,000 in federal funding for the Progress Authority to enable redevelopment projects in Canton Borough, Troy Borough, and Towanda Borough in Bradford County. Each of the three municipalities has a dilapidated structure in a key location that will be targeted for demolition to promote redevelopment for commercial or industrial use.

In Canton, the former Preston Mill property on West Union Street was destroyed by fire and will be demolished. On Willow Street in Troy, a former industrial building has become structurally unsound due to neglect and will be razed to create a construction-ready lot. Also to be impacted by this funding is the former Bern building on Main Street in Towanda, which was destroyed by fire and is in need of demolition.

The funding will be spread equally among the three projects. The Progress Authority is very appreciative of Congressman Carney's assistance in these redevelopment initiatives.



*Top photo: The Bern building on Main Street in Towanda destroyed by fire.*

*Bottom photo: Neglected industrial property on Willow Street in Troy.*

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# Department of Defense Funding Supports Local Industries

As part of their business operations, both OSRAM Sylvania and Dupont in Towanda are heavily involved in defense-related manufacturing processes. Congressman Chris Carney was recently able to announce that these companies have been selected for federal Department of Defense funding to sup-

port defense initiatives. Each company will receive \$1.6 million to expand its efforts. OSRAM Sylvania is primarily involved in ordnance development and production, while Dupont has been focusing on military fuel cell applications.

Congressman Carney's background in counter-

intelligence at the Pentagon and his position on the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Home-

land Security have been very advantageous to his support of defense initiatives by local companies.



## Funding Announced for Wysox Public Water Extension

For several years, the Progress Authority has identified the extension of public water into Wysox Township as a critical economic development priority. With the assistance of Congressman Chris Carney's office, the Progress Authority has secured funding to help make this project a reality. Congressman Carney recently announced that \$738,000 in federal funding has been allocated through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to assist with the cost of extending public water across the Susquehanna River into Wysox Township.

The commercial and industrial corridor of Route 6 in Wysox Township stands to benefit from public water because of enhanced fire protection capabilities and improved overall water quality. The Progress Authority projects increased growth and expansion activity along the Route 6 corridor as a result of this investment. A public sewer extension into Wysox Township has been previously completed to provide other critical infrastructure. The Progress Authority is working jointly with the Towanda Municipal Authority and the Wysox Municipal Authority to facilitate this project.



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# 2007 Revolving Loan Fund Activity

Fifteen years ago, the Progress Authority was able to establish a local revolving loan fund through a \$300,000 Competitive Grant from the Pennsylvania Enterprise Zone program. At the time, DuPont was the recipient of the funding and pledged to pay it back to the community to start a loan fund that would help facilitate other economic development projects in our area.

Since that initial investment, the Progress Authority has been able to grow the revolving loan fund to over \$2 million in assets. It has been an incredibly effective tool to le-

verage private investment by providing low-interest funding to support local projects with positive job impacts. The key to the revolving loan fund is that it is a locally-controlled resource, meaning that the criteria for loan approvals matches local economic priorities. Over the lifetime of the Progress Authority revolving loan fund, impacted businesses have ranged from one employee to several hundred employees, and businesses in the manufacturing, retail, and service industries have all received loans.

Once again, 2007 was an active year for the Prog-

ress Authority loan program. Small companies such as Barnstead Pantry, Character Cuts, and Endless Mountains Gymnastics received loan funding. Additionally, the revolving loan fund supported substantial investment in the industrial sector. A loan to Farr Manufacturing services allowed the retention of manufacturing jobs in the Sayre Enterprise Center. Oak Hill Veneer was able to grow its business opportunities in Troy due to loan funding. Also, an investment with Frontier Industrial Technologies promoted a building expansion in North Tow-

anda Township. Frontier is a repeat loan customer; the Progress Authority is able to measure the effectiveness of its loan program based on businesses that are able to involve the revolving loan fund in subsequent investment projects. In the beginning of 2008, loans were made to Winding Rivers Players for a black box theatre, and a sixth loan was made to Metadyne, Inc. as they continue to expand.

The Progress Authority revolving loan fund is a key ongoing resource for economic development projects in Bradford County.

## Progress Authority Marketing Troy Paper Magic Building

The Bradford County economy recently received bad news when it was announced that Paper Magic

would be closing its distribution facility on Eureka Drive in Troy Borough. Operations will be shifted

to other Paper Magic locations in order to cut costs. The plant will be completely ceasing operations by May of 2008, resulting in the loss of approximately 65 jobs.

Paper Magic is attempting to sell the 211,000 square-foot facility. The Progress Authority has toured the building and is working jointly with Mericle Commercial Real Estate to market the property to prospective industrial occupants. The site is 13 acres, with public water, public sewer, 3-phase elec-

tric, and natural gas all in place. A portion of the facility has 40-foot clear ceilings, and the building is in excellent condition.

While the loss of these jobs is a blow to our local economy, the Progress Authority is optimistic that this property will create an opportunity to attract a substantial employer to Troy. The Progress Authority is committed to working aggressively on behalf of the Troy community until this site is re-occupied.



*Paper Magic, Troy*



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# Transportation Projects Move Forward in Valley

The Progress Authority has worked closely with the Athens Township Supervisors to advance the Road C industrial access road project in Valley Business Park. The access road will provide a direct link between Exit 59A of Interstate 86 to Masco Cabinet (formerly Mill's Pride) and undeveloped property in Valley Business Park. This access road is expected to enable substantial future business growth within the park. The funding package has been solidified for this project, and design is currently underway with Larson Design Group. Athens Township is the project sponsor.

Construction is anticipated in summer 2008 on Yanuzzi Drive in South Waverly Borough. The project will realign Yanuzzi Drive to improve traffic flow at Leprino Foods. The Progress Authority is hopeful that this project will enhance Leprino's operations at this facility. PennDOT and South Waverly Borough have been heavily involved in guiding this project to the construction phase.

Both projects have received significant support from Senator Roger Madigan and Representative Tina Pickett.



*Valley Business Park*