



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

Directors of the Bradford Landmark Society

Harrijane Hannon, Pres.
Jay Bradish
Greg Ulyan
Pam Fredeen
Glen Washington
Elizabeth Sefton
Susan Oliphant
Charles Pagano
Stephanie Packard
Robert Esch

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

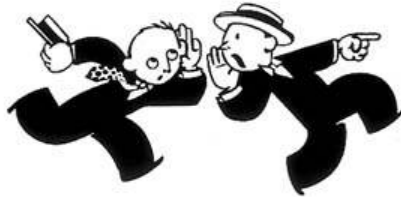
63 South Avenue burned, and was demolished. In 1900, while the Holley Hotel (present day Riddell House) was being built, Frank Holley, who named the hotel after his family name, rented this house while the hotel was under construction.

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. Leeks
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.

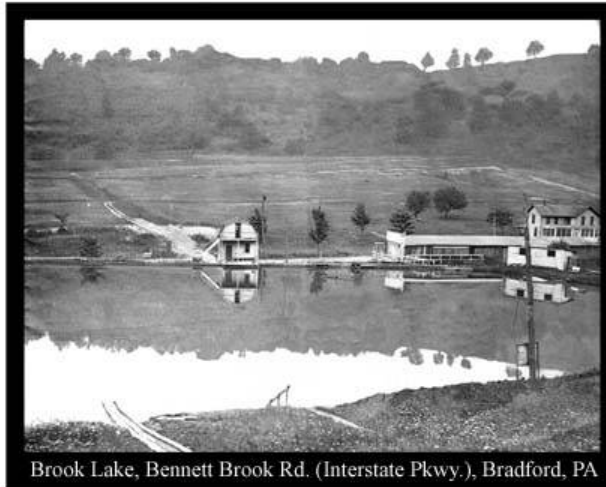
1 to 10 questions correct – You need to learn more about Bradford!

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
45 East Corydon Street
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.

