



PROGRESS

WINTER 2005

CBPA

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A Quarterly Newsletter Dedicated to Business in Bradford County

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Pendu Manufacturing, Inc. expands into Bradford County



From left to right the people are: Felix Dzubia, Tuscarora Twp. Supervisor; Patrick Beebe, Tuscarora Twp. Supervisor; Jason Krise, Tina Pickett's office; Bill Snyder, Wyalusing Industrial Development Corp. (WIDCO); Chris McLaud, Senator Madigan's office; Doug McLinko, Bradford County Commissioner; Joe Keblitsch, Wyalusing SD Business Manager; Ray Fleming, Wyalusing SD Superintendent; Nancy Schrader, Bradford Co. Commissioner; Gary Miller, Wyalusing School Board President; Wendy Gaustad, Wyalusing Chamber of Commerce; Marlin Hurst, Pendu Manufacturing President; Carl Yurgaitas, Tuscarora Twp. Supervisor, along with Pendu employees.

In This Issue:

Pg. 2: Henry C. Dunn

Pg. 3: Messages From Board President & Director

Pg. 4: TeamPA

Pg. 5: Craftmaster, OSRAM & DuPont

Pg. 6: Youth Leadership

Pg. 7: Army Corps Water/Sewer Projects

Pg. 8: John B. Merrill Parkway Opens To Traffic

For more information on a subject addressed herein, or to provide your valued input to this newsletter, please contact the Authority at the address above.

Pendu Manufacturing, Inc. has acquired the facility and assets of Cornell Industrial Corporation in Tuscarora Township, Bradford County. Pendu, based in New Holland, PA, is excited about the opportunity to expand into this region and become a part of the local manufacturing base.

Pendu has been under the direction of company president Marlin J. Hurst since 1993. The company has seen aggressive growth in sales since that time. They are designers and manufacturers of specialized industrial equipment with emphasis placed on heavy-duty sawmill equipment and the log home industry. In

recent years, Pendu has moved to the forefront in the niche market of custom sawmill manufacturing. Pendu is recognized for the quality of its equipment and its ability to creatively design specialized equipment.

There are currently 26 employees at the local facility, which is now known as Cornell, a division of Pendu Manufacturing, Inc. The company has become fully operational at the site, with the first major contract, a collaboration between the Tuscarora Township facility and the New Holland facility, recently just completed.

The CBPA, working closely with the Tuscarora Township

Supervisors, Wyalusing Area School District, and Bradford County Commissioners, was involved in securing Keystone Opportunity Zone status for the property. Additionally, \$75,000 in Opportunity Grant funds and \$545,000 in low-interest loan funds from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania were utilized to aid in the project through the CBPA's partnership with the Pennsylvania Governor's Action Team.

The CBPA is very pleased to welcome Pendu Manufacturing, a strong company with great growth potential, to Bradford County.

Meet Our Members: Henry C. Dunn

Henry C. Dunn is a lifelong resident of the Towanda area. He is the son of Henry E. Dunn, who founded the Henry Dunn Insurance Agency in 1933. Following his graduation in 1972 with a BS in Business Administration from Bethel College, he joined Henry Dunn, Inc., and is now President and Treasurer of the Corporation. Mr. Dunn holds his Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriting (CPCU) designation as a licensed insurance agent, as well as his Insurance Broker's license in Commercial Lines and Bonds. Under Henry's direction, Henry Dunn, Inc., has become a third-generation business entity, not only in Towanda, but also reaching across Pennsylvania with offices in Sayre, Williamsport, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

In addition to his insurance license, Henry is licensed as a Real Estate Broker and is a member of the Pennsylvania Association of Realtors,



Henry C. Dunn

Bradford County Board of Realtors, and the National Board of Realtors.

As a community activist and leader, Henry is a founding Director of the Central Bradford Progress Authority. He is the treasurer and finance

chairman of Martha Lloyd Community Services and the Bradford County Regional Arts Council. Mr. Dunn also serves on the Board of Directors and Executive/Finance Committees of Memorial Hospital, Northern Tier Counseling, and is a Trustee of Guthrie Healthcare Systems. Additionally, he is active in the Williamsport Consistory 32nd Degree, Towanda Country Club, Shepard Hills Country Club, Twin Tier Racquet Club, and the Elmira City Club. He has served as past President of the Chamber of Commerce and the Towanda Area Jaycees, being voted their Outstanding Young Man in 1981 in appreciation of his outstanding service to Community, State and Country. Henry was a Founder and Chairman of Northern States Bank and served as past Director of the Red Cross, PTG President and a deacon of the First Presbyterian Church of Towanda.

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RBEG A Strong Tool For Countywide Economic Development



Paul Kreisler

The RBEG (Rural Business Enterprise Grant) provided through the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) has enabled the Progress Authority to fund several low-interest loan requests related to new business opportunities. I mention this because a USDA representative complimented me on the quality of our application.

Obviously, I credited the Authority's small but efficient staff for the quality of the projects funded under our program. Our staff of three submits numerous applications for low-interest loans and grants on a regular basis with a high percentage of success. The effort that goes into applications is directly related to the high application success rate. This in turn enables the CBPA to provide broader services to our business clients and makes our area more successful in the extremely competitive job creation/job retention arena. Tony Ventello, Brian Driscoll and Kim Kulick take great pride in their work and accomplishments and this fact is the key ingredient in the success of the Central Bradford Progress Authority.

Business Development Investments Were Very Active In 2004

The past year's CBPA program was nothing short of intense. 2004 provided the most active investment year for business development since the Authority's birth in 1993.

The need to re-tool, redirect and reinvent creative business energy was complimented by Pennsylvania's Economic Stimulus Package, which has been an invaluable resource for assisting business and industry.

As always, I am immensely appreciative of the CBPA board, Countywide board, and Bradford County Commissioners' confidence in our Economic Development Program. Our proactive approach is further augmented by the dedication of the CBPA staff.

I boldly predict an even greater effort in 2005, with a positive impact on job development and investment via intensified program implementation to best impact our communities.



Tony Ventello

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2005 Looks Positive For Our Region



Brian Driscoll

As a lifelong Bradford County resident, it is fulfilling to have the opportunity to assist our area's employers in taking meaningful steps forward. Local businesses have been tremendously active in investment and expansion opportunities, moving the county economy in a positive direction. Through all of our projects, we hope to continue to be a driving force behind growth, focusing on local business development, infrastructure, and workforce needs.

I am confident that recent and continuing efforts by the CBPA will result in a stabilized and strengthened local economy. The CBPA's ultimate goal remains the enhancement of quality of life and the empowerment of our communities. I feel that the year 2005 has great things in store for our region's residents and businesses.

CBPA Facilitates Joint Intermunicipal Comprehensive Plan

The Central Bradford Progress Authority, by request of local municipalities, has facilitated a Joint Intermunicipal Comprehensive Planning effort. Working toward a cooperative plan are Towanda Borough, Towanda Township and North Towanda Township. The planning project is receiving a grant-in-aid from the Pennsylvania Dept. of Transportation's Special Planning Assistance Program. The grant is up to \$32,000, with a 25% local cost share. Participating municipalities have adopted resolutions moving forward with the project.

The intent of the plan is to cooperatively

and progressively guide development and change in Central Bradford County. Comprehensive plans approve a variety of areas, such as land use and housing, community facilities, protection of natural and historical resources and plan for a reliable water supply and improved infrastructure.

The grant for \$32,000 was obtained with assistance from the NTRPDC. The state provides priority to communities that plan jointly. The plan will be subject to a broad public participation process, which will directly identify and address community needs.



CBPA Anticipating Another Successful TeamPA Business Retention Program

The CBPA has recently completed another successful year as a partner in NTRPDC's Team PA Business Retention Program. 22 interviews were completed with various businesses and industries throughout our area. Several interviews led

to assistance from our Authority and other agencies to help in areas pinpointed by the interviews. We are once again partnering with NTRPDC and anticipate another successful Team PA Business Retention Program year.

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Craftmaster Manufacturing, Inc.

CraftMaster Manufacturing, Inc. in Wysox Township is in an investment mode. The company recently installed a new coating line that will greatly enhance efficiency and productivity at this facility. Additionally, CraftMaster is in the process of updating much of its die inventory. To aid in this



department of Community and Economic Development and \$500,000 in low-interest loan

significant investment project, the CBPA was able to help CraftMaster secure \$200,000 in Opportunity Grant funds from the De-

funds from the Pennsylvania Enterprise Zone program. This state funding will help CraftMaster maintain its growth in Bradford County. The local company currently has approximately 600 employees.

OSRAM Sylvania

Dennis Yablonsky, secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, traveled to Bradford County on behalf of Governor Ed Rendell to announce that OSRAM Sylvania had been awarded an assistance package to

aid in research and development efforts at their Towanda facility. OSRAM Sylvania



received \$1 million in Opportunity Grant funds and \$500,000 in Customized Job Training funds to leverage substantial corporate investment in this project. Nearly 1,000 jobs exist at OSRAM Sylvania in Towanda.

E. I. DuPont

E.I. DuPont in Towanda is in the midst of a major expansion project. Construction is currently taking place on site as part of over \$75 million in investment. This project will enable DuPont to move forward on research and development projects involving fuel cells and liquid crystal displays, and will secure approximately 600 jobs in Towanda. In cooperation with state and

local taxing authorities, the CBPA was able to secure Keystone Opportunity Zone status for a portion of the DuPont campus to facilitate this project. Also, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania committed \$17 million in Opportunity Grant and Capital Budget funds so that this investment could take place in Pennsylvania.



CBPA To Assist Susquehanna County

On January 26, 2005, the Susquehanna County Commissioners voted to enter into a relationship with the CBPA for technical assistance services in their county. The CBPA has been providing countywide economic development in Bradford County since September of 2003, and major business development and investment projects

have been the result. The Susquehanna County Commissioners would like to see similar growth opportunities pursued in Susquehanna County by the CBPA. A cooperative agreement has been structured that will allow the CBPA to provide technical assistance to Susquehanna County for a period of one year. The CBPA feels that

great potential exists in Susquehanna County because of factors including the Interstate 81 corridor, a wealth of natural resources, and a strong workforce. The CBPA remains committed to providing the same level of economic development services to Bradford County, but it is also excited about the opportunities presented by Susquehanna County.

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Youth Leadership Program

The CBPA is coordinating the Bradford/Sullivan Youth Leadership Program for the 2004-2005 school year. This is the third year for the program, which emphasizes leadership skills for area students. This year, 32 students are participating in the program that meets monthly for daylong sessions throughout the region. They represent Athens, Canton, Northeast Bradford, Sayre, Sullivan County, Towanda, Troy, Waverly, and Wyalusing high schools. The CBPA feels that this is a very beneficial program that can help develop the future leaders in our community.



Enterprise Zone Planning

The CBPA has been the administrative agent for the Central Bradford County Enterprise Zone since 1993. The current zone has been very effective in providing the CBPA with resources to encourage business development in the Central Bradford County area. However, this zone is nearing its end of eligibility with the state. In order to expand the benefits of the Enterprise Zone program to all of Bradford County, the CBPA is explor-

ing the development of a broader zone throughout the county's strategic business corridors. The CBPA recently approved for a \$50,000 planning grant to help shape the future of the Enterprise Zone program in Bradford County. This will provide the means to determine how this very effective program can best be utilized to offer expanded business development opportunities to the entire county.

Keystone Innovation Zone

As part of the new economic stimulus package, the state hopes to build a stronger link between Pennsylvania's research universities and its key industries. Keystone Innovation Zones designed to mesh these entities will be established throughout the state. The CBPA has submitted an application for Planning Grant funds for this

program. It is hoped that the CBPA can secure funding to explore the ways that Bradford County industries, in key sectors including high technology, food sciences, and health care, can more effectively interact with the region's institutions of higher learning. Mansfield University, Penn State University, Lackawanna College, and Key-

stone College all have offered their support of this application.



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Army Corps Water/Sewer Projects

U.S. Congressman Don Sherwood recently announced that he has secured \$1 million for sewer and water infrastructure projects in Bradford County. This \$500,000 in federal Army Corps funds will be utilized to help with the costs of extending the Towanda Municipal Authority water system across the Susquehanna River into Wysox Township. Public water will

be able to help stimulate future development in the Wysox Route 6 commercial corridor. The CBPA has been working with the Wysox Municipal Authority in support of this project. Additionally, another \$500,000 was allocated to the Athens Township Authority in order to extend municipal sewer lines in the area of Valley Business

Park and the Wilawana interchange off I-86 in Athens Township. This will allow an overcapacity treatment plant for Queen Esther Estates to be integrated into the public sewer, and it will help prepare the way for the construction of Road "C", which will be a direct industrial access road from Valley Business Park to I-86.

Capital Budget Projects

Several Bradford County projects were identified as priorities for funding in Pennsylvania's Capital Budget. These projects include:

- \$15,000,000 to support an expansion at E.I. DuPont in North Towanda Township.

- \$650,000 for build-out of the former Ames department store in Towanda Township to convert it into a multi-tenant manufacturing facility.

- \$1,000,000 for facility improvements at Ingersoll-Rand in Athens Borough.

- \$1,500,000 for facility improvements at Paxar in Sayre Borough.

- \$500,000 for build-out of the Enterprise Center business incubator in Sayre Borough.

Brownfields Remediation

The CBPA continues to work to secure funding for the cleanup of two contaminated sites in the Valley area of Bradford County. The CBPA recently submitted grant applications to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Pennsylvania's Business in the Sites program, requesting funds for environmental assessment and the development of a remediation plan for the Sayre Railyards KOZ site in Sayre Borough. It is hoped that this property can be redeveloped as an industrial site. Also, an application for funding was submitted on behalf of the Cohen Auto Scrapyard site in Athens

Township. Environmental Protection Agency funds would be used to clean up

environmental contamination and transform the property into a community park.



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John B. Merrill Parkway Opens To Traffic

The long-awaited John B. Merrill Parkway (formerly River Street) was opened to through traffic in November of 2004.

Measuring just over 2 miles in length, all major roadway construction work was completed over a 2-year period in 2003 and 2004 to allow the opening to occur on schedule.

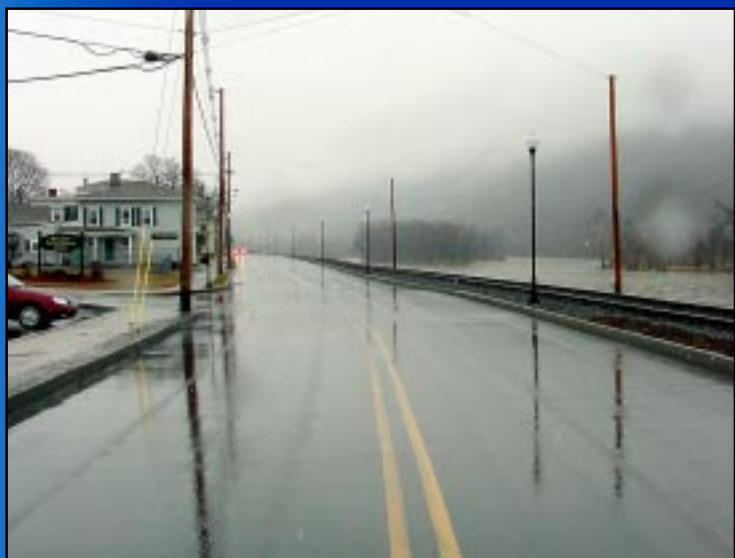
Along with the new roadway and related improvements was the completion of an eight-foot wide paved pedestrian trail that parallels the parkway virtually its entire length and which has become a popular and well used community asset.

Planned as a scenic alternative north/south route through Towanda Borough and North Towanda Township, the magnificent river side scenery that has been opened up to motorists and trail users has been a surprise to many people, including some of the original planners of the project.

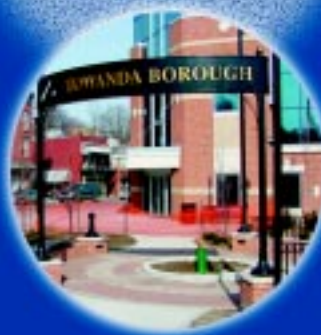
In the spring of 2005, minor finish work will be completed by PennDOT's contractor and the parkway will then be turned back to Towanda Borough and North Towanda Township as a local road.

Also in the spring, a Towanda Borough construction crew will begin improvements to the pedestrian trail including landscaping, fencing in certain areas, the erection of several trail shelters with benches and the installation of several interpretive historical plaques.

The Borough is also coordinating with Christine Ventello who, as her Towanda High School senior project, is securing funding commitments from local community groups to place several pet waste stations along the trail.



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