Brought to you by BCDA
A year of homegrown economic development

This past year, a number of Bedford County businesses demonstrated that the companies that are already here often generate economic development. That is why BCDA looks for every opportunity to help local companies grow and expand.

"Our Hometown Jeweler"

The coming year promises to continue the amazing growth.

The new program will be administered by the Somerset County Technology Center and is the result of a cooperative effort that included the assistance of BCDA and the Altoona Industrial Development Authority.

BCDA offers assistance with:
- Available Sites and Buildings
- Low-Interest Business Financing
- Entrepreneurial Development
- Tax Free Keystone Opportunity Zones
- Workforce Development

BCDA BOARD MEMBERS:
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Sean Bardell, Vice Chair — Dutch Corner
Scott Jones, Treasurer — Hollidaysburg
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Bob Octavio, Asst. Treasurer — Bedford
Doug Gerber, Asst. Secretary — Everett
Travis Collins, Immediate Past Chair — Everett
John Carlin — Freezewood
Gregory Krug — Pipersville

When there’s a need — BCDA will find a way....
Sometimes, growing from within means getting ready to attract new businesses and organizations to Bedford County. The very best example of economic development readiness may be BCDA’s Business Park II.

During the past two years, BCDA’s staff and Board of Directors have worked to turn the nearly 80 acres in Business Park II into pad ready sites for new and established businesses. To expedite the site selection process — to make it as convenient as possible for a new company to move into Bedford County — BCDA has overseen the engineering, design, permitting, and earthwork. The project is now ready for active and aggressive marketing.

The market is demanding more pad-ready sites. “We moved forward with this project knowing that it will eliminate months in site preparation for future buyers,” noted Bo Pratt, Chair, BCDA Board of Directors. “This is a tremendous opportunity given that the site is pad-ready, permitted, and as a Keystone Opportunity Zone. Available utilities are in place, including an abundant and reliable electric supply.”

The project engineer is H.F. Lenz of Johnstown, and the contractor is Glenn O. Hawbaker of State College.

The Business Park II includes 70 acres of pad-ready sites that can accommodate a 780,000 square foot building. It has a great location and access to an excellent transportation system.

BCDA’s Business Park II a premiere property for economic development

Front Row (l-r): Immediate Past Chair, Travis Collins, B.C. Stone; Assistant Treasurer, Bob Octavio, Cycling Sports Group; Vice Chair, Sean Bennett, Howard Hanna Johnston Realty; Chair, Bo Pratt, Rock- land Manufacturing Company; Assistant Secretary, Doug Gerber, Rex Heat Treatment; Treasurer, Sean Jones, Recreational Equipment Inc.

Back Row (l-r): Barry Dallara, Bedford County Commissioner; Vice President, Terri Brambaugh, BCDA; Linda Bullington, Bullington Financial Services LLC; Sara Letto, 1099 Kitchen; President, Bette Slayton, BCDA; Trudy Mitchell, Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development; Keith Morris, Bedford County Commissioner; John Carlin, Quality Inn Breeze Manor; Alan Frederick, Frederick Farms, Inc.; Ted Chwatek, Hometown Bank of PA; James Wistar, EvCotter Door Company; J.P. Tambourine, FirstEnergy; Jenny DeLong, Bun Air Corp; Greg King, Lampire Biological Laboratories; Office Manager, Melanie Miller, BCDA; David D’Pauwelle, Bedford County Technical Center.

Meet the 2015 BCDA Board

New 2015 Board Members

Jenny DeLong
Bun Air Corp

Brett Schosfied
Omni Bedford Springs Resort & Spa

Paul Crooks, Bedford County Commissioner

Aerial view of BCBP II during construction with REI Distribution Center in the background.

Bedford County business and economic development must stay in touch with this wonderful asset to the satisfaction of their clients and customers.

Bedford County Chamber of Commerce

Our Mission: The Bedford County Chamber of Commerce involves and unifies our membership to promote the continuous improvement of the business climate in our region.

You are invited to JOIN the CHAMBER and be part of our ongoing effort to connect & build our business community.

Member Opportunities Include:
Education ~ Exposure ~ Networking ~ Savings
Be part of our diverse & dynamic membership organization for the benefit of your business & our community.

Contact Us:
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Bedford, PA 15522
Phone: 814.623.2233

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Lampire Biological Laboratories continues to lead Bedford County, and the surrounding region, into the exciting field of biotechnology. Now, the company is in the process of expanding its Everett facility’s manufacturing capacity to meet the needs of a $5 million contract that is scheduled to be completed over the next five years.

“We have a new contract from a Fortune 50, international, pharmaceutical company,” said Gregory Krug, president and CEO, Lampire Biological Laboratories. “We will be doing a specialized tissue processing, preparing the tissue for a special extraction.”

The extraction itself will be done by the pharmaceutical company, Krug explained. The resulting material will be an injectable product that will aid in the treatment of arthritis. “We are not expanding our facility. Instead we are renovating internal space, giving our staff an additional 3,000 to 4,000 square feet of CGMP manufacturing space.”

CGMP refers to current good manufacturing practices required to conform to the guidelines recommended by agencies that control authorization and licensing for manufacture and sale of food, drug products, and active pharmaceutical products.

The new contract means the addition of 6 jobs to Lampire’s workforce, Krug explained. “We’ve already hired additional people,” said Krug, “expanding in several areas. These professionals include technicians, managers and biologists.”

Krug noted that the five-year contract will mean a little more than $1 million in business each year for Lampire. The new contract required the purchase of specialized equipment and water systems costing $900,000. “We received financing help from Catalyst Connection, Clearfield Bank, Southern Allegheny Planning and Development Commission in Altoona, and Lampire,” stated Krug.

Krug explained that BCDA was very helpful in moving the project forward. “The company we are doing the work for was very impressed by our interaction with the Bedford County Technical Center. It was a factor in our receiving the contract.”

“This has been a very collaborative effort,” said Krug.

Lampire, BCDA and the Tech Center produced a video last year entitled “Revolutionary.” It promotes biotechnology to students and is an effective marketing tool for Lampire and BCDA. To view the video go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tCU48Pad6CE.

Gary Klinger, Laboratory Manager, validating 4400C Commercial Reverse Osmosis (RO) Purified Water System.

From quaint shops along the way to upscale boutiques, downtown Bedford has something for everyone! Unique eateries, cafes and restaurants will satisfy your palate after a busy day of shopping and touring. Whether a weekend getaway or a one day adventure, you’re going to love what you experience. Discover for yourself why downtown Bedford was voted one of the Top 10 Main Streets in the Nation!
Finley Bee Antiques offers one-of-a-kind items

By Erin Thompson
Gazette Staff Writer

Ever since 3-year-old Finley Bankes could talk, she has referred to herself as “Finley Bee.” So when her grandmother, Tammy Welsh, retired from Bedford Area School District and opened her own shop in Bedford, coming up with a name was an “easy choice,” Welsh said.

Welsh opened her gift shop, Finley Bee Antiques and Gift Shop in September of last year. There, she offers one-of-a-kind antiques, repurposed antiques and other home decor and gift items. She has a “bee theme” throughout the store for her granddaughter.

Not long after Welsh opened her shop, her second granddaughter was born, so she slightly altered the name of her shop to “Finley Bee Antiques and Gift Shop, featuring the Garden of Eden.”

“This just fit perfectly,” she said.

Finley Bee Antiques and Gift Shop, featuring Garden of Eden offers a variety of antiques and items that can be reused and repurposed for decoration in homes. “I offer one-of-a-kind decorative pieces,” said Welsh, who added that she also offers top-notch customer service. “I like to give people ideas of ways to use items and decorate their homes.”

Her shop also offers gift items such as candles and soaps.

Before Welsh opened her own business in town, she was a secretary at Bedford Area School District for 31 years.

“I’ve always had a love for antiquing and gardening,” said Welsh. “I wanted to retire and do something I loved and I love the character that they offer.”

Before opening her own shop at 113 B South Richard St., Bedford, Welsh was a vendor at a local coop store until she decided it was time to open up her own space. In the future, Welsh hopes to increase her local customer base. “I’ve been doing some different things to try to draw them in,” she said. “And if I have more grandchildren, I’ll have to expand the name.”

Finley Bee Antiques and Gift Shop, featuring Garden of Eden is open Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed Tuesday and Wednesday. Visit the Facebook page for information on items available in the shop located at 113B S. Richard St.

Finley Bankes owns and operates Finley Bee Antiques and Gift Shop in Bedford. The shop specializes in one-of-a-kind antiques and other home decor and gift ideas.
Shop brings new fashion lines to parents

By Elizabeth Coyle Gazette Managing Editor

Madelyn Rose Children’s Boutique, 118 North Richard St., Bedford, gives families a chance to purchase clothing they likely won’t see in a shopping mall.

Owner Katie Bullington, who opened the store in November of 2014, describes her boutique as a retail shop for children that offers a variety of lines such as Fox, LeTop, Antimo, Belleliza and others as well as ones that are local such as Chevbowdies and lobster and shrimps from Noodle and Eos.

“We’re just trying to bring different lines that are hard to find and try to give you a big city feel to give you a big city feel with a small town charm,” Bullington said.

Bullington has a business degree from Penn State. She had been the third generation working in her family’s insurance company until she and her husband, Chris, took the chance of opening their own store.

“It’s something I’ve always wanted to do and after a lot of thinking and talking it over with my husband I decided to give it a go,” the owner said.

The couple put together a business plan and opened in 30 days.

Bullington said she’d like to see the business expand longer term. “I’d like to eventually open a second,” Bullington said.

The sizes range from newborn to size 8 for boys and girls.

“Our hopes are just to keep growing and hopefully make our niche here in town,” the owner said.

The shop is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Bullington describes her business as a retail shop for children that provides new fashion lines.

By Elizabeth Coyle

The Bittner family is revamping a planning new facade on the outside and an updated, more attractive facility inside at the Holiday Inn Express in Breezewood. A $4.5 million project, when all completed in the fall, will have revamped guest room, a meeting space that will be significantly larger than the current facility and many new updated features, including an indoor pool.

John Bittner said the hotel is undergoing a property improvement that is part of the hotel’s license agreement with Holiday Inn Express but the Bittners are going beyond the requirements to make the hotel more amenable to the needs and desires of guests and business customers.

The project adds 12 additional rooms to the hotel to bring the total to 84 but all of the guest room will be revamped completely as well as all public areas on the first floor. The breakfast area and registration also are being revamped.

“In addition, we added space for (public) laundry, for meeting rooms and we added a new exercise room and new suites,” John said. A hot tub also is part of the additions.

Bittner said the hotel is adding about 1,500 square feet of meeting space. “We will be able to handle groups in a classroom setting. If we open up the partition, we could probably have a class of 200 people.” The room will have flat screens, multimedia access for webinars and other business needs, John said.

“With Breezewood’s location being central to Pittsburgh and the Philly area and Howardburg, DC and Baltimore, our offices will enable our sales people in central location,” John said. The hotel’s expanded business meeting areas will help the Holiday Inn Express accommodate more of these meetings.

Those meeting rooms are scheduled to be completed for use that fall, John said.

The hotel is adding about 14,000 additional square feet and “remodeling all of it,” John said.

Some of the guest rooms are being converted to two-bedroom family suites; these improvements are to be completed by the end of June. Improvements on the first floor are to be complete around late July and a new front desk by November the Bittners said.

The four-story hotel opened in 2000, no additions to the Bittner family’s complex that includes the Gateway Travel Plaza and its related enterprises.

The facility also will include all new LED lighting and a heating/cooling system, John said.

The project overall is to be completed overall by November.

For more information, visit the website www.gawytertravelplaza.com or follow the links for the Holiday Inn Express.
The Golden Eagle Inn in Bedford is the happy result of the desire and effort of owners with local ties to bring an elegance and colonial charm to downtown Bed-
ford. The business, newly opened two years ago, brings the downtown experience of two New York City restaurants to workers and tourists to create a unique oasis. At the Golden Eagle, this is coupled with the hominess of a bed and breakfast and the security of a down-
esty pub.

Joining the owners and chefs of the Golden Eagle inn to celebrate The Pub’s opening in 2014 are, from left, Joel Blach, aide to state Rep. Jesse Topp; Truly Mitchell from the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission; Berre Stanton from the Bedford County Development Association; Jeff Boldizar from St. Francis Small Business Development Center; and back: Executive Chef Zach Ford, owners Byron Hebel, Tom Salmon, Mary Jane Helsel, Connie Clark and Martha Hebel, and Chef Drew Ford.

By Elizabeth Coyle
The Bedford Gazette

Elegance, charm at the Golden Eagle Inn

The Golden Eagle Inn, under new ownership of the members of the Helsel family since 2013, was an inn with a restaurant. Last year, the Golden Eagle added a downstairs pub. The business is located in the historic building originally known as the Anderson mansion which was built in 1794 by John Anderson, who was constructed in 1794 by John Anderson, who added a downstairs pub. The business is located in the historic building originally known as the Anderson mansion which was built in 1794 by John Anderson, who

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To view this document, visit www.bedford-
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624-0800.
Clark Contractors a leading commercial contractor

A strong presence in Bedford County

Over 1,100 medical device manufacturers and service providers recently converged in New York City to showcase their latest wares. FirstEnergy co-sponsored Pennsylvania's participation at the event with the PA Department of Community and Economic Development. The state was showcased at a booth, which touted Pennsylvania's many business opportunities, and a networking event for Pennsylvania companies exhibiting at MD&M.

"Participation in this event allows our economic development partners to network with Pennsylvania companies and also search for business recruitment opportunities. Once again FirstEnergy is proud of the time and energy our economic development partners give to this event," stated JP Tambourine, Manager, First Energy Economic Development.

It is hard to go anywhere in Bedford County without running into a crew from Clark Contractors. The company provides a wide range of contracting services, including commercial contracting, consulting and project management.

For more than 60 years, Clark Contractors has been a leading commercial contractor for central and southwest Pennsylvania. Headquartered in Bedford County, the company can provide services for business of all sizes, from general construction to HVAC and electrical work.

Clifton Clark, president, notes that the company has had a pretty good year of growth in 2015, and looks forward with optimism to 2016.

"We have found that the second quarter of 2015 to be very robust in the commercial market with lots of new projects," Clark said. "We expect our general revenue growth to be about 5% for 2015. Currently we are planning to expand our facility in 2016 to provide more warehouse housing and equipment repair space.

As a family-owned business for three generations, Clark Contractors has built its reputation on quality, job planning, organization, technical knowledge and hard work. These important factors have led to thousands of successfully completed projects. "Our expertise extends to retail storefronts, banking and insurance buildings, healthcare clinics, warehouses, manufacturing facilities and more," Clark stated.

We don't just build buildings... We're building your Future.

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www.clarkcontractorinc.com

We understand that completing a successful project requires more than simply building the structure; we must maintain an interactive relationship with our customers to ensure the job is done right. This commitment enables us to develop a long-standing relationship of trust and confidence with our customers.

When the Clark name is on a project, you know the job is done right.

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FISHERTOWN — Hometoasted fresh food tastes better — that’s the philosophy that employees at Eat 2 Live Bistro Market live by and try to instill in their customers, according to manager Rick Kroft.

“All of our foods including our dressings, mayos and sauces are made from scratch to eliminate preservatives and additives,” Kroft said.

Eat 2 Live is also proud that they use a lot of local produce from family farms from right here in Bedford County, the company said. Their burgers and steaks are grass fed and aged and are raised only five miles from the restaurant.

“It is really the best of both worlds because we get the produce and meats that are at their peak flavor and we also get to help out our local farmers, too,” Kroft said.

Eat 2 Live is located at 1634 Quaker Valley Road next door to Live Well Chiropractic, both owned by Dr. Kris and Tina Arnold. The Arnolds first moved their Chiropractic and Wellness practices last July when they outgrew their former location in Ceona.

The restaurant, according to Arnold — who has been a chiropractor for 15 years — was created by accident, when he discovered the space he was renting the space he was moving into was too big for one business “so we decided to split it in half,” Arnold said and decided to begin a restaurant to put focus on “real” food.

This was based on conditions his patients that were seeing in the processed foods they were eating, such as arthritis, digestive problems and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

“At Live Well, we find there is a relationship between (the food you eat) and your overall health,” said Arnold. “We have always encouraged our patients to eat real foods from as close to the source as possible that has nothing added or taken away.”

“People are shocked to learn that full fat and full flavor versions of foods are much healthier than low fat, low salt and no sugar and it tastes better too,” said Dr. Arnold.

Arnold said the restaurant specializes in taking wholesome recipes like meatloaf, burgers and pasta and adds a few “twists” that not only make it tasty but nutritious.

One example of this, Arnold said, is the gluten free chocolate cake that is made with beets, orange and raw cacao,” Kroft said.

“Our menu changes fairly often as we can take advantage of local produce when it comes into season,” said Kroft.

Eat 2 Live also offers a variety of items which are purchased at Everything Fresh in Bedford. In their teas, they use coconut sugar and raw honey for sweeteners, Kroft said.

Dr. Arnold and the restaurant offers many items that are not only gluten free but safe for those with food allergies, or are otherwise health conscious.

Eat 2 Live Bistro offers many items available for sale aside from the restaurant. The restaurant is beside Live Well Chiropractic along Route 56, East St. Clair Township.

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Eat 2 Live Bistro Market offers healthy food that tastes good, too
Bedford County Airport increases its marketing activities

W ith a strategic location, established aviation infrastructure, trained and productive workforce, and available Business Parks, Bedford County is “swooping high.”

Recent legislative approval of a tax exemption for fixed and rotor wing aircraft has created new marketing opportunities for the Bedford County Airport and adjacent Business Park property. Maintenance, overhaul, and repair can now benefit from a new tax break which enables Pennsylvania to compete with adjoining states. This new exemption will enable aircraft operators to save hundreds and thousands of dollars.

Working cooperatively, the PA Department of Community and Economic Development, JCDA, Bun Air and the Federal Aviation Administration are in the final planning stages to create the Bedford County Airport and adjacent Business Park.

Additionally, these partnerships are designing a comprehensive marketing campaign to increase awareness of the Bedford County Airport and adjacent Business Park.

Touring Bedford County Business Park II - Phase II are: (L-R) Neil Fowler, PA DCED; Guy Land, BCDA; Steve Howarre, Bun Air; Brian Schrader, BCDA; Jim DeLong, BCDA; and Drew Swope, local pilot.

Appalachian Regional Commission federal co-chair visits county

O ver the last 20 years, the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) has invested $540,000 to support business expansion initiatives led by the Bedford County Development Association. Specifically, these federal investments were made in Bedford County Business Park I and II and have resulted in the creation of nearly 800 new full-time jobs and over $50 million in private investment in the county. “The success of these business parks are a good example of how ARC funds can be leveraged to create jobs, attract investment, and improve quality of life for residents,” said ARC Co-Chair Earl Gohl. “The BCDA’s business development efforts, including building infrastructure to support business expansion, have strengthened the local economy and created new opportunities for growth.”

Representatives from ARC’s Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and the Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission recently participated in a Bedford County tour. Attendees included: Earl Gohl, ARC Federal Co-Chair; Guy Land, ARC Chief of Staff; Theryl Collis, PA DCED; Earl Gohl, ARC and Brandon Carson, SAPP&DC.
Bedford County companies access training

Bedford County employers recently took advantage of a grant program that subsidized training to nearly 180 individuals. BCDA worked with Southern Alleghenies Regional Partners to secure a Jobs 1st state training grant. This PA Department of Community and Economic Development grant provided regional businesses with a tool to assess training needs and then provide the necessary training.

As a result of surveys completed by the private sector, the following training needs were identified:

- Advanced Sales Training
- Blue Print Reading & Basic Math
- Communications, Team Building & Conflict Management
- CPR & First Aid
- Forklift Certification
- Forklift Rec Certification
- Lead Based Renovation, Repair & Painting
- Lean Certification
- Medical Billing & Coding
- Quality Assurance
- Safety Awareness & Fall Protection for Heights
- Scaffolding
- Slip, Trip & Fall Patient Handling in a Healthcare Setting
- Supervisor Development
- Supply Chain Logistics
- Emerging Leaders

Selling County held nine separate sessions for companies in the following sectors:

- Manufacturing
- Tourism
- Health care
- Service sectors

The sessions were provided at a reduced cost with grant funds paying 75 percent of the cost.

As a part of the first training grant, two advanced sales training classes to county businesses were conducted.

“Trains help us in production,” Corle said. “And the materials will be stored nearby, which is best.”

Corle Building Systems is a national leader in the manufacture of metal buildings. “We are looking for bigger buildings now than before,” said Corle.

Bedford County employers recently took advantage of a grant program that subsidized training to nearly 180 individuals. BCDA worked with Southern Alleghenies Regional Partners to secure a Jobs 1st state training grant. This PA Department of Community and Economic Development grant provided regional businesses with a tool to assess training needs and then provide the necessary training.

As a result of surveys completed by the private sector, the following training needs were identified:

- Advanced Sales Training
- Blue Print Reading & Basic Math
- Communications, Team Building & Conflict Management
- CPR & First Aid
- Forklift Certification
- Forklift Rec Certification
- Lead Based Renovation, Repair & Painting
- Lean Certification
- Medical Billing & Coding
- Quality Assurance
- Safety Awareness & Fall Protection for Heights
- Scaffolding
- Slip, Trip & Fall Patient Handling in a Healthcare Setting
- Supervisor Development
- Supply Chain Logistics
- Emerging Leaders

Bedford County held nine separate sessions for companies in the following sectors:

- Manufacturing
- Tourism
- Health care
- Service sectors

The sessions were provided at a reduced cost with grant funds paying 75 percent of the cost.

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The staff of Town Hill Auto Sales and Service poses outside of the Bedford location at 3613 Business 220. From left are Travis Howard, Technician; Jim Pitt, Service Manager; Jill Young, Office Manager; Willis Hendershot, Towing; Scott Hendershot, Owner; Robert Riggleman, Detailing; Max Howard, Technician, Garrett Keifer, Shop Assistant, and Shane Fox, Sales.

Owner Scott Hendershot of Town Hill Auto Sales is located at 3613 Business 220, Bedford, PA.


1. Wal-Mart Store Associates
3. Pennsylvania State Government
4. UPMC Bedford Memorial
5. Bedford County Commissioners
6. Tussey Mountain School District
7. Central Pennsylvania Homecare, LLC
8. Everett Area School District
9. SAC, Inc.
10. Truckstops of America Gateway Travel Center
12. Everett Area School District
13. Tussey Mountain School District
14. Bedford County Commissioners
15. Central Pennsylvania Homecare, LLC
17. Northern Bedford Co. School District
18. Bedford Area School District
19. SAC, Inc.
20. Roggetti Enterprises

Sources:
—Source: Bedford County Chamber 2015

Robert Riggleman, Detailing:
...customers can rest easy knowing that their floors will be in good hands. With over 20 years of experience in the flooring industry, we understand the importance of providing quality workmanship and customer service. We have a team of expert technicians who are knowledgeable and experienced in handling all types of flooring projects. From installation to maintenance, we are your one-stop-shop for all your flooring needs. Whether you are looking to replace an old floor or want to add value to your property, our team is here to help. We use only the highest quality materials and work with a variety of customers, such as nursing homes, daycares, restaurants, and hotels. The team at ImPressive Floors is dedicated to providing exceptional customer service and delivering results that exceed our clients’ expectations.
Continuing its long record of meeting the needs of Bedford County industry, the Bedford County Technical Center applied for and received a substantial grant. The funds were used to expand the school’s well-known welding program. It was clearly a county need that many companies are pleased to support.

The BCTC received a $103,500 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to upgrade its welding program. That money was leveraged to receive matching funds. The total project cost is $220,000.

“Local businesses have been asking for this,” said David DiPasquale, administrative director, BCTC. “It has also helped us improve our workforce training facility. I feel great about this expansion. It feels right. Using the grant, and matching funds, we were able to purchase a Haas CNC mini mill, several Haas tabletop trainers, a CNC plasma cutting table and new welding equipment.”

DiPasquale is pleased that the BCTC has been able to respond to the needs of local industry.

“BCTC has always done a great job of preparing our students with solid skills for industry,” he said. “As companies grow, the demand for skilled labor will also grow. Going forward, DiPasquale expects to see growth in the welding and CNC programs at the BCTC. With the new equipment, we can prepare our students on a much higher level than before,” DiPasquale said. “The plan going forward is to create a cohort of students that are willing to receive the training on the CNC machinery.”

The BCTC has been discussing the possibility of connecting its program with the longer CNC program at the Allegany College of Maryland. “I truly believe that this kind of training will catch on quickly. I can see a time in the near future where BCTC will need more space to expand its programming,” said DiPasquale.

DiPasquale noted that a number of Bedford County companies are expanding. “As companies grow, the demand for skilled labor will also grow. The new equipment puts us in a better position to help our local companies expand because we can teach the appropriate high tech skills that they need to be competitive.”

The much-needed expansion into the world of computer numerical control is exciting,” DiPasquale noted. “However, receiving the Governor’s Achievement Award with Lampire Biological Laboratories was also a great thrill. Lampire has been a great partner through the years and we are honored to have accepted this award alongside Gregory F. Krug and Gary Klinger.”

Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission (SAPDC) SAPDC’s Loan Program helps businesses maintain and increase their markets and create new jobs. Eligible businesses can apply for low interest financing if they are unable to finance projects with conventional loans. Specific terms and conditions vary according to the funding source.

http://www.sapdc.org/business/lending

The Progress Fund Lending off the beaten path, the Progress Fund provides financing from $20,000 to $1 million to people who are starting, expanding or buying small businesses. Their loans can be used to purchase property, restore and rehabilitate buildings, purchase inventory or equipment, buy the assets of an existing business, and for working capital.

http://www.progressfund.org/small-business-loans

Bedford County Technical Center continues to meet needs of industry

New equipment expands welding program

Welding is a popular program at the Bedford County Technical Center.
The Twisted Trout restaurant and martini bar opened on Oct. 9, 2014, at the location of the former Carriage House Restaurant along Route 220 north of Bedford.

Owners Darrin and Suzette Troutman have brought a touch of the urban lifestyle to Bedford with a combination of industrial elements, modern lights and antique decor. The restaurant features a plate steel bar crafted by Jerry Clapper of Jerry's Arc and art that has been gifted to the Troutmans by local patrons.

The restaurant business is something new in the Troutman family. Darrin's mother, Nancy, has owned the New Frontier Restaurant, located along Route 36 just south of the Leesburg Gap, for 38 years. And, his brother, Dana, owns the Country Kitchen Restaurant along Route 26 in Hopewell Township.

"My wife and I are empty nesters and were looking for something to do. We love food, and we enjoy being around people," Troutman said, so opening the Twisted Trout seemed like the perfect empty nester venture. "I wanted to bring a place to Bedford County that I would enjoy going to." The Twisted Trout is considered upscale casual and serves a wide range of food. Everything from wings to oysters make up the menu. Many items are served with the signature "Twisted" sauce that seems to be a favorite with patrons. The restaurant features daily chef specials and happy hour deals.

Since opening, The Twisted Trout has had events like an '80s night and a Kentucky Derby Day. The restaurant has live music most Saturdays and Wednesdays featuring a variety of local artists. The Troutmans have also enjoyed becoming a part of the Bedford community and participating in local events. The restaurant donates to local sports groups, the humane society, the Chamber events after hours and chili cook-off events Girls Night Out and just recently the Wing Off.

The Twisted Trout is in the process of expanding the restaurant with an outdoor dining area expected to be opened before the end of July. The Twisted Trout has 10 employees, including two full-time chefs. The restaurant and martini bar are open from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, and from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. on Sundays. The kitchen closes at 10 p.m. during the week and at 11 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. In addition to an extensive martini list, the full bar has 12 rotating beer taps.

Learn more about the Twisted Trout by visiting its Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/TheTwistedTrout.
OUR TEAM WILL BE GLAD TO JOIN FORCES WITH YOU!

NOT JUST A COMMUNITY BANK, A BANK FOR THE COMMUNITY.

The Hometown Bank Advantage ~ Some Advantages to Bank With Us:

* No mid day cut off - no rush to get to the bank by 2:00
* Same day credit for deposits, next day availability quicker access to your money
* Week day drive-up opens at 8:30am
* Week day lobby open til 5:00pm
* Saturday lobby & drive up open 9:00am to 12 noon
* No call center - your questions are answered by someone you know
* Check imaging provided at no charge - copies of your checks in your monthly statement at no charge

Hometown Bank’s LOCAL Board Of Directors

Front Row (L to R): Merle Helsel, Donald DeArment, Ted Chwatek Back Row (L to R): Darrell Dodson, Bob Appleby, John Corle, Barry Ressler, Todd Roadman

BEDFORD
638 E Pitt Street
623-6093

EVERETT
306 W. Main Street
652-6093

By Erin Thompson
Gazette Staff Writer

Reclamation is more than just your typical consignment shop, according to Kristi Hillegas, who opened the business last September with her husband Brandon. “We focus on creativity,” said Kristi, who knows the shop offers items such as jewelry, local jams and clothing that are designed and created locally. “We are selective and choose items that are unique, of great quality and great style.”

Kristi said Reclamation Consignment and Gift Shop offers a number of in-store classes where local service providers give customers the opportunity to learn and create. When the Hillegass started the shop last year, they had the goal of creating a unique lifestyle that they wanted others to be aware of. “We’re passionate about the local lifestyle because when we’re doing well, our cosigners, artisans and community are doing well,” said Kristi, who added that her goal for the business is to make downtown Bedford and reflect the local lifestyle because when we’re doing well, our cosigners, artisans and community are doing well,” said Kristi, who added that her goal for the business is to make downtown Bedford and reflect the
downtown community andANews from the area, work and community driven. “Our success isn’t just reflecting on us, she said. “It’s reflecting on everyone involved.”

Kristi said that she and her husband are proud that their customers can new money and that their vendors can earn money through consignment, as well as be creative with one another. Reclamation is “growing fast,” according to Kristi, who said they are looking to expand into a larger space in downtown Bedford where it can offer more community workshops and feature work from more artisans.

“We call ourselves a lifestyle shop,” said Kristi, who added that she and her husband, who is an artist for the shop, like to promote a rich lifestyle. “Wealth is a mindset. Reclamation’s mission is to encourage individuals to achieve and attain their goal for rich living. We want to be a part of increasing the value and fullness in your life.”

Brandon is from Schiller- burg and graduated from Chestnut Ridge. School. Kristi grew up in Osterburg and went to col- leges at University of Cincinnati, then moved back to Bedford County when she married Bran- den.

This is the couple’s first business endeavor, but both have prior work experience. Prior to opening Reclamation, Brandon worked at Kam- metal, and Kristi worked in marketing.

Reclamation is located at 101B S Richard Street and is open Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The website is www.shop-reclama- tion.com.

By Cassidy Sherman
Gazette Staff Writer

M y Neck of the Woods,” isn’t just a popular saying. It’s also the name of a Bedford artist’s new home decor and photography shop dedicated to highlighting the charms of Bedford County.

Cumberland, Maryland native, and Bedford resident of 25 years, Kristi Hott was diagnosed with cancer in 2008. After completing treatment, she decided to take her life back by checking off “visiting Alaska on her bucket list” and said she in an interview.

Kristi said she bought a digital camera in 2008 and went to practice her photography skills. The positive feedback from her friends and family gave her the confidence she needed to accomplish the dream of opening her own shop. My Neck of The Woods. She is the sole owner and shop-keeper, however she has it to be a lifestyle shop,” said Kristi, who added that she and her husband, who is an artist for the shop, like to promote a rich lifestyle. “Wealth is a mindset. Reclamation’s mission is to encourage individuals to achieve and attain their goal for rich living. We want to be a part of increasing the value and fullness in your life.”

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My Neck of the Woods

My Neck of the Woods is open from Monday, Thursday, Fri- day and Saturday from 10 a.m. and Sunday from 12 to 4 p.m. The shop is closed Mon- day and Wednesday. Visit www.myneck- ofthewoods.net or call 814-414-1858 for additional infor- mation.

By Cassidy Sherman
Gazette Staff Writer

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In the last two years, Somerset Trust has built more new branches than any bank in the Commonwealth. At the end of 2014, the financial company had 30 offices in south central Pennsylvania.

Somerset Trust has been voted a “Best Place to Work in Pennsylvania” nine times and was named the second bank to Work For In the nation by the American Banker, an industry publication for the financial sector.

Somerset Trust believes establishing a second branch in Bedford County is needed to serve the growing financial needs of the county. The tempo of expansion has been upheld, according to Cook. The company has gone from 100 employees to 150 in three years. The addition of a second branch office in Bedford County is sure to mean an additional need for quality workers.

“When measuring return on equity, an important goal for a bank, Somerset Trust is ranked 16th out of 7,000-plus american banks. Maintaining that number as ‘my Super Bowl,’ Cook said.

For 125 years, the philosophy at Somerset Trust has remained the same: A passion for customer service and at the same time, a passion for new technology.

The bank was named top online bank in the country two years ago. Even with a commitment to new banking technology, the bank’s phones are answered by real people 80 hours each week. That’s a promise to customers that Cook intends to keep.

“The focus on an excellent workforce makes Somerset Trust a perfect match with Bedford County. Since first-rate service will demand a first-rate staff,” Cook noted.”

— G. Henry Cook, president and CEO of Somerset Trust

By Cassidy Sherman Gazette Staff Writer

Veterans make the ultimate sacrifice, and AMVETS is dedicated to making sure that members of the U.S. Armed Forces are well taken care of after their service.

AMVETS is a national non-profit association dedicated to helping returned and serving veterans feel they are part of a supportive community and readjust to civilian life. The AMVETS organization is working to have a fully operational organization in Bedford by fall of 2015.

Josh Lang of Everett, who sits on the advisory board for The AMVETS Lawyer Transition Program and a leader of the new Bedford branch said that during their first meeting, the members of the town seemed enthused about creating a place where veterans young and old can get help from their peers and help their community.

Lang said the post will help Bedford because the organization holds many events to help fundraise for various organizations throughout the region. AMVETS provides a variety of services and benefits to former, current, and reserve members. The organization offers scholarships to military members, dependents, and promising students, an “Amvets” program which helps America’s youth become interested in American history and instills national pride and patriotism; thrift stores and legal services to members trying to obtain benefits or compensation, according to the AMVETS website.

“It’s a way to supplement existing veteran services,” Lang said.

Stewart Hickey, the national director of AMVETS and Bedford County resident, said he encourages younger members to join because unlike other organizations, it does not come down to which war you served in, or how many years of service you have, just that they served honorably.

“I belong to all the other [veterans’ organizations] groups, and I think the thing about AMVETS is that it’s special because they accept all members,” Hickey said.

Lang said the location of the Bedford branch is not yet known. Currently, Lang’s office is in Loretto, Cambria County, which is 50 miles from Bedford County.

Did you know......

Bedford County is located in the foothills of the Southern Allegheny Mountains within a 500-mile radius of more than 40 percent of the nation’s population, less than three hours from Baltimore, Washington, Philadelphia. The county has been touted for its exceptional transportation network with more Interstate Highway miles than any other county in central Pennsylvania.

Bedford County has at this time a transportation route of the Mid Atlantic states: 100 miles from Pittsburgh, 150 from Baltimore and Washington and 200 from Philadelphia. At the crossroads of the Pennsylvania Turnpike, Interstates 70 and 76 and U.S. Routes 220 and 30, it is within easy reach of other major concentrations of industry and population.

AMVETS dedicated to supporting veterans

The legendary Omni Bedford Springs Resort makes every effort to stay local. Our first choice for all our operational needs is to source from Bedford County vendors or suppliers wherever possible. We are proud to support local progress & industry.

Omni Spring Specials

Book your stay between June 25 and July 5, 2015, and receive 15% off our Best Available Rate! Contact us at 814-623-8100 or visit www.omnihotels.com/bedford.

Josh Lang
Chambersburg, Hagerstown, Falling Waters, West Virginia
Stewart Hickey
Chambersburg, Hagerstown, Falling Waters, West Virginia

For more information, visit www.amvets.org, call 877-738-4397 or email amvets@amvets.org.
Creekside Resort and Ranch
Take a vacation in natural beauty surroundings

By Cassidy Sherman
Gazette Staff Writer

In his idea of a good vacation is natural beauty with modern amenities, the Creekside Resort and Ranch may be the right place. Creekside Resort and Ranch opened a 240-acre resort property on its 400-acre ranch in the fall of 2013. Owner Craig Ziler of Buck Valley, said that he thought building the resort in Clearville in Monroe Township, would bring people in from all over.

Although the facility is fairly new, Sheeder said that bookings fill up far in advance. “There is no such thing as booking too early, since I have taken wedding deposits all the way into 2016 and two for 2017,” Sheeder said.

The venue offers a three-bedroom, three-bathroom rental property for weekend getaways, family reunions, weddings and special events. “It has to be first class, and we want it to stay that way,” Ziler said. The resort is working to build a mini-golf course, a winery on the property’s grounds and eventually a miniature golf course. Sheeder said she wants the resort to be a place for weekend travelers, weddings, vacationers and special events.

In this photo from Creekside Resort and Ranch, a gazebo and fishing dock face Big Creek at the Creekside resort in Clearville. The resort hopes to provide more amenities, the Creekside Resort and Ranch Manager Robin Sheeder explained that for guests staying at Creekside, it is necessary for them to bring their own food to prepare.

Each cabin and the rental property is equipped with Direct TV, a full set of pots and pans for preparing food, heating and air conditioning, furniture and barbeque grills according to the resort’s standards. Creekside Resort and Ranch offers a cabin for persons with disabilities.

In this photo from Creekside Resort, the rental house overlooks the resort’s grounds and pavillion in Clearville. Pavillons and cabins are available to rent at the resort.

The venue is ideal for special events because the property offers gazebos and pavillons that can seat up to 200 people. The resort is working to build more.

For guests staying at Creekside, it is necessary for them to bring their own food to prepare. Sheeder said she wants people to know that although the facility doesn’t provide food, they have all the equipment people need to prepare a full meal. In the future the resort hopes to provide catering on-site.

Sheeder also said the resort is a BYOB for those lacking to bring their own alcoholic beverages. She mentions that even though they allow people to bring their own beverages, guests should know that they are still held to the safety standards of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board about drinking and driving, and serving a guest too much alcohol.

Sheeder explained that the cancellation policy for weekend or special events is flexible to allow guests to cancel up to seven days before their scheduled visit, however, a wedding deposit is non-refundable. Sheeder said before their scheduled visit however, a wedding deposit is non-refundable.

For more information on how to book a cabin for a weekend getaway, special event or wedding, visit, http://creekside-resort.com or call the resort at 814-784-0662.

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In this photo from Creekside Resort and Ranch, a gazebo and fishing dock face Big Creek at the Creekside resort in Clearville. The resort caters to weekend travelers, weddings, vacationers and special events.
T he quality of health-care in Bedford County is likely to improve with the launch of an exciting new practical nursing pro-
gram. Created by a coop-
erative effort that includ-
ed leadership from the Bedford County Develop-
ment Association, the new program will be adminis-
tered by the Somerset County Technology Cen-
ter's School of Practical Nursing.

The practical nursing program is seen as a major step forward for students in Bedford County because it will provide a bridge between the two levels of instruction already being offered. The Bedford County Technical Center currently offers a health-assisting program while the Allegany Col-
lege of Maryland offers a Registered Nurse pro-
gram. By offering a Practical Nursing program in Bed-
ford County, the Somerset County Technology Cen-
ter hopes to bridge the gap and offer students another avenue in the gap and offer students another avenue in the healthcare pathway," said Heidi Petrosky, adult edu-
cation coordinator for BCDA Board of Directors, the new program has a tremendous future for us."

Bo Pratt, Chair of the BCDA Board of Directors, recognizes the new pro-
gram as a major step for-
ward in both workforce development and health care delivery in Bedford County. "This new program from SCTC is a bridge to the future of Bedford County," Pratt stated. "We are extremely pleased to be in a position to cre-
tration. Bedford County students will now have another career path to explore."

The new practical nur-
sing program will represent a significant investment for the SCTC. "Any new program has a tremendous amount of start-up costs. It will mean buying addi-
tional equipment and fur-
nishings, including lab equipment. Additional staff people are also being hired to serve Bedford County students," said Linda Bagley, SCTC Nursing Instructor. "The program will also be seeking dona-
tions and equipment to sup-
port the program's growth." Petrosky said. The SCTC has already entered into part-
nerships with several health care providers in Bedford County "We hope to gain additional support from other providers to help grow our program," she said. The new program has the added benefit of greatly enhancing the delivery of health care to Bedford County citizens. While nursing shortages are a major concern nationally, a program like the SCTC program will provide a steady flow of practical nurses in the region. The Practical Nursing program is a one-year pro-
gram (1,550 hours) that prepares students to pass the state licensure exam and become an LPN. The Bedford County program will accept 25-25 students each year. Financial aid will be available. "This is indeed a signifi-
cant addition to BCDA's efforts to help our work-
force acquire the skills and experience needed to find family-sustaining jobs in our local communities. We are happy that we have been able to work with the SCTC to establish this very important new train-
ing opportunity," said Pratt.

Linda Bagley, SCTC Nursing Instructor

First class of students already enrolled in exciting new career opportunity

Somerset County Technology Center creates a “bridge” program in Bedford County

Program is housed in BCDA’s Hess Business Center

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