



Bradford National Bank

A REAL Community Bank Since 1867

January 2014 Customer Newsletter

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Happy New Year From Bradford National Bank!



BNB Supports Greenville Bicentennial

Bradford National Bank has signed on as the platinum level sponsor of Greenville's Bicentennial celebration in 2015. Bradford is the first business to commit to a sponsorship, taking the exclusive top level for \$20,200. Frank Joy, Bradford president, made the announcement at the December Greenville Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours, hosted by the bank.

"Greenville's Bicentennial will be a wonderful celebration of our heritage and accomplishments, a year forever chronicled in the history of our community," Joy observed. "The Bradford National Bank, in keeping with our tradition of community service, is very proud to be the platinum level sponsor of the Bicentennial, and we encourage the entire community to rally behind and support this important event."

John Goldsmith, Bicentennial board president said, "Bradford National Bank, which was founded when Greenville was only 52 years old, is an ideal platinum level sponsor. It is among an elite group of Greenville businesses that have been around for over a century. The beauty of the Bicentennial is bringing together generations of residents and businesses to celebrate our town's 200th birthday."

John Coleman, Bicentennial fundraising committee chair added, "We're delighted to have someone with as much community involvement as Bradford locked into the top sponsorship. We hope that Bradford's commitment is a springboard for our fundraising campaign."

There are varying levels of sponsorship, with each receiving a variety of benefits such as gift certificates to the Bicentennial memorabilia store and inclusion on signs and/or banners.

Businesses or individuals interested in sponsoring the Greenville Bicentennial celebration may contact Coleman at (618) 593-5325 or Goldsmith at 664-9272. Preliminary plans call for a New Year's Eve 2014 First Night observance, a two-day Labor Day 2015 celebration, and a New Year's Eve 2015 gala to conclude the Bicentennial.



Visit Us On-Line at www.BradfordBank.com

Bradford National Bank—2013 Year in Review

To say that 2013 was a busy year at Bradford National Bank would be an understatement! We saw many retirements, sponsored many events, and added and upgraded many products and services.

The following is an overview of our exciting year at Bradford National Bank.

January:

Marshall Mollet retired from the BNB Board of Directors after 37 years of service. Marshall said he worked “all these years to be a good, honest board member.” His parting advice to his fellow board members is to, “keep your confidence in the cities and towns around us and to service with distinction, always.”

Also retiring was Maureen Frueh, who had worked at the bank for 46 years. She noted that when she started working at the bank, everything was hand entered in ledgers with pencils and today it’s “all on a computer. Just push a button, and it’s right.”

February:

BNB continued to sell copies of Greenville’s Greatest Generation, book two. As a result, Richard Swink, publisher of the book, made a \$500 donation in the bank’s name to the Illinois Honor Flight program, which takes surviving WWII Veterans to see their memorial in Washington DC.

BNB employee Randy Alderman gave the keynote address to kick off the Relay for Life 2013 event.

Steven Bartlett joined the bank as a lending officer and Marine Branch manager.

At the annual employee appreciation dinner, BNB employees presented president Frank Joy with his portrait to be placed on the BNB wall of presidents.

March:

BNB hosted a business roundtable discussion with the topic “Managing Stress in the Workplace.”

Jerry Mills of Marine won a \$50 gift card from BNB for being an E-

Statement customer.

April:

April was Community Banking Month. To celebrate, BNB hosted a customer appreciation day and participated in the “I Love My Community Bank” promotion.

May:

BNB hosted the 9th annual Art in Education Art Show in the Bradford Community Building.

President Frank Joy received the Gerald Turley Memorial Award from the Greenville Chamber of Commerce.

Judy Dollinger retired from the bank after 47 years of service. President Joy said, “For all of her forty-seven years at the bank, Judy has been a most dedicated and hard working employee. She set the standard for professionalism and exceptional customer service.”

The bank also hosted a Business After Hours at our Highland facility in conjunction with the Highland Chamber of Commerce.



Our popular Secure Shredding and Recycling Days were held in both Greenville and Highland. BNB employees pitched in to help Team Lori raise \$250 for the Relay for Life.

June:

BNB awarded four \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors in Greenville, Highland, Marine, and Mulberry Grove.



The bank also helped sponsor the annual Graffiti Car show and the performance by legendary artist Ronnie Rice.

Parade season was in full-force with events in Highland, Marine, and Pocahontas.

July:

Jumping into the world of social media, BNB launched a new Facebook, Pinterest and Youtube page.

Employee Dennis Rinderer received the Highland Rotary Paul Harris Fellow award, for his contributions to the Highland community.



August:

Randy Alderman was appointed chair of the Illinois Bankers Association marketing committee.

Launched a completely redesigned bradfordbank.com website.

September:

BNB participated in the annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life, raising thousands of dollars as part of Bond County's million dollar year. Also supported the Highland Relay for Life.

Sponsored a float for the Highland Homecoming.

Sponsored a farming program with the United States Dept. of Agriculture.

Participated in the annual Art Walk in downtown Greenville.



October:

October was conversion month at BNB. Launched a new online banking, bill-pay and telephone platform. Added Bradford Touch Mobile Banking. Integrated all services in a real-time environment.

Replaced the parking lot at our Marine facility.

The Bradford Traveled Club journeyed to Hawaii.

November:

Participated in the annual Highland lighted Christmas Parade.

Sponsored Train Rides at the American Farm Heritage Museum.

December:

Darla Lohman retires after 45 years of service and is recognized by employees and retired employees alike.

Sponsored food collection for area food pantries.



Bradford National Bank once again participated in the annual Salvation Army Kettle collection over the holidays, by counting, collecting and ringing. Area residents set a record by donating \$23, 598. All of the funds will help needy families in the local area.

Frank Joy's Announcement of Bicentennial Sponsorship

December 12, 2013

Good evening everyone. Welcome to our Business after Hours. I trust you are enjoying a good time of fellowship and refreshment with your fellow Chamber members this evening.

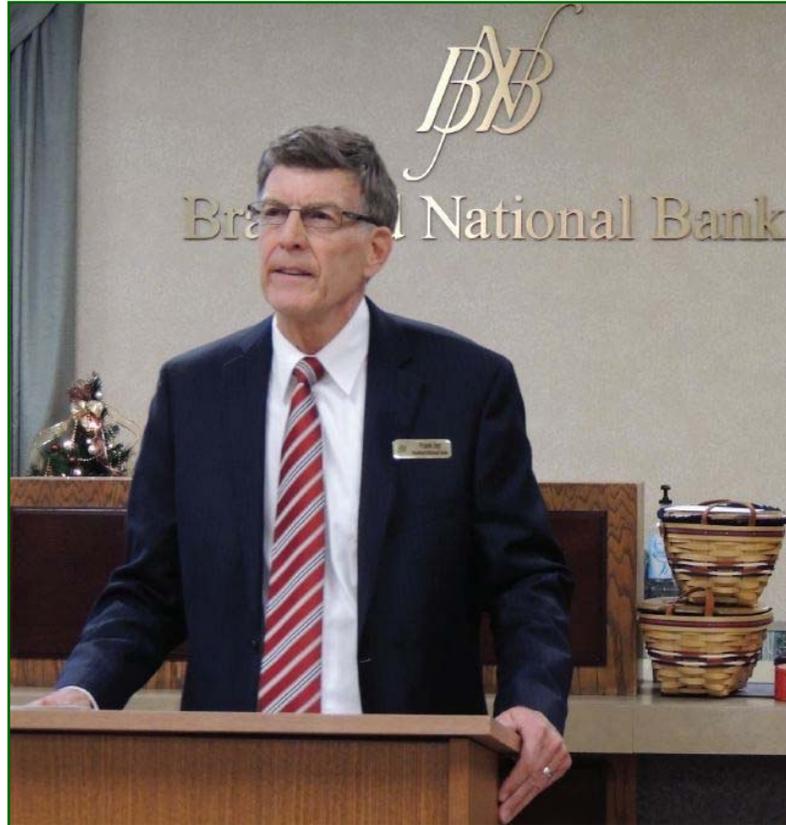
For a few minutes, I would like to give you a sense of what the Bradford National Bank is all about, by telling you the story of our founder, James Bradford. He was born in New England in 1808, but like so many of our citizens of that era, he left his home as a young man, seeking opportunity and adventure in the new frontier. Arriving in Bond County in 1824, he settled just outside of Greenville on Hurricane Creek.

Bond County in those years was very much the Wild West. Greenville, founded just a few years earlier in 1815, consisted of a few small frame buildings and muddy dirt roads, with very little trade or commerce. Life on the Illinois frontier was difficult. Indian uprisings still frequented the area, and in 1832, young James joined the Illinois Militia to serve in the Black Hawk War. Among the six thousand or so militia serving alongside him, was a young Captain named Abraham Lincoln, another future President, Colonel Zachary Taylor, and the future President of the Confederacy, Lieutenant Jefferson Davis.

After his service in the Black Hawk War, Bradford returned to Bond County and took up residence in Greenville, quickly becoming active in the affairs of his community. By 1836, he had served as Circuit and County Clerk, followed by County Treasurer, Police Magistrate, County Judge and Commissioner, and Greenville's first Mayor.

By the 1860's, Greenville was primed for growth. The end of the Civil War in 1865 brought a new sense of optimism to Bond County, and there was great excitement as the first train from the east came steaming into Greenville on December 5, 1865, 148 years ago. The coming of the railroad was instrumental in sparking a period of rapid growth, with the population doubling in a short period of time. The railroad also brought about a rapid increase in trade, leading to a marked expansion of our business district, with the construction of many new brick buildings replacing the frame structures of the past.

Mr. Bradford, soon found there was a need for financing this increase in commerce, and he began making loans for the construction of new buildings and the purchase of inventory by the merchants. As the community continued to grow, he began accepting deposits so that our citizens would have a trusted place to keep their funds. By 1867, his business had grown to the point that he and his son Samuel founded the bank, known at that time as Bradford and Sons



Bradford National Bank president Frank Joy, in announcing that the bank has committed to the platinum level sponsorship for the Greenville Bicentennial Celebration, presented a brief history of the bank and its commitment to community service, starting with the banks' founder James Bradford.

Bank, on the east side of the square in Greenville.

Mr. Bradford had begun his bank based on his belief in service to the community. For over 146 years we have strived to live up to that principle, believing that our continued success is firmly rooted in the growth and prosperity of our citizens and our community.



John Kennedy, right, from WGEL Radio interviews Frank Joy after the announcement that Bradford National Bank will be the platinum sponsor for the Greenville Bicentennial Celebration in 2015.

Over these years Greenville has come a long way. As a young boy growing up in Greenville during the 1960's, I remember the anticipation in town, as our Sesquicentennial Celebration of 1965 drew near. That was a very special summer as we celebrated our heritage and accomplishments with much pageantry and ceremony.

As I'm sure all of you are aware, in just over a year, Greenville will begin the celebration of our Bicentennial year. This will be another great event for Greenville, one that will be long remembered and chronicled in the annals of our history.

We salute all those who are involved in the planning and organization of this event. It will be a large undertaking, with many individuals giving selflessly of their time and efforts. In addition the year-long event will require a gener-

ous response from our business community and of our citizens, to ensure that funding is in place to do the job properly.

This evening I am proud to announce, that Bradford National Bank, in keeping with the traditions established by our founder, has agreed to be the Platinum level sponsor of the Bicentennial Celebration, and we look forward to working with all of you, to make the 2015 event one that will make each of us proud.

Thank you all so much for being here tonight. I wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season.

Frank Joy, to the Greenville Chamber after Hours at Bradford National Bank, December 12, 2013.

Employee Spotlight

Nathan Mueller
Teller/Bookkeeping
Contact Nathan Today
664-2200



Nathan has been working at the bank for three years as a teller at the main bank in Greenville.

Nathan is primarily a teller, but also assists in bookkeeping and played an important role in the bank's recent conversion.

A graduate of Greenville High School, Nathan recently completed his associate of arts degree from Kaskaskia College. His future plans are to complete his business degree from SIU Edwardsville.

Nathan chaired the bank's Relay for Life team as they raised over \$3,000 for the American Cancer Society and he participated in a number of parades the past two summers.

BNB December Business After Hours



The Sweetest Things provided custom cookies.

Former Greenville resident Polly Lannay entertained on violin with classical Christmas music.



A large crowd enjoyed the festivities and the opportunity to socialize.

The event was catered by 2 Martha's—a new business located in Greenville.



Slatton's Excavating of Greenville worked double time to ensure the BNB lot was cleared for business during the most recent snowstorm.

Darla Lohman Retires after 45 Years



Top, clockwise: President Frank Joy makes remarks about Darla's career and then presents her with a plaque. Darla then gave a brief speech about her employment, noting that Roger Riedemann hired her and that her retirement party was on his 100th birthday. Employees put together a slideshow on Darla's life both at and away from the bank. A special cake was made for the occasion. Past employees were on hand as well as Darla transitions to the next phase of her life where she will read, take pictures and travel.