

**“GPS Community Resources and Heritage Mapping in the Kinzua Region:
Trail Central, Heritage Communities and the City of Kane, PA”**

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Final Report Narrative

Title of Project: “GPS Community Resources and Heritage Mapping in the Kinzua Region: Trail Central, Heritage Communities and the City of Kane, PA”

Grant Period: February 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Grantee Name: University of Pittsburgh - Bradford

Project Director: Dr. Stephen F. Robar

Description of Project:

Building on, and expanding upon, the research and fieldwork of the 2012-15 ATP projects at Pitt-Bradford, students and faculty in the 2015-16 ATP utilized interactive trail mapping software to provide a digital mapping implementation platform for the city of Kane, as well as the [Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau \(ANFVB\)](#). The digital phone application developed here at UPB, and now with significant web potential and ability, was previously instituted in the towns of Smethport and Bradford in McKean County, PA, as well as the city of Warren, in Warren County. This year’s project extended this work by including the new Route 6 community of Kane, PA. Additionally, during the spring 2016 semester, the community training portion of the implementation effort was extended and new marketing efforts were developed.

Activities:

In addition to the conference presentation, and conference poster, students engaged in the following activities and satisfied the following requirements of the 2015-2016 Scope of Work:

- Students met with community partner KARE (Kane Area Revitalization Enterprise) at the Kane Community Center on July 16, 2015 to engage in the planning and scoping the work of the upcoming semester.
- Students worked with community partners and UPB computer faculty to expand the technical capacity of the GIS application, most specifically, security functionality.
- Students worked with community partners during three field days (9/26/2015; 10/10; and 10/24) to identify, map, photograph and research the over 20 locations to be entered into the application.
- Students met with the Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau to further the efforts at integrating the application with other communities.
- Students worked with computer science students to incorporate drone footage into the Trailmaker App.
- Students spent ~~several a~~ days at the McKean County [Historical Society](#) and [a day at the Kane Historical Society](#) ~~-historical societies to~~ [collecting historical stories and images for the application data.](#)

Activities II: Presentations and Events

- September 21, 2015: ATP students, along with last year's community partner BOOM!, presented their Trailmaker work before numerous state-wide trails professionals and elected officials at the 2015 Pennsylvania Greenways and Trail Summit, including their then current work with Kane.
- October 21, 2015: Students give presentation of their work to community partner KARE and the Kane community, which also included presentations from TAMED (the Trail Association of the McKean-Elk Divide).
- December 4-5, 2015: Students present at the Appalachian Teaching Project Conference in Washington, DC.
- March 18, 2016: Students presented their work at the Annual University of Pittsburgh – Bradford Donor Scholarship Luncheon, which included the university Advisory Board and several local and state-level elected officials.

Project Outcomes:

The project successfully brought in the community of Kane to the Trailmaker application, so as now to include the four primary communities in the Kinzua region. It was always envisioned to bring the application to Bradford, Smethport, Warren and Kane, the four largest communities in the Kinzua region, as conceived by our standing partner, the ANFVB. The ANFVB now can market the application regionally.

The ATP project work and the Trailmaker APP were presented at the 2015 Pennsylvania Greenway and Trails Summit, held in Warren, PA in September. It received significant attention and promotion. The tangible outcome of this is a corollary to the above outcome, in that it increases the ability of the ANFVB to market the region.

The Trailmaker project was “picked up” by the GIS faculty member on the Pitt-Bradford campus, and as a result will receive further development and stewardship.

The ANFVB has develop a new logo for the application and is continuing to market the Trailmaker application. Greater marketing of the application will serve to foster the use of technology in the development of rural heritage tourism.

Problems Encountered:

No problems encountered.

Program Continuation and Sustainability:

Short-term Impact: The Trailmaker application has served as an effective tool for bringing together tourism groups and interested stakeholders to further foster economic tourism activity in the region. It has also served, indirectly, to foster additional interest on the part of local communities to work with the university in building collaborative working relations. A number

of projects have been “spun-off” from this project, including the development of local educational guides to be used by local educators.

Long-term Impact: In an effort to foster continued project development and viability, the project was the focus of a student’s senior project this past spring. The following are bulleted highlights of the results of that work, and serve to speak to efforts to develop sustained, long-term impact from the project:

Current Status of Trailmaker
(Ms. Christine Tyler)

Logo: In partnership with the ANFVB, a new logo has been developed for the Trailmaker application. The refreshed logo is visually appealing and immediately conveys the Trailmaker brand to the consumer. The ANFVB plans to use the new logo on their website and in marketing materials such as rack card brochures and window clings.

Marketing: In addition to future marketing efforts through the ANFVB, Trailmaker will be featured prominently at two community events in the Western PA/NY area to raise visibility of the application. The University of Pittsburgh at Bradford’s Alumni and Family Weekend Trailmaker will feature Trailmaker for a self-guided Fall Foliage tour through the Bradford, Warren, and Kane communities. Trailmaker will also be used for “Pedal to Plate” a cycling event in Allegany, NY. Participating cyclists will use the Trailmaker application to follow the pre-mapped event route.

Admin Guide: An “Administrator’s Guide” has been created to assist in the training of new Trailmaker application administrators. The guide can be used in conjunction with in-person training or as a stand-alone resource.

Cycling: Cycling has been added to Trailmaker as a new category. We have interested groups of cyclists, mainly in the Bradford and Kane communities, who will be using the Trailmaker application to map and promote local mountain biking and road cycling trails throughout McKean County.

Local Schools: Students who participate in Science Club at the elementary and middle school levels will be using Trailmaker to discover and research points of scientific interest (e.g. plants, habitats, trees) along previously mapped trails, including the Richard McDowell Trail. They will locate scientific points already entered and also photograph and research their own points for entry into the Trailmaker application.

Conclusions:

With respect to the foundational goals of the ARC, and as project supervisor, I believe the work is in keeping with the ARC’s goals of “increasing job opportunities,” as well as “develop and improve the region’s infrastructure.” Though infrastructure in its traditional usage would perhaps

not include this type project, “communication” infrastructure and “marketing” infrastructure are suggested by this project.

The Allegany National Forest Visitors Bureau, as well as other regional stakeholders, will be working to solidify this work on behalf of the greater “Kinzua Region” and the Kinzua area of the Route 6 scenic corridor. Strong support has already been expressed and provided, and there is a strong likelihood of solid project sustainability.

As far as the immediate student learning goals, this has been an excellent project, and, the entire concept of the ATP is a solid idea, one that has been well-implemented. The students take so much away from this experience, and that is only supported by the broader program and its implementation.

Recommendations:

As was recommended last year, I think some consideration should be given as to how the LDDs might become a more visible and supportive element of the program. Recognizing all of the considerations that this suggestion might entail, I still think it is, again, worth a discussion.

Attachments:

- Newspaper article highlighting Pennsylvania Greenways Summit (9/23/2015).
- Program, Donor Scholarship Luncheon, (3/18/2016).
- Several photos from Donor Scholarship Luncheon.



TIMES OBSERVER

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& Greenways & Trails Summit



Times Observer photo by Josh Cotton

Toby Fauver, deputy secretary for Multimodal Transportation with PennDOT, speaks during the final session of the Greenways and Trails Summit on Tuesday at the Holiday Inn.

'The money people' tell attendees funding available for their projects

By **JOSH COTTON**

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When it comes down to it, building trails is all about money.

That's what the last session of the Greenways and Trails Summit focused on Tuesday afternoon at the Holiday Inn.

"These are the money people," City Administrator Mary

Ann Nau said of the panel that included Lauren Imgrund, bureau director of the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Bureau of Recreation and Conservation; Toby Fauver, deputy secretary for Multimodal Transportation with PennDOT; and Ryan Emerson, director of the Commonwealth Financing Authority Programs Division.

"This group has so much energy, enthusiasm," Imgrund said of the Summit attendees, noting their energy "fits with the goals of the Bureau. We all love working with you and get energized and excited about the trail work you are doing."

She talked about how the state budget issue is impacting their operations.

"Our funding is not totally

linked with the state budget," she said, and "doesn't have to be appropriated" by the legislature, but does need to be passed as part of the budget. "Most of our money is linked to ongoing sources. We expect it to be there. As soon as the budget is passed, we will be moving forward."

See **MONEY / A9**

Smartphones app that leads tour of Warren detailed at summit session

By **ROB ANDERSEN**

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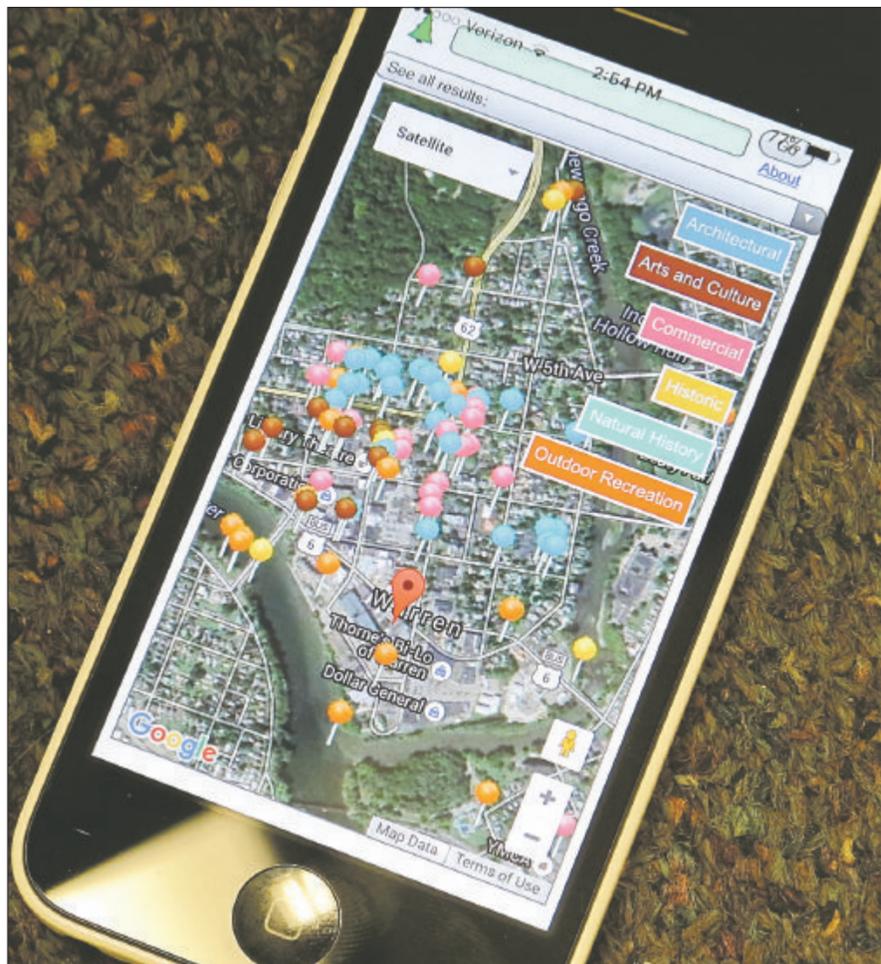
BOOM! is up and running.

A Leadership Warren County project, BOOM! committee members have gathered information and photos of sites throughout the City of Warren, and placed them on mobile applications for both Apple and Android smartphones.

Committee members Jennie Minich, Chuck Gray, and Jeremy Callinan, an adjunct professor at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford introduced the program to a GPS/GIS seminar at the Allegheny Community Center on Monday to a group of about 30 Greenways and Trails Summit participants.

Minich told the group that even many local people are not aware of the history of the area, and can use their smartphones to learn more about Warren. And visitors can use the apps to explore Warren and see what is available.

Callinan said the GPS/GIS (global positioning and geographical information systems) began in northwestern Pennsylvania in Smethport, after a professor requested an online historic tour. Since then, other categories were added, including architecture-



Times Observer photo by Rob Andersen

See **APP / A9**

Smartphone app **BOOM!** highlights Warren sites

School numbers lower again

WCSD enrollment down to 4,435

By **JOSH COTTON**

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The trend of declining enrollment in the Warren County School District continues.

But, according to ten-day numbers provided by the district, the lion's share of that decline is in Warren, the central attendance area.

District-wide, there were 4,499 students enrolled in the district last year while the number this year is down to 4,435, a 1.4 percent decrease.

Looking at enrollment by attendance area, the northern attendance area, Eisenhower, and the eastern attendance area, Sheffield, both showed slight growth, three students in the north and two in the east.

In Youngsville, the western attendance area, enrollment is down five but down 64 in the central attendance area - 27 at Warren Area Elementary Center, 17 at Beaty-Warren Middle School and 10 at Warren Area High School.

And there is no clear answer regarding why that is the case.

"The preschools told us last year that their enrollment was down," Executive Director Amy Stewart said.

That reflects clearly in kindergarten enrollment at Eisenhower and Warren.

See **ENROLLMENT / A9**

Students at St. Joe will be watching Pope Francis

By **DIANA PADDOCK**

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When President Barack Obama welcomes Pope Francis, the leader of the Catholic Church, to the White House on Wednesday morning, students at St. Joseph School in Warren will be watching, via a live Internet stream.

Later on Wednesday, the pope will lead a prayer at St. Matthew's Cathedral with U.S. bishops, and will have the first-ever canonization Mass on U.S. soil at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. More than 25,000 people are expected to attend.

Here, at St. Joseph School, they are calling it "Spirit Day," and the children will wear red, white and blue clothing, the "nation's colors," according to Dr. Howard Ferguson, school principal. Teachers will don Pope T-shirts. Students in grades one through five at St. Joseph will watch Obama greet the pope, then the students will join the St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church congregation at Mass at 10 a.m. The Rev. Fr. Richard Toohey will deliver a homily relative to the pope's visit, and the children will sing the first verse of "God Bless America" followed by those attending Mass joining in to sing the verse once more.

Attention to the pope's visit "reinforces the significance" of the Catholic Church, the Christian community and all people, Ferguson explained, as well as Pope Francis' focus on peace throughout the world. Students have learned about the pope's visit and its significance to the world and themselves, stressing

See **WATCHING / A2**



Your Thoughts Count

Yes, 57%



No, 43%



Yesterday's question:
Would you like to see a greater emphasis on trails and greenways in the county?

Today's question: Are you surprised the school district's enrollment numbers are down again?

Vote and comment at:
timesobserver.com

(The results of this poll are not scientific and represent only the opinions of Internet users who have chosen to participate)

VW's troubles grow

Volkswagen AG's smog-test troubles escalated Tuesday as the company acknowledged putting stealth software in millions of vehicles worldwide. The scandal has now cost VW more than \$26 billion in market value.

-- Page B6



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Weather

www.timesobserver.com

National forecast

Forecast highs for Wednesday, Sept. 23

Sunny Pt. Cloudy Cloudy

Fronts Cold Warm Stationary Pressure Low High

Storms Continue In The Southwest

Tropical moisture will continue to move into the Southwest, with scattered showers and thunderstorms. Scattered storms will be possible through Florida. High pressure will keep the West Coast dry.

Weather Underground • AP

Five-Day Forecast For Warren County

Today Sunny High/Low 76/48 Chance of Precip. 0%	Thursday Sunny High/Low 78/50 Chance of Precip. 0%	Friday Partly Cloudy High/Low 76/48 Chance of Precip. 0%	Saturday Mostly Sunny High/Low 75/ Chance of Precip. 0%	Sunday Partly Cloudy High/Low 74/50 Chance of Precip. 10%

Almanac

Today's Sunrise: 7:05 a.m. Sunset: 7:14 p.m.

Monday's Weather

Statistics
(Provided by Warren Fire Department and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

Precipitation	none
High	73
Low	42

Allegheny River Level

2.97 feet and falling at 8 a.m.

Tuesday's Kinzua Dam Report

Pool level	1,319.71 ft.
Summer pool	1,328 ft.
Maximum pool	1,365 ft.
Upstream temp	69 degrees
Downstream temp	69 degrees
Outflow	1,690 cu. ft./sec.

For new report, call 726-0164
Note: The Tailwater Access area is closed to vehicles when outflow from the dam is more than 6,000 cubic feet per second.

From Page One

Money for projects...

Imgrund said that the Bureau allocated \$16.3 million in the last two years toward new trail construction and that part of their mission is working on a state trail network similar to the interstate highway system.

She said that last year they were allocated \$30 million to \$35 million with roughly \$6 million to \$8 million for trails.

"Trail applications compete on a statewide basis," she said, noting that last year the Bureau received 76 proposals requesting \$14.5 million; 44 of those proposals received funding.

Emerson explained that he had his department oversees, and administers jointly with DCNR, the Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program through the Department of Community and Economic Development, which is funded by Act 13 Marcellus impact fee monies.

Emerson explained that the first round of

funding awarded \$28.5 million in 2013 and \$16.4 million in the two years following.

Fauver said that the new PennDOT Secretary, Leslie Richards, "has a lot of interest in bike/ped(estrian)."

He explained that the department will be kicking off a project on Route 6 with a study examining possible development for trails. He said PennDOT would look to fund the first phase of the project that could cover roughly 100 miles over three to four years.

He said the study would commence in about a week and a half and that they "have to figure what design levels we can afford. (The project is) something we want to try to accomplish and kick off and work moving forward."

Fauver said they hope to have a concept in the next six months.

App called BOOM!...

al, historic, outdoor recreation, commercial, and arts and culture.

"The app runs on Apple and Android, cross-platforms," he said. Other similar programs have been started and finished, including one currently in development in Kane.

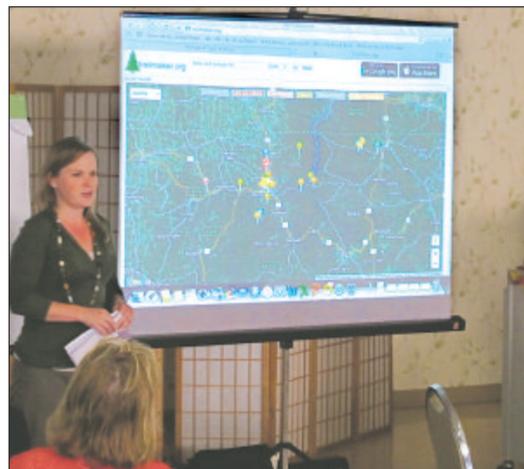
He said future enhancements to the programs will be 360-degree panorama photos, photographed by drones for first-person perspectives.

He demonstrated viewing photos and information in Warren by bringing up Soldiers and Sailors Park on a laptop during the Greenways and Trails Summit presentation, though the app is really designed for portable smartphones and tablets.

Gray told the assembly that there are nearly 600 historic structures in the city, and with this asset, people could take tours at their leisure. "They could tour at two in the morning, if they wanted to," she said. "It's not just about people coming here, it's also for people who are here."

"I can't say enough about how incredible the University of Pittsburgh-Bradford has been" in developing the apps.

She also credited Pa. Kinzua Pathways. "PKP introduced BOOM! to the University of Pittsburgh at



Times Observer photo by Rob Andersen

Jennie Minich of the Leadership Warren County BOOM! committee explained some of the details of the smart phone application for a virtual or actual tour of Warren and various sites throughout the city during a Greenways and Trails Summit presentation on Monday.

Bradford folks. They also have shared their expertise in project management, gave us advice, helped us network and assisted with marketing," she said. "They also will be the on-line host for the final version of the virtual tour. As their efforts are ongoing via a vis building the trails at Jake's Rocks, our project will also be integrated into their text and signage style."

"Walkable Warren invited us to submit content about the virtual guide that

will be on the kiosks they have been installing. We've also been attentive to the Walkable Warren route and have been mindful that assets are identified along the trails that are being created for as purposes from walking or biking, hiking or running," she said.

BOOM! committee members George Lilja, Brysten Jones, Chris Hanes and Chris Egner were not able to attend the presentation.

Enrollment numbers...

Last year's kindergarten class at Eisenhower totaled 75, down to 47 this year. WAEC is also down from 145 to 125.

Whether that will hold into the future isn't yet clear.

"I think it's kinda a wait and see," Stewart said.

Comparing specific grade levels year-to-year, most hold steady or experience slight gains and losses. One exception to that is a decrease from 209 to 197 in the current tenth grade class at WAHS, a 5.74 percent decrease.

Changes to the transfer policy - ensuring students are attending in the correct atten-

dance area - could explain some of the decrease in Warren, but Stewart doesn't think that explains the majority of the decrease.

"The transfers may add up to a few here and a few there but I really don't think it is the driver here," she said.

According to the statistics provided by the district, there are 2,3332 boys and 2,103 girls in the district this year.

The last time the district's enrollment grew was the 1996-1997 school year.

Since then, the enrollment has gone from a total of 7,332 to 4,499 - a drop of 39 percent.

State House session lasts minutes

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Pennsylvania lawmakers held an unconventional House session Tuesday that lasted just minutes, was not broadcast as usual and did not include a roll call.

The only business that occurred was to position two bills so that members can vote later this week on the pair of Republican stopgap budget bills that Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf has threatened to veto.

At least half the 203

members were present, which is the minimum quorum required to conduct business, House Parliamentarian Clancy Myer said. Because there was no roll call, he said, federal rules require members who want to be paid for attending the session to submit a statement saying they were in Harrisburg.

Leaders agreed to the abbreviated session to help members avoid heavy traffic expected because of Pope

Francis' visit to Philadelphia this weekend. The final vote on the stopgap, which passed the Senate on party lines last week, is expected to occur Thursday.

"There was concern about the session at the end of the week preventing a number of members getting back to their districts in southeastern Pennsylvania because of traffic restrictions coming along with the pope," House Democratic spokesman Bill Patton said.

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Welcome to the

16th Annual Donor Scholarship Luncheon

Friday, March 18, 2016



University of Pittsburgh
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Welcome to the

16th Annual Donor Scholarship Luncheon

Welcome

Jill Ballard

Executive Director of Institutional Advancement
Managing Director of Bradford Educational Foundation

Presentation

**Sustainable Community Development:
GPS Mapping and Promotion of Community Assets**

Remarks

Dr. Livingston Alexander
President, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford

Lunch

Student Speaker

Kaitlin McCann

Donor Reflections

David Galey

Closing Remarks

Jill Ballard







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