

County Update

The Monthly Newsletter For The Belmont County Engineer's Department

November Holidays

**Veterans Day
November 11th**

**Thanksgiving
November 26th**

Fred's Desk



THIS OCTOBER, a lot of construction has been going on here in Belmont County. With November arriving next week, and cold weather on the way, it has been really busy this week.

We have roads being paved, bridges and retaining walls being built, roads being patched, culverts installed, and ditching being done, both by contractors and our road and bridge crews. The bulk of the work should be completed by the end of November.

Last week, the concrete deck was poured on the new bridge on Barton-

Blaine Road. This 132' long, 35' wide three span concrete slab bridge required 360 cubic yards of concrete to complete the pour. This bridge should be opened by Thanksgiving.

CH 48 (Wegee Road) and CH 56 (Mt. Victory Road) are being resurfaced this week, and it is expected that CH 4 (St. Clairsville-Barton Road) and CH 5 (St. Clairsville-Crescent Road) will be paved next week.

The bridge crew finished the Tar Run Bridge early this month, and just completed placement of a

new bridge deck on Richland T-1508 near Warnock.

The road crews have been working on major base failures on CH 46 (New Cut Road) along with other maintenance work such as ditching and road grading.

Some weather forecasters are predicting a warmer and dryer winter. The Farmer's Almanac predicts a colder and wetter winter. Let's hope for the first one. I'll let you know next spring who's right. Enjoy the rest of the fall.

All garages and offices will be closed on
Veterans Day November 11th, 2015
and
Thanksgiving Day November 26th & Friday
November 27th, 2015

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Old Famer's Almanac

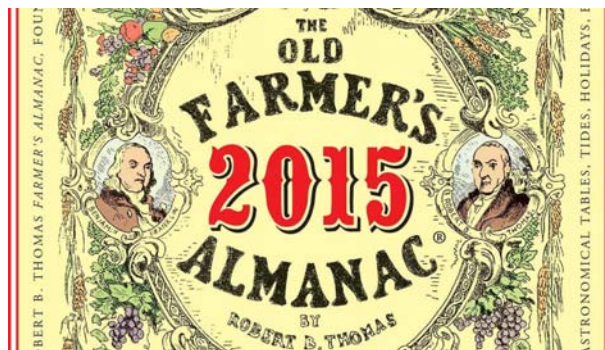
Fred had mentioned the Farmer's Almanac in his article. Here is some information about the publication.

The "Old" Farmer's Almanac has been published continuously since 1792, making it the oldest continuously published periodical in North America. It is a reference book that contains weather forecasts, tide tables, planting charts, astronomical data, recipes, and articles on a number of topics, including gardening, sports, astronomy, and farming. It is released the second Tuesday in the September that precedes the year printed on its cover.

To calculate the Almanacs weather predictions, Robert Thomas (the founder) studied solar activity, astronomy cycles and weather patterns and used his research to develop a secret forecasting formula, which is still in use today. Other than the Almanac's prognosticators, few people have seen the formula. It is kept in a black tin box at the Almanac offices in Dublin, New Hampshire.

Thomas served as editor until his death on May 19, 1846. As its editor for more than 50 years, Thomas established The Old Farmer's Almanac as America's "most enduring" almanac by simply outlasting the competition.

In 1832, with his almanac having survived longer than similarly named competitors, Thomas inserted the word "Old" in the title, later dropping it in the title of the 1836 edition. After Thomas's death, John Henry Jenks was appointed editor and, in 1848, the book's name was permanently and officially revised to The Old Farmer's Almanac.



Winter Inspection

On October 14th, winter inspection took place for all equipment used for snow control.

30 dump trucks, end loaders and other equipment were inspected by the driver / operator, road supervisors, mechanics, welders and members of the Safety Committee.

Any issues which were uncovered during the inspection were to be addressed before inclement weather begins.



***It's Not "HAPPY" Veterans Day!* by John Parkinson**

Veterans Day is an official US holiday and is observed on November 11th. It is a day to honor those who have served in the armed services.

This day is not to be confused with Memorial Day, which is a day of remembering the men and women who gave their lives while serving.

One thing that I do not like to hear is when people say "Happy Veterans Day".

My father was in the Army during the Korean War. He never talked about what happened and would evade or change the subject when questioned.

After my father passed away on Veterans Day in 1996, I learned that he was involved in hand to hand combat. The fighting was so fierce at one point that he had to use a shovel. I can't imagine what he experienced during those moments. I found out after he was gone that he thought about these moments every day.

So when I hear the words "Happy Veterans Day", I cringe and think about someone who has experienced the horrors of war, who can't have a day pass without remembering, who have a lifetime of issues because of what happened to them in a land far away. What must go through their mind?

So, please, please, honor those who have served. Say thanks or buy them a meal. Don't say "Happy" and force them to remember the unspeakable memories that they think about every day.

County Road 10 Bridge

Work continues on the County Road 10 bridge. The project is expected to be completed by Thanksgiving. Shown on the left are the bridge beams in place on September 14th. Pictured on the right is the concrete deck being poured on October 20th.

