

# Annual trade fair once again ready to open its doors

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The Bedford Business Association will host its 29th annual Trade Fair on March 17 and 18 at Bedford High School.

More than 200 businesses will be showcasing their services at the annual event.

The Trade Fair will take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 17 and noon to 5 p.m. March 18 at Bedford High School, 8285 Jackman Rd. in Temperance.

A very popular event within Bedford Township, the fair drew a crowd of about 15,000 people in 2011. This year, the business group has themed the event around the organization's 30th anniversary with the theme "Celebrating 30 years of Progress."

"This is a great time for the vendors to display the progress of their business through the past 30 years, or however long they have been in business," said Laura Collins, BBA

president.

Many of the businesses involved in the trade fair have been participating since its inception.

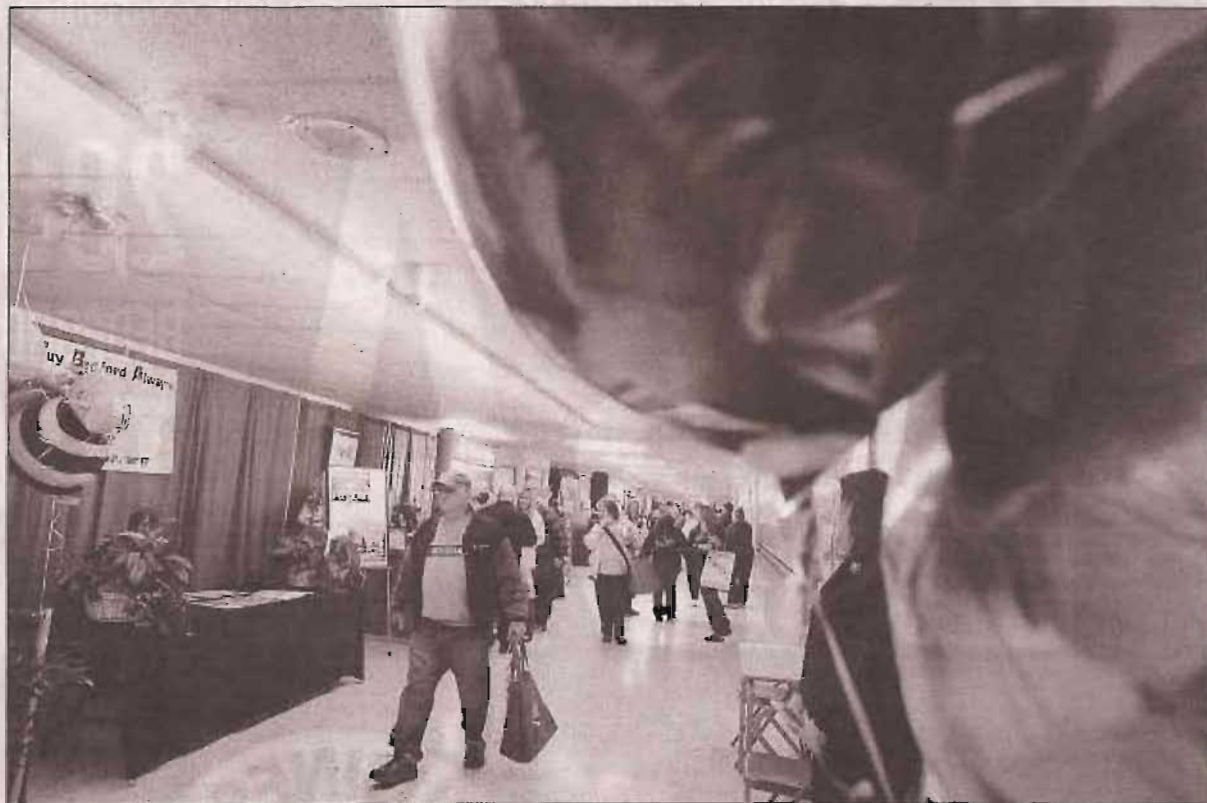
"I imagine that some of our members have changed a lot through the years and hopefully, a lot of businesses at the fair will incorporate this into their booths," Ms. Collins said. "A special ribbon will be given to the booth that best displays the theme of the Trade Fair this year."

The trade fair features free give-a-ways, prizes, entertainment and food vendors.

In addition, visitors will be able to enter a variety of contests to win prizes.

Another highlight at this year's fair will be the military well wishes visitors can send to local servicemen and women who are currently serving the country. This is the sixth year visitors can write to active military personnel.

Pictures and information about those who are



Evening News photo by KIM BRENT

Colorful balloons and flowers welcome spectators to the last year's Bedford Business Association Trade Fair held at Bedford High School. The weekend-long event — set this year for March 17 and 18 — features booths from area businesses and organizations, a variety of games, give-aways and entertainment.

serving will be available at the BBA's booth located in between both school gyms.

The trade fair packs in large crowds enticing visitors to shop locally. That theme of buying Bedford is always emphasized during the trade fair.

The group's slogan is "Buy Bedford Always."

Food vendors for this year's fair include Pizza Primo!, Howard's Meats, Bakery and Deli, School-

house Lunchroom, Marco's Pizza and Silver- spoon Café.

Food and beverages are available for purchase in the school's cafeteria throughout the trade fair. The Bedford Band Boosters will also sell from the concessions.

The cafeteria is also home to the entertainment, which runs continuously throughout the fair.

## IF YOU GO...

**What:** Bedford Business Association's 29th annual Trade Fair

**When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 17 and noon to 5 p.m. March 18.

**Where:** Bedford High School, 8285 Jackman Rd. in Temperance

**Cost:** Free

**Details:** Businesses will showcase the offerings and services of member businesses. Several businesses have free items for attendees and there are drawings to enter to win prizes.

**Information:** Call the BBA at 850-2200