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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BEDFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CELEBRATE OFFICIAL OPENING OF  
HEWITT COVERED BRIDGE AT RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY**

Bedford County, Pennsylvania, October 27, 2000—The Bedford County Board of Commissioners held the official ribbon cutting ceremony for the recently rehabilitated Hewitt Covered Bridge (County Bridge No. 29), located in Southampton Township.

Participating in the official ceremony were Commissioner Dave Thompson, (Chairman), Commissioner Ira Claycomb, Penn Dot District 9-0 District Engineer Earl Neiderhiser, field representative Scott Pasierb of Senator Jubelirer's office, State Representative Dick Hess, Southampton Township Supervisor Karen Cregger, Dennis Tice, Executive Director of Bedford County Visitors' Bureau, Sandy Crawford, President of Bedford County Covered Bridge Society, Joe Lehman, Jr. of P. Joseph Lehman, Inc., Consulting Engineers, and local residents Vergie Greenwalt, Helen McElfish, and Kenneth Northcraft. Unable to attend but sending his regards via written letter was Commissioner Dick Rice.

The event celebrated the rehabilitation of the original covered bridge constructed around 1880. P. Joseph Lehman, Inc., Consulting Engineers, County Engineer, of Hollidaysburg performed all design and inspection for the project. Merit Contracting, Inc. of Monongahela performed associated construction work on the project. Construction of the project totaled \$617,075.39. Funding for the project was 80% State and 20% Act 26.

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