

DEVELOPING LEADERS


November 2010

Session 2
Issue 2



Leadership
Tioga
County

Healthy Communities



Leadership Tioga County continued the success of the *Community Leadership Program* with the second session of the 9th season. Hosted by Laurel Health system and held at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hospital, participants and co-chairs gathered for a session on Healthy Communities. Several community agencies generously donated time to present information on the needs of our community and the services available to meet those needs. Aside from Laurel Health System, the Tioga County Department of Human Services and the Tioga County Partnership for Community Health were key players in this informative session. The Coordinators for Healthy Communities, all alumnus of *CLP*, are Sue Sticklin, Laurel Health System (class of 2003), Mary Aumick, Laurel Health System (class of 2007), Jane Palmer, Tioga County Department of Human Services (class of 2009), and SueAnne Carson, Tioga County Department of Human Services (class of 2009).

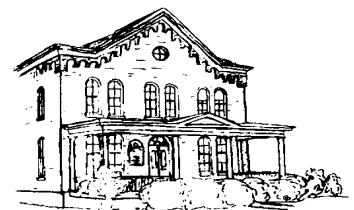
The initial presentation by Ferlin Patrick, Physician Practice Director for Laurel Health System welcomed the group to Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hospital and discussed the new strategic plan developed by the Board of Directors. This plan will shift the organization's focus to concentrate more on the medical services provided by Laurel Health System due to the changing dynamics of healthcare in the United States. Several programs will be affected by the new strategic plan and Laurel Health System has expressed a strong commitment to transition those services to other providers in order to ensure the most seamless transition of services for consumers. The programs affected include: Bradford-Tioga Head Start, Laurel Youth Services, Guideline Information and Referral, Community Support Services, and Sullivan Terrace.

In other exciting news, participants received some sneak peeks at designs for the hospital's new Emergency Department. Steve Kramer, Director of Shared Services with Laurel Health System explained the planning, implementation, funding, and construction of

the new department and tentative plans for the available space on the second floor. The new department will increase the number of available beds in the ER which was designed based on statistics of increased usage over the past decade. With the influx of business and workers in the Marcellus Shale Industry, Laurel Health System is working to prepare resources for our community and surrounding areas.

Sue Sticklin and Mary Aumick then lead the group in a team building exercise. Past participants in the program will be happy to note that Gum Drops from your session are still being used in construction of "Gum Drop Towers." This activity lead to a discussion on teamwork and communication (both verbal and non-verbal), important characteristics in leadership development. Just don't eat the gumdrops!!

Linda Stager, *CLP* Alumni from the class of 2003, Assistant Director with the Tioga County Department of Human Services (TCDHS) explained the revolutionary way TCDHS administers its Family Services Department using a department developed parable, The Legend of Choppy Waters River. The presentation explains the use of case management staff who are cross trained in areas of need and therefore able to best serve all consumers rather than a more reactionary approach of specialization. Linda also explained some of the departments and services available. This was particularly helpful when SueAnne Carson and Jane Palmer lead the group in a BINGO



Tioga County Development Corporation

game designed to quiz participants on their ability recognize health and human services programs available from the three key county agencies presenting today. Prizes from Highland Chocolates, a subsidiary of the TCDHS were enjoyed by all!

Next ...Coordinator Brett Kennedy split participants into two groups and then lead the groups in a discussion highlighting potential pros and cons of the Marcellus Shale industries fracking process. The outcomes were interesting and both pros and cons were well explained. The final presentations before lunch were done by members of the class of 2011 on programs within the three host agencies.

After a break for lunch provided at the Pine Grove Café by Laurel Health System, presentations continued. Deb

Atkins, Executive Director for the Tioga County Partnership for Community Health (TCPCH) discussed the Partnership's role in promoting health in Tioga County. She discussed the STEP Outdoors Program, the obesity epidemic, and the work groups within the Partnership made up of community members and agency representatives. The work groups are designed to allow a cooperative approach to facilitate solutions to issues concerning our communities. With reductions in funding for many health and human services programs, TCPCH continues to work with less to continue to provide local resources.

After a day of listening and discussion, participants were lead by Sue Sticklin and Mary Aumick on a tour of several of Laurel Health System's programs. They included: The Green Home (a skilled nursing facility), The Laurels (an assisted living facility), Bradford Tioga Head Start's Wellsboro

Center (an early childhood education center), The Williams House (a residence in the Community Support Services), and Occupational Health (for pre-employment physicals, mandated drug screenings and worker's compensation exams, just to name a few). Participants were able to get a firsthand look at the wide variety of services offered in our local communities.

The 9th season will continue on December 3rd as participants, co-chairs and session facilitators gather in Blossburg at the local library to learn more about Organizing for Action.



Various pictures from session 2

CLP Spotlight— Rebecca (Beka) Charles

Rebecca (Beka) Charles is our featured member of the *Community Leadership Program* Class of 2011 for November. Beka was born and raised in Wellsboro and currently lives there with her husband, Mike - a Williamsport native, and their “awesome” Lab/Golden Retriever mix named McKinley. Beka proudly shares the fact that she is very close with her family, most of whom live in the Wellsboro area. Beka graduated from Penn College in Williamsport with a BS in Applied Human Services and earned her M.S.Ed from Mansfield University. She is currently employed as a Family Services Supervisor at Bradford Tioga Head Start through Laurel Health System. In this position she is responsible for supervision and oversight of the family services and social services components for eight Head Start centers. The position involves supervision and support for the parent involvement, social services, health and mental health components’ as well as community outreach and recruitment for eligible children and families. She works in close collaboration with community agencies and partners to support families through information and referral.

Beka decided to become involved with the *Community Leadership Program* after hearing about the many positive experiences her co-workers had in the program and the opportunities that are available through the program. So far, she has most enjoyed meeting and networking with the

wonderful people involved in the program.

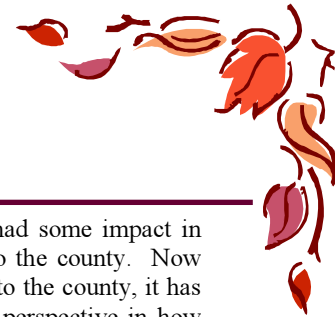
Beka is very active in the community. She serves as treasure for HAVEN of Wellsboro, is a board member of Second Chance Animal Sanctuaries, and she and her husband volunteer for the Laurel Festival Parade committee.

During her free time she loves to be outside kayaking, canoeing or rafting in the summer or skiing (telemark and cross country) and snowshoeing in the winter or hiking anytime of the year. On those days she can’t get outdoors she likes to read and knit.

A perfect day spent in Tioga County for Beka is spent with family and friends having breakfast at Gramma’s Kitchen in Mansfield, hiking, having lunch at the Native Bagel in Wellsboro, kayaking, having dinner at Cast and Crew in Mansfield, then checking out the stars from a secret vantage point.

Beka is truly a member of the Tioga County community where she loves to live, work, play and volunteer her time. Appropriately, one of her favorite quotes is “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” – Margaret Mead





Oh The Places We Will Go....

Ever wonder what happens to the participants of the *Youth Leadership Program*. The focus of the follow-up is to address three main questions.

- *What you have done since participating in the leadership program?*
- *What leadership roles have you undertaken since participating in the program?*
- *How are you using what you learned in the leadership program?*

This month we are featuring Mary Janae Deats. Mary Janae participated in the program in 2001 as a junior in high school and then went on to graduate as salutatorian of the Class of 2002 from Wellsboro High School. Following high school, she attended Marietta College in Marietta, OH where she graduated cum laude with a BS in Athletic Training and a certification in leadership.

While at Marietta, she was part of the McDonough Leadership Program during which she participated in an orientation program and various leadership related classes that spread throughout her four years of school.

During her undergraduate years she was a Leadership Orientation Leader, Treasurer of Circle K, Treasurer of the Ultimate Frisbee Organization and she was a participant in Concert Band, Concert Choir, Women's Choir, Athletic Training Organization and Habitat for Humanity. After graduation from undergrad in 2006, she moved to North Carolina to pursue a graduate degree in Physical Therapy. In December 2009 she graduated from Elon University in Elon, NC with a doctorate in Physical Therapy and started her career as a physical therapist.

During her time in the *Youth Leadership Program* she learned a lot about what Tioga County has to offer. She believes

that this knowledge had some impact in her desire to return to the county. Now that she has returned to the county, it has also given her a true perspective in how much the county has changed since she had been gone. She also learned a lot about herself during her participation in the program. During her senior year of high school, and throughout college, she was not afraid to step up and take leadership roles in different organizations. She became confident enough in her own abilities to step outside her personal comfort zone and take on challenges that previously she would not have pursued.

She recently moved back to Tioga County and has started a new career as a physical therapist for Elite Therapy in Mansfield, as well as working periodically for Broad Acres Health and Rehabilitation Center in Wellsboro.

--You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know and YOU are the guy who'll decide where to go.....Dr. Seuss

Youth Leadership Program

Youth Leadership Program Learns the Importance of Health & Human Services











Pictured here are participants of the YLP Class of 2011 participating in the "Leadership Styles" Team Building Gum Drop exercise.

On November 9, 2010 the *Tioga County Development Corporation Leadership Tioga County Youth Leadership Program* Class of 2011 studied Health & Human Services during Session 2 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Wellsboro. Students participated in various activities aimed at introducing them to the many Human Service and Healthcare Services available through the Tioga County Department of Human Services & Laurel Health System to area residents.

Students also explored career options available in the healthcare field. The Class of 2011 had the opportunity to view facilities like The Green Home, The Laurels, The Williams House & Occupational Health. The Session was sponsored by Laurel Health System.

Session 3 Understanding Business & Economics will be held at Penn College/North Campus in Wellsboro on December 7, 2010.

December 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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Schedule of Events

- December 3rd– 5th—Dickens of a Christmas Celebration—Wellsboro PA.
- December 6th – Annual Chamber – GROW Breakfast, Penn Wells, 7:30 AM – Guest Speaker, Tom Ridge
- December 17/18 – A Fezziwig Christmas – Deane Center
- December 11th – Midnight Madness – Mansfield Agway
- December 11th—Mansfield's Home for the Holidays—Mansfield
- December 18th – Midnight Madness – Wellsboro Agway

Get Outside in Tioga County!



many vendors of crafts and food that show up and nearly 175 vendors last year. Many people like to dress up for the event and popularity of that is growing. Local Choruses like to perform in town to help set the Christmas mood. This event is a wonderful time to help get you into the holiday spirit so make sure you come out and see what Tioga County has to offer at the Dickens of a Christmas in Wellsboro PA.



December in Tioga County it is starting to get cold. Mornings in the teens and low twenties with daytime highs, well not that high. There are many things to do over the month in Tioga County but one of the most known things to do is the Dickens of a Christmas Celebration.

This annual event has been going on for 27 years now and continues to grow every year. Dickens will be held this year on December 4th in Wellsboro, with Main Street shutting down and several side streets shut down for traffic. The festivities will start at 9:00 am on Friday the 3rd thru Sunday the 5th. There are

For more information or a complete schedule please contact the Wellsboro Chamber of Commerce at 570-724-1926 or online at <http://www.wellsboropa.com/pages/dickens/index.php>



Tioga County Development Corporation

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Were on the Web!
www.tcdc-pa.com

Session 3 will take place on December 3rd, 2010 at Blossburg Memorial Library in Blossburg PA. The topic will be Organizing for Action. Presenters will be Deb Sawyer, Executive Director, North Central AHEC and Linda Williams, Training Focus.

The Town Crier—Elkland Pennsylvania



In 1811 a colony from the Southport of Elmira New York had settled into the region of Barney Hill along the New York state border. The Township of Elkland was formed in 1814 with eleven miles along the northern border of New York and south ten miles for a total of 110 square miles.

In 1815, one of the original members of the colony, Col. Samuel Tubbs and his sons, erected the first saw mill and grist mill in the area. The Mills had proven profitable and were sold in 1820 to Col. Lemuel Davenport. The mills were sold several times and updated with the latest machinery over the next 54 years until torn down in 1869 by George Dorrance.

In 1816 part of the township was taken and formed into Lawrenceville Township. In 1822 another portion was divided for Middlebury Township.

In 1824 the first Village store was opened by John Ryon Jr., son in law to Col. Tubbs, and Robert Tubbs, grandson to the Col. The store was also very successful as the mills were and was sold in 1828 to Joel Parkhurst who was previously in business with his brother in the newly created Lawrenceville Township. Within a few

years of stores operation, Mr. Parkhurst had not only become the wealthiest man in Elkland Township but in all of the Cowanesque Valley area.

In 1830 the Township of Farmington was taken from Elkland and when all was said and done the Township of Elkland was no more than 8 miles latitudinal and almost 3 miles longitudinal and only had three corners to form a hamlet. On April 10th 1849 the Township of Elkland became the Borough of Elkland by an act in legislature.

However small, the Borough of Elkland continued on and had proven to be a business incubator in the area;

In 1851 The Elkland Tannery was established by James Hancock and eventually ended up being owned by Mr. Joel Parkhurst in 1853. The tannery was one of the largest in the county producing up to 600 hides a day.

A Sash and Blind factory established in 1857 by Decker and Metcalf was a successful business that evolved into a large scale furniture business.

A private bank was established in

1867 by none other than Joel and his brother John Parkhurst and was known as J&J Parkhurst.

The Cowanesque Valley Oil company was incorporated in 1877 with a group of area businessmen including, John Parkhurst.

The Tioga Telephone Company was incorporated in 1881 with service to Tioga and Potter Counties which included the boroughs of Nelson, Elkland, Osceola, Knoxville and Westfield.

Other businesses included the; The Favorite Folding Chair Company, The Elkland Toys and Novelties Company, The Elkland Carriage works, The Elkland Foundry, The Elkland basket Works and the Elkland Pure Oil and gas Company.

