



DEVELOPING LEADERS

May 2011

Session 8/9

Issue 8

Quality of Life

Spring finally arrived in Tioga County and the Community Leadership Program took advantage of the weather for the final regular session hosted by the Northern Appalachian Research Lab in Asaph. Participants, co-chairs and staff gathered with Session Coordinator Jim Weaver, Tioga County Planner and Owner of Grand Canyon Ecological Services. Session 8 was completed in memory of Phil Stillerman; an instrumental force in the clean-up efforts of the Pine Creek watershed. Phil was also involved in the Youth Leadership Program and a noted environmentalist.

After a welcome, introductions and breakfast, compliments of Grand Canyon Ecological Services, participants gathered with Jim as he introduced the concept of a Consensus Circle. The focus of this specific circle was to focus on “Decision Making & Incorporating Environmental and Social Components to form the Triple Bottom Line.” It was an interesting and lengthy process, but the end results seemed to really have a significant impact in shaping the outcome of the group thought process.

The next component came as Jason Weigle, Ph.D. from Penn State whose research in rural sociology focused primarily on the Marcellus Shale Industry and its long-term impacts on the communities involved in the exploration and drilling. As residents of the area, participants had many thoughts to offer on the situation and the potential outcomes.

Our group then split apart for a hands-on activity describing pictorially the 4 ecosystems processes. The small group activity involved developing a drawing which represented the cyclic nature of the ecosystem in question. The four eco-systems covered were mineral, water, energy, and community dynamics. (See Page 2 for posters)

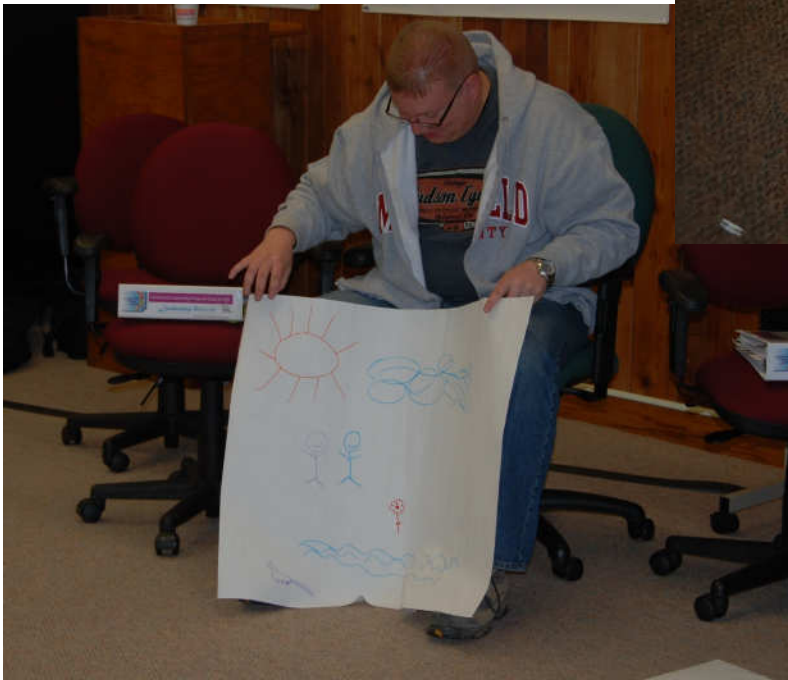
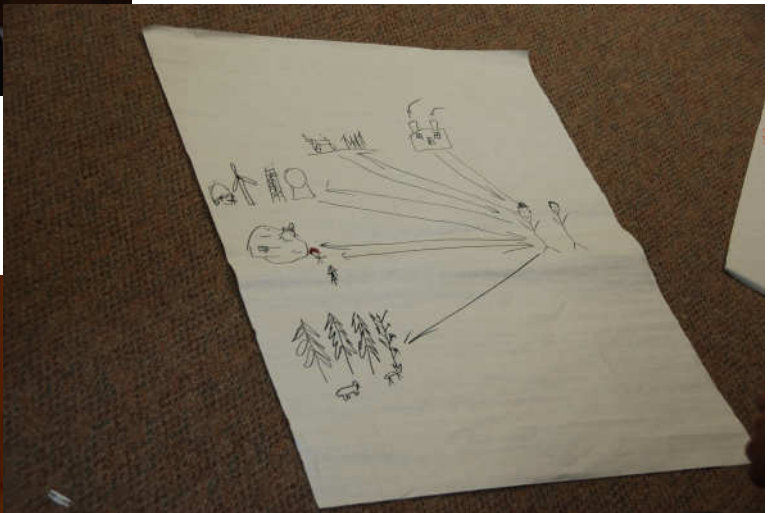
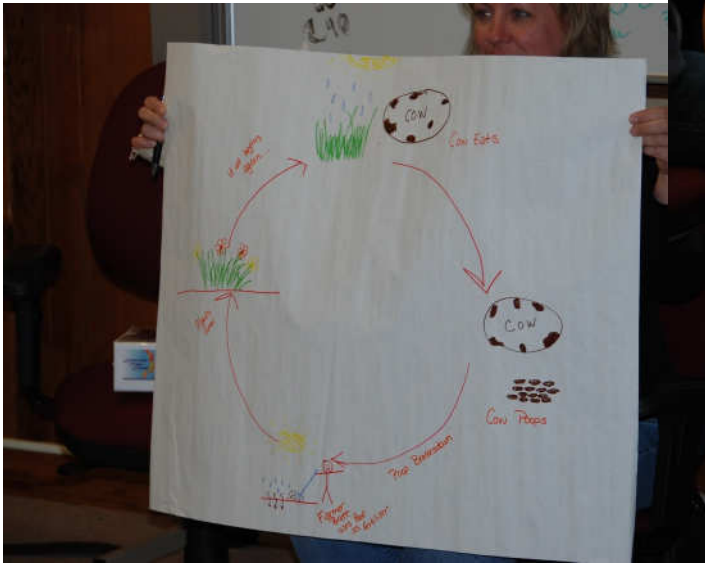
After lunch, the group ventured outside for some field stations on Straight Run. Erica Tomlinson and Jim Weaver presented on Water Quality and Macro invertebrates (bugs); while

Ashley Early and Gary Tyson presented on Dendrology and Birds. We all appreciated the opportunity to get outside and spend some time in the sun while learning about the world around us. Bill Lellis, Facility Director of the lab then generously took the time to give us all a tour and explain some the research being completed by scientists and researchers in our own backyard.

Our final session closed with a Native American Greeting Circle facilitated by Jim Weaver. As we closed the day, we were able to reflect on the environment around us and our place in the world.



Tioga County Development Corporation





CLP Spotlight— Christie Blackwell

Christie is a Tioga County native who grew up on her family's farm in Covington. She now lives in Wellsboro with her husband and two daughters. She has a BS in Communications from Mansfield University. Prior to becoming the Leadership Development Coordinator at TCDC, she was the morning news producer for WETM 18 News in Elmira, NY. Christie spends most of her free time with her young family but, does find time to occasionally umpire Little League Softball. Any day spent with her kids is the perfect day for Christie no matter what they are doing!

Christie facilitates the Leadership Development program. With each new class, she learns something new and gains another network of friends and business acquaintances. One of her favorite quotes is, "Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad." - Unknown

CLP Spotlight— Joey Heckler

Joey is also a Tioga County native and a 1989 graduate of Wellsboro High School. She joined the Navy in 1991 and spent her service time in Hawaii until 1995 when she returned to Wellsboro. Although she has lived in many different places, she loves Wellsboro more than any other. She and her husband, Todd, have a 16 year old son, Bren. She has a dual degree in Business Administration and Economics with a minor in History from Mansfield University. She is currently the office manager at Northwest Savings Bank in Wellsboro. Joey is very active in the community through groups such as the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, Growth Resources of Wellsboro, the Wellsboro Foundation, Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Corporation, Laurel Health System, and Relay for Life. For Joey, the perfect day in Tioga County is spent hiking with her family enjoying the solitude and spectacular views.

Joey is an alumnus of the Community Leadership Program. She loved the program so she was eager to volunteer when there was a need for new co-chairs for the program. She gets something new out of every session, every year. She also enjoys the people she meets from each class and watching how they evolve as a group. And she feels she learns more about herself each year. Her favorite quote is, "Be the change you wish to see in the world." – Ghandi

CLP Spotlight— Brett Kennedy

Brett was born and raised in Wellsboro as well. He lives there currently with his wife Lori and their four children. He works in his family's business – Kennedy Home Center. He is a graduate of Mansfield University and the University of Phoenix with degrees in Business Administration and Business Management. Outside of work, he is very active in his church, WAYS soccer, and Little League. He and his family and their three Labrador retrievers enjoy hiking in the area as well.

Brett was a participant in the first CLP class and was given the opportunity to become a co-chair three years ago. Even as a Tioga County native, the CLP experience continues to open his eyes to all that Tioga County has to offer. His leadership philosophy is that we all have gifts and talents to offer; the key is having the willingness and confidence to use them.

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Graduating Class of 2011!

The Community Leadership Program Class of 2011 hosted community members, employers, friends, and family at the graduation ceremony held May 20, 2011 at the North Campus of the Pennsylvania College of Technology. During the ceremony, TCDC President and CEO remarked on the success of the program and the 117 graduates over the past 9 classes. Class of 2005 alumnus Ashley Wagner spoke on the qualities of leadership and the traits that others see as potential in emerging leaders. Her remarks gently lead the class of 2011 into the community as new leaders ready, willing and able to support the building of community, the growth of industry and Tioga County as a whole in the future.



L-R Alex Miller-Mansfield University, Christie Blackwell –TCDC/Leadership Development Coordinator, Tammy Cleveland - Army Corp of Engineers, Brett Kennedy– Kennedy Home Center/Co-Chair, Peggy Cressman– HMA USA LLC, Herb Frank-Mansfield University, Tracy Fousnought-Laurel Health System, Melissa Belz-Parente Beard LLC, Katie Mays –Citizens and Northern Bank, Rebecca Charles—AHEC, Robyn Flynn-Laurel Health System, Brett Huzey-HMA USA LLC, William Post– First Citizens National Bank, Joey Heckler– Northwest Savings Bank/Co-Chair.

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Get Outside in Tioga County!

Well, I think we got so excited about the good weather in May that we covered everything we could outdoors. But, go ahead and revisit that list and add some wonderful things that happen in the great Tioga County of Pennsylvania. Not long ago, the frost covered the grounds in the early morning and we are well past that now.

Memorial Day weekend for lots of the county residence is the sign to start planting their gardens. The beginning of June is always a good time to visit the local green houses in the area (too many to list) to get your tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, zucchini, and green beans. These are just a few options of great plants to pick up. Go ahead and get your hands dirty when planting them. The reward in August and September from all your hard work is truly worth it.

Most people in the area have a landscaping project up their sleeve for this time of year. People are out planting hostas' and spreading mulch. This makes the month very appealing in Tioga County. As you drive around the county you will notice cars at all the hiking and bicycling parking lots. The campsites are loaded up as well. The amount of campsites in the Tioga County is quite staggering with the weather being so nice. Everyone likes to go out camping and who can resist a s'more cooked over an open fire. You could camp at Kenshire and canoe, kayak, raft, or fish pine creek. On the other end of the County you could camp at Cowanesque and fish, tube, ski, or just take a stroll in your boat. There is also the option to hike the trails.

As the water temperatures raise across the county the boating increases quite a bit this time of year a lot of people enjoy water skiing and tubing on Cowanesque, Hammond, and Tioga Lakes. With current rise in water temperature also the lakes will see a large increase of bass fishermen. The bass fishermen have been cooped up waiting to get their boats out and their lines wet.

Let's also not forget about Miles Mountain Motocross in Elkland where the racing action is heating up. Everyone from 4 years old to 60 years old like to compete on the motocross and super cross tracks there. So, now that the weather is great please get outside and enjoy some of the many activities like fishing, hiking, gardening, bicycling, boating, and camping that Tioga County has to offer.

