

Tioga County Development Corporation

eNews Insider

Insider Info

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Hydro Recovery, LP Breaks Ground for New Facility More Jobs Headed to Tioga County



Rep. Matthew Baker, Neil Hedrick (founder and a manager of the General Partner of Hydro Recovery), Lance Shaner (founder of the Shaner Group), Tioga County Commissioner Erick Coolidge, Duncan Township Supervisor Richard Putman, PA DEP Deputy Secretary John Stefanko (Office of Active and Abandoned Mines), Robert J. Blair (President /CEO Tioga County Development Corporation), and Leanne Martin (M&T Bank)

On Wednesday, November 9, 2011 Hydro Recovery, LP held a ground breaking ceremony at the Antrim Acid Mine Drainage Treatment Plant, located in Duncan Township for a new, state of the art, water treatment facility. According to Hydro Recovery, the new facility will treat acid mine drainage (AMD) water and will create a win-win scenario for the environment and the natural gas industry.

“When we first came up with the concept of Hydro Recovery over three years ago, our goal was not only to provide a service to the natural gas industry, but also to make a difference

and provide environmentally friendly alternatives for the exploration of natural gas,” said Neil Hedrick, founder and a Manager of the General Partner of Hydro Recovery. “Thanks to our customers and their stewardship of the Commonwealth’s water, we are proudly expanding.”

Over 60 people turned out for the event which included contractors, vendors, clients, and elected officials. The Antrim plant will treat up to 720,000 gallons per day of polluted acid mine drainage water. Natural gas companies will use the treated AMD in fracturing wells, minimizing the need for them to use fresh water. Like the Blossburg facility, this plant will also treat for 100% reuse drilling fluids and other wastewater from the exploration of natural gas.

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December 2011

2012 Board Meetings

- January 13, 2012
Regular Public Meeting
- February 29, 2012
TCDC Board Retreat
- March 9, 2012
Regular Public Meeting
- May 11, 2012
TCDC On The Road
- June 8, 2012
Board Work Session
- July 13, 2012
Regular Public Meeting
- September 14, 2012
Board Work Session
- October 12, 2012
Regular Public Meeting
- November 9, 2012
Board Work Session
- December 14, 2012
Regular Public Meeting

Plan Ahead...

TCDC's 16th Annual Legislative Breakfast

Thursday, April 5, 2012
Historic Penn Wells Hotel
Main Street
Wellsboro, PA 16901

TCDC's 19th Annual Meeting

Monday, July 30, 2012
Location TBA

TCDC's 5th Meet Our Member Mixer

September 12, 2012
Location TBA

Hydro recovery, LP Breaks Ground

...Continued from Page 1

Over a year ago, Hydro Recovery broke ground on its first manufacturing facility in Blossburg which began operations in June of this year. The Antrim facility will be similar to the one they are operating in Blossburg. The Blossburg plant has already created over 20 jobs and this new plant in Antrim will create an additional 20-30 good paying jobs. Additional ancillary jobs will be created in the trucking, chemical and landfill businesses.

Hydro's new Antrim plant is expected to begin operations by the second quarter of 2012. When operating at full capacity, the plant will treat nearly 720,000 gallons of AMD water per day to be used by natural gas companies in fracturing wells. It will then use the byproduct from that treatment as a key component in its process to transform nearly 330,000 gallons of wastewater a

day into clean, reusable 'hydraulic stimulation fluid', or HSF™, for the drilling industry.

In October, *Tioga County Development Corporation* was awarded a \$500,000 Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program Grant. The total project cost is estimated at \$15 Million.



Above: Various Photos from the Groundbreaking Ceremony on November 9, 2011

TCDC Closes on TCEZ and SBFF Loans with The Murus Company



(Front Row L to R): Jamie Jenkins, President The Murus Company; Robert J. Blair, TCDC President/ CEO. (Back Row L to R): Samantha Wilcox, Esquire, Owlett & Lewis, PC and Wendy Swartz, TCDC Treasurer

On Wednesday, December 21, 2011, The Murus Company closed on a \$200,000 Pennsylvania Small Business First Fund Loan and a \$150,000 *Tioga County Enterprise Zone Revolving Loan Fund Industrial Component* loan with the *Tioga County Development Corporation*. The loans will be used towards the purchase of new production Equipment & Machinery. Total project cost is \$600,000.00. The new purchase will help the company add a new product line. The Murus Company is located at 3234 Route 549, Mansfield, Pennsylvania.

Founded in 1987, Murus' inception was based on a proprietary method of manufacturing polyurethane foam-core insulating panels (PUR) in conjunction with a patented cam-lock for joining the panels. Since then the company has expanded their services and have grown their company from three employees to 30 full-time employees. The project will add four new employees.

TCDC has low interest loans available for any for-profit business in Tioga County. For more information, applications or

assistance on the *Tioga County Loan Programs* or other financial assistance, contact Robert J. Blair, TCDC President/CEO, at (570) 723-8232 or eMail to tcde1@ptd.net.



Westfield Business Park Development Continues to Progress

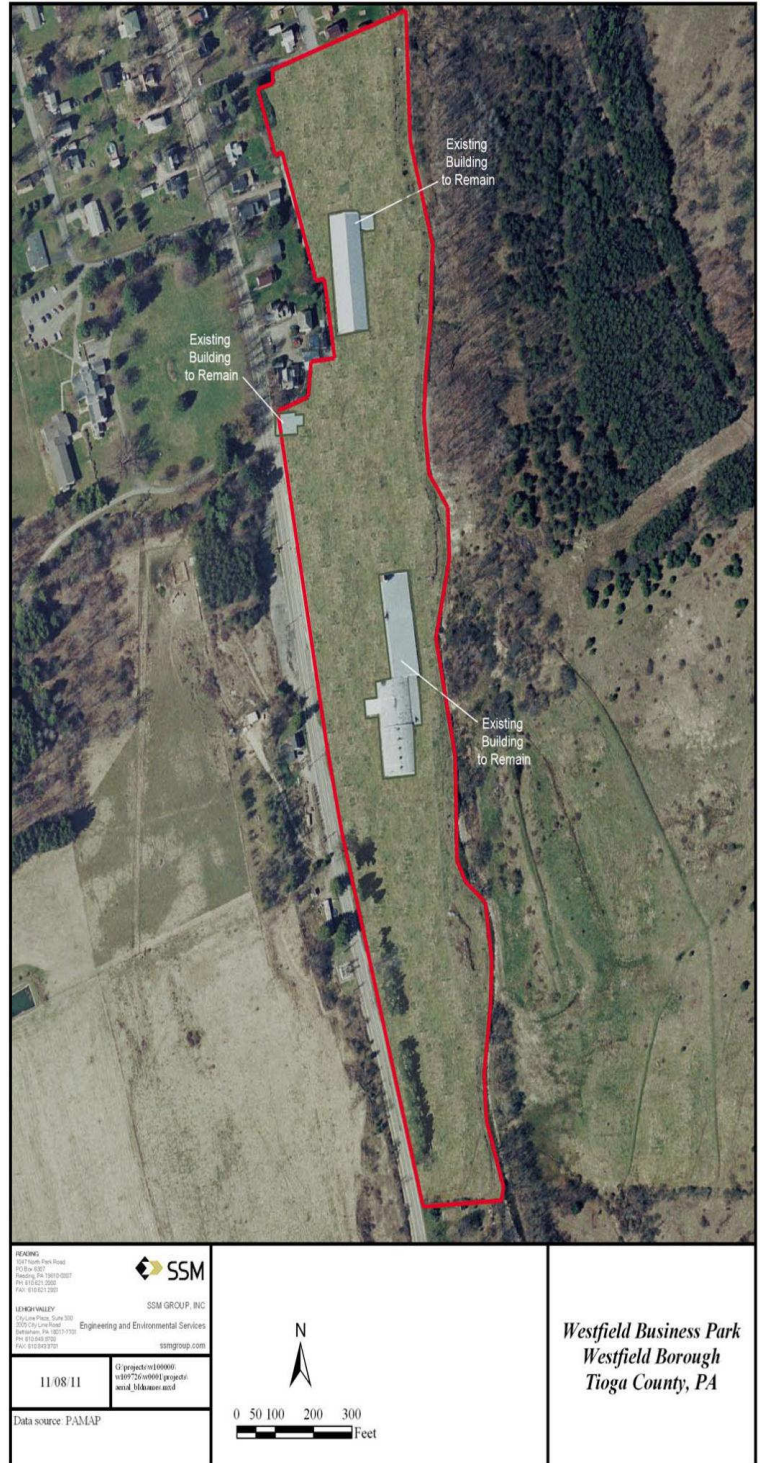
Planning continued during the quarter on the proposed Westfield Business Park. Foor & Associates Architects and SSM Group have nearly completed the Master Plan for the 17.6 acre business park. Several public meetings were held on November 17 in Westfield with DEP, Municipal Officials, Business & Community Leaders culminating with a meeting with the general public. Several ideas and suggestions were presented including: light & medium manufacturing, business office complex, educational center, resident housing and natural gas companies.

The Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission (NTRPDC) submitted an \$80,300 Environmental Assessment Grant to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on November 28, 2011. This grant would provide for additional environmental assessment of the site. All indications from DEP have been encouraging for an Act 2 Clearance.

As part of Phase 2, TCDC is in the process of submitting a \$99,900 US Department of Agriculture Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) for the acquisition/foreclosure process to acquire the E. H Hall, Inc./WESTAN property and nearly seven acres owned by the Westfield Municipal Authority and administrative, development, and marketing costs.

Working in partnership with the Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission, Westfield Borough, Westfield Township and the Westfield Municipal Authority, TCDC plans on developing a business park on the site of the former tannery along Church Street in Westfield Borough and Westfield Township. The majority of the former tannery buildings will be demolished. Four (4) buildings can be salvaged and upgraded. The Engineer's Site Concept Plan showing the removal of all of the buildings and the retention of the 4 is provided to the right.

The TCDC Task Force Members include: TCDC Directors Brenda Abplanalp, Scott Bastian, Tim Bowers, Russ Hastings & Bill Roosa; James Davis (Westfield Borough); Gail Bollinger (Westfield Municipal Authority); Kevin Abrams & Kim Barnes (NTRPDC); Bob Blair & Christie Blackwell (TCDC); a Westfield Township Official and a Westfield area business person yet to be confirmed.



EITC Program Receives \$5,000 Donation from EQT



((L to R): Robert J. Blair, TCDC President/ CEO and Pam Coates, EQT Community Relations Manager

On October 21, 2011 EQT Corporation made a contribution of \$5,000 to help support the educational needs of our students through the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC). The check was presented to the *Tioga County Foundation*, the charitable arm of the *Tioga County Development Corporation* by Pam Coates, Community Relations Manager at EQT.

EQT is one of the largest natural gas producers in the Appalachian Basin and in the country. Headquartered in Pittsburgh, PA and operating in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia and Kentucky, EQT is a technology-driven leader in the integration of air and horizontal drilling with 120 years of experience. The company is committed to meeting the country's growing demand for clean energy, while promoting safety, providing a rewarding workplace and enriching the communities where its 1,800 employees live and work. For additional information about EQT, visit the company's website at www.EQT.com.

"EQT chose to make a donation to the *Tioga County Foundation* because we value the education of children and actively look for ways to improve their access to innovative learning opportunities" states Pam Coates, Community Relations Manager at EQT. "As EQT expands its business operations across the state, we are taking our outreach initiatives with us, and

participation in Pennsylvania's EITC program is just one of the ways we are reaching out to Tioga County. We look forward to helping the *Tioga County Foundation* bring new educational initiatives to this region's future workforce" continued Coates.

Ward Manufacturing LLC contributes \$25,000 to Assist Public Schools' Career Development Initiatives

On October 21, 2011 Ward Manufacturing LLC made a contribution of \$25,000 to help support the educational needs of our students through the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC). The check was presented to the *Tioga County Foundation*, the charitable arm of the *Tioga County Development Corporation*.

Ward Manufacturing LLC, headquartered in Blossburg, PA, is the second largest supplier of pipe fittings in the United States as well as a multi-million dollar supplier of custom castings and gas meter parts. Through this program and others, Ward Manufacturing LLC continues its work to strengthen the economic heart and soul of Tioga County. Ward Manufacturing LLC has been a long-time contributor to the EITC program. The *Tioga County Foundation* has been designated as an educational improvement organization under the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC), businesses may now make contributions to support the public school districts in our local area.

"Only an educated workforce can compete in the global economy in which we now compete. All of us at Ward are proud to support the public education system in Tioga County by continuing our contributions to the EITC program" said Pete Guidi, President/CEO Ward Manufacturing LLC.

The funds are used to support local innovative educational programs for the schools in Tioga County. The *Tioga County Foundation* is currently using these tax credit funds to support local career development and school to work efforts within our three (3) public districts. The EITC authorizes the award of Tax Credits to businesses that make contributions to scholarship organizations and/or educational improvement organizations contained on a list published by the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). A "contribution" from a company is a donation of cash, personal property or services.



L to R: David E. Cummings, TCDC Chairman; John Spangler, Ward Manufacturing LLC CFO and Robert J. Blair, TCDC President/CEO.

For more information on the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC) in Tioga County, please contact Christie Blackwell, Leadership Development Coordinator at the *Tioga County Development Corporation*, (570)723-8232.



EITC Program Receives \$10,000 Donation from Northwest Savings Bank



((L to R): Christie Blackwell, TCDC Leadership Development Coordinator; Robert J. Blair, TCDC President/CEO; Joey Heckler, Wellsboro Branch Manager and Kim Miller, Vice President Commercial Lending Officer.

On November 1, 2011, the Wellsboro Branch of Northwest Savings Bank made a cash contribution of \$10,000 to help support the educational needs of our students through the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC). The check was presented to the *Tioga County Foundation*, the charitable arm of the *Tioga County Development Corporation* by Joey Heckler, Wellsboro Branch Manger.

Northwest Savings Bank has served Pennsylvanians since 1896. A full service bank, Northwest Savings stresses personal, friendly services to its customers and support for the community they share. Northwest offers its customers a full range of personal and commercial banking products and investment and trust management services. Through this program, Northwest Savings Bank is helping create a solid economic foundation for Tioga County.

Joey Heckler, Manager of the Wellsboro Branch of Northwest Savings Bank said, "Northwest Savings Bank is very pleased to support the *Tioga County Foundation*, who provides much needed education opportunities for our community. They are instrumental in creating many success stories in this county and are an example of leadership and philanthropy."

Frontier Communications contributes \$1,000 to Assist The EITC Program in Tioga County

On November 8, 2011, Frontier Communications made a cash contribution of \$1,000 to help support the educational needs of our students through the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC). The check was presented to the *Tioga County Foundation*, the charitable arm of the *Tioga County Development Corporation* by Russ Johnson, Local Manager, Frontier Communications.

Frontier Communications is the nation's largest provider of communications services focused primarily on rural America. "We are so pleased that we can give back to our communities through our local participation in the PA Educational Improvement Tax Program. All of us at Frontier do so much to be part of our communities, but this one is special to all of us. Helping these kids get a good start on the road to a good education will have lasting effects on the quality of their lives. We're all glad to be a small part of that" says Russ Johnson, Local Manager, Frontier Communications.



L to R: Robert J. Blair, TCDC President/CEO and Russell Johnson, Local Manager, Frontier Communications.

2011 EITC Annual Report

Annually, The *Tioga County Foundation* allocates a portion of its received Education Improvements Tax Credit funds towards assistance with School-to-Work and Career Development programs in Tioga County's three public school districts. Once again in 2010, the Tax Credit program has been a huge success.

In 2011, The *Tioga County Foundation* received a total of \$16,500 from Waste Management and Ward Manufacturing LLC for which we were able to provide \$10,560.00 for 10 Projects. From January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 we leveraged \$88,006.95 from the Applicants... Impacting 1,398 Students. We want to thank the private companies who are supporting Career Development in our three Public School Districts with their EITC Contribution and encourage other companies to consider the EITC Program. For more information please contact Christie Blackwell at the *Tioga County Development Corporation* at (570)723-8232. You can also log on to the EITC website at www.newpa.com and search "EITC".

YLP Class of 2012 Explore Health Career Opportunities



Pictured Above are students in the YLP Class of 2012 participating in the PSU Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow Leadership Styles Puzzle exercise.

On November 8, 2011 the *Tioga County Development Corporation Leadership Tioga County Youth Leadership Program* Class of 2012 learned about Health Services in Tioga County during Session 2 at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Wellsboro.

Students participated in various activities aimed at introducing them to the many Healthcare Services available through the Laurel Health System. Shelley McKelvey, Human Resources at Laurel Health System helped students explore career options available in the healthcare field and elaborated on the education needed to obtain certain jobs.

The Class of 2012 participated in team building and leadership style training activities and had the opportunity to tour Radiology and the Laboratory at Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hospital. The Session was sponsored by Laurel Health System.

Session 3 **Understanding Business & Economics** will be held at Dominion Transmission on December 6, 2011.

YLP Class of 2012 Studies Business & Economics

The *Tioga County Development Corporation Leadership Tioga County Youth Leadership Program* Class of 2012 learned about Business & the Economy in Tioga County during Session 3 **Understanding Business & Economics** on December 6, 2011. The Session was held at Dominion Transmission Inc. in Sabinsville.

Participants received an overview of Dominion Transmission from David Lamphier, Superintendent at Dominion & TCDC Director.

An introduction to the Economy in Tioga County, was given by Robert J. Blair, *TCDC* Executive Director/CEO, Kevin Zink, Dominion Transmission Director, spoke on leadership and the different qualities of a good leader, students participated in a hands-on exercise identifying the importance of Money Management and received a tour of the Sabinsville Pump Station. The session was sponsored by Dominion Transmission, Inc.

Session 4 **Teens & The Law** will be held at the Tioga County Courthouse and the Tioga County Prison on Wednesday, January 4, 2012.



Pictured Above are students & staff of the YLP Class of 2012, along with Dominion Transmission Staff, in front of the Sabinsville Office.

The purpose of *Leadership Tioga County* is to recruit, train, encourage & develop caring individuals to participate in community leadership activities & responsibilities throughout Tioga County



TCDC Excited to Unveil its Restructured Community Leadership Program

Tioga County Development Corporation (TCDC) is excited to announce the re-launch of our **Leadership Tioga County Community Leadership Program**. “We are extremely excited about our new and improved Program” says David E. Cummings, TCDC Chairman. “This newly revised Program targets residents of Tioga County who have the desire to enhance their leadership skills and become more involved in their community.”

In October of 2012, the *Community Leadership Program* will begin its 10th year. The Program will meet one day a month for the duration of the eight months. In addition to monthly sessions, the participants will learn and practice leadership and communication skills in their individual lives through outside assignments. Participants will also be required to choose an organization that they will volunteer with throughout the course of the Program, adapting what they learn and develop in each individual session. This training and educational endeavor will supply Tioga County with a core group of positive, productive and contributing individuals. Participating in the Program will strongly benefit the participating individual, as well as, Tioga County’s employers, organizations and communities.

The *Community Leadership Program* is a countywide effort involving several Tioga County organizations. “We are excited about the new structure of the Program and look forward to re-launching it. Several community leaders have given countless hours to **Leadership Tioga County** to make it the success it is today. During the past several months, the *Community Leadership Program* Task Force comprised of TCDC Directors has developed this new Program. We wish to thank them for their efforts and encourage them to continue with their community spirit and commitment,” added Cummings. Our revised Program is structured to gain more involvement between participating employers and their employees. Cooperation between both parties is an essential part to the success of our Program.

Each session will be led by coordinators with expertise and experience in that area. Sessions for the Program include: Orientation & Team Building Opening Retreat; Community Volunteerism, Continuous Learning, Business & Economics; Healthy Communities; The Political Process; Quality of Life; and a Closing Retreat & Graduation Ceremony.

Persons interested in learning more about the *Community Leadership Program* should plan on attending our Information Breakfast scheduled for 8AM on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at Penn College/North Campus in Wellsboro, PA. Please contact Christie Blackwell at (570)723-8232 or tcdc6@ptd.net with any questions or to RSVP for our Information Breakfast.

WASD Culinary Arts Program Hosts TCDC Board



TCDC Chairman David E. Cummings, Wellsboro High School Principal Dave Krick, Wellsboro Area School District Superintendent Chris Morral, Culinary Arts Teacher Joe Mercuri and students Allison Spang, Emily Tolliver, Joe Anderson, Ron Johnson, Niki Sepiol, Kaleb Wise and Jenny.

to announce that all of the students who take the exam receive advanced scoring. Students who have graduated from Wellsboro Area High School have gone on to higher education, being accepted at culinary schools such as; Johnson & Wales University, Paul Smith’s College and Pennsylvania College of Technology. The TCDC Board of Directors presented Joe Mercuri with a Certificate of Appreciation for hosting our Meeting.

The Wellsboro High School Culinary Kitchen was the site of TCDC’s December Board Meeting. On December 9, 2011 Board Members, Supporters and Wellsboro High School Administration gathered to enjoy food prepared by the Wellsboro High School Culinary Arts Students.

Wellsboro Area School District Superintendent and TCDC Director Chris Morral introduced Culinary Arts teacher Joe Mercuri who presented briefly on the culinary program. Joe explained the program is a three year curriculum, with eight to ten students in each class, and is Pennsylvania certified. The curriculum is funded partially through Perkins Grant funding. Funds received through the EITC program operated by the *Tioga County Foundation*, the charitable arm of TCDC help purchase equipment and field trips.

Students who complete the Culinary Arts curriculum then take the NOCTI vocational exam at the end of high school.

Wellsboro High School is proud



UGI Dedicates First Direct Wells-to-Customers Marcellus Shale Connection

Tioga County Residents & Businesses Access Well Gas



(Left to Right), Mike Glazer, Administrative Aide to Congressman Glenn Thompson; John Coleman Jr., Public Utility Commission Vice Chairman; State Representative Matt Baker; Vicki Ebner, UGI Utilities Senior Vice President for Customer and Government Relations and Tioga County Commissioner Mark Hamilton. Photo courtesy of John H Feeman, Photo Visions Photographic Service.

Pennsylvania's oldest and largest natural gas distribution company – UGI – today celebrated its first-ever direct “interconnect” to Marcellus Shale gas wells, enabling the delivery of Pennsylvania natural gas to UGI customers directly from the wells. The occasion was marked with a dedication ceremony at the well site near this northern tier Pennsylvania community, followed by a celebratory holiday meal, cooked with natural gas, for local residents and leaders in a nearby fire hall.

“This is a great day for our customers, a great day for Pennsylvania’s economic growth, and a great day for UGI,” said Vicki Ebner, UGI Utilities’ senior vice president for customer and government relations. “For the first time in history, Pennsylvania’s natural gas is flowing directly from the well to UGI customers,” Ebner said, adding, “This direct interconnection from energy source to consumer is the type of infrastructure necessary for Marcellus Shale to reach its full potential.”

The occasion marked the start of the flow of natural gas from shale formations deep beneath Pennsylvania’s northern tier, through wells and a processing station owned by Shell Upstream America and Ultra Petroleum, and into a UGI Central Penn Gas supply pipeline which feed some 15,000 customers in Tioga, Bradford and Potter Counties.

At the end of November, UGI announced rate decreases of 4.5 percent to 13 percent throughout the 35 counties included in the service areas of UGI’s natural gas companies. Ebner said today that the good news for customers will continue to unfold in the months and years ahead.

“Marcellus Shale has already had a significant impact on the market – UGI customers are paying about 30 percent less than they paid just three years ago,” she said. “We expect prices to have much less volatility in the near future because of the potential we have under our feet.

“The positive impact on consumer costs has led to a record number of conversions – energy consumers converting from other fuels to natural gas. All indications are that the market is absolutely ripe for this trend to continue,” Ebner said.

Also speaking at the dedication ceremony today were Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Vice Chairman John F. Coleman Jr.; state Rep. Matthew E. Baker, R-Wellsboro; and Tioga County Commissioner Mark L. Hamilton. Afterward, area residents, local elected officials, economic development leaders and public safety workers gathered for a holiday meal at the Mansfield Hose Company facilities, several miles from the interconnect site. UGI employees shared with their guests a simple holiday turkey meal, prepared onsite with UGI-supplied natural gas.

The ceremony was held on Friday, December 16, 2011, in Richmond Township, Mansfield, PA.

This article was provided by UGI Central Penn Gas, Inc.

UGI Central Penn Gas, Inc., headquartered in Reading, Pennsylvania, is a wholly owned subsidiary of UGI Utilities, Inc., which also includes UGI Gas Division and UGI Penn Natural Gas. UGI serves approximately 570,000 natural gas customers in eastern and central Pennsylvania. For more information, visit www.ugi.com/presskit, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UGIUtilities and on Twitter at www.twitter.com/UGIUtilities.





Tioga County Development Corporation

114 Main Street
Wellsboro, Pennsylvania 16901
Voice: 570.723.8232
Fax: 570.723.8441
E-mail: tcdc1@ptd.net

www.tcdc-pa.com

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From The President

The Marcellus Gas Industry reached a milestone in Tioga County on December 16, 2011 . . . the first gas from below us is heating nearly 15,000 homes and businesses in Tioga County! The area of direct impact is benefitting Tioga County directly. Hopefully this is the first step in supplying all homes and businesses in our county with the natural gas from beneath us.

Another first began on November 9, 2011 with the groundbreaking of the Hydro Recovery Antrim Mine Acid Mine Drainage Treatment Plant. This process will combine Acid Mine Drainage water with recovered frack water to recycle back into the fracking process. Truly an environmental accomplishment.

The third major news to impact Tioga County is the proposed redevelopment of the former E. H. Hall, Inc./WESTAN Tannery into the Westfield Business Park. Truly a partnership effort involving NTRPDC, Tioga County, NTSD, Westfield Borough, Westfield Township, DEP and TCDC. The project begins with a Master Plan which is underway and will involve perhaps many years in the making. I am personally excited about the restoration of the Westfield area. I have been involved with the Tannery since 1983 and pledge a business park providing jobs and wealth to this portion of Tioga County will become a reality during my watch.

While all the talk is about the natural gas industry, it is encouraging to see some of our traditional industries and businesses are growing and expanding. This is evident with the new production M & E being financed for The Murus Company. Other companies are beginning to recover from the long recession. Now the issue is finding a qualified work force. For the first time in several years there is an opportunity to be gainfully employed in Tioga County for everyone wanting to work. The possibility of living and working in Tioga County for our youth is at an all time high. Assisting in the preparation of our youth is the successful Education Improvement Tax Credit Program. We thank our participating business and encourage other business to consider being involved and contributing to EITC.

During this season of hope, we have much to be blessed about in Tioga County. As we close on another year and begin the journey in 2012 we will continue on our mission to make **Tioga County . . . a place to call home.**

Robert J. Blair
President/Chief Executive Officer

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Tioga County... a place to call home