



Developing Leaders

March 2007 Session 6

Issue 6



CLP learns about Pennsylvania's Political Process

Tioga County's *Community Leadership Program (CLP)* class of 2007 attended its sixth session, **The Political Process** on Tuesday March 6, 2007. The session was held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania at various locations throughout the city. As mentioned above, the main theme of this session was the political process and how it works in the state of Pennsylvania. Some of the speakers for the day included: Senator Joseph B. Scarnati, III, Senator Roger A. Madigan, Leigh Walter, Aldona Kartorie, Craig Petrasic, and Brian Eckert.

The day started off very early with a drive from Tioga County to Harrisburg. Upon arriving, the *CLP* class gathered in the capital building and toured the information center. The center provided an overview of the whole political process and how it works through many exhibits. There was even a movie to watch if you were interested. Once the class had finished in the information center, it was off to see Senator Joseph B. Scarnati, III.

Senator Scarnati invited us all into his office and the introductions began. Once we were all comfortable, Senator Scarnati delivered a brief address and then fielded questions from our group. The main questions asked, dealt with the current job situation in Pennsylvania, taxes, state agencies, and funding. Everyone was very appreciative of the time Senator Scarnati took out of his busy schedule to meet with us. He even posed for a quick photograph with the *CLP* class. Following our meeting with the Senator, we all headed to the Rotunda for more pictures.

Now, the first part of our exercise was to begin. We had a very energetic tour guide lead us through the capital and provide some interesting facts. Did you know that the lights in both house floors weigh as much as a hippopotamus! The tour included a walk through the Rotunda, the House and Senate floors, and the Supreme Courtroom. After the excellent tour, we convened for lunch and got to see Representative Matt Baker's new office.

Meeting with former local Senator Roger A. Madigan was the next stop on our agenda. He was very pleased to see some faces from Tioga County as we entered his office. Senator Madigan fielded questions from our group and they included topics such as gas prices and wind farms in Pennsylvania. Now that we were finished in the capital building, our adventure around Harrisburg could begin.



Tioga County Development Corporation

Our first stop was the Team Pennsylvania office to get acquainted with what they do. They are a non profit group whose mission is to “initiate and support innovative programs to improve Pennsylvania’s competitiveness and economic prosperity.” Some of those programs include: Ambassador Program, PA Sourcenet, PA Sitesearch, and Visit PA Committee. You can find out more about them through the website listed below.

The Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) was the final stop for the day. DCED offers many loans and grants for communities available through local agencies like the *Tioga County Development Corporation*. The purpose of these assistance programs is to help make Pennsylvania a better place to live and work. Some examples of the programs they offer are: The Main Street Program, The Enterprise Zone Program, and The Pennsylvania Accessible Housing Program.

For more information on any of the above people or places, use the following links:

- www.teampa.com
- www.newPA.com
- www.pasen.gov
- www.house.state.pa.us





Youth Alumni
Kayla A. Yoder

Kayla was a member of the *Youth Leadership Class* of 2006 and is a Senior at Liberty Jr-Sr High School. As we talked about the Tioga County *Youth Leadership Program* you could feel the passion in her tone. Kayla mentioned what a great opportunity it was to be part of the program and to have been given the chance to learn about leadership qualities and more about the community in which she lives. She learned to respect, not just herself but others as well and to appreciate each individual she met through the program. Her team was assigned a project to cold call another team of students they did not know and ask pertinent questions about them. She found this to be a very difficult

personal task and overcame it because of the program and what she had learned.

When asked what advice she had for others interested in the program, she mentioned “*Don’t sell yourself short*”. Before the program I didn’t think I would be able to go to school far from home. I was planning to settle for Mansfield University. After completing the program I was confident enough to look at other colleges outside the area and other programs. In the beginning I was a very shy individual and talking to people much less approaching to ask for anything for me was just not going to happen. The program taught me confidence, helped me build my self-esteem and the assertiveness to look farther than my back yard. I am now looking forward to graduation with the anticipation of going to IUP University, majoring in Accounting with a goal to earn my CPA. I am ready and prepared to meet new challenges that will be facing me. Thank you to the *Youth Leadership Program* Coordinators, “Great Job, Great Program”. *Kayla*

The Political Process

- Bills
- Capitol
- Democrats
- Executive
- Harrisburg
- Judicial
- Laws
- Legislative
- Meetings
- Policies
- Representatives
- Republicans
- Senators
- Supreme Court
- Votes

L	A	E	C	R	L	O	C	S	W	A	L
E	F	B	M	E	E	T	I	N	G	S	H
G	G	M	L	P	X	K	H	D	S	J	I
I	N	O	P	R	E	Q	A	R	R	P	V
S	L	W	V	E	C	U	R	T	O	O	S
L	A	S	X	S	U	Y	R	Z	T	L	A
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T	C	A	D	N	I	T	S	E	N	C	F
I	I	C	I	T	V	A	B	H	E	I	G
V	D	I	J	A	E	R	U	K	S	E	C
E	U	L	O	T	N	C	R	M	L	S	A
P	J	B	Q	I	R	O	G	S	T	U	P
C	B	U	A	V	Z	M	Y	X	W	V	I
S	U	P	R	E	M	E	C	O	U	R	T
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E	O	R	N	M	B	I	L	L	S	L	L



CLP Class of 2006 Alumni

Marsha Jones of First Citizens National Bank, Wellsboro, PA is a graduate of the *CLP* Class of 2006. Marsha has been with First Citizens for approximately eight years and is currently the Wellsboro Community Office Manager. Some of Marsha's community involvements include serving as a director for the Wellsboro Chamber of Commerce and as a member of the Angels of Hope Relay for Life team for The American Cancer Society. The most important thing that Marsha learned from the *CLP* was the number of resources available in Tioga County. Even though it is a small community she is impressed by what we have here. She was especially impressed by her visit to Soldiers & Sailors Hospital in the program and how it has grown to include all of the state of the art equipment available. Marsha's advice for future participants in the program is to be aware that you are building contacts and a network of people that you can pull from for in your personal and professional life. Marsha stated "It is better to aim high and miss the mark than to aim low and hit the mark."

2007 Community Leadership Program Mixer

The 4th Annual CLP Recruitment & Reunion Mixer was a success. The event was held on March 22nd at the Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center in Wellsboro, PA. There was a mix of alumni, current program participants and potential CLP Class of 2008 members in attendance. Robert Blair, President/Chief Executive Officer of TCDC began with opening comments which included some of the statistics of the programs. *Leadership Tioga County* began in 1999 through the efforts of several organizations including Tioga County Partnership for Community Health, Northcentral PA AHEC, Laurel Health System, Mansfield University, Penn College, NTSD, STSD, WASD and TCDC. The *Youth Leadership Program* has graduated 236 youth and the *Community Leadership Program* has graduated 67 adults. The evening was planned by Team 3 of the current CLP class as part of their project. Team 3 members include: Greg Cummings, Larson Design Group; Stacy Dreibelbis, Citizens and Northern Bank; Mark Janelli, HN Automotive; Shari Johnson, First Citizens National Bank and Annie Ostrom, Ward Manufacturing. There were several sponsors for the event including Larson Design Group, First Citizens National Bank, ACP Manufacturing, HN Automotive, Inc. and Citizens & Northern Bank. Approximately 15 applications for the Class of 2008 were handed out at the mixer. A good time was had and the process of making new contacts was already under way for the future participants in the program. Thank you to everyone who took the time out of their busy schedules to attend the mixer.



