

Tioga County Development Corporation

eNews Insider



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April 2011



TCDC Celebrates our 20th Anniversary: 1991-2011

We are celebrating our 20th year as the *Tioga County Development Corporation*. We have come a long ways since 1991, but it is important to look back and reflect on the creation of the *Tioga County Development Corporation*.

The *Tioga County Development Corporation (TCDC)* was incorporated on May 22, 1991, as a Pennsylvania industrial development corporation. The primary purpose is to foster and promote the overall economic development strategy of Tioga County; to create or assist in the creation of new employment and business opportunities, to assist in the retention of jobs and to assist existing businesses in their growth and development; and to foster and promote tourism development and agricultural stability throughout Tioga County. On January 27, 1989, several persons involved in economic development throughout Tioga County gathered at the Pennsylvania College of Technology/ North Campus for the purpose of discussing ways in which the various areas of the County could work together to promote economic development for Tioga County. The concept of the **Tioga County Economic Development Task Force** was created at the meeting.

As a result, the Tioga County Commissioners created the **Tioga County Economic Development Task Force** and appointed twenty (20) persons from throughout Tioga County to serve on the Task Force. The members brought to the Task Force countless years of experience and knowledge and a commitment to foster and promote the economic development of the County. Realizing the commitment needed, the Task Force began to meet every other Friday. Goals and Objectives were determined, strengths and weaknesses identified, countless meetings were held with numerous people from throughout the County . . . business persons, educators, elected officials, environmentalists and media, resulting in "A Mission Statement for Economic Development in Tioga County."



TCDC is located at 114 Main Street, Wellsboro, PA

2011 Board Meetings

- May 13, 2011
TCDC On the Road
- June 10, 2011
Board Work Session
- July 8, 2011
- September 9, 2011
Board work Session
- October 14, 2011
- November 11, 2011
Board Work Session
- December 9, 2011

Plan Ahead...

TCDC's 15th Annual Legislative Breakfast

Thursday, April 21, 2011
Historic Penn Wells Hotel
Main Street
Wellsboro, PA 16901

TCDC's 18th Annual Annual Meeting

Monday, July 25, 2011
Historic Penn Wells Hotel
Main Street
Wellsboro, PA 16901

TCDC's 4th Annual

Meet Our Member Mixer

Wednesday, September 14, 2011
Wellsboro & Corning RR
Tioga Central Railroad

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TCDC Celebrates our 20th Anniversary: 1991-2011

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After thirteen (13) meetings, involving over 285 member hours, the concept of the **Tioga County Economic Development Task Force** was conceived the Task Force completed a Mission Statement. The Mission Statement, endorsed by all of the local economic development corporations and the Tioga County Industrial Development Authority, was formally presented to the Tioga County Commissioners on October 13, 1989 and adopted.

The Task Force evolved into an independent public 501(c)(6) industrial development corporation whose life began on May 22, 1991 as the *Tioga County Development Corporation (TCDC)* was incorporated on May 22, 1991, as a Pennsylvania industrial development corporation. The primary purpose is to foster and promote the overall economic development strategy of Tioga County; to create or assist in the creation of new employment and business opportunities, to assist in the retention of jobs and to assist existing businesses in their growth and development; and to foster and promote tourism development and agricultural stability throughout Tioga County. The Corporation was composed of a twenty one (21) Member Board of Directors of individuals from throughout Tioga County. . . many being the original Task Force Members.

In January, 1991, *TCDC* began to occupy the former Sheriff's residence at 114 Main Street, adjacent to the Tioga County Courthouse. The Tioga County Commissioners and *TCDC* entered into a thirty (30) year lease for the facility. In addition to *TCDC*, the Tioga Visitors Bureau and Wellsboro Chamber of Commerce/GROW had offices in the *TCDC* Building. *TCDC* received a PA Commerce Community Economic Recovery Program (CERP) Grant in 1992 to develop a Economic Strategic Plan for the County. In March 1994, *TCDC* hired its first Executive Director and Secretary through a DCA Circuit Rider Grant and a Legislative Initiative Grant. With a professional staff, *TCDC* was able to implement its Mission first set forth in 1989.

Created to improve the economy of Tioga County and to foster economic development through a centralized countywide effort, the *Tioga County Development Corporation* is responsible for assisting the development of all components of the local economy . . . industrial, commercial, agriculture, and tourism . . . in an effort to maximize limited local resources to their greatest efficiency and effectiveness.

Much change has happened in Tioga County and the Corporation since 1991. Our Board has grown to 31, our staff grew to 5 and is currently at 3. We continue to occupy the *TCDC* Building and the Wellsboro Chamber of Commerce is still a tenant partner.

During the past 20 years the Corporation has been involved in partnering relationships, developing new delivery programs while continuing in our Mission. Some of the many endeavors *TCDC* has been involved in include:

- Development and Administering the **49 CORRIDOR Enterprise Zone** in northern Tioga County resulting securing \$1,245,000 in public grants resulting in the creation of the Tioga County Loan Program
- Development and Administering the **Tioga County Enterprise Zone** currently in operation to foster a business development climate for doing business in Tioga County
- Operations of the Tioga County Loan Program providing low interest loans to Tioga County businesses.
- Development and Operation of **Leadership Tioga County** providing leadership training through the *Youth Leadership Program* and the *Community Leadership Program*.
- Implementation of the **Buy Tioga County** encourage resident to purchase items manufactured, made and grown in Tioga County
- Working in conjunction with the Tioga County Commissioners established the **Tioga County Tax Preferential Abatement Program**
- Through our *Tioga County Foundation* serve as the Education Improvement Organization for the **Education Improvement Tax Credit Program** providing private funds to support public career development and school to work programs in pour public schools
- Through our partnering efforts we have been involved in the Tioga County Partnership for Community Health, development of US Route 15 (future I99), Northern Tier Welcome Center, Mill Cove, Inc., the Deane Center Performing Arts, Tioga County I99 Business Park and many more endeavors

We continue to carry on the Mission established 20 years ago . . .

*To foster and promote
the economic development of Tioga County,
passionately striving to improve the quality of life
of our communities, our residents, our business & industry
and our environment in our quest to make
Tioga County . . . a place to call home.*



TCDC Submits \$500,000 RACP Grant on behalf of Hydro Recovery, LP



Above is the artists rendition of the Blossburg Plant that is currently under construction.

Tioga County Development Corporation continues to support the evolving Natural Gas Industry and support businesses in Tioga County. On January 14, 2011 the *Tioga County Development Corporation* submitted a \$500,000 Reinvestment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant on behalf of the hydraulic stimulation fluid manufacturing facilities abatement project being constructed by Hydro Recovery LP in Antrim, PA. The Antrim Plant is slated to be the second plant built in Tioga County. Construction on the first plant began in October 2010 on about 10 acres located in Blossburg, PA and plans to open in April 2011.

The funding was available through the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program, which is intended to assist in the immediate creation of quality, family-sustaining jobs. Each plant will eventually be staffed by 12-15 employees. Funding from the RACP program will be used towards the construction of a second plant in Antrim, PA, located in Duncan Township, Tioga County. Each Plant is estimated to cost \$12 Million each.

Hydro Recovery LP is a manufacturer of Hydraulic Stimulation Fluid. Hydro Recovery will use a process that will convert flow back water from Natural Gas Drilling fracking operations into a usable Hydraulic Stimulation Fluid. At full capacity, both the Blossburg and Antrim plants are designed to receive approximately 300,000 gallons of high total dissolved solids fluids (HTDSF) per day producing approximately 360,000 gallons of Hydraulic Stimulation Fluid per day.



The photos to the left and right, provided by Hydro Recovery LP, show progress of the Construction of the Blossburg Plant.



Osceola Big M Closes on TCDC RLF Loan

Osceola Foods, Inc. (Osceola Big M) closed on a \$35,000 *Tioga County Revolving Loan Fund (TCRLF)* with the *Tioga County Development Corporation* on February 16, 2011. The \$35,000 loan will be used to purchase new Bar Code machinery & equipment and new energy efficiency freezer doors for portable freezer units at its grocery store. The Osceola Big M is located at 7732 Route 49, Osceola, Tioga County, Pennsylvania 16942.

Osceola Foods, Inc., a Pennsylvania Corporation is owned by Mark and Aurel Howe and Krista Cevette. The Howes have owned the full service local grocery store for 13 years. Along with financing from *TCRLF*, Osceola Foods, Inc. received funding from Citizens & Northern Bank.

The general RLF guideline shall limit loan dollars availability to no greater than fifty percent (50%) of the total project costs based on available RLF fund portfolio proceeds, with the funding balance from private loans (bankers and other lenders) and owners contributions (equity). The term of the loan will be up to five (5) years unless otherwise agreed upon by the *Tioga County Revolving Loan Fund* Committee. Loan funds are available to any qualifying for-profit business in Tioga County.



Left to Right: Michael Goodreau, Citizens & Northern Bank; Aurel & Mark Howe, Owners; David Lamphier, TCDC 2nd Vice Chair and Robert J. Blair, TCDC President/CEO.

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 tcdc1@ptd.net.

TCDC Closes on Second Micro Loan



L to R: Robert J. Blair, TCDC President/CEO; Karen J. Russell, TCLP Committee/TCDC 1st Vice Chairman; Sue Dillon, TCLP Committee/SBDC; Lisa A Sherman, VMD; Kim Miller, TCLP Committee/Northwest Savings Bank; and Wendy Swartz, TCLP Committee Chair/ TCDC Treasurer.

On January 12, 2011 Lisa A Sherman, VMD of Tioga Veterinary Services closed on a \$25,000 *Tioga County Micro Loan Fund* loan with the *Tioga County Development Corporation*. The \$25,000 loan will be used to help purchase new and used machinery & equipment to start a large animal veterinary practice.

Tioga Veterinary Service is a sole practitioner based business. It will offer large animal (cattle, sheep, goats and horses) on-farm veterinary service throughout Tioga and Potter Counties and parts of Steuben County, New York. Dr. Sherman has been a large animal veterinarian since graduating from The School of Veterinary Medicine at University of Pennsylvania in 1998. She is also a graduate of Mansfield University.

In October 2010, the TCDC Board unveiled a new small business loan program, The Tioga County Micro Loan Program. Loans up to \$25,000 may be approved for for-profit business in Tioga County. For more information, applications or assistance on the *Tioga County Micro Loan Program* or other financial assistance, contact Robert J. Blair, TCDC President/CEO, at (570) 723-8232 or eMail to tccl1@ptd.net.

TCDC Revamps Loan Fees to Benefit Member Applicants

In an effort to provide more benefits to TCDC Members, the Board of Directors on January 14, 2011 established new Loan Application Fees for our low interest loan programs. Effective immediately, the \$300 Loan Application Fee is waived for Members at the Associate Gold (\$250) or high. This is an immediate savings of \$50. "It is a savings to our Members and a benefit to our corporation," explained Chairman David E. Cummings. "Our Board has discussed ways we can provide more benefits to our Members. We believe our loan recipients should be encouraged to become Members, supporting our programs that allow us to assist other businesses."

A business is receiving a major saving with our interest rate at 2 ½ - 3%. A business may decide not to join and would submit the application fee at the time of submission of their loan application. Membership is not a criteria for receiving a TCDC Loan, any for-profit business in Tioga County may apply for our loans. "Our first loan recipient of 2011 recognized the importance of Membership and joined immediately," stated Cummings. There are no TCDC Member benefits for businesses applying for the state loan programs which TCDC is eligible to apply for, including Small Business First, PEDFA, PIDA and MELF. TCDC is a state designed Area Loan Organization (ALO) and a PIDA Certified Provider.

Mansfield University Student Interning with TCDC



Gregory H. Dowling, a senior Business Administration student at Mansfield University, is spending a portion of his Spring semester interning at the *Tioga County Development Corporation*. Greg grew up in Horseheads, New York with his mother and younger brother. All throughout high school he was involved in many extracurricular activities such as youth leadership groups, sports, community service projects and the music program.

Greg has attended Mansfield University for three and a half years, and have lived in Tioga County for over two years now steadily attending school and maintaining a job at a local restaurant, Papa V's Pizzeria. "Since joining the *Tioga County Development Corporation*, I have been working to help develop marketing strategies to attract more Membership and attention to the great things that this corporation does for its community," stated Greg.

"I plan on helping TCDC in any way possible to better their corporation. It is my hope that my involvement with TCDC and the community will continue even after my internship is complete." Greg's future plans are to complete his bachelor degree and move into the corporate world while also working to obtain his master's degree in operations management.



TCDC's 18th Annual Membership Campaign 2011-2012

The *Tioga County Development Corporation* Board of Directors invites you to participate in the future of Tioga County through your Membership. Our Members are the most important asset to our corporation. As a Member, you select the Membership level based on how you value TCDC and our Services to Tioga County's economic development by becoming a **Partner**, **Associate** or **Friend**. You can begin with a lower level Membership and increase it anytime during the year.

	Partner	Associate
Diamond	\$5,000+	\$750
Platinum	\$4,000	\$500
Gold	\$3,000	\$250
Silver	\$2,000	\$100
Bronze	\$1,000	\$ 50
		Friend \$25 Individuals Only

YOUR Membership is the right thing to do!

YOUR Membership in the *Tioga County Development Corporation* is ***an investment*** in your community, your neighbors & yourself.

- ▶ ***YOU*** are assisting in ***developing a business friendly climate for doing business*** in Tioga County.
- ▶ ***YOU*** are assisting in ***helping companies to grow and expand; creating & retaining jobs; creating wealth*** to improve the ***quality of life*** of our residents.
- ▶ ***YOU*** are ***assisting our youth*** to be prepared for the ***workforce & developing good leaders*** for our county.

Your Membership in the *Tioga County Development Corporation* is an Investment in ***Tioga County . . . a place to call home.***

Check out the additional benefits ***YOU*** receive as A Member of the *Tioga County Development Corporation* on the next page.

TCDC Membership Benefits

By Joining the *Tioga County Development Corporation* you receive several benefits:

- ▶ First and foremost, your involvement helps promote the economy of Tioga County, knowing **YOU** are contributing to our growth & share in the recognition of the economic successes of our businesses & industries as they create and retain jobs for our residents. **YOU** are playing a role in assisting in the challenges facing Tioga County. ***YOUR Membership is the right thing to do!***
- ▶ **YOUR** Membership in *TCDC* allows us to provide public services to businesses throughout Tioga County through the ***Tioga County Enterprise Zone*** and our **Low Interest Loan Program**. Through the **Tioga County Tax Preferential Abatement Program** we encourage local businesses to grow & expand and new businesses to come to Tioga County adding family sustainable jobs for our County. We are growing new leaders, both youth & adult, through ***Leadership Tioga County***. Through our **Education Improvement Tax Credit Program** we are able to provide grants to our public schools for career development. ***YOUR Membership is the right thing to do!***
- ▶ Member businesses applying for a *TCDC* Low Interest Loan have **YOUR** Application Fee Waived (\$300 value)
- ▶ **FREE** Internet Link to *TCDC* HomePage (\$75 value). **YOU** will be a part of our countywide economic development Internet system.
- ▶ Invitation to and **REDUCED** Cost for attending *TCDC*'s Annual Legislative Breakfast and *TCDC*'s Annual Meeting (*combined savings of \$60*)
- ▶ Invitation to attend our **FREE** "Meet Our Member" Annual Mixer where you will have the opportunity to tour a Member's business.
- ▶ Members are eligible to serve on the Board of Directors and vote for Directors at our Annual Meeting.
- ▶ Receive every issue of our electronic newsletter . . . *eNews Insider*. Your business may be highlighted in our quarterly newsletter with a circulation of over 1,000.
- ▶ Receive *TCDC* Publications & Invitations to Special Economic Events, Workshops & Seminars (*Many offer FREE or REDUCED registration cost to TCDC Members*)
- ▶ **YOUR** Membership Package contains a Certificate of Membership and a Window Placard which **YOU** can proudly display **YOUR** Membership in *TCDC*.
- ▶ **REFERRAL** of our Members' products & services to others & support the businesses who support us. Whenever possible, we purchase from our Members, as we continue to encourage and promote ***Buy Tioga County***.
- ▶ Countywide Business Networking Opportunities through our annual Legislative Breakfast, Annual Meeting and "Meet Our Member" Mixer. ***YOUR Membership is the right thing to do!***

YOUR Membership in the *Tioga County Development Corporation* is an Investment in ***Tioga County . . . a place to call home.***



Highlights of Services & Programs: 2010

Business Development

Administer the **Tioga County Enterprise Zone** from 2006 to Present:
Includes 18 communities and 95% of industries in Tioga County

Tioga County Loan Programs generating a Total Project Cost of \$1,535,787.00 with a Total Private Cost of \$1,273, 537.00 and a Total Public Cost of \$262,250.00 for 2010

Loans Closed: 5
Retained & Projected Jobs: 59

Tioga County Loan Programs, in combination with **Other Public Loan Programs**, has generated from 2003 through 2010

Year	Private Cost	Public Cost	Total Cost	Jobs Retained	Jobs Projected	Jobs Total
2003	\$12,817,710	\$5,772,000	\$17,025,000	690	73	763
2004	\$ 5,400,000	\$1,075,000	\$ 6,475,000	127	11	138
2005	\$ 4,154,488	\$ 308,000	\$ 4,462,488	238	28	266
2006	\$ 75,000	\$ 675,000	\$ 750,000	32	6	37
2007	\$ 4,154,488	\$ 308,000	\$ 4,462,488	238	28	266
2008	\$ 970,159	\$ 924,000	\$ 1,894,159	87	47	134
2009	\$ 5,137,774	\$ 946,537	\$ 6,084,311	31	26	57
2010	\$ 915,000	\$ 241,250	\$ 1,143,787	73	1	74
Total	\$33,624,619	\$10,249,787	\$42,297,233	1516	220	1,735

TCDC Loans Closed from 1998-2010 32

Received 24 serious **business inquiries** in 2010

Provided Direct Assistance to the following Projects:

The Deane Center for the Performing Arts Project:

DCED Anchor Building Grant of \$500,000 (\$32,263 Grant/\$462,737 Loan)

Cowanisque Valley Broadband Project:

Secured and Administered \$26,500 *eCommonwealth* Grant through NTRPDC

Developed and promote the **Tioga County Tax Preferential Abatement Program**. Currently there are eight (8) participating municipalities (Blossburg, Mansfield, Lawrence Township, Richmond Township, Tioga Borough, Wellsboro, Westfield Borough and Westfield Township), as well as Tioga County and the NTSD. Four (4) abatement projects were approved in 2010

Continue to work in **Cleaning Up the former Westfield Tanning Company (WESTAN)** site for safety and environmental and potential industrial reuse.

Contract an annual independent **Economic Analysis and Forecasting** for Tioga County

Highlights of Services & Programs: 2010 continued...

Leadership & Career Development

Leadership Tioga County has become the flagship of the *Tioga County Development Corporation* recognized at the state and national level.

Youth Leadership Program (YLP)

From 2000 through April 2010, 327 High School Juniors from the NTSD, STSD and WASD (New Covenant entered in 2009) have graduated from our Program. 1,380 Individuals, Organizations, Government, Businesses and Others have contributed \$790,867.28 in-kind to date.

Community Leadership Program (YLP)

The adult leadership program began in 2002. Through May 2010 106 adults will have graduated representing 35 businesses and organizations. During this time period \$411,299.73 of in kind services from 970 Individuals, Organizations, Government, Businesses and Other.

Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC)

The *Tioga County Foundation*, the charitable arm of the *Tioga County Development Corporation*, is pleased to offer its services as an approved **Educational Improvement Organization** for the **Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program**. This program offers businesses the opportunity to support educational initiatives within our local public school districts, Northern Tioga School District, Southern Tioga School District, and Wellsboro Area School District.

Over the past 3 years, the EITC Program has approved 69 grants for the 3 Public School Districts.

2007-2008 School Year

Approved \$10,000.00 in Grants from the Tioga County Foundation
Leveraged \$57,740.00 from the Applicants
718 Students benefitted from the Funds

2008-2009 School Year

Approved \$36,856.00 in Grants from the Tioga County Foundation
Leveraged \$74,722.63 from the Applicants
4,677 Students benefitted from the Funds

2009-2010 School Year

Approved \$36,160.00 in Grants from the Tioga County Foundation
Leveraged \$86,344.95 from the Applicants
2,648 Students benefitted from the Funds

Organizational Development

Partnerships, Certifications, Communications & Events

Partner with Several Economic, Community, Educational & Health Care Organizations including:

- US Route 15/Appalachian Thruway Association for completion of US Route 15 and future I99 Designation
- Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission (NTRPDC)
- Tioga County Partnership for Community Health (TCPCH)
- Northcentral Pennsylvania Area Health Education Center (AHEC)
- Tioga County Association of Boroughs (TCAB)
- Tioga County Association of Township Officials



Highlights of Services & Programs: 2010 continued...

Local Chambers of Commerce & IDC's
 Mansfield University
 Pennsylvania College of Technology
 University of Scranton/Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
 Mill Cove, Inc.

Certifications

2009 - 2011 Pennsylvania State Certification of Economic Development
 2009 - 2011 Area Loan Organization
 2009 Pennsylvania Economic Development Association Economic Development Certification for President
 2008 - 2011 Northeastern Economic Developers Association Certification for President

TCDC's eNews Insider

Initiated **eNews Insider** in 2008 for our Members and updated our tcdc-pa.com home page adding additional resource information, internal search engine and other features. During 2010, 13 **eNews Insider** Newsletters were sent to over 1,500 individuals, organizations, etc. in our system keeping our Members and other aware of the activities of our Corporation.

TCDC's Annual Legislative Breakfast

14th Annual Legislative Breakfast held on April 1, 2010 attracted 205 Members and Guests. The **15th Annual Legislative Breakfast will be held April 21, 2011.**

TCDC's Annual Meeting

17th Annual Meeting was hosted by the Southern Tioga School District and held on July 26, 2010 at the Mansfield Jr/Sr High School. It was attended by over 195 Members and Guests and 35 Marcellus Shale Related Vendors displayed their products and services. **The 18th Annual Meeting will be held on July 25, 2011.**

TCDC's Meet Our Member Mixer

In 2008, TCDC began a new event for our Members . . . **Meet Our Member Mixer**. Our Third Annual "Meet Our Member" Mixer was held on September 15, 2010 at Elite Therapy, PC in Mansfield, PA and attracted over 55 Members and Guests. **Our 4th Annual Meet Our Member Mixer will be on the Tioga Central Railroad (Wellsboro & Corning Railroad) on September 14, 2011.**

Become a Fan of TCDC on Facebook



You can now find the **Tioga County Development Corporation** on Facebook.

Become a Fan of the TCDC Page! Join our page and get constant updates on the great Economic Development Projects, Leadership Programs and Upcoming Events TCDC is working on to make **Tioga County... a place to call home.**

Visit www.tcdc-pa.com for more information.

TCDC to Host 15th Annual Legislative Breakfast

On Thursday, April 21, 2011, the *Tioga County Development Corporation (TCDC)* Board of Directors will host our 15th Annual *TCDC* Legislative Breakfast. The Legislative Breakfast is designed to inform our Members of how legislation will impact our businesses and communities in Tioga County. This year's topic will be "Tioga County's Housing Crisis: Marcellus Shale." The event will run from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM at the historic Penn Wells Hotel, 62 Main Street, Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. The buffet opens at 7:30 AM.

Legislators confirmed are United States Congressman Glenn Thompson (R, 5th Congressional District), State Senator Joseph B. Scarnati, III (R, 25th Senatorial District), and State Representative Matthew E. Baker (R, 68th Legislative District). The *TCDC* Legislative Breakfast has been a very successful event for *TCDC* and Tioga County. For the 10th year, the Legislative Breakfast will feature Corporate Sponsorship from among our Members. Corporate Sponsors will be recognized and share tables with the Legislators. Corporate Sponsorships are still available. A Corporate Sponsorship places you at a Legislator's Table and Public Recognition.

A hot buffet breakfast will be served at the event. The cost of attendance is \$20.00 for *TCDC* Members and \$50.00 (includes Friend Membership) for non-*TCDC* Members. **Reservations are required in advance and must be received by April 12, 2011. Pre-registration is required.** If interested in attending or interested in being a Corporate Sponsor, please contact Carolyn E. Conte, *TCDC* Administrative Assistant, at (570) 723-8232 or tcdc2@ptd.net.

TCDC Hosts Marcellus Shale Fact Finding Meeting for McKean County



About a dozen Officials and representatives from McKean County came to Tioga County to learn more about the natural gas industry and how it could potentially impact their region.

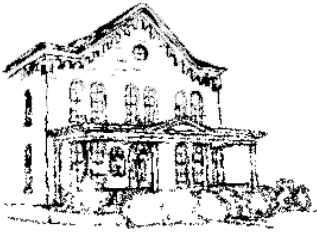
On Friday, March 4, 2011 the *Tioga County Development Corporation (TCDC)* hosted a Marcellus Shale Fact Finding Meeting for McKean County. Officials and representatives from McKean County came to Tioga County with hopes to increase their knowledge of the natural gas industry and how it could potentially impact their region.

TCDC assembled a panel, all of whom are active in some portion of the Marcellus Shale Play. Sue Vogler, Tioga County Commissioner; Frank Thompson, Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission; Jim Weaver, Tioga County Planner; Deb Sawyer, North Central AHEC (Area Health Organization) and Robert J. Blair, *TCDC* shared their experiences relative to the Marcellus Play and how it has impacted both business and everyday life in Tioga County.

TCDC continues to focus on being a clearinghouse and educational organization to promote the economic development of Tioga County.

We continue to focus on presenting educational opportunities to those who are interested to learn more about how the industry has impacted our area and how we, as a County, are working together to continue to enhance the quality of life in Tioga County. *TCDC* has coordinated similar presentations with Northwest Savings Bank, Centre County in Pennsylvania and two presentations were given to Penn State University Graduate Students and Professors.





From The Chairman



20Years! Milestones such as this always make people reflective, looking back on the “good ol’ days” or the “tough times”, or simply realizing “I can’t believe it’s been TWENTY YEARS!”. You look back at your successes and failures and think about the people who have come and gone, and yes, we have been blessed with many outstanding public servants from around the county who have served on the *TCDC* Board of Directors and Staff - too many to name here. “I remember when . . .” WAIT a minute!

This is *not* what *TCDC* is doing after twenty years. We are looking to the future. . . the future of Tioga County. The Board and Staff are continually working on ways to improve programs and services to be relevant to today and tomorrow. At recent work sessions and at our annual Board Retreat, we have discussed fine tuning, re-working or completely overhauling programs and services to meet tomorrow’s needs.

The past 20 years could not be possible without you, Our Members! We hope you will continue to support the economic development efforts. These are exciting and challenging times, and together with you, our valuable Members, *TCDC* is preparing to meet these challenges to continue, after twenty years, to make **Tioga County . . . a place to call home!**

David E. Cummings
Chairman of the Board

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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