



July 2008

NTRPDC update

nt
northern tier
regional
planning &
development
commission

SERVING BRADFORD, SULLIVAN, SUSQUEHANNA, TIOGA, AND WYOMING COUNTIES

Tioga County I-99 Business Park Ground Breaking



From left to right: Tom Freeman, Kevin Abrams, Senator Joe Scarnati, Rep. Matt Baker, Scott Bastion, Dave Cummings, Bob Blair, and Mark Eby.

Officials and community members gathered in Mansfield on May 28th to celebrate the construction start of the Tioga County I-99 Business Park.

The idea for the business park started several years ago when the Betterment Organization of Mansfield was looking for ways to boost local economic development. After a search for developable property in the area, the group settled on the former Dorsett Farm at the corner of Route 6 and 15 in Mansfield Borough.

An option to purchase the property gave the group time to develop a financing package to purchase and make the site shovel ready for development. NTRPDC first provided a \$5,000 Site Development Grant to help with the planning phase and then packaged the grant applications for the Pennsylvania's Commonwealth Financing Authority's Business in Our Sites Program, which awarded a \$175,000 Planning Grant and then a \$3.7 million construction grant/loan.

Plans include an interchange to enter the 84 acre park and infrastructure for twenty-four lots between one and eight acres.

Many organizations worked together to ensure the success of this project including the Betterment Organization of Mansfield, the Tioga County Development Corporation, Mansfield Borough, Mansfield University, and NTRPDC.

Upcoming Events

Susquehanna & Wyoming County Equipment Show

July 31—Lazy Brook Park, Tunkhannock

NTRPDC 8th Annual Golf Tournament

Aug. 28—Corey Creek Golf Club, Mansfield, PA

Bradford County Outreach Meeting

September 5—Towanda

Bradford, Sullivan, & Tioga County Equipment Show

September 18—Whitneyville Fairgrounds.

Sullivan County Outreach Meeting

October 3—Laporte

Susquehanna County Outreach Meeting

October 31—Montrose

Tioga County Outreach Meeting

November 7—Wellsboro

Call 1-888-868-8800 or e-mail bartholomew@northerntier.org for more information and to register for all events.

New Information Available on www.northerntier.org

Contact information for all municipalities in Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, and Wyoming Counties can now be found on our website. Go to www.northerntier.org and click on the "Download Publications" icon. There is also a new section dedicated to information relating to gas exploration in our region. The link is located under the "What's New" pull down menu.

Loan Program

Seven loans totaling \$403,000 were approved in May and June.

- \$62,500 First Industries Fund agricultural loan to **Matthew Strobe Farm** in Windham & Warren Townships for building expansion
- \$86,000 First Industries Fund agricultural loan to **B&E Dairy** in Shessequin Township for real estate acquisition
- \$20,000 micro-loan to **Mid-Life Stone Works** in Dushore for working capital
- \$98,000 Intermediate Relending Program loan to **Antler Ridge Winery** in Rome Township for expansion costs.
- \$25,000 micro-loan to **Robert T. Griffis & Sons** in Montrose in for expansion costs.
- \$12,000 micro loan to **Pure Pennsylvania** in Hallstead, for business expansion.
- 100,000 Tri-District RLF loan to **Metadyne, Inc.** in Towanda Township for expansion.



Antler Ridge Winery in Rome will be able to expand with help from NTRPDC's Loan Program.

These loan funds will help create or retain a total of 53 full time jobs and 9 part time jobs and will help leverage \$902,500 in private investment.



“The funds helped to leverage \$902,000 in private investment.”

Community Development

Seven grants totaling \$197,600 were awarded in March and April through assistance from the Community Development Program.

- \$8,000 PennStep grant to **Canton Borough Authority** for a water rehabilitation project.
- \$125,000 PEMA loan to the **Wysox Volunteer Fire Company** for a pumper.
- \$5,000 DCED Community Revitalization grant to **Cherry Township** for high band radios.
- \$16,600 DCED Shared Municipal Services grant to the **Tri-Borough Municipal Authority** in Susquehanna County for a jetting unit for their water/ sewer system.
- \$8,000 DCED Community Revitalization grant to **Tioga Township** for high band radios.
- \$25,000 DCED Local Government loan to **Hillsgrove Township** for a snowplow truck
- \$10,000 DCED Community Revitalization grant to **Silver Lake Police Department** for equipment and office space.

For more information contact Tom Schill at schill@northerntier.org or call toll free at 888-868-8800.

Workforce Development

Workforce demands incite interstate project .

NTRPDC’s Workforce Investment Board recently partnered with Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben (CSS) Workforce New York to hold a targeted recruitment following a request from Schweizer Aircraft, of Horseheads, New York in the first local inter-state project of its kind.

With the assistance of the PA CareerLink potential employees included over 100 recently displaced Northern Tier residents whose skills matched the company’s needs. Fifty-nine displaced workers attended the session held at The Enterprise Center in Sayre and were given an opportunity to meet with representatives from Schweizer for an interview.

The Northern Tier WIB and CSS plan to continue this collaborative effort and are developing an on-the-job pilot project to assist with new hires that will connect workers and employers across borders.

Schweizer Aircraft is a subsidiary of Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation, a diversified aerospace company globally recognized for its industry-leading aircraft products. Due to recent expansions, Schweizer Aircraft is expected to hire for several positions within the next year.

For more information, contact Melissa Fleming at fleming@northerntier.org or call toll-free at 888-868-8800.



“Computer trainings are offered to municipal employees free of charge .”

Information Technology

49 municipal employees attended computer training in May.



Forty-nine municipal personnel attended training in at least one of four topics including Excel Level 2, Excel Level 3, Computer First Aid, and Word Level 2.

Computer trainings are offered to municipal employees free of charge, made possible through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. These classes were offered in conjunction with the Potter County Education Council.

For more information contact Cynthia Krise at krise@northerntier.org Or call toll free at 888-868-8800

Pennsylvania Route 6 Round-Up

Staff volunteers to clean up Route 6.



Front row L-R: Melissa Fleming, Sherry Felten, Kevin Abrams, Frank Thompson, Jill Koski, Karen Vaughn. Back Row L-R: Kim Barnes, Jeff Field, Susan Coates, Laurie Lentz, Bonnie Warner, Cindy Lundy.

Twelve staff members volunteered to help clean up a stretch of Route 6 as part of the first annual Pennsylvania Route 6 Roundup, organized by the Pennsylvania Route 6 Heritage Corporation.

NTRPDC staff joined with 52 other organizations in 11 counties across the state to help clean up the road. Pennsylvania's Route 6 is one of America's most scenic drives stretching 115 miles across our region from Tioga County to Wyoming County. Governor Ed Rendell designated Pennsylvania Route 6 an official State Heritage Corridor in 2005 .

The Pennsylvania Route 6 Heritage Corporation works to preserve, enhance and promote the transportation heritage of one of the nation's first transcontinental highways and to sustain and enhance the small rural communities linked by the highway. NTRPDC's Executive Director, Kevin Abrams is the President of the Board of Directors of the PA Route 6 Heritage Corporation.



312 Main Street
Towanda, PA 18848



Phone: 570-265-9103
Fax: 570-265-7585
Toll-Free: 888-868-8800
E-mail: info@northerntier.org

Visit our Web Site!

www.NorthernTier.org