

THE BEACON

The monthly newsletter of Leadership Cattaraugus

2006 class completes first leg of journey

It's August, and that means that Leadership Cattaraugus 2006 has reached its halfway point. Each of the four groups has now given one presentation and has a good feel for what will be expected of them when they give their second presentations between the months of September and December.

The participants get a break in August for "Leadership Training Day," which will be presented August 29. Upcoming sessions include Health and Medical Services on September 26, Human Services on October 31, the "Identified Critical Issue" on November 28, and Board Member Development on December 19.

The first group was given the task of presenting on Government Services, and hosted their colleagues in the legislative offices of the County Building in Little Valley. County Administrator Jack Searles lead off with an in-depth sketch of the workings of the county.

A panel discussion followed with city council members, local mayors and supervisors, county legislators, and a representative from state Senator Cathy Young's office fielding questions. A tour from undersheriff Timothy Whitcomb and a talk from a tribal counsellor from the Seneca Nation rounded out the day.

In May, the focus was on Educa-



Cattaraugus County undersheriff Timothy Whitcomb [second from left], who made a presentation during a discussion of the justice system on July 25, leads a tour of parts of the Catt County Sheriff Department facilities in Little Valley back in April.

tion. Students from local schools were brought in for a first-person account of the state of education. Afterward, the group was able to ask questions of a panel of school superintendents.

An indepth and fascinating tour of BOCES followed, including a lunch prepared in their facilities by students of their culinary school.

Tourism & Economic Development was the topic for June, and the day began with a tour of the knife-making operation at Alcas.

Informative presentations were made by Mike Fischer, Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce chief operating officer John Sayegh

and county director of economic development, planning & tourism Tom Livak.

July's review of The Justice System was begun by Timothy Whitcomb's discussion of "entry into the system," followed by an overview of prosecution and pretrial services by district attorney Edward Sharkey.

The Honorable Mike Nenzo talked about adjudication and sentencing, and Terry Layton and Ray Green followed the process through to its logical end in their discussion on probation. The group finished up with a tour of the state police crime lab on Homer Street.



A message from ...

Kathy Welch, director



Welcome to the first issue of Leadership Cattaraugus' newsletter, *The Beacon*.

Now that we are in our third cohort, the program is well-established and we have been able to focus some of our energies on more long-range projects – this newsletter chief amongst them.

One of the main purposes of this monthly newsletter is to have a vehicle to share news and information with our current cohort and board members; but another primary purpose is to keep our distinguished alumni in the loop.

We have heard from many alumni that they would like to still be informed about and engaged in Leadership Cattaraugus. The board of directors takes this kind of feedback seriously, and we feel this newsletter

– along with a proposed more in-depth quarterly newsletter – will be a step toward fulfilling that request.

Among other things, this monthly publication will highlight the program that was put on by the class during the previous month, include a column like the one you are reading now, and will spotlight significant accomplishments, achievements, and happenings in the lives of Leadership Cattaraugus participants.

At least initially, the plan is for this two-page document to be produced, saved as a PDF, and e-mailed to all recipients to avoid any printing costs. It also can be posted on the website for any visitor to read.

To make *The Beacon* a success, we will need feedback, participation and ideas from everybody – so I hope we can count on your support as we take Leadership Cattaraugus to the next level!

Class / Alumni news

Emily Hunt, Class of 2006, accepted a job at Dresser Rand in Wellsville. She began working her new job on July 17th. She can be reached at ehunt@dresser-rand.com. Congratulations!

Pete Dandrea, Class of 2005, accepted a position with Mazza Sheet Metal in Olean. He began his work there on July 24th and can now be reached at pdandrea@mazza-hvac.com. Congratulations!

Pamela Witter, Class of 2006, recently accepted a position at Home Care & Hospice. She can be reached at pwitter@communitycarewny.org. Congratulations!

If you have some news or information you'd like to share with your Leadership Cattaraugus colleagues in The Beacon, please use the contact information on the bottom of the newsletter.

Class of 2006

Dan Antonioli
Cutco Cutlery Corporation

Jill Ballard
Jamestown Community College

Scott Brechbuehl
Community Bank, NA

Jeanne Finch
Jamestown Community College

Robert Forness
Olean General Hospital

Jodi Fuller
Cattaraugus Community Action

Jill Gray
St. Bonaventure University

Emily Hunt
Dresser Rand Company

Ryan Hunt
Dresser Rand Company

Robin Hurlburt
St. Bonaventure University

Lugene Inzana
Olean General Hospital

Darrell Klute
The ReHAbilitation Center

Scott Kruse
Alcas Corporation

Risa Michienzi
Alcas Corporation

Jackie Norton
Meridian Professional Services

Nancy Phillips
Catt Co. Council on Alcoholism

Pam Witter
Home Care & Hospice

Joni Simcick
Cattaraugus County Bank

Robert Smith
MJW Technical Services

Judy Styles
The Chuckwagon Restaurant

Melody Zampogna
Home Care & Hospice

Darrell Klute, editor

