

CLEARLY AHEAD TIMES

SPRING 2017

Clearly Ahead



Development

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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Clearly Ahead Development 2017 First Quarter Update

Springtime construction and business activity are well under way in Clearfield County. Clearly Ahead Development has been involved in two new facility and equipment expansion projects in the DuBois area the first quarter of 2017. These projects will combine 85 jobs and create 20 new family sustaining jobs.

Clearly Ahead staff have met with 37 local businesses in the first quarter of the year to discuss multiple items from workforce and financing to overall business operations. In addition to direct marketing campaigns, Clearly Ahead has reached out to over 30 out of area company prospects to promote the assets of Clearfield County, representing companies located in 10 different states and Canada. Target markets include food manufacturing and energy intense industries requiring major access to natural gas and electric transmission

Construction has begun on the Continental Carbonic facility beside Pennsylvania Grain Processing (PGP) in Clearfield Borough. Continental Carbonic is a manufacturing and distributor of liquid carbon dioxide and dry-ice products. Continental Carbonic has an agreement with PGP to supply the carbon dioxide from its plant operations. Continental Carbonic will employ approximately 60 full-time individuals and is currently accepting applications for employment through their website www.continentalcarbonic.com.

TAFCO is constructing a 100,000 square foot manufacturing facility in the Clearfield Commerce Park in Clearfield. TAFCO will be expanding their facility operations in Hyde to the new location sometime in 2017. Additional product lines will be added to TAFCO's plant operations.

In DuBois, Biopharma is currently going through a competitive permit process with the Commonwealth of PA to apply for a medical marijuana permit. Biopharma proposes to process the product into pharmaceutical oils and ointments. Mr. Swales stated this permitting process is highly competitive and PA has established six medical marijuana regions. Clearfield County falls within Region 6, with each region only receiving two permits.

Recently Clearly Ahead has been working with First Energy to aggressively promote the Clearfield Commerce Park with it's Food Site Certification. First Energy has certified the Commerce Park as a premier site and is one of two statewide sites that First Energy has certified in its service region. Marketing plans are underway to promote the sites as a shovel-ready industrial park to First Energy prospects.



First delivery of steel for the construction of the new TAFCO facility in the Clearfield Commerce Park.



Construction of the Continental Carbonic Facility



Local Success Story: PA Grain and Sheetz Work Together

Two Pennsylvania-based companies have partnered to make a huge difference in fueling Pennsylvania’s economy, literally.

Pennsylvania Grain Processing Corn Merchandiser, Brian Kelly, was a little doubtful four years ago when he first approached Sheetz Inc. about selling new blends of ethanol at its fuel station near I-80 in Clearfield.



“Truthfully, I didn’t think we would get too much of a response. I thought they would have to install new tanks and change things around,” Kelly said. What Kelly didn’t know was that many of the newer Sheetz stations were engineered to be easily converted with the addition of a new pump, and the forward-thinking company was willing to move ahead with higher ethanol blends.

The two Pennsylvania-based companies have worked together to better serve their customers in the Keystone State. Today, Sheetz is PGP’s largest customer and helps provide a stable demand for local farmers to provide a steady fleet of corn to the grain processing plant while Sheetz tankers roll through the Clearfield plant daily, loading ethanol to be blended with gasoline for distribution throughout Pennsylvania and Maryland.

“Sheetz is recognized as a proactive leader to increase the U.S. consumer’s access to higher blends of ethanol fuels. We are proud to be a part of the success,” said Joe Sheetz, President and CEO of Sheetz, Inc. “As we install additional locations that pump these fuel blends, our consumers will benefit from lower fuel prices and reduced carbon emissions.”

In total, 97 percent of the gasoline sold in the United States contains 10 percent ethanol. In 2006, Sheetz introduced E85, which is made of 85 percent ethanol, at number of stores. Later, in 2015, another fuel option was added, Unleaded15 (E15), made up of up to 15 percent ethanol. Unleaded 15 is currently available at Sheetz locations across Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina, with 185 stores expected to have the fuel available by this June. Many Sheetz locations in Pennsylvania offer blends created from ethanol produced at PGP.

Kelly expressed, “Approximately 15 million bushels of local, Pennsylvania corn is converted into ethanol and distiller’s grains at PGP each year.” The ethanol serves flex fuel alternatives while the grains, corn oil and CO2 produced at the plant are used to serve agricultural and food-related industries.

The partnership between PGP and Sheetz provides a Pennsylvania made product available for a large number of Sheetz customers across Pennsylvania, while providing farmers in our region a dependable market for their corn and countless jobs for many Pennsylvanians,” expressed Rob Swales, CEO of Clearly Ahead Development. “We are proud of this successful and growing relationship of our local farmers, manufacturers and businesses in Clearfield County and Central Pennsylvania.”



CCIDA Announces Loan Fund at Wall Street Prime Rate!

The Clearfield County Industrial Development Authority (CCIDA) administers a Revolving Loan Fund Program (RLF) to assist businesses with lending options. Requirements to be eligible are as follows:

- Funding amount: Up to 50% total project cost or \$100,000 whichever is less.
- Eligible entities include: Any private, for profit entity involved in manufacturing, industrial related services, warehousing or distribution sectors with operations in Clearfield County.
- Eligible use of funds: Land and Building with a term up to 15 years. Machinery and Equipment with a term up to 7 years. Working Capital (\$100,000 Max) with a term up to 3 years.
- Other Criteria: The borrower must create or retain 1 job for every \$35,000 borrowed. The Mortgage will be subordinate to the position of other participating mortgage lenders of greater amount. If the borrower is financing machinery and equipment, a UCC Financing Statement and Promissory Note and a commercial security agreement are required. Refinancing of existing debt or facade improvement is ineligible.

If you are interested in the Clearfield County Industrial Development Authority's RLF Program contact our office at 814-768-7838.



“Let’s Schedule A Visit!”

We look forward to assisting our local businesses with internal expansions, incentives and financial packaging to create and retain jobs in our community. Please contact the office at 814-768-7838 to schedule a visit.



Business Opportunity for Clearfield County Businesses

Plans are underway for Shell Chemicals to open a petrochemical cracker plant in Potter Township, Beaver County. The plant expects to open in 2020 and will employ approximately 600 people. An additional 6,000 jobs are anticipated in the construction of the facility.

Construction is planned to begin in late 2017. Shell expects to contract and do business with many local businesses. If your company is interested in qualifying for the supplier list, please register at the following website.

[.http://www.shell.com/business-customers/shell-for-suppliers/qualify-as-a-supplier-to-shell.html](http://www.shell.com/business-customers/shell-for-suppliers/qualify-as-a-supplier-to-shell.html)

The lead contractor is Bechtel and your company may register as a supplier at the following website: <http://www.bechtel.com/supplier/>

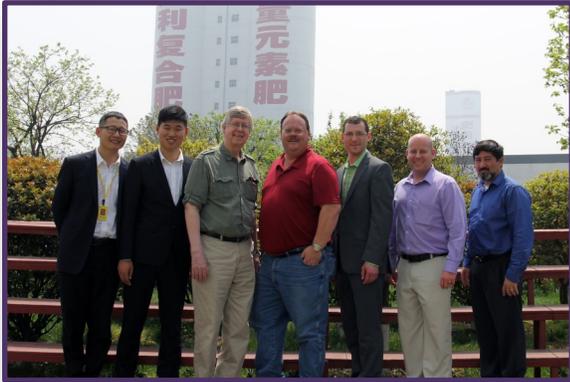


Shell Chemicals



CLEARLY AHEAD DEVELOPMENT 2016 YEAR IN REVIEW

In December Clearly Ahead Development held its Annual Winter Luncheon at the Florian Banquet Center in Clearfield. Rob Swales, CEO gave a presentation of the accomplishments Clearly Ahead Development had in 2016 and what to look forward to for 2017. Mr. Swales updated the audience on the visit to China with the County Commissioners and presented plaques of appreciation to



George Heigel for his service on the Clearfield County Industrial Development Authority Board and to Peggy Amon for her service on the Clearly Ahead Development Board of Directors.



Mr. Swales presenting Peggy Amon with her appreciation plaque. Mr. Heigel was not present to accept his plaque. Mr. Swales expressed his gratitude for their service to Clearly Ahead Development and the Clearfield County Industrial Development Authority.

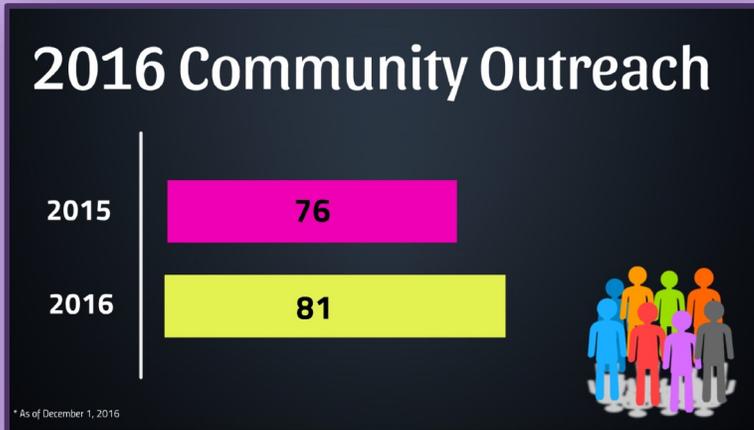
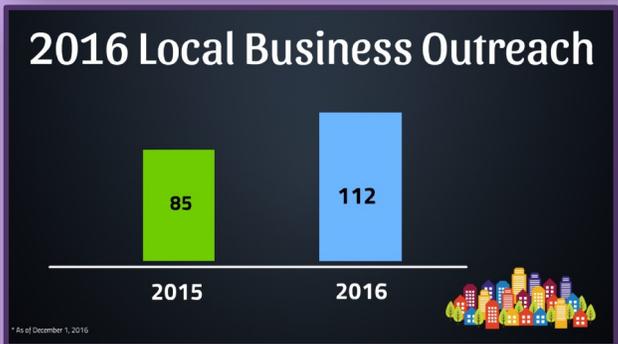
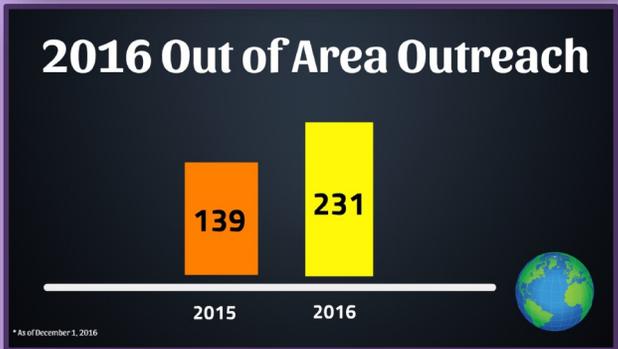


Jobs In Our Community

Source: North Central Workforce Development Board & Bureau of Labor Statistics

379 Jobs - Clearfield County
235 Jobs - Jefferson County
230 Jobs - Elk County

844 Jobs in our Local Area



2016 Project Impact Data by Region

- ➔ **10 Projects in the Clearfield Area**
 - 126 Jobs Created
 - 576 Jobs Retained
 - \$35,816,000 Capital Investment
- ➔ **7 Projects in the DuBois Area**
 - 27 Jobs Created
 - 385 Jobs Retained
 - \$15,274,000 Capital Investment

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