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**Community Development
Entrepreneur Training Program**

The Community Development Program utilizes the County's allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in many diverse and innovative ways.

One activity that has realized great success is the Entrepreneur Training Program managed by Job Training of Beaver County (JTBC). This program is a vehicle for economic development as it educates, trains, mentors and coaches aspiring entrepreneurs.

Innovation made this all possible. The program is coordinated by Jeanine McCreary, a small business owner from Allegheny County who has charted a new path for the program. There looks to be no end in sight for the ongoing innovation and excitement that's been generated!

Noting that entrepreneurship is a key driver of our economy and most small businesses fail within the first 5 years according to the Small Business Administration (SBA), it is vital that these future business men and women are fully prepared before they begin the journey.

The number one reason cited for failed start-ups is lack of experience. The JTBC Entrepreneur Training Program hopes to reduce those numbers for Beaver County residents by providing comprehensive education and training.

"I consider our program to be the true example of innovation", said McCreary as entrepreneurship education is a lifelong learning process. "We strongly encourage our graduates to participate in our alumni program and other professional development programs in our region. We offer quarterly profes-

sional development programming that includes speakers, hands-on learning opportunities and an annual event to showcase the successes of our graduates."

One of the graduates, Lindsay Jackson, is the owner of Lindsay J's Cleaning Service. Lindsay J's offers services to commercial and residential customers. The company currently has 10 commercial clients and over 30 residential clients. You can read more about Lindsay on the Job Training website at www.jtbc.org under the entrepreneur tab.



Lindsay Jackson Since 2008, 15 new businesses were assisted or created through this program; 6 existing businesses were assisted and technical assistance was provided to 500 others. These are Beaver county residents, many of whom are now successful entrepreneurs, contributing to the economic health of our county.

If you are interested in finding out more about our Entrepreneurship Education Program, please call:

724.728.2020 ext. 102.



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TheBridge@beavercountypa.gov.

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 (See article on pages 15-16)
Back Cover: Contemporary photo of Downtown Beaver.

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