Candidates’ forums slated for October

The Moshannon Valley Economic Development Partnership will host two candidates’ forums. One will feature the candidates for Clearfield County Commissioner: Mark McCracken (D), Joan Robinson-McMillen (R), Paul J. Monella II (D), and John Sobel (R). The event will be held at 8:00 AM, Monday, October 17th at Windy Hill Village. The second forum will feature the candidates for Centre County Commissioner: Steve Dershem (R), Jon Eich (D), Chris Exarchos (R), and Michael Pipe (D). This candidates’ forum will be held at 8:00 AM, Wednesday, October 26th at Windy Hill Village.

“We are pleased to offer the residents of the greater Philipsburg area an opportunity to hear the views and goals of the candidates as they work to secure these very important commissioner seats,” said Paul Springer, President of the MVEDP board of directors. “This forum also gives the business community an opportunity to network with other business people and to get to know first-hand how the positions of

Continued on Page 3

Penn State SBDC
To Open New Office
In Philipsburg

Penn State’s Small Business Development Center has received a grant to open an office in downtown Philipsburg.

The $99,990 rural business enterprise grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture will allow the organization to better provide Philipsburg businesses with its free consulting services, center Director Heather Fennessey said.

“I think it’s great and I’m really looking forward to launching the office and seeing its impact,” Fennessey said.

Continued on Page 3

MVEDP Welcomes New Tenant

Jesse Clemmer, owner of Clemmer Fire Protection, was operating his business out of his home when he realized he needed more space.

He came to the MVEDP and is now the newest tenant in the Moshannon Valley Enterprise Center! Clemmer Fire Protection, Inc. strives to provide superior service at the most competitive prices. From sprinkler systems to fire extinguishers they’ve got you covered. Their focus is to provide a one stop shop for all your fire protection needs. Clemmer Fire Protection is ASSE Certified, Certified in Fire Pumps, member of NFPA

Continued on Page 4
**MVEDP HOUSING REHABILITATION Proposal**

The Moshannon Valley Economic Development Partnership, Inc in coordination with Philipsburg Borough, Rush Township, and the Philipsburg Revitalization Corporation, Inc are compiling an application for a new housing rehabilitation project.

The new project will target a specific neighborhood area of Philipsburg Borough and Rush Township. The target area is consistent with the “Elm Street” neighborhood as identified in the 2010 Elm Street Plan in Philipsburg Borough. The western portion of Rush Township that borders the Elm Street target area includes the Railroad Street, Moshannon Street, North Front Street, Alder Street, and Locust Street areas of Rush Township.

The Housing Rehabilitation Program provides conditional grants up to $20,000 per home for rehabilitation work to make homes meet minimum health and safety code standards. Projects include, but are not limited to, roofs, electrical, plumbing, heating, insulation, siding, and other repairs. Applicants are required to own and occupy the property (affixed to their own permanent land) and must meet federal income requirements. The program goal is to bring homes up to code while increasing owner reinvestment in targeted areas.

The Partnership has been administering their housing rehab programs in the Moshannon Valley for 15 years and have rehabilitated over 150 homes to date!

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**Out With the Old, In With the Old**

If you have been downtown Philipsburg recently you probably noticed a lot of construction activity. Philipsburg Borough received CDBG funds from Centre County in order to demolish the former Guenot Buildings on East Pine Street. While it is sad to see those old buildings go, they were structurally unsound and created an eyesore in the commercial district. The vacant lot where the buildings sat will hopefully find a new owner who will use them for private development.

At the same time, Walter Swoope, owner of the Moshannon Building, 203 N Front Street, is busy working on returning his building façade to its original look. Jack Frost Construction has removed all of the mid-century façade and is preparing the building for its new “old” look. Stay tuned!

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**New eBook Available for Members**

Area resident Tom Laird of the Laird Design and Graphic Services has launched a new, free Google eBook about the coming fundamental shifts of internet marketing entitled Winning the Zero Moment of Truth. The release of the book precedes the launch of his newly re-designed website for his full-service graphics business and other free resources. As MVEDP members, you have access to this information now! Tom is dedicated to assisting local businesses with marketing their products and services online. He is also working with the MVEDP on other opportunities to present no-obligation online resources to the Moshannon Valley. Download your free eBook today or contact Tom for more information tom@lairddesign.com or 814-883-0344.
One of Philipsburg’s most recognizable landmarks is getting a makeover. You may have seen the boarded up windows at the Union “Old Mud” Church and no, it isn’t because of vandals. The Philipsburg Historical Foundation is responsible for maintaining and preserving the church and early this year they hired Joe Carns to rebuild all of the windows in the building. This is no easy (or cheap) task, but one that needed to be done in order to preserve the authenticity of the church. The original glass has all been preserved and Mr. Carns was able to install old glass where any replacement glass was used in the past. That means the windows all have that warped, bubbled appearance just as they would have originally. A unique feature in the church windows are the little pointed, almost diamond shaped windows at the top of each window. These were hand carved by a Mr. Burris, oddly enough, with a pen knife! Those original carvings will not be replaced. They will be restored and repaired to, again, maintain the authenticity of the church. Retaining authentic character is important to the Historical Foundation. In fact, the Philipsburg Historical Foundation was established in 1956 for the purpose of preserving the Union Church which was built in 1820. It was constructed on land that was being used as Philipsburg’s burial ground. The land belonged to John G. Shultz and was given to him as part of his inducement for coming to help settle Philipsburg. When the need for a cemetery arose, a trade was negotiated between Shultz and Harman Philips. Philips then conveyed the land to the people of Philipsburg as their burial ground. By 1820, the town also needed a church and school. A subscription list inside the church today lists those who donated to the building fund and how much they pledged. In 1842 the church underwent a remodeling and a second subscription was undertaken. Under the supervision of Hardman Philips himself, the roof was shingled, tin spouting was added, and an addition was built on the west end to house a pulpit, communion table, and vestry. Pew boxes were added to the body of the church at this time and the belfry was built on the front which houses the bell from the Philipsburg Screw Factory which burned in 1836. The church was plastered and the outside was roughcast, from which the nickname “Old Mud Church” comes. Like many building projects, the work cost more than they had collected. Philips offered to pay the remainder due, but he asked that the church become the Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church of Philipsburg. The people of Philipsburg objected, saying that Philips had “added extravagances unnecessary for the Union church”. Led by James McGirk, they sued Philips...
RIG MONKEY

On August 12th at the EOG: B2B Network Day, the Clearfield County Economic Development Corporation officially launched its new real estate website: www.rigmonkeyapp.com. The website features over 70 commercial and industrial properties in Clearfield County geared towards the unconventional gas industry. Listings can be searched by property type, building size, and location. Users can then view property specifications, pictures, the location of the property, as well as direct contact information for the seller.

Another desirable feature of Rig-MonkeyApp.com is the “supermap”, which displays all listings on an interactive google map. In addition, a Rig Monkey application is currently being developed for the iPhone and Android platforms.

South Hills Welcomes New Director

Jeff Burris was recently named director of the South Hills School of Business and Technology in Philipsburg. Burris brings his enthusiasm for working with youth in the region through 18 years experience in a variety of positions within the Centre County Youth Service Bureau and Centre County Probation and Parole Department. Most recently, he was residential director of the Cresson Secure Treatment Unit for at-risk youth. Burris is a graduate of Penn State University and received his Master of Science Degree from California University of Pennsylvania. He currently resides in the Centre region with his wife Geneen and their two children. The Moshannon Valley welcomes Jeff to the region!

Clemmer

Continued from Page 1

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The North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) and North Central Enterprise Development Program Directors invite you to attend the 2nd Annual PTAC-Enterprise Development Programs Workshop on Thursday, November 10, 2011 that will include:

**Morning Agenda**

8:00-9:00  
Registrations and Continental Breakfast

9:00-9:15  
Introductions - Bob Imhof, Director of Procurement Assistance

9:15-9:30  
Export Program Assistance Presented by Ms. Christine Perneski, Export Program Dir.

9:30-9:45  
North Central’s Loan Programs presented by Ms. Pat Brennen, Loan Program Dir.

9:45-10:30  
SBA Exporting Financing - Steve Drozda

10:30-10:45  
Break

10:45-12:00  
Export Financing Assistance presented by Tom Cummings of XM Bank

12:00-1:00  
Buffet Luncheon provided by North Central

**Afternoon Agenda**

1:00-1:45  
At Risk Business Program - Bill Flaherty

1:45-2:00  
North Central Procurement Technical Assistance Program - Bob Imhof

2:00-2:15  
Break

2:15-3:00  
“Data Mining - Using the Pennsylvania DGS Web Site to Further Your Business”

3:00-3:15  
Questions and Answer and Workshop Wrap Up

Join us on November 10, 2011 at the Red Ferm Restaurant Banquet Facility, Route 255 South - St. Mary’s, Elk Country, PA. No Registration fee, coffee and pastries and a buffet lunch will be provided. Contact Bob Imhof, Director of Procurement Assistance - bimhof@ncentral.com.

The Caring HealthCare Network has opened offices in historic downtown Philipsburg. Located at 601 North Front Street they are a Primary Care physician’s office that is operating as a Federally Qualified Rural Healthcare Center. They also offer Chiropractic care and other services will follow in the near future. Stop in or give them a call 814-342-2333.

**Business After Hours**

October 19th, 2011  
Pro Care Therapy & Health Club  
911 N. Front Street  
Time: 5:00-7:00

November 16th, 2011  
Philipsburg-Osceola Admin Offices @ North Lincoln Hill  
Time: 5:30-7:30

For More Information and to register for these events contact:  
Emily Gette-Doyle  
814-342-2260 or Emily@mvedp.org
Mud Church  Continued from Page 3

and the case was heard by Judge Woodward in the Centre County Court. The Court found for the citizens of Philipsburg and the church continued to shelter the services of the Episcopalians, Methodists, Presbyterians, and other faiths until the early 1920’s. Free Methodists were the last to worship there on a regular basis. The burial grounds were used until 1874 and among the early settlers buried there, sixteen war veterans including one Revolutionary War soldier are buried there. The cemetery also includes the Founder’s Oak which, according to a Penn State University forester, is between 350-400 years old. Other interesting tidbits: the earliest marked grave belongs to William Hughes who died December 11, 1819, the most recent burial was Ellen Nielson who died in 1823. The Civil War veterans graves are marked by bronze plaques, the Philip’s lot (with wrought iron fence) holds the crypt of two of Philips’ children, the only Revolutionary War soldier buried in the cemetery is John Gearhart, the original owner of the property. John G. Shultz is the only one of the original settlers buried in the cemetery, and Mrs. John Henry Simler is the only pioneer woman buried in the lot- she died in 1823. The Union “Old Mud” Church is indeed a unique and important part of Philipsburg’s history and the Philipsburg Historical Foundation is dedicated to preserving it for future generations. And, you can help them! The Foundation is currently accepting donations toward the preservation of the church. You can also become a member of the Foundation and show your support that way! Membership is $10 a year for an individual, $15 a year for a family, and $150 for a lifetime. Send your information and/or donation to: The Philipsburg Historical Foundation, 203 N. Front Street, Box 8, Philipsburg, PA 16866. Once renovations are complete, the Old Mud Church will again be open for tours Sundays from 2pm-4pm. It is also available for rent for weddings, baptisms, or other services and school field trip tours can be arranged as well. Please call 814-342-7115 or email egettedoyle@msn.com for details.

NEW ROUND OF FAÇADE FUNDING

The PRC is putting together an application to the state for a new round of façade improvement money. In order to do so, we need to demonstrate that we have businesses/property owners who are interested in the money. The program would provide grants of up to $5000 and there is a dollar-for-dollar match requirement. If you are a downtown business or property owner and may be interested, please contact Program Manager Emily Gette-Doyle.

There is no guarantee that we will receive funding from DCED. In addition, submission of the initial pre-application does not imply project approval. If the PRC receives funds, you will need to submit a formal pre-application, with additional information. However, submitting these letters does put you on our waiting list, and thus you will receive project priority.

Thanks for your interest in protecting the historic character of downtown Philipsburg! As always, please contact me with any questions. Not sure if your business or property is within the Main Street District? Check our map!
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