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MVEDP 32nd Annual Luncheon

The MVEDP’s 32nd annual luncheon was held on Friday, May 27th at the Cen Clear administrative building located just west of Philipsburg. Approximately 85 business leaders from the area were in attendance. The luncheon event was not held in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID 19 pandemic. At the luncheon held in 2019, the MVEDP presented awards to the Philipsburg Historical Society, and to Josh Helke, Owner of Organic Climbing, LLC located within the Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park.

The MVEDP board of directors and staff decided that it would not present awards at the May 27th luncheon. Instead, a complete update was provided about the changed economic development landscape during the first two years of the COVID pandemic. Never has there ever been so much money been made available from government to fight the ill effects of a harmful virus.

Much credit was given to area bankers, accountants and business owners/leaders that worked to secure needed funding for area businesses. Businesses remained open in this area because of the work of those people. Recall that the federal government passed legislation approving over $2.0 trillion dollars to battle COVID 19.

The MVEDP is planning to return to its old style of annual luncheons that will feature the presentation of awards to deserving business leaders and other people who are making a great difference in the Moshannon Valley region.
CenClear is a non-profit agency providing mental health services, drug and alcohol services, preschool services and early education services. CenClear’s services are offered in over 13 counties; the individual services offered vary by county. CenClear’s goal, is to strengthen families. We do this by providing physical, social, emotional and educational support.

Founded in 1980, CenClear now provides services to over 6,000, children, adolescents and adults annually. CenClear believes that the key to helping children is to help their parents and families find the support they need.

CenClear is unique because it focuses on the entire family. Services are available for income-eligible pregnant moms and parents with children up to age three through our Early Head Start Program. In this program, parents learn how to interact with their child in a positive way while helping them to learn. The program also helps parents learn about safety and other important topics to help their child thrive.

Once children age out of Early Head Start, CenClear offers preschool programs. Our preschool classes serve families that may not otherwise be able to afford a preschool education for their child. CenClear teaches children kindergarten-readiness skills, provides nutritious snacks and meals and in some cases transportation. There is no cost for families.

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Leadership Centre County is Currently Accepting Nominations for their Upcoming Community Leadership Program Class

Leadership Centre County is currently accepting nominations for their upcoming Community Leadership Program class. To begin the application process, you can self-nominate or ask someone to nominate you for the program. The deadline to apply for acceptance into the Class of 2023 is on July 31, 2022.

Participants in their core-program immerse themselves in a 10-month, ~100-hour program, meeting approximately once-a-month for a full day from September until June. During the program you will explore current socio-economic issues that provide the foundation for a lifelong commitment to civic engagement. The program bookends are a Welcome Reception/Orientation in September 2022 and a graduation ceremony and Closing Retreat in the spring of 2023.

The Community Leadership Program is at the heart of our community - active in addressing the challenges and opportunities of the county by developing its leaders. Class members learn about Centre County while they create valuable networking relationships and friendships - the organization boasts 1,000+ program alumni. Class members are trained to work collaboratively for the good of the community with a goal of increased civic engagement.

Please email their Executive Director, Zach Barton - zbarton@leadershipcentrecounty.org - for more information, to discuss the application process, or to schedule a time to chat. To apply or nominate, please visit www.leadershipcentrecounty.org.

MVEDP Loan Committee Approves Loan to UMI Performance, Inc.

The MVEDP’s Revolving Loan Fund Committee recently approved a loan to UMI Performance of the greater Philipsburg area. UMI Performance is a manufacturer of aftermarket automotive suspension systems. The company has experienced significant growth over the past five years and is now a global supplier of their automotive suspension systems.

Funds from the MVEDP will be used to purchase a new robotic welder. Juniata Valley Bank will also be participating in this project.

The MVEDP has had its Revolving Loan Fund Program in operation since 1991. Loans may range from $15,000 to $100,000. Just over $3.9 million has been loaned to area companies since that date. Contact the MVEDP at 342-2260 to learn more about this flexible loan program.

Congressman Glenn Thompson Visits the MVEDP and Philipsburg/ Moshannon Valley Region

The MVEDP was pleased to host Congressman Glenn Thompson and a top aide Cindy Kunes to the Enterprise Center on July 7th. This meeting provided us the opportunity to talk about any federal issue that is impacting, or that could impact the Moshannon Valley region. One example is the federal Appalachian Regional Commission funding that is planned for the MVEMS’s new ambulance building project. The MVEDP made sure to express our full support of that project and the federal ARC funding that has been preliminarily approved for it.

When asked before about the Philipsburg area, Congressman Thompson once said, “if there is one community in my very large congressional district that I am very familiar with, its Philipsburg.” We believe that this comment is a testament to the spirit of the leadership in this area that want good projects and strong communities here in this area.
Early Intervention is available for children up to age 3 who are demonstrating delays or disabilities whether it be physical, social, behavioral or in communication. This program is available in many of the counties CenClear serves.

CenClear offers numerous mental health programs and psychiatric services depending on a person’s needs. Outpatient Mental Health Services, Family Based Mental Health Services, Healing After Trauma, Certified Peer Specialists, Blended Case Management, Community and School Based Behavioral Health are just a few of the many mental health services available. CenClear has mental health programs that serve young children, school age children, teens and adults.

CenClear also offers outpatient drug and alcohol programs to help those who are struggling with addiction. We offer individual sessions and specialized groups sessions. For those who need additional help, CenClear offers intensive drug and alcohol services as well as Medication Assisted Treatment. Medication Assisted Treatment can help reduce cravings in those who haven’t been successful in outpatient treatment alone.

Referrals for our mental health and drug and alcohol programs can be done on-line through our website at www.cenclear.org. They can also be done by calling 1-877-341-5845. Preschool applications can also be submitted online or by calling 1-800-525-5437.

Fixed interest rate for full 15-year term: 4%
Fixed interest rate for 7 years with a reset for final 8 years: 3.0% for first 7 years, adjustment by 2% max.
Working capital loans: 4.0% fixed
Equipment loans: 4.0% fixed
Pollution Prevention & Energy Efficiency Loans: 2.0% fixed
The MVEDP’s Revolving Loan Fund program has been available to local businesses since 1991. The matching loan funding can be used for working capital, machinery and equipment or land and buildings. The interest rate is as low as 3%! One of the most outstanding features of the loan program is the quick turnaround time. Once a reviewable application is received, the loan committee will meet and if the loan is approved, the money provided to the borrower in less than 30 days. Contact the MVEDP at 342-2260 if you have a business seeking matching loan financing.
Apprenticeships: One Solution to Retaining Workers in a Tight Labor Market

The labor shortage is not temporary.

There has been a seismic shift in the labor market that is impeding business growth and expansion. Businesses should be aware that this is the labor market reality we will be dealing with for a very long time.

Shannon Munro, VP Vice of Workforce Development will offer business insights on what is impacting the labor market and how apprenticeship programs can play a role in finding and retaining top talent.

**Topics Covered**

- Current Labor Market Demographics and Challenges
- What every business needs to know about the current labor shortage
- What to understand about its effect on future planning for your company
- What role apprentice programs can play finding and retaining top talent

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Chamber Member Benefits Through the MVEDP

- ChamberChoice:
  - Group Health Insurance
  - Dental
  - Life/Disability Insurance
  - Vision
- OnDemand Energy Solutions:
  - Electric Savings Program
- Free listing in our online business directory
- Invitation to all MVEDP events
- Email blasts to chamber members.
- E-communications concerning:
  - Seminars
  - Training opportunities
  - Export opportunities
  - Funding opportunities
- Voting rights for MVEDP board of directors
- Quarterly newsletter which provides information about potential new business opportunities
- Free advertising in the MVEDP’s newsletter
- Sponsorship opportunities which is inexpensive advertising
- The benefit of the MVEDP’s work to lobby for pro-business causes
- The benefit of the MVEDP’s business connections to state and federal agencies

Apprenticeships
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Benefits of this session
- Deeper awareness of the reasons why employers are having a difficult time finding workers—labor market/demographics analysis
- Understand why retention of employees is so critical
- Learn about establishing an apprenticeship program
- What is it? How does it work?

As a result of this session, you will:
- Understand long term labor market trends that are creating challenges with hiring qualified applicants
- Execute a plan to retain workers using apprenticeship
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge about apprenticeship and how it can be used to retain workers

NOTE: This is an In-Person Seminar and seating is limited so Advanced Registration is Required.

For more information:
https://www.benfranklinlearningcenter.org/