



## 29th Annual Awards Luncheon

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Award Recipients from Left to Right: Bub & Nick Murarik, Murarik Motorsports, Michelle Tibbens & Sara Mays, Skills Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program, Ryan Kirkwood, UMI Performance, Inc. Also pictured: Stan LaFuria Executive Director of the MVEDP

### A Message from the Executive Director

At our 29<sup>th</sup> annual awards luncheon held on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, the MVEDP was pleased to recognize three businesses that are making a positive difference in the Philipsburg/Moshannon Valley region. We presented three awards and the winners of the awards were: Skills Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program for their Outstanding Contribution to the Quality of Life, Murarik Motorsports for their Outstanding Service to their Community, and UMI Performance,

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### Organic Climbing, LLC - Made in the USA

The MVEDP's Moshannon Valley Regional Business Center, located across the street from Hogs Galore in the Business Park, is currently the home to five (5) companies that occupy 100% of the space within the building.

One of the companies located at the MVRBC is **Organic Climbing** owned by Josh Helke. Josh moved with his family to the State College

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### Special points of interest:

- Free Advertising In The Spotlight
- Membership Renewals

## Thank You to Our Membership Luncheon Sponsors!

Four area banks stepped up to the plate and helped the MVEDP to defray some of the costs of the annual luncheon held on April 28<sup>th</sup>. CBT, CNB, Juniata Valley Bank, and M&T Bank were the four luncheon sponsors. Another great big thanks to our sponsors!

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## A Message

Continued from Page 1

Inc. as the MVEDP's Employer of the Year.

We were honored to present the awards to Michelle Tibbens and Sara Mays of Skills, Inc., Bub and Nick Murarick of Murarick Motorsports, and Ryan Kirkwood, President of UMI Performance. On pages 7 & 8 is the story behind each of these awards winners.

I was pleased to have the opportunity to talk for a few minutes about some of the terrific developments happening in the area including: the completion of the new Mt. Nittany Medical Center facility in the Peebles Plaza, the soon-to-be completed 38,000 square foot Diamondback Auto Accessories manufacturing facility located in the Regional Business Park, the growth of American Home Patient at the MVEDP's Enterprise Center facility and their addition of over 50 new employees which brings their total employment to 152, the Lee Industries' 24,000 square foot expansion, the continued expansion of Advanced Powder Products, the three area companies included on Inc. magazine's list of 5000 fastest growing companies: Diamondback, Advanced Powder Products and TMMData, and the Windy Hill Village expansion that includes the construction of another new 48 unit residential facility.

Since it is the 20<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the MVEDP's winning the Agency of the Year award from the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association (PEDA), I couldn't help but run through the list of the projects that we were involved with back in 1997: a new housing rehabilitation program, a new downtown revitalization program/Main Street designation, Navaskys' construction of a new 76,000 sf. manufacturing facility, Drucker Company was recruited here from the south Florida area, the new gymnasium project at the YMCA, the second post-secondary school was recruited to the area, and 20 businesses were located at the Partnership's Enterprise Center facility. We were very pleased to be the recipient of PEDA's Agency of the Year Award.

I heard a speaker say recently that he had seen an interesting slogan and it read:  
"Persistence is the mother of good luck." One thing

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## TMMData Moves to Enterprise Center



TMMData, one of three area companies listed on Inc Magazine's top 5000 fastest growing companies in the country, has moved to the Moshannon Valley Enterprise Center.

Previously located in the Second Street area, the company needed larger quarters and a more professional appearing building space. TMMData is now renting a portion of the space that previously housed Johnston Technical Institute, South Hills School of Business & Technology, and DuBois Business College. The MVEDP was unsuccessful in finding another school to locate to the area so it has made the decision to rent the space to other businesses.

## New Operations Manager Hired at PMG



PMG Pennsylvania Corporation recently hired a new operations manager. Bruce Rigard was recently hired to manage this powdered metals parts manufacturing company. Bruce is originally from the St. Marys area and has been in-

involved in manufacturing for over 35 years.

## Philipsburg Area Commerce Park Update



The MVEDP officially became the owner of the former Philipsburg Area Hospital site on Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. Now named the Philipsburg Area Commerce Park, the 14.77 acres is available for sale or lease. This site will be included in the marketing effort of Kissinger Bigatel and Brower commercial/industrial real estate brokers.



## A Message

Continued from Page 2

about the Partnership's board of directors and staff is that after all of these years, we are still very interested in seeing good projects happen here in the Philipsburg/Moshannon Valley region. This persistence is what led us to acquire the former hospital site, now the Philipsburg Area Commerce Park. By adding this site to our "tool box", we give ourselves an even better chance to stimulate new private investment and job creation in this area.



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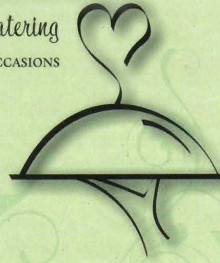
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## Kissinger Bigatel and Brower Hired by MVEDP

The MVEDP recently signed contracts with Kissinger Bigatel and Brower commercial/industrial real estate broker to assist the MVEDP with the marketing, sales/leasing of MVEDP properties. The MVEDP staff and board will be working with Joe Herrle of KBB.

KBB will work to assist the MVEDP in finding companies interested in leasing building space at the Moshannon Valley Enterprise Center, to sell the four unsold lots within the Regional Business Park, and to sell or lease the 14.77 acres that is available at the new Philipsburg Area Commerce Park. Co-broker agreements are in place that allow for other real estate professionals to be paid a commission if they bring a buyer or tenant to the MVEDP's facilities.

## MVEDP Housing Rehab Program

Income eligible homeowners may be able to secure up to \$22,000 for improvements to their homes that bring those homes up to code. Roofs, electrical, plumbing, heating, and structural repairs may be completed under the program.



To check out more information regarding the Housing Rehab Program check out our website at [WWW.MVEDP.ORG](http://WWW.MVEDP.ORG).



## Thank You!

The Moshannon Valley Economic Development Partnership thanks you for your support of our economic & community development efforts!

### Renewals 1st Quarter

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## MVEDP Employer of the Year Award



UMI Performance started up in late 2002 under the leadership of Ryan Kirkwood and the guidance of his father Denny.

Together, this father and son team developed a large variety of automobile suspension and chassis products for many makes and models of old vehicles including the Ford Mustang GT and Pontiac Firebird.

It was on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2003, when UMI began its official journey into the aftermarket suspension industry. Their products began to move very quickly, the more they made the more that they sold. Since that time, UMI has become a very well-respected company, and has become one of the largest suspension parts aftermarket manufacturers in the marketplace today.

In March 2011, the company purchased the former Shain Shop/Bilt manufacturing facility located in what used to be affectionately called Southy, or South Philipsburg, now Rush Township. Their 34 employees are involved in designing and manufacturing its entire line of products within that 35,000 square foot facility. CNC machining, CNC laser cutting, band saw cutting, press brake work, welding, sanding and powder coating, and engineering are all operations that are performed in order to create their manufactured products. They are currently working to expand their product lines and to introduce new products.

One thing that you will notice from their web site and other marketing materials is how much pride they have in being a manufacturer in a small rural area of central Pennsylvania. In the ABOUT US section of their web site, there is a statement that truly stands out, and it reads: "UMI's 30+ hardworking employees are proud to offer you an American made product, hand crafted and fabricated with blood, sweat and pride."

## MVEDP Contribution to the Quality of Life Award



It's always a very positive thing when local people or organizations from our rural region of central-Pennsylvania, are recognized state-wide for their talents and for their work to make our area the best that it can be.

A few years back, the Clearfield County Economic Development Corporation was presented the project of the year award from the PA Econ. Dev. Association (PEDA). The Partnership was recognized by PEDA as the Agency of the Year 20 years ago. And then there are the individuals from the area such as Alan Walker who went on to become the Secretary of the PA Dept. of Community & Econ. Development, the bankers in the area who serve as officers of state-wide banking associations. These accomplishments say a lot about the people of our area.

There is an organization from our area that received state-wide recognition for their work. The PA Association of Psych Rehab Services, an organization of more than 300 psychiatric rehabilitation practitioners and organizations located throughout the state, presented their **Outstanding Program award** to: the **Skills Philipsburg Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program**.

In recent years the idea of treating the whole person has evolved to incorporate one's behavioral health treatment with physical health treatment. Under an integrated care model, Skills participates with its contracted managed care payer to implement a behavioral health home model that includes an RN Navigator at its site-based psych rehab program in Philipsburg. Through this model the RN and staff were able to decrease costs of treatment and in one case potentially diverted a life-threatening situation for a participant. These positive outcomes led to their being presented the Outstanding Program Award from the PA Association of Psych Rehab Services.



### Organic Climbing

Continued from Page 1

area from Minneapolis, Minnesota, and it was in October 2010 when he brought his business to the Regional Business Center. Organic Climbing is a manufacturer of crash pads for rock climbers, backpacks, clothing and other products targeted to the outdoors enthusiast.

In January of this year, Organic Climbing was featured in a national/international publication produced by GearJunkie. This article can be found at the following web site:

<https://gearjunkie.com/organic-climbing-bouldering-made-usa>

Organic Climbing, LLC, another terrific manufacturer located in the Philipsburg/ Moshannon Valley region. Congratulations to Josh Helke, President for the success of his company.



**Diamondback Automotive Accessories - Construction nearing completion.**



**Lee Industries - Expansion Project**

### MVEDP Outstanding Community Service Award



It was back in 2011 when Bub and Nick Murarik of Murarik MotorSports had

the idea of creating a haunted house in the Fall that would raise money for worthy causes, for people in need. So, in 2011, their first haunted house was created at their business located in the Cold Stream Dam area.

Patrons of the haunted house are not charged any money to go through what is a very scary haunted house that includes areas both within their building and outside too. Donations are made by the visitors and all of that money is given away.

Some of the organizations that have received money from their haunted house include: Pets Come First, Christmas Crusade for Kids, the Rowland Theatre, Philipsburg-Osceola Area Drama Club, Philipsburg Borough/the Cold Stream Dam Park, and the Osceola Mills Area Pool Association.

A few of the people who have received funding support include: Emily Whitehead, Leah Williams, Sue Betts, Rose Ferrera, the family of John Kennedy, and local fireman John Huber.

An average of 800 people a night work their way through the haunted house and 1600 people over a weekend. An average of 40-50 people volunteer their time and energy to make the haunted house a terrific way to spend the Halloween season.

To date, the money given to worthy causes is approximately \$45,000.00.

The MVEDP is pleased to recognize Bub and Nick Murarik of Murarik MotorSports for their **OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THEIR COMMUNITY!**