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of interest:**

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**MVEDP'S 27th Annual
Presidential Recognition Awards**



The MVEDP celebrated its 27th Annual Presidential Recognition Awards. Pictured in the photo are the award winners along with the MVEDP Board President and Executive Director. Front row left to right: Bob Selfridge, TMMDATA, Jack Syktich, DuBois Business College, Stan Maguire & Jim Washburn, Veteran's Memorial. Second row left to right: Stan LaFuria, MVEDP Executive Director and Jeff Herr, MVEDP Board President.

**HRG Engineering Completes
Study of Former Hospital Site**

Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc., an engineering and related services company, recently completed a development feasibility study of the former Philipsburg Area Hospital site. The study was completed in early May.

The MVEDP hired HRG, Inc. to analyze the former hospital site from

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**MVEDP Approves Loans to
Local Company**

Officials of the Moshannon Valley Economic Development Partnership announced the approval of two loans from its Revolving Loan Fund Program to UMI Performance, Inc. Loans of \$65,000.00 and \$30,000.00 were approved to assist UMI Performance with the acquisition of

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Message from the Executive Director



On Thursday, June 11th, I was in Harrisburg for training through the Council for Development Finance Agencies. Only through taking courses and attending seminars can the MVEDP remain certified with the Pennsylvania Economic Development Institute. Without certification, we would not be permitted to put loan projects

together through the PA Industrial Development Authority (PIDA). Speaking of PIDA, there is an article elsewhere in this newsletter about the major changes to PIDA including what businesses are eligible. Today, all types of businesses are eligible to apply for PIDA loan financing.

One thing that I am reminded of when I am away is the many differences between the more urban and rural areas of the state. There are areas in this state that have multiple interstate highways, hundreds if not thousands of acres of ready-to-go business development sites, private developers who are constructing multi-tenant buildings and business parks, and real estate companies that market the sites both nationally and internationally. Chester County, which has a mix of both industrial and agricultural developments, has over 65 business parks within the county.

I think of two things when I am reminded of the competition that exists elsewhere:

--we must all work together if we are going to compete; local governments, the sewer authority, funding agencies, and our elected officials must work together whenever there is an economic development opportunity in the works; and

--we must make as much land as possible available to private sector businesses

For that reason, the MVEDP is working to secure

MVEDP Receives First Energy Grant



Pictured from left, are John Shimko, FirstEnergy; Stan LaFuria, MVEDP and JP Tambourine of FirstEnergy.

FirstEnergy recently provided a grant to the Moshannon Valley Economic Development Partnership (MVEDP) for an engineering study to determine the feasibility of developing the former Philipsburg Area Hospital site. The feasibility analysis is being completed by the Herbert, Rowland and Grubic, Inc. an engineering firm out of State College. The MVEDP is promoting the site as an economic development asset that will one day provide job opportunities for area residents.

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the former Philipsburg Area Hospital site. We believe that there should be an economic development purpose for the site and it is our hope that jobs might one day be located there.



Pictured at left, is Ryan Kirkwood, owner of UMI Performance, Inc., and Stan LaFuria, Executive Director of MVEDP

MVEDP Maintains Certified Economic Development Organization Status

The MVEDP recently learned that it has achieved the Certified Economic Development Organization designation for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. The Pennsylvania Economic Development Institute and the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association are involved in certifying economic development organizations across the state. There are less than 60 certified organizations in the entire state and the MVEDP is proud of the work that it has done to remain certified.

Each year, MVEDP staff must earn 20 credits in disciplines that meet the PEDI/PEDA requirements. At least five of the twenty credits must be in economic development finance.

MVEDP staff recently attended an all-day training in Harrisburg sponsored by the Council for Development Financing Agencies in order to complete the finance credits requirement. One of the key training sessions that day was the topic of supporting rural and small town development in places like Philipsburg/Moshannon Valley.

UMI

Continued from Page 1

both property and machinery that will enhance production.

“We are pleased to be able to assist area businesses like UMI Performance with their projects through the use of our loan program,” said Tom Scott, Chairman of the MVEDP’s Revolving Loan Fund program. “We have had this loan program since 1989 and it is an excellent tool to help businesses with funding for working capital needs, machinery and equipment purchases, and land or building purchases. One of the things that we are proud of is our ability to get loans closed within thirty days of loan approval. There is flexibility to our program that serves to help businesses in the most expedient manner possible.”

UMI Performance, Inc. is located in Rush Township in the facility formerly occupied by Shan/Shop-Bilt, a manufacturer that moved from the area to Wisconsin.

“The MVEDP’s loan has assisted UMI Performance in purchasing the property from the Wisconsin-based owner,” said Stan LaFuria, executive director of the Partnership. “We were pleased to partner with SEDA-Council of Governments (SEDA-COG) on this loan to UMI for the purchase of the property. When we were working with businesses in Centre County, it is SEDA-COG who can be a partner and when a project is located in Clearfield County, we work with the N. Central PA Regional Planning and Development Commission. We also work closely with the area banks on these projects.”

UMI Performance, Inc. is a manufacturer of replacement automobile suspension parts and the company is owned by Ryan Kirkwood. The company was established in 2003.

The Partnership’s Revolving Loan Fund Program

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UMI

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is available to manufacturing, service, retail, commercial, and wholesale/distribution firms. Funds can be used for land and building acquisitions, machinery and equipment purchases and working capital. Loans can range from between \$15,000 to \$100,000.

Companies or entrepreneurs interested in additional information about the Partnership's Revolving Loan Fund Program should contact 342-2260.

MVEDP Approves Loan to the Moshannon Valley EMS



The MVEDP recently approved a loan of \$74,500 to the Moshannon Valley Emergency Medical Services for the purchase of a new ambulance, a medic unit/truck, and other essential equipment. This was the seventh loan made by the MVEDP to MVEMS. The MVEDP has always recognized the importance of the ambulance company to the region, especially since the 2006 closure of the Philipsburg Area Hospital.

The MVEDP's Revolving Loan Fund Program is an excellent source of low interest loan financing. Funds can be disbursed to the borrower within 30 days of the receipt of a completed application and the Revolving Loan Fund Committee has always been flexible regarding the terms of the loan. The loan program is available to all types of businesses located within the Moshannon Valley region.

Housing Rehab Program



The MVEDP staff has begun implementing the new housing rehabilitation program which targets neighborhoods in both Philipsburg Borough and Rush Township.

Using \$350,000 in federal HOME Investments Partnership Program funds, the MVEDP will be working to assist income eligible, single-family homeowners.

The target area begins in the borough at N. Centre Street (Third Street) and extends out to the YMCA, with Presqueisle Street the boundary to the east, and Railroad Street to the west. Homeowners in the area of Rush Township near the former hospital and out to the Enterprise Center will also be considered. The funding is allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Anyone interested in this funding should contact Sherrie Beals at the Partnership at 342-2260.

Changes to PIDA will Help Area Businesses

Elected officials in Harrisburg have completely redesigned the state's top economic development loan funding program: the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority (PIDA).

Since the mid-1950s, the PIDA program was basically a low interest loan program that assisted manufacturers with their building expansion projects. Lee Industries, Nearhoof Machine, and Walker Lumber are three area companies that utilized PIDA loan funding for their building projects.

The PIDA program is now available to all types

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MVEDP'S 27th Annual Presidential Recognition Awards

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At a luncheon held Friday, April 24th, the MVEDP honored three organizations that are making a difference in the Moshannon Valley region:

Contribution to the Quality of Life

DuBois Business College

Beautification Award

Committee for a Moshannon Valley Veterans Memorial

Entrepreneur of the Year

TMMData


The MVEDP is pleased to recognize the owners of the two businesses, and the volunteers of the Committee for a Moshannon Valley Veterans Memorial for the work that they do to make their organizations successful.

The MVEDP wishes to also thank once again the four sponsors of the Awards luncheon: Clearfield Bank & Trust, CNB, Juniata Valley Bank, and M&T Bank.

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PIDA

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of businesses that are interested in low interest loan financing. Five other state loan programs have been combined into the PIDA program making other types of businesses eligible including: retail, construction, hospitality, child day-care, recycling, service, export, manufacturing, and computer-related service enterprises.

PIDA not only provides very low interest loan financing but also lines of credit for eligible businesses. Funds can be used for: land and building acquisitions, construction and renovation costs, machinery and equipment purchases, working capital and accounts receivable lines of credit. PIDA funding will only finance a portion of the total eligible project cost. The balance of funding must be derived from equity, bank financing or other sources.

The MVEDP is a Certified Economic Development Organization (CEDO). PIDA loans can only be packaged by CEDOs. If an area business is interested in exploring loan funding through the PIDA program, then contact the MVEDP at 342-2260. The PIDA program guidelines can be found on the Department of Community & Economic Development web site: newpa.com.

HRG

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an engineering perspective and determine if there was strong potential for future development to occur there. Issues analyzed included the site location, utilities, highway accessibility, soils, and the zoning of the site per the new Rush Township zoning ordinance.

The MVEDP's goal for the site is that it one day provide a positive economic impact to the region. A key issue at this time is the small number of ready-to-go sites available in the area.

The MVEDP only has 18 acres remaining for development within the Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park. None of the five remaining lots have natural gas service. Some companies specifically request natural gas when they are considering various sites for expansions or relocations. The former hospital site is served with a natural gas line making it a prime site for future economic development.

HRG, Inc. concluded that "the property is well suited for redevelopment for the purpose of economic growth, particularly given the size, location, and availability of existing utilities, particularly natural gas, and the KOEZ designation." The study also includes a recommendation to use the property as Light Manufacturing under the Commercial/Office zoning which could bring a positive economic impact to the region.

