

MOSHANNON VALLEY PROGRESS

Summer Issue

Volume 17 Issue 2



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The Organic Climbing LLC manufacturing facility is now under construction. Located in the Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park, this new facility will be the new home to a company that was once located in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Josh Helke is the founder, owner and president of the company.

“We are pleased with the construction work to date and we are looking forward to occupying our new building in early fall,” said Mr. Helke. Organic Climbing was first started in Wyoming in 2004. The company manufactures high quality bouldering crash pads for rock climbing enthusiasts from around the world. Backpacks, clothing, and tote bags are also made by the employees of the company. “We are proud to be an American manufacturer,” said Helke.



- Special Points of Interest:
- Free Advertising in The Spotlight
 - Membership Renewals



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Executive Director's Message



Happy summer to everyone throughout the greater Philipsburg/Moshannon Valley region. I have to first say how gratifying it is to see another new manufacturing facility being constructed in our region, the new Organic Climbing LLC facility located within the Partnership's Business Park. We are now down to just three lots available

in the Business Park. We have to now amp up our efforts to find another site that can be developed into a business park.

The market has been quiet the past few months from the standpoint of interest in our building space, sites, and revolving loan fund program. I am not sure exactly why it has been so quiet. Our federal government continues to inform us that unemployment rates are low, and that our economy continues to grow, yet the phones are quiet and the prospects few and far between at this time.

Joe Herrle, commercial/industrial real estate agent with Kissinger Bigatel and Brower, continues to represent our properties including the site of the former hospital, now our Philipsburg Area Commerce Park. Recall that last year we had two prospects that looked closely at this site as a possible new home for their businesses. One of the prospects was a local manufacturer and the other was a company from outside the area. The local company has decided to grow their operations at their current location.

It is great to see how busy our local manufacturers are right now. One way to measure what might be happening with a company is to drive around and take a look at how many cars and trucks are in their parking lots. I happened to be in the Business Park recently and was wowed by the number of employees

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Heritage Days Committee Honors MVEDP and Other Area Businesses

On Tuesday, July 10th, the Heritage Days Committee honored the MVEDP for our 30th year anniversary. Other businesses recognized included: Philipsburg True Value Hardware – 45 years, Ricotta Jewelry for 50 years in business, Adler's Market for 90 years, and Charles Navas-ky & Co. for 125 years. Congratulations to the Heritage Days Committee for a terrific festival and to the local businesses that celebrated special anniversaries this year.

MVEDP Ready to Assist Entrepreneurs and Existing Businesses

The MVEDP has the tools available to help entrepreneurs and existing businesses:

Financing

- Revolving Loan Fund program
- 50% of the project cost up to \$100,000
- partner with area banks
- all types of businesses are eligible
- access to PA Industrial Development Authority (PIDA) loan program

Sites Available

- Philipsburg Area Commerce Park
- 14.77 acres
- all utilities available
- Mo. Valley Regional Business Park
- Lots #3, #6, and #11
- 1.2 acres to 4.9 acres

Building Space

- Moshannon Valley Enterprise Center
- spaces available 5,000 sf. to 15,000 sf.
- smaller space available if needed
- Moshannon Valley Regional Business Center
- 7,000 sf. available in the Fall
- conference room and office area
- manufacturing space of 6,000 sf.

Organic Climbing

Continued from Page 1

Organic Climbing LLC has been a business tenant of the MVEDP's Regional Business Center since October 2010. Financing for the new manufacturing facility was put together by Mr. Helke using loan funding from Juniata Valley Bank, private funds, and a state loan through the PA Industrial Development Authority (PIDA) in the amount of \$800,000.00. Since the MVEDP is a Certified Economic Development Organization, we were able to secure this loan for the company in late 2017 at an interest rate of 2%.

Philipsburg-Osceola Area School District Helping Students Learn About Career Opportunities Here

On Wednesday, May 23rd, 130 students in Grade 10 visited five businesses located within the Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park to learn about how those businesses operate and what job opportunities are available there. P-O was successful in securing a small grant through the TEAM PA Foundation's Career Readiness Mini-Grant Program for this effort. Linda Hockey and Justin Hazelton of the school district were instrumental in securing the grant and organizing the tour of the companies.

The P-O School district's effort to help students learn about local companies and job opportunities was a feature story in the Team Pennsylvania Foundation's February news publication. This publication is a state-wide news source.

A great big thanks to Advanced Powder Products, PMG Pennsylvania Corporation, Diamondback Truck Covers, Organic Climbing, and the PA Department of Environmental Protection for opening their doors to the P-O students.

MVEDP Underway with Projects at the Enterprise Center



The Partnership is now underway with some very important projects that must be completed at the Enterprise Center. A loan of

\$77,500 from the PA Industrial Development Authority was secured for the project and the total cost of the improvements is estimated to be \$155,000.00.

Projects include: replacement of the main sewer line from the Enterprise Center to a Rush Township manhole, major rubber roof repairs, asphalt replacement and repairs, lighting upgrades and a new concrete floor in a 13,000 sf. area that was the home to Diamondback Truck Covers previously. The Partnership is also exploring the possibility of adding air conditioning to that space to make it more marketable to prospective business tenants.

MVEDP Adds New Marketing Video to Website

The Partnership has added a new video to its website to promote the Philipsburg/Moshannon Valley region to private sector companies. Staff worked with Seven Mountains Creative from the State College area and also with Shan Karimushan of the Philipsburg area to create this video.

There have been some significant investments made by businesses in the Moshannon Valley over the past couple of years. Windy Hill Village, Penn Highlands Medical Center, Diamondback Auto Accessories, UMI Performance, Organic Climbing, Advanced Powder Products, Lee

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Welcome New Members!

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Foxpro, Inc.

14 Fox Hollow Drive
Lewistown, PA 17044
1-717-248-2507

RC Bowman Inc.

7436 Nittany Valley Drive
Mill Hall, PA 17751
1-570-726-4707

MVEDP Adds New Marketing Video to Website *Continued from Page 3*

Industries, PolyK Technologies, Konecranes and other businesses have invested in this area and that investment will result in both job retention and job creation. MVEDP leadership thought it a good idea to create a video that would complement its website and promote the region to encourage more private investment here.

The video can be accessed through the MVEDP's website: www.mvedp.org. Or, by accessing the following site: <https://vimeo.com/254517438>.

Congratulations Presbyterian Organization on Expansion of Windy Hill Village

Congratulations to the leadership of the Presbyterian organization on their continued development of the Windy Hill complex. Windy Hill Village recently completed a \$10 million expansion and held a ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony in late July.

Thank You!

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

Renewals 2nd Quarter

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Space Available at the Enterprise Center

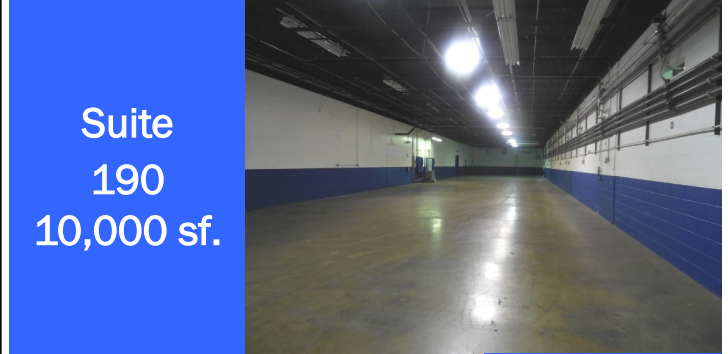
The Partnership's staff is working diligently to recruit new businesses to the Enterprise Center facility. Joe Herrle of Kissinger Bigatel and Brower is representing this property and he too is hard at work trying to find businesses that need good space for their operations. The table below identifies the suites that are currently available.



Suite 130	15,000 sf.
Suite 113	11,000 sf.
Suite 190	10,000 sf.



Suite
130
15,000 sf.



Suite
190
10,000 sf.



Suite
113
11,000 sf.

Sites Available at the Regional Business Park

Lot #	Total Acres	Developable Acres	Asking Price
Lot #3	8.5	1.2	\$30,000
Lot #6	4.9	2.2	\$55,000
Lot #11	4.9	4.9	\$123,075



MVEDP Has Low-Cost \$\$ to Lend

The MVEDP's Revolving Loan Fund program has been available to local businesses since 1988. 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 turn-around 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 loan financing.

Executive Director's Message

Continued from Page 2

working at the companies located there. Never forget that at the time that we first developed this site in 2001, it was labeled a “field of dreams” by an area resident. And recall too that the MVEDP decided back then not to sell the land to the largest retailer in the world.

We can't say enough about how important it is for young people to secure the skills needed by area companies if they want to stay in this area. We are closely tracking the two vocational technical schools that serve our region: Clearfield County Career and Technology Center, and the Central PA Institute of Science & Technology. The most important thing is that their course offerings match the job market here.

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Membership Renewals

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