

# MOSHANNON VALLEY PROGRESS

Summer Issue—July 2022

Volume 21 Issue 2

## MVEDP 32nd Annual Luncheon



From Left to Right: Bryan Bennett, Board President, Karen Blair, Vice President, Stan LaFuria, Executive Director.

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The MVEDP's 32<sup>nd</sup> annual luncheon was held on Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> luncheon. Instead, a complete update was provided about the changed economic development landscape during the first two years of the COVID pan-

dem. 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.

## MVEDP's SPOTLIGHT ON BUSINESS - CEN CLEAR



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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## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



We hope that everyone is having a great summer. Congratulations to all the people who work to ensure the success of the community festivals that are held throughout the region. The festivals help to instill pride in our communities. I was pleased to attend the Osceola Mills and the Philipsburg Heritage Days festivals.

The MVEDP is busy now making sure that our two building facilities are in tip-top shape. Roof repairs, pavement removal and replacement, and pavement sealing are top priority work items during this time of year.

Our Moshannon Valley Regional Business Center was the home to ChemStation of Ohio for the past twelve years. This company is a manufacturer of cleaning solutions and other similar products. The company decided to consolidate this central-PA facility with facilities that they have in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. The MVEDP is pleased to report that our next-door neighbor, Advanced Powder Products, Inc., has decided to lease this space to support their growing manufacturing operations. An office facility of just over 1,000 square feet is still available to lease at the Regional Business Center.

On this page is a terrific piece about Cen Clear of the Moshannon Valley region. We were pleased that their leadership agreed to be a participant in our **Spotlight on Business** feature. Cen Clear is a very large organization that employs many people from throughout the central-PA region. They provide many needed programs and services to help people both young and old. Thank you to Pauline Raab, Executive Director, and JoAnn Seltzer of Cen Clear.

## 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](mailto: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](http://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 7<sup>th</sup>. 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.

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT



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## SPOTLIGHT ON BUSINESS - Cen Clear Continued from Page 2

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](http://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.

## Thank You Members

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

### Renewals 2nd Quarter

Belding & Mull, Inc.  
Continued on Page 7

## State DCED/PIDA Office Re-Certifies the MVEDP

By letter dated July 7, 2022, the PA Department of Community & Economic Development notified the MVEDP that we have been re-certified as an economic development organization able to administer the PA Industrial Development Authority loan program.

Certification of the MVEDP by the state is something that is taken very seriously by the MVEDP staff and board of directors. With this certification, the MVEDP is permitted to administer this top-rated economic development loan program as a partner with the PA Industrial Development Authority staff.

Each year, the MVEDP must provide the state with information about our board of directors, revolving loan fund committee, staffing, and the number of hours spent in trainings that qualify under PIDA guidelines. The MVEDP staff participates in trainings throughout the year to upgrade its skills in financial and organizational management. The MVEDP would not be re-certified if the staff did not attend qualified training programs.

The letter from Jared Lucas, Executive Director of DCED's Office of Business Finance and Workforce Development office reads: "Thank you for your interest in renewing the certification and assisting the Department in ensuring that businesses seeking financing through the PIDA loan program receive the best service possible."

## State DCED Releases PIDA Interest Rates for 3rd Qtr. 2022

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

**Current Tenants -  
Moshannon Valley Enterprise Center**



**Current Tenants - Moshannon Valley  
Regional Business Center**



<u>Current Tenants</u>	<u>Lease Start Date/SF</u>
Lincare/Billing Ctr.	9/1/2001 (12,147 SF)
Lincare/Patient Service Ctr.	5/1/2007 (5,905 SF)
Centre County YMCA	1/1/2021 (12,000 SF)
CIU #10/Office Space	10/1/2021 (3,500 SF)
CIU #10/Warehouse Space	8/2/2021 (6,600 SF)
Concrete Simplicity	10/5/2020 (4,925 SF)
Drucker Diagnostics	11/1/1996 (74,033 SF)
EC Power	4/1/2017 (10,000 SF)
IWOM Outerwear, LLC	5/1/2018 (3,420 SF)
Konecranes	12/1/2017 (2,935 SF)
Moshannon Valley EMS	12/1/2013 (576 SF)
PolyK	12/1/2015 (11,700 SF)
Skills of Central PA	12/14/2018 (6,100 SF)

<u>Current Tenants</u>	<u>Lease Start Date/SF</u>
Advanced Powder Products	7/1/2022 (8,017 SF)
Creotek	12/21/2018 (7,822 SF)
Nittany Laser	6/1/2013 (7,732 SF)
Diamondback	4/15/2021 (Parking)

**MVEDP Has Low-Cost \$\$ to Lend**

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.

## Thank You Members!

Continued from page 5

Big Rock Swing & Ping  
 Boggs Township  
 BPOE #1173  
 C. Classic Dodge Chrysler Jeep  
 Central Steamer  
 Centre County United Way  
 Charles A. Jones Insurance Agency  
 Clearfield Wholesale Paper  
 Clemmer Fire Protection  
 CMT Laboratories, Inc.  
 CNB Bank  
 Colman's Asphalt Seal Coating  
 Conklin's Corner Antique Mall & Gift Barn  
 Cutting Edge Machining Solutions  
 Douglas Explosives, Inc.  
 Foxpro, Inc.  
 Fulton Bank  
 Genna Ice, Inc.  
 Glendale Industrial Development Association  
 Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.  
 Happy Valley Adventure Bureau  
 Happy Valley Mini Golf  
 Harpster of Philipsburg  
 Hi-Way Pizza  
 Hughes Bohley Engineering, LLC  
 Juniata Valley Bank  
 Lee Industries, Inc.  
 Mary Kay's Catering  
 Mike Baron  
 PA American Water Co.  
 Philipsburg Revitalization Corporation,  
 Philipsburg True Value  
 RC Bowman, Inc.  
 Rusty's Oil & Propane  
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## MVEDP Board of Directors

### FY 2022

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John Shimko	Board Member
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Rusty Christoff	Board Member
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## 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 an retaining 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 Continued from Page 7

### 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/>



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