



## MVPC Newsletters

### MVPC Progress Update

#### Vol. 49 No. 03-04; March/April 2013

The Progress Council's 48th annual dinner featured a welcome to the new owner of the Monessen coke works, ArcelorMittal, and presentation of "Join in Progress" awards and the Allison Maxwell Award for outstanding community leadership (Please see the attached display page on the annual dinner)// Proposed State Senate transportation legislation provides hope for additional Expressway funding and the Progress Council has partnered with the Construction Legislative Council of Western PA to broaden support for the legislation // Mid Mon Valley Intergovernmental Cooperative partners with the Local Government Academy on training sessions for local governments // Action still awaited on a proposal for state funding to support a partnership with the Mon Valley Career and Technology Center that would promote youth entrepreneurship

### PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

**The Progress Council's 48th annual dinner featured a welcome to the new owner of the Monessen coke works, ArcelorMittal, and presentation of "Join in Progress" awards and the Allison Maxwell Award for outstanding community leadership**

The theme for the April 25 Progress Council annual dinner at the Willowroom on PA Route 51 " A Celebration of Progress" was reflected in presentation of four awards for projects and leadership that is making a difference in our region.

The new owner of the Monessen Coke works received an official welcome to the Mid Mon Valley and was presented with a Frank Irely Jr. "Join in Progress" Award for their \$50 million dollar investment in the part that will retain or create 200 jobs. "Join in Progress" awards were also presented to the PA Turnpike Commission for completion of the 60-mile I-68 to PA Route 51 project and to representatives of the Charleroi Regional Police Department for creation of a regional police development.

Louis J. Panza became the thirteenth recipient of the Allison Maxwell Award for outstanding community leadership. His award was based on numerous accomplishments as President and CEO of the Monongahela Valley Hospital including instituting the Journey to Excellence (J2E) program in August 2006 that resulted in Monongahela Valley Hospital being recognized as "Number 1 in Patient Satisfaction in Western Pennsylvania" from 2009 to 2013.

A special thanks is offered to our dinner sponsors including: Constructors Association of Western Pennsylvania, First Federal Savings Bank, Guttman Oil, General Industries, Monongahela Valley Hospital, and SAI Consulting.

#### A Celebration of Progress: 48th Annual Dinner, April 25, 2013, The Willow Room



[Smart Government Initiative](#)



[MMVREZ](#)

### CORE ISSUES

[Regional Initiatives](#)

[Expressway/Southern Beltway](#)

[Assisting Local Firms](#)

#### Archive (PDF)

[Vol. 49 No. 01-02  
January/February 2013](#)

[Vol. 48 No. 11-12  
November/December 2012](#)

[Vol. 48 No. 09-10  
September/October 2012](#)

[Vol. 48 No. 07-08  
July/August 2012](#)

[Vol. 48 No. 05-06  
May/June 2012](#)

[Vol. 48 No. 03-04  
March/April 2012](#)

[Vol. 48 No. 01-02  
January/February 2012](#)

[Vol. 47 No. 11-12  
November/December 2011](#)

[Vol. 47 No. 03-04  
March/April 2011](#)

[Vol. 47 No. 01-02  
January/February 2011](#)

[Vol. 47 No. 09-10  
September/October 2010](#)

[Vol. 46 No. 03-04  
March/April 2010](#)

[Vol. 46 No. 01-02  
January/February 2010](#)

[Vol. 45 No. 11-12  
November/December 2009](#)

[Vol. 45 No. 09-10](#)



Photos:

1. Bob Burke, Masters of Ceremonies
2. Dinner attendees
3. Lou Panza, Allison Maxwell Awardee
4. Progress Awardee for completion of the I-68 to PA Route 51 Expressway project, PA Turnpike Commission, CEO Mark Compton
5. Bob Irely and Joe Kirk with PA Turnpike Commission CEO Mark Compton.
6. Greg Shamitko, ArcelorMittal, Progress Awardee for investment in the Monessen Coke Works and Joe Kirk, Executive Director
7. State Representative Ted Harhai and State Senator Tim Solobay with Greg Shamitko
8. Progress Awardees for the formation of the Charleroi Regional Police Department; North Charleroi Councilman Joe Vilella; Charleroi Mayor Nancy Ellis, Speers Mayor Bill Lee with, MVPC Board member Bob Irely and (back row) Chairman of the Mid Mon Valley Intergovernmental Cooperative Dennis Martinak

**Proposed State Senate transportation legislation provides hope for additional Expressway funding and the Progress Council has partnered with the Construction Legislative Council of Western PA to broaden support for the legislation**

State Senate Bill #1, to be introduced by Senate Transportation Committee Chairman State Senator John Rafferty, is projected to provide up to \$2.6 billion per year for transportation improvements. The bill is expected to follow funding formulas included in past transportation legislation that provided funding to the PA Turnpike Commission for the Mon Valley/Fayette Expressway and Southern Beltway.

Progress Council executive director, Joe Kirk, who currently serves as chairman of the Construction legislative Council of Western PA has been working on legislative briefings, individual meetings with legislators and a planned Harrisburg trip to demonstrate broad support for transportation funding.

**Action is still awaited on a proposal for State funding to support a partnership with Mon Valley Career and Technology Center that would promote youth entrepreneurship**

The Progress Council is hopeful that the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) will fund a proposal to develop a youth entrepreneurship program with Mon Valley Career and Technology Center (MVCTC).

The program would be based at the MVCTC facility in the Speers Industrial Park and would be open to

**Mid Mon Valley Intergovernmental Cooperative partners with the Local Government Academy on training sessions for local governments**

The Progress Council-administered Mid Mon Valley Intergovernmental Cooperative has partnered with the Pittsburgh-based Local Government Academy to sponsor a three-part series on tools to fight community blight.

The sessions, which are open to local elected officials and staff, will be held on May 10, June 14, and July 12 at the YMCA. The registration fee is \$85 and scholarship opportunities are available to reduce the registration fee by one-half. Please contact the Local Government Academy at 412-586-5659 or at [localgovernmentacademy.org](http://localgovernmentacademy.org) for additional information.

**September/October 2009**

**Vol. 45 No. 07-08**  
**July/August 2009**

**Vol. 45 No. 05-06**  
**May/June 2009**

**Vol. 45 No. 03-04**  
**March/April 2009**

**Vol. 45 No. 01-02**  
**January/February 2009**

**Vol. 44 No. 11-12**  
**November/December 2008**

**Vol. 44 No. 09-10**  
**September/October 2008**

**Vol. 44 No. 07-08**  
**July/August 2008**

**Vol. 44 No. 03-04**  
**March/April 2008**

**Vol. 44 No. 01-02**  
**January/February 2008**

**Vol. 43 No. 11-12**  
**November/December 2007**

**Vol. 43 No. 9-10**  
**September/October 2007**

**Vol. 43 No. 7-8**  
**July/August 2007**

**Vol. 43 No. 5-6**  
**May/June 2007**

students in area high schools that participate in MVCTC. Funding would support purchase of educational materials, instructor training, and course time.

The goal of the youth entrepreneurship program is to demonstrate the effectiveness of offering entrepreneurial education through career and technology centers throughout Pennsylvania. Local businesses will be engaged in program development and oversight.

**The Mon Valley Progress Council**

435 Donner Avenue | Suite 410 | Monessen, PA 15062 | 724-684-3381 | Fax: 724-684-5113