



MVPC Newsletters

MVPC Progress Update

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Progress is ...

Marcellus Industry business opportunities featured at June 29 summer quarterly luncheon meeting // The Mid Mon Valley Cooperative now at six communities - and growing // Two Mid Mon Valley firms could receive tax credits under a state tax credit program for businesses located in enterprise zones

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

Marcellus Industry business opportunities featured at June 29 summer quarterly luncheon meeting-

Joy Ruff of the Marcellus Shale Coalition was joined by Jim Protin of Chester Engineers in a presentation on business opportunities associated with the Marcellus Shale Industry. The presentation was part of the Progress Council's summer quarterly meeting held on June 29 at Monongahela Valley Hospital, Lombardi Education Center.

The Mid Mon Valley Cooperative now at six members - and growing-

Dunlevy Borough became the latest community to join an intergovernmental initiative of the Mon Valley Progress Council called The Cooperative. Dunlevy Borough joins North Belle Vernon, Donora, Allenport, Charleroi, and Speers who previously joined the effort to explore and implement cooperative strategies among Mid Mon Valley local governments.

Two Mid Mon Valley firms could receive substantial tax credits under a state tax credit program for businesses located in enterprise zones-

Brownsville Marine LLC in Brownsville and Monessen-based Alumisource could receive substantial tax credits for major building construction and improvement projects. The tax credits are through a Pennsylvania tax credit program for firms located in enterprise zones. Brownsville Marine could receive up to \$500,000 in tax credits and Alumisource could receive up to \$227,000. The Progress Council administers a nine-community enterprise zone program and provided assistance and support for the tax credit applications.

Marcellus Shale Industry business opportunities featured at June 29 summer quarterly luncheon meeting

Joy Ruff of the Marcellus Shale Coalition was joined by Jim Protin of Chester Engineers in a presentation on business opportunities associated with the Marcellus Shale Industry. The presentation was part of the Progress Council's summer quarterly meeting held on June 29 at Mon Valley Hospital, Lombardi Education Center.

Ms. Ruff, Community Outreach Manager of the statewide Marcellus Shale Coalition, provided clear advice for firms interested in seeking business in the industry, "Firms in the Marcellus Shale Industry already have a strong network of suppliers. You need to determine how you can better address a problem in the industry and work to establish relations with drilling firms or the network of suppliers".

Ruff emphasized that it is a highly competitive industry with very high standards. But even with the challenges, she noted that many firms have seen economic benefits from the Marcellus Shale Industry, "There are a range of direct suppliers and a broad range of supplier networks you can work with."

Jim Protin of Chester Engineers echoed Ms. Ruff's comments. Protin noted that Chester Engineers is an active member of the Marcellus Shale Coalition. He sees membership in the Coalition as one way to become more familiar with the Marcellus Shale Industry. Jim is also a member of the Progress Council's Executive Committee.

The Mid Mon Valley Cooperative now at six members and growing

Dunlevy Borough became the latest community to join an intergovernmental initiative of the Mon Valley Progress Council called The Cooperative. Dunlevy Borough joins North Belle Vernon, Donora, Allenport, Charleroi, and Speers who previously joined the effort to explore and implement cooperative strategies among Mid Mon Valley local governments.

A state grant that supported the Progress Council's efforts on the Smart Government Initiative ended on June 30. "We want to thank Representative Daley for securing a state grant for the Smart Government Initiative. We knew from the beginning that support of local governments was essential to continue work on intergovernmental cooperative efforts. The grant secured by Representative Daley laid the foundation for ongoing action." Progress Council Executive Director Joe Kirk said.

The Council is working with local governments to establish the Cooperative as a local government-supported organization. Current projects of The Cooperative include: a multi-municipal financial assessment that will wrap up in July, an assessment of the feasibility of a joint-rental, property-inspection program, and a study of alternative municipal recycling programs.

Two Mid Mon Valley firms could receive substantial tax credits under a state tax credit program for businesses located in enterprise zones

Brownsville Marine LLC in Brownsville and



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Attendees, including local manufacturers and representatives of Douglas Education Center, participated in a lively question and answer session. Rob Albinger of Conspec Controls stated that his firm has seen significant employment growth from the Marcellus Shale Industry. Tony Baez-Milan from Douglas Education stated that the Monessen-based, postsecondary proprietary school is initiating a training program for the Marcellus Shale industry in the fall.

Progress Council President, John Easoz, expressed appreciation to both Ms. Ruff and Mr. Protin for their joint presentation.



Monessen-based Alumisource could receive substantial tax credits for major, building construction and improvement projects. The tax credits are through a Pennsylvania tax credit program for firms located in enterprise zones.

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Progress Council president John Easoz praised the efforts to secure tax credits for local firms as, "a way to promote the growth of businesses already located in the Mid Mon Valley. He added, "We should remember that the vast majority of economic development comes from existing businesses in the Mid Mon Valley."

The Progress Council administers a nine-community enterprise zone. Please contact Joe Kirk, coordinator of the Mid Mon Valley Regional Enterprise Zone Program, for information regarding tax credits, low-interest loans and other benefits for firms located in local enterprise zones.

The Mon Valley Progress Council

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

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