

Mark Smith-Guest Speaker

Special Assistant to Governor Wolf.

Mark Smith serves as Special Assistant to Governor Wolf. Previous to joining the administration, Smith served nearly two terms as County Commissioner in Bradford County. He became the youngest chair of the commission in 2008 at the age of 29.

Mark has offered his service community numerous government related boards and commissions which have included Endless Mountain Visitors Bureau, Endless Mountain Heritage Region Board, the MH/MR Advisory Board, Bradford/Sullivan American Red Cross, Partners and Family Community Development Board, and the Bradford County Tourism Committee. Mark was also elected

to serve as a board member to the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) and the CCAP Natural Gas Task Force.

Prior to entering politics, Smith worked as an industrial designer in the automotive and plastics industries. Mark attended Athens Area High School, graduating in 1996. Mark went on to attend college in Pittsburgh and later, The College for Creative Studies in Detroit, Michigan, where he studied industrial design. In 2011, he was selected as one of twenty-two County Commissioners from across the nation to attend the National Association of Counties Leadership Institute in Washington D.C. provided by Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. Mark



resides in Susquehanna Township with his wife Jane Clements-Smith.

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Susquehanna County Director's Message

I am excited about the direction Susquehanna County has taken with economic development. The proactive and focused leadership from the County Commissioners and Economic Development Advisory Board is to be commended.

Having taken a planned approach to focus on key issues such as housing, business-site development and infrastructure directly addresses areas of investment that produce results. The coordination of infrastructure analysis, housing study and Route 81 business-site

analysis is leading to new investment and to job development. These plans provide a pathway to development by analyzing the costs and benefits of specific investment. This justifies the design, funding and construction of projects in an increasingly competitive state and federal grant environment.

I am very grateful for the support and trust of the public and private leadership in the great county of Susquehanna. We are committed to the continued development of opportunities for the citizens of Susquehanna County.



Anthony J. Ventello Executive Director

Chairman's Message



Joe Andre, Chairman Susquehanna County Economic Development Board

Projects and activities involving the natural gas industry continue to dominate the Board's attention. Although new production has presently been reduced, gas service to local consumers and other end users continues to expand at an aggressive rate.

The County Commissioners have taken a strong position concerning the installation of the waterline from Montrose to South Montrose by committing \$750,000 to the project. Plans also include an accompanying gas line, which when completed will make several development sites very attractive.

The Progress Authority administers a Revolving Loan Fund, of which

total assets have grown to approximately \$3.7 million. By design, such a fund needs participants in order to function as intended. Information is readily available, with the application process streamlined and user-friendly.

We would like to welcome Ken Bondurant and Brian Hinkley to the Board, and thank Adam Diaz for his previous participation. A hearty "Thanks" to all the board members who volunteer significant time and talent as well as everyone else who supports our efforts. Input from any source is always welcome and appreciated. We expect that the coming year will bring exciting challenges along with new opportunities for economic growth.

Cabot Oil And Gas Corporation Sponsor Annual Economic Development Breakfast

For four consecutive years, Cabot Oil and Gas Corporation has generously sponsored the Susquehanna County Annual Economic Development Breakfast. On behalf of the County Commissioners, Economic Development Advisory Committee and all of the attendees, a very heartfelt "Thank You" is offered.

Their financial help allows the breakfast to be openly attended and promotes informative dialog on the advances made in countywide economic development.

Northern Tier PREP



Continuing to Work Together
-By Kim Barnes

PREP (Partnerships for Regional Economic Performance) is Pennsylvania's statewide network of economic development service providers working together to deliver vital business assistance services across 10 regions of the commonwealth. The PREP network consists of hundreds of trained and experienced experts who offer assistance and resources. PREP's one-onone counseling, specialized workshops, online training and financial incentives make it one of the most coordinated and respected networks in the nation. PREP makes it easier to learn what public and private sector resources can be quickly harnessed to meet individual and company needs.

In the Northern Tier, the PREP network of partners includes the Progress Authority, Tioga County Development Corporation, Sullivan County Planning and Development, Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce, Small Business Development Centers from the University of Scranton and Wilkes University, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Industrial Resource Center, Penn State's PennTap, and NTRPDC, who serves as the PREP regional coordinator. Working together in a coordinated

fashion, the Northern Tier PREP network continues to bring results to real world problems for our entrepreneurs and business clients.

















Improvements Made To The RLF Process

The Progress Authority is a certified Area Lending Organization (ALO) as an Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), Industrial Development Authority (IDA) and General Purpose Authority. The General Purpose Authority is the administrative arm of our organizations. We have a 20 member board who were appointed by our member municipalities and wear 3 hats representing the 3 separate entities. Our board is the same for the IDC, IDA and General Purpose Authority.

Our revolving loan fund which has been our flagship program, is being utilized to leverage private and other public investment for economic development. We have met state standards as an ALO in administration, staff and loan analysis. Our loan administration has historically been done through our General Purpose Authority, via a 7 member RLF committee, that makes loan recommendations to the executive board, which are eventually ratified by the full board. While this process served us well in the past, it was cumbersome to facilitate a loan application that requires swift action, because of the strict meeting and voting requirements for a general purpose authority under the Municipal Authority Act.

At our March 12, 2015 board meeting, the Progress Authority voted to transfer the administration of our RLF from the General Purpose Authority to the IDC. The different meeting requirements of an IDC allow members to join the meeting via phone conference and email, thereby not requiring a quorum to be present in person. This will drastically improve the board's ability to meet quickly when an application needs prompt approval. This is a positive step in allowing The Progress Authority to better meet the needs of a fast paced business community. Applications are available online at www.cbprogress.org.



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Endless Mountains Health Care Pursuing Phase III Of Hospital Project

The Progress Authority is assisting the EMHS with the development of the Pennsylvania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant. The initial application/business plan captures the scope of Phase III work.

EMHS opened a replacement critical access hospital and medical office building on December 9, 2013. The facility that opened was Phase I and Phase II of a three phase project.

The Phase III portion of the project is to finish the original vision of two stories attached to the new facility consisting of approximately 22,800 square feet. This space has been designed to provide outpatient rehabilitation (physical, occupational and speech) therapy, cardiopulmonary services, infusion therapy and additional medical office space on the first floor. The second floor will be administrative office space, billing offices, conference rooms and community education space.

This will bring all hospital services and administration and billing to the main campus. Currently these services



Endless Mountains Health Systems new hospital.

are off-site, creating additional expense and inconvenience to patients and staff. Access and quality will improve for those patients seeking these ancillary services. In addition, it will lead to a more efficient provision of these services. This project will add 66 more parking spaces to accommodate patients and personnel.

The original project far exceeded

the estimates for additional jobs created in the area, and we expect this project to add another 10 jobs.

The projected project cost is \$7.5 million. The architectural firm is BDA Healthcare Architects, 200 Abington Executive Park, Clarks Summit, PA.

The RACP application has requested \$3 million in capital budget funding.

Susquehanna County Target Site Assessment Completed

Susquehanna County initiated the Target Site Assessment to serve as the foundation for developing a new business park in the county. It is targeted to provide business development specifically utilizing an analysis of the six interchanges of Interstate 81. The six interchanges South to North include Lenoxville, Lenox, Harford, Gibson, New Milford and Great Bend. The six sites were evaluated based on factors such as terrain, floodplains, and infrastructure.



The analysis assessed the strengths and weaknesses of Susquehanna County and its I-81 interchange sites as related to six major east-west corridors in close proximity to Susquehanna County. These market factors and strong rail presence were evaluated for potential trans-loading opportunities. *The target site assessment summary can be seen in table 1 on page 5.*

The Gibson Interchange appears to be the optimal location. It has the greatest potential for developable properties. The availability of developable properties and Penn DOT's planned improvements to the interchange make the

Continued on page 5



Susquehanna County Target Site Assessment Completed-Continued

Gibson Interchange the most attractive option. Additionally, the study provided a target industry analysis with the greatest growth potential.

Heavy users of natural gas would be a great growth opportunity. This, coupled with energy generation, could be a strong attraction given the strategic market location and low-cost fuel. An analysis of development feasibility was also given. An evaluation of investment opportunity, investment risk and profit potential was developed. Additionally, implementation steps for site development were identified.

Lastly, the county is considering several options for site control along the designated corridor. This is a critical step for implementation and construction.

Lenoxville	Limited development potential No water & sewer access Largest workforce availability Could potentially support housing development
Lenox	Limited development potential No water & sewer access Could potentially support housing development
Harford	Developable properties available Steep slopes would inhibit truck traffic Could potentially support housing development
Gibson	Developable properties availble - properties currently for sale could support development Flat terrain / easy access / interchange improvements planned by PennDOT for 2016 Existing sewer infrasturcture, but near capacity / no water infrastructure
New Milford	Limited development potential Water & sewer access available in New Milford Borough Rail access Could support provide transloading for development at Gibson interchange
Great Bend	Limited development potential Rail access Water & sewer access available Great Bend Borough Could support provide transloading for development at Gibson interchange
Table 1	Target site assessment summary.

Pennsylvania DCED Consolidates Its Lending Programs

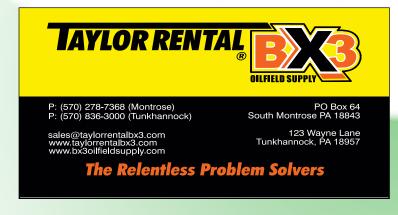
With the passage of Act 161, all of the traditional economic development programs have been consolidated into the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority. The consolidation is an effort to streamline and simplify the state business lending system. PIDA will continue overseeing its traditional building and land programs with the following additions: Machinery, Equipment, and Loan Fund (MELF), Small Business First (SBF), Pennsylvania | machinery and equipment and working

First, and various other state loan programs. The Authority will now be able to offer these programs to purchase



capital in addition to the traditional retail/ service and small business sector loans. The lending program has new guidelines, which can be accessed at www.newpa. com/PIDA. Updates have also been made to the single electronic application with all other applications being eliminated.

The Progress Authority is a certified lender under the state programs and will be attending additional training to utilize the consolidated funding available under PIDA.







Diaz Manufacturing Relocating And Expanding

Diaz Manufacturing, owned by Adam Diaz and located in Bridgewater Township, is the largest manufacturer in Susquehanna County. They are a manufacturer of hardwood cabinet doors and specialty products. Diaz Manufacturing



Current Diaz Facility.

is a true value-added company, as the raw materials from PA hardwoods, kiln drying and processing are all from Pennsylvania and locally based. The plant was acquired in 2010, which had 35-40 employees, and has grown to 80 employees. Due to this enormous growth and demand for their high-quality products, Diaz manufacturing can no longer efficiently produce in their existing manufacturing plant, nor can the plant accommodate needed expansion. Diaz Manufacturing is currently planning their expansion to a 50 acre site they own in South Montrose, Bridgewater Township. The expansion is critical to the demand for their product. Currently



Mockup of the proposed new Diaz facility on Route 29.

under proposal is a new 100,000 square foot manufacturing facility with associated equipment. This expansion will ultimately accommodate 150 employees with \$6 million of new investment on the site. The high visible existing site will provide useful commercial development real estate along the Route 706 corridor.

Route 29 South Public Water/Gas Line Project Receives Public and Private Support

What started as a public utility water line extension project has expanded into a multi-utility dynamic partnership. A blend of benefits is evident with the interest that started with the feasibility study conducted by PA American Water Company. Since the completion of the study, demand for public water to serve both public and private interests, including public facilities, private businesses and residential development, has increased. The project proposes a 3,500+ foot water-service extension along Route 29 south, ultimately to terminate at the former 64-acre Bendix Aviation property in South Montrose. The evaluation identifies several existing and proposed users to justify the estimated \$1.826 million in investment. The project identifies job support with existing businesses and job creation with the expansion of local manufacturing

facilities. This also includes site utilization, and the creation of 30 – 40 new housing units, as well as the resolution of water-supply issues at the county jail and nearby properties. This many also increase post-secondary educational opportunities.

There is now interest in providing natural gas service distribution in the shared corridor by Leatherstocking. Initial discussions have begun to develop this aspect, further strengthening the utility corridor. PennDOT will play a large role in allowing this development as the corridor proposes topographic challenges.

The greatest advancement is the commitment of \$750,000 of Act 13 Impact Fee Funds to the project by the Susquehanna County Commissioners. State officials have also expressed willingness to fund additional grant-in-aid for the project under the

PA First Program as a result of the direct community and economic development impacts. The advancement of corridor development/design and construction is also planned and additional cost-sharing is being developed by the partners involved and benefited.

The project's time line given design, permits, cost-sharing and construction is targeted for the spring of 2016.





The Progress Authority Susquehanna County 2015 Work Program

Organizational:

- Meet monthly with the Economic Development Board in order to prioritize projects of significance to Susquehanna County.
- Utilize Cabot Corp. offices as a regular meeting place.
- Fill board vacancies.
- Continue to effectively manage and expand when possible the EZ Revolving Loan Fund and the SSBCI (State Small Business Credit Initiative Revolving Loan Fund).

County Relations:

- Meet regularly with the Susquehanna County Commissioners, state and federal legislators to provide economic development updates and project opportunities.
- Assist Forest City Borough and Greater Forest City Industries in the management of the Forest City revolving loan fund.
- Implement Housing Development Study.

- Review and redefine County service contracts.
- Develop target market initiatives.
- Continue to assist County with ACT 13 Impact Fee implementation plans and investigate infrastructure bank program.
- Foster strong PREP (Partners for Regional Economic Performance) primary partnership with NTRPDC, NEPIRC, SBDC and associated parties; finalize and complete round-table discussions.
- Continue to administer the Susquehanna County Enterprise Zone through the Keystone Communities Program and grow local financing resources. Utilize all state programs when available.

Business Opportunities:

- Continue development of rail trans-load.
- Solidify relationships with all major employers in Susquehanna to create awareness of the Progress Authority's capabilities and funding opportunities.

 Develop a Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA) for new projects in specified municipalities.

Funding:

- Explore additional bond financing opportunities to support economic development projects through our IDC/IDA mechanisms.
- Maintain Progress Authority's DCED certification and actively promote relevant financing programs.
- Act as a conduit for state and federal funding sources that can benefit private business projects.

Infrastructure and Business Development:

• Support key infrastructure projects and enhancements involving public water, sewer, electrical, natural gas distribution and transmission pipe lines, telecommunications and data infrastructure, primary and secondary roads, and rail.

Continued on page 8

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The Progress Authority Susquehanna County 2015 Work Program-Continued

- Maintain an inventory of potential business development sites in Susquehanna County as prospective project destinations.
- Explore Value Added
 Opportunities to Attract
 Manufactures that can capitalize
 on Local Marcellus Shale Natural
 Gas Resources.
- Continue to market key business development sites and seek occupancy for available vacant industrial/commercial facilities.
- Implement Specific Critical Projects, Including:
 - Complete Feasibility Study for Industrial Park along the I-81 corridor.

- Promote upgrades at the Gibson Interchange of I-81 to allow future development along Route 848 and Oliver Road.
- Continue assistance to Endless Mountains Health Systems with the construction of Phase III of the new hospital campus.
- Continue to support efforts to extend public water to the Susquehanna County Correctional Facility and recycling center and to former Bendix Site, Route 29, and other corridors as identified.
- Work with Greater Forest
 Cities Industries to continue to seek occupancy for the Vision 2000 Industrial Park.

- Help facilitate reconstruction projects on Route 706 in Susquehanna County.
- Promote redevelopment of the Hallstead Foundry site.
- Continue to work with Leatherstocking, LLC for the development of the natural gas distribution lines.
- Continue efforts to occupy and utilize vacant industrial properties.
- Continue to promote Keystone
 Opportunity Zones (KOZ) as state
 authorizes new opportunities.
- React quickly and responsively as future business development projects are identified during 2015.

This Is An Exciting Time For The Montrose Chamber

We have a revitalized board, consisting of old and new board members as well as an advisory committee. As part of our restructuring, we have put new committees in place who are now diligently working on strategic initiatives focusing on promoting our community and businesses. We have a new state-of-the-art hospital, and a new three-lane road going through town. New businesses are coming to town and buildings are going up. If we look back over the last 10 years, the chamber has grown by leaps and bounds, and we hope to continue this trend. We have so many activities and events planned for the year, such as Christmas in Montrose, Citizen of the year, 4th of July fireworks, a golf tournament, a meet

and greet, a job expo, and a legislative luncheon, to name a few. Our monthly education luncheon is held the third Tuesday of every month, and has been well received.

If you are not already a member, we encourage you to sign up and give this new board an opportunity to create value-added meetings and events



where you can get out and talk to other business leaders and find out what is going on in our community.

By becoming a member of the chamber you benefit from so much:

1. Supporting our economic development.

- 2. Being a part of our networking events.
- 3. Our monthly luncheons.
- 4. Staying informed about community events such as chocolate and wine festival, blueberry festival, Fourth of July and Christmas in Montrose.
- 5. Being able to utilize our new website, which helps you promote your business. You can even develop your own website through ours.

This year is a year for change and growth for not only the chamber but our county. So please take the time to visit our website at www.montrosearea.com. If you have any questions please feel free to call any board member or email us at Tammy.Bonnice@williams.com or call 570-278-1174.

Continued on page 9



This Is An Exciting Time For The Montrose Chamber-Continued

2015 Board of Directors:

- President Tammy Bonnice
- Vice President Joe Hunt
- Secretary Marilyn Morgan
- Treasurer Cheryl Wellman

Members at Large:

- Diane Dean
- Seneca Lewis
- Ronlyn Corwin
- Paula Andeson
- Cindy Beeman
- Jeff Tyler

Advisory Board:

- Dan Ricci
- Mark Shelp
- Peter Quigg
- Dave Kosik
- Judy Kelly
- Nancy Wood

Spotlight On Economic Development Tools: Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ) Andre & Son Inc.

The Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ) program is one of the nation's boldest and most innovative economic and community development programs. This unique program develops communities' abandoned, unused, or under utilized land and buildings into business districts and residential areas that represent a well-rounded and well-balanced approach to community revitalization. Through credits, waivers, and broad-based tax abatements, a business located in a designated KOZ zone will benefit from reductions in or outright elimination of many taxes. A complete listing of taxes affected can be found at www.newpa.com/koz.

Since the KOZ program's inception in 1999, it has led to the creation of 19,707 new jobs in PA and produced private capital investment in real estate totaling \$1,503,765,974. The state is currently not accepting new KOZ applications but the program has been opened up at various times in the past. If the program is opened up in the future, the Progress Authority is poised to help any business with the application process.

The Andre business traces its roots back to 1914, when Floyd Andre and William Sweet partnered to operate the Andre and Sweet gristmill in downtown Montrose. After Sweet died in the 1920's, Floyd's son, DeWitt, joined the business, and the firm became known



Exterior of Andre & Son Powersports building.

as Andre & Son in 1931. Between the years of 1958 and 1965, DeWitt's three sons, Neil, Dave, and Joe joined the business. The milling and retail lines of business continued to expand while the company began focusing heavily on lime and fertilizer activities. In the early 1990's, the fourth generation of the Andre family expanded the business as Scott, Mark, and Steve Andre joined the team. As a result, a commercial turf business developed.

In an effort to attract more business development in part of Montrose in 2000, the local economic development board applied for and received KOZ designation on a five acre site along Route

706 that was owned by the Andre family. In 2006, Andre & Son relocated its retail farm and home store to its present location on that five-acre site. The business already had various other buildings adjoining this site and by relocating the store to this site, the entire Andre operation was housed on one large campus. The construction of the retail store on the five-acre KOZ site allowed the business to benefit from the program only for this retail line of their business. It did not affect the existing parts of the business that surrounded the zone.



Spotlight On Economic Development Tools: Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ) Andre & Son Inc.—Continued

At the time of the KOZ designation in 2000, Andre and Sons employed 22 individuals. Through their hard work and dedication to grow and enhance their business, the Andre family expanded the workforce to 54 employees across all segments of their business by the time that the KOZ designation expired in 2013. Since the designation has ended, the business has continued to grow. The most recent expansion came when Andre & Sons Powersports constructed a new building on their campus.

The Andre & Son's utilization of the KOZ program is an excellent example of how certain economic development tools can be leveraged to help a successful business continue to grow. Please feel free to contact the Progress Authority to discuss potential economic development tools that may help to enhance or grow your business.



Interior of Andre & Son Powersports.

Unique Combination Of Organizations Helps Fund Infrastructure

-By John Kameen

The VISION 2000 Industrial Park, owned by Greater Forest City Industries Inc. (GFCI), has been seeking tenants, unsuccessfully, for 10 years. The 28-acre park, located in southeast Susquehanna County, has two 8-acre shovel-ready building pads with sewer, water and paved roads.

Since last year, two prospects have rejected moving here due to their need for natural gas. Though we have a UGI regulator station on our property line, the utility is charging \$250,000 to run 2000 feet of gas line to our two pads. For most prospects, such a utility expense is a deal-breaker. Imagine, here we are in the heart of Susquehanna

County's Marcellus Shale natural gas zone and getting gas is a problem!

GFCI contacted Tony Ventello of the Progress Authority and Rachel Hauser of the Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission (NTRPDC). Ms. Hauser found an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant specifically for natural gas infrastructure. NTRPDC was then able to get U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide some additional funding and to administer the ARC grant.

Both grants totaled \$200,000 and required a \$50,000 match from GFCI, funds which GFCI did not

have. However, GFCI and Forest City Borough jointly operate a Revolving Loan Fund which is administered by the Progress Authority. The RLF Committee agreed to loan the \$50,000 match to GFCI to be repaid when land is sold in the park.

Thus, GFCI was able to fill a need by using a combination of economic development organizations, government funding, and a locally-administered revolving loan fund to achieve a funding goal. The cooperation of all these entities will make it possible to construct the natural gas pipeline into the park and make it much more attractive to potential prospects.



The Meadows At Tiffany Pines Opens

The Meadows at Tiffany Pines ribbon cutting took place on July 17th at 11:00 at the development located at SR 7006, McCullum Road, Bridgewater Township, Susquehanna County.

The \$11 million dollar development was funded by RBC Investors via the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency. The total building square footage is 56,678, consisting of sixteen 2-bedroom and twenty-four 3-bedroom townhouses.

The impetus of the development was a Trehab Strategic Plan to cooperate with local government officials to assist in housing development to meet a serious housing shortage for moderate-income families and to provide affordable housing to county residents.

Trehab efforts include close cooperation with state and county elected officials and the Progress Authority.

Construction began in late Summer 2013, which included construction jobs for 60-75 workers to complete the 13 month construction time frame.

Importantly, the Tiffany Pines development was an early beneficiary of distribution efforts from county officials, Cabot Oil and Gas, and Leatherstocking Gas to expand local gas used by county residents. Tiffany Pines residents benefit from considerable savings for heating costs due to this effort.

The development was completed by December 15, 2014 and rented out by January 2015.



Left to Right: Front - Phil Smiley, Trehab; Debra Valunas Representative for State Rep, Sandra Major; Fred Wickizer, Tiffany Pines Resident; Nícolas Troutman, Representative for Senator Gene Yaw; Ronald Williams, President of Trehab Board of Directors; Susquehanna County Commissioner, MaryAnn Warren; Gary Marcho, Trehab Board of Directors; Ruth Wilmarth; Chris Tully, RBC Capital Markets, Cassandra Coleman, Director of NE Regional Governors Office; Edlyn Flannery, Trehab.

Back Row: Eugen and Jenny Paumgardner, Tiffany Pines Residents; Gary Baker, DCED; Dennis Phelps, Trehab Executive Director; Katrina Colvin-Stilts, Leatherstocking; Tim Madden, Grimm Construction; Ray Wilmarth; Mike Shepherd, Grimm Construction; Bill DesRosiers, Cabot.

Governor's Impact Award

Congratulations to SWN, winner of the Governor's Community Impact Award. The singular thing that drives Southwestern Energy

and its employees comes from its business formula the right people doing the right things to increase value. Along with its support of the United Way, they also provide training and grants to first responder agencies through its Everyday Heroes Program.

Finalists included Snake Creek Lasers, LLC in the

Entrepreneur Impact Award category Small Business category. Congratula-

and Robert Heed Logging, Inc. in the tions to all finalists.



The Governor's ImPAct Awards are designed to celebrate the succe of companies and individuals who are investing in Pennsylvania. strengthening our communities, and creating jobs that pay. Your contributions to Pennsylvania's economy are deserving of that recognition, and it is my pleasure to congratulate and shank you.

As a lifelong Pennsylvanian and business owner, I understand the As a strong control of the strong control of the strong challenges you face every day, and I am inspired by your dedication to strengthening the economy and putting Pennsylvanians to work. As governor, creating jobs that pay is one of my top priorities, and I know

hat in order to accomplish that, government must be a constructive partner in the free market. We will work responsibly with the private sector, enabling businesses to grow and allowing you to create quality jobs that will strengthen our middle-class families.

To support this vision, I have proposed a budget that creates a competitive business climate, To support this vision, I have proposed a budget that creates a competitive business carries, improves the purchasing power of middle-class families, prepares a well-trained workforce, and provides historic properly tax relief that will benefit Pennsylvania business owners, both large

We also need to leverage Pennsylvania's strengths. Our skilled workforce of more than 6.3 We also need to reverage remayivaria a strengths. Our action working or increasing the million should be supported by the specialized education and training that today's jobs require. mison should be supported by the specialized education and training that today's jobs require Our abundance of natural resources, including gas, timber, fresh water, agricultural land, and associate the support of eye-calching landscapes, should be leveraged in the most responsible way. And investment in our world-class universities, higher education, and community colleges should equip new graduates for jobs that pay.

We are the state that gave birth to a nation. Let's be the generation that demonstrates more than ever Pennsylvania's keystone role in making America great.

Again, on behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, congratutations and thank you to all of the nominees. I wish you continued success.

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om Wolf



Advisory Board Welcomes Ken Bondurant

The Susquehanna County Economic Development Advisory Board would like to welcome Ken Bondurant as its newest member. Ken resides in New Milford Township and serves as the municipal Emergency Management Coordinator. He retired in 2010 from the Travelers Insurance Company after 36 years of service, where he served as a director in the Major Case Unit. During his career, he managed various field and home-office operations and he headed the Corporate Disaster Response

Team for many years. Ken is a graduate of SUNY and Fairleigh Dickinson

University with degrees in Business Management and Administration.

In addition to Ken's role in emergency management, he also serves as chairperson of the Susquehanna County Railroad Authority. He

is also a member of the Susquehanna County Services for Children and Youth Advisory Committee.

Prior to becoming a full-time resi-

dent of Pennsylvania in 1991, Ken resided in Connecticut and served as the chairperson of the Middletown Area Regional Transit District and was a member and chairperson of the Connecticut Public Transportation Commis-

sion. His hobbies include travel and antique automobiles.

Small Scale Electric Generation Facility Underway in Susquehanna County

Using locally produced natural gas, IMG Midstream has plans to build small-scale electric-generation facilities throughout the Marcellus Region. Their first site, Roundtop Energy, located in Auburn Township, Susquehanna County is under construction and expected to be in-service this fall.

Each site will be located in close

proximity to natural gas production as well as local electric substations to minimize the need for added infrastructure. The low-profile design includes a 70 ft X 110 ft building that incorporates noise mitigation and engines with advanced technology to reduce air emissions. At full capacity, each site could provide enough electricity to power 13,000 homes.



Progress Authority

Susquehanna County Commissioners

Alan Hall	Chairman
Michael Giangrieco	Commissioner
MaryAnn Warren	Commissioner

Susquehanna County Economic Development Advisory Board

Joe Andre.......Chairman
Ken Bondurant
George Conner
Debra Dissinger
Brian Hinkley
John Kameen
William Kelley
William Owens

Steve Tourje

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Executive Assistant

The Progress Authority is an equal opportunity lender.