THE NEWS*FLOW*

PORTPITT

The Newsletter of the
Port of Pittsburgh Commission

2024 Vol 2 (issue #17)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

April's showers brought more than any of us could have expected. With unprecedented rain events in the region, your diligence in the face of adversity was never more evident, or important. We wish to thank all of our partners who kept us informed and, most importantly, safe during the last few weeks. Its times like these that truly sets the Port of Pittsburgh apart, and ultimately brings us together.

In our 3 Rivers / 3 questions segment, we feature Jason Aristides of OpenTug, who brings a new online business platform to the Port, to better connect our local partners to the nationwide inland network   Additionally, the PortPITT staff has been busy with a number of other initiatives, including taking our Lunch & Learn educational series to the community of Tarentum, assisting with "We Work the Waterways" at the Gateway Clipper, and with the USCG MSU Pittsburgh's Industry Day. As always, our own Nate Turer is keeping you up to date with happenings affecting your business in cyberspace with an article on protecting your network.

A final note: Next month, we will publish a "Special Edition" of the Newsflow to kick off National Safe Boating Week, and the recreational boating season. We will provide tips, updates, and information from our partners in an effort assist all who use our rivers. Please be safe out there, and enjoy this edition of the NewsFlow!

Mary Ann Bucci Executive Director, Port of Pittsburgh Commission

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USACE PUBLIC MEETING
Thurs. May 16. 7--9 pm
Elizabeth Forward High School
1000 Weigles Hill Road, Elizabeth, PA 15037

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District is hosting a public information session to provide an update on the **Lower Monongahela River Project** as it nears the final phase.

For more information on this important public meeting, please go to pages 5 and 6 of the Newsflow for a full press release, or click here:
USACE Public Meeting Lower Mon River 5.16.24

### PortPITT Community Outreach in Tarentum

The Port of Pittsburgh Commission continues to take its "Lunch & Learn" program into communities we serve in our 13-county region. On Thursday, March 14, the PPC staff hosted the first event of 2024 at the Allegheny-Kiski Valley Heritage Museum located in Tarentum, as a group of nearly 40 attendees were treated to a complimentary lunch.

The PPC Lunch & Learn programs share our programs directly with communities served by our rivers. Attendees in

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3 RIVERS, 3 QUESTIONS

with *Jason Aristides*
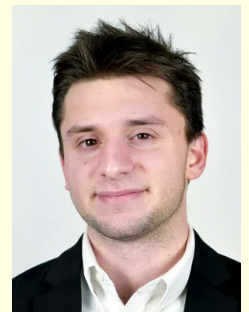
Jason is the CEO and co-founder of OpenTug, the first digital shipping network built to connect freight with barges and terminals nationwide. Jason combines experience in the maritime industry and software development.

1. Jason, the Port of Pittsburgh Commission is very excited about our partnership with OpenTug! Tell us more about the platform and how this began?

It's great to be working with the Port of Pittsburgh, and we're excited for this partnership! Without convenient access for the global shipping community, the inland marine transport industry will continue to fight an uphill battle toward growth.

OpenTug gives shippers unparalleled direct access to inland transport services, by creating the first digital connection

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GOOD THINGS FLOW FROM HERE

Community Outreach in Tarentum (continued)

Tarentum were presented an overview of the Port of Pittsburgh Commission and its current initiatives related infrastructure, promotion of commercial and recreational navigation on our three rivers, as well programming specific to the Allegheny River, such as the Save The Allegheny River (STAR) coalition. Also discussed were funding programs such as the Sen. James Ferlo Memorial Small Grants Program, our CMAQ Marine/Landside Diesel Retrofit program, as well as several grants available on the state and federal level.

The PPC wishes to thank those who attended in Tarentum, as well as the Allegheny-Kiski Valley Heritage Museum for making this event possible.
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3 Rivers, 3 Questions with Jason Aristides (cont.)

directly to barge, terminal, and transload providers. We make the ambition of broad awareness and understanding of inland transportation real, reducing the friction of business and bringing more cargo to the waterways.

2. Tell our stakeholders about the OpenTug Port Connect, and it's Pittsburgh component, the PortPitt Portal?

OpenTug Port Connect (via the PortPITT Portal), gives ports a discovery platform to help Terminals, Warehouses, Transportation Providers, and Shippers make connections faster and get more business done. OpenTug does this through a digital application that blends marketing, communication, and booking into one seamless experience.

The platform enables terminals, warehouses, and facilities to market information on capabilities, commodities, capacities, and access points, alongside other tenants. This enables shippers to view all the capabilities of the Port in one view, allowing shippers to instantly get connected to the perfect service provider for their needs, driving more business to those involved.

3. How much will a participating company have to "work" the portal, including entering information or tracking referrals, and how can we alleviate any concerns a company may have to participate?

It's extremely easy to make yourself visible and look good on the platform - it takes less than 10 minutes to configure your facility in OpenTug, and it's even faster to make edits and updates once you're set up. OpenTug only shares marketable information to help businesses get more visibility and streamline communication without compromising proprietary data. Users have full control of their profiles, what they respond to, and how much they choose to share within the platform.

Visit the Port of Pittsburgh OpenTug portal.

JOIN THE PITTSBURGH SAFE BOATING COUNCIL!

To inquire about joining, contact Scott: scott@portpitt.com

With a New Name, "We Work the Waterways" Returns to Introduce Young People to the Waterways

We Work the Waterways, (formerly known as "Who Works the Rivers") returned to the Pittsburgh and the Gateway Clipper on Tuesday, April 9th.   As a program now under IRPT, "We Work the Waterways" is back with a new name, and the continued, vital goal of introducing students to the maritime industry through education, hands-on learning, and engagement opportunities with maritime representatives. Nearly 170 students from the greater Pittsburgh region gained firsthand experience and knowledge from a variety of industry representatives in the Port of Pittsburgh area.

"At 'We Work the Waterways', we take pride in facilitating connections within the maritime industry and providing students with invaluable experiences, opening doors to lifelong career opportunities that can support both themselves and their families." said Errin Howard, Program Director of We Work the Waterways.

During the half-day event, students learn a great deal about our industry including the importance of their location on the inland river system, the commodities moved on our rivers, advocacy for infrastructure enhancements, as well as maritime skills such as line throwing and knot tying. The program seeks to champion the diverse range of quality career opportunities within our industry and bolster morale across our workforce by highlighting individual achievements at all levels.

The Port of Pittsburgh Commission would like to thank We Work the Waterways and their staff, as well our local stakeholders who continue to volunteer their time to make this event possible.

U.S. Coast Guard Industry Day

US Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Pittsburgh held its annual Industry Day on March 1st at the Allegheny Couty Emergency Services in Moon Township. The event is an educational opportunity for mariners to interact with the Coast Guard and other organizations who serve our rivers. Sessions included the latest trends in the industry from the USCG Towing Vessel National Center of Expertise, USACE status report on the removal of the Elizabeth Lock and Dam, OSRO (Oil Spill Removal Organization) Response, and an update from USCG Ohio Sector Command.

A special award presentation was made to "Cruisin' Tikis" captains Jason Ruhle and Robb Rusiewicz for their heroic efforts to rescue individuals in distress last summer. More than 80 individuals attended Industry Day, and special thanks to Cmdr. Eric Velez and his entire staff for organizing the event.

120th Traffic Club Dinner Celebration Features Former Steeler Charlie Batch

The Traffic Club of Pittsburgh hosted its 120th Annual Dinner on Thursday, March 21st, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Downtown Pittsburgh. Nearly 600 guests attended this year's event, which featured keynote speaker, former Pittsburgh Steeler quarterback Charlie Batch. Mr. Batch related his inspired message of success based on his own experience of overcoming obstacles, resiliency in the face of adversity, and always being a consummate professional.

At the event's President's Reception, the Traffic Club continued its longstanding tradition of providing undergraduate scholarships to qualifying supply chain management students. For 2024, the Traffic Club of Pittsburgh awarded scholarships to nine young professionals, totaling $75,000. Since inception of the Traffic Club of Pittsburgh merit-based Scholarship Program, over $900,000 has been awarded to college students. Scholarship applicants have gone on to find employment, internships, and networking opportunities with prominent companies whose executives are members of the Traffic Club.

Traffic Club Dinner (continued)

"The Annual Traffic Club dinner this year was another success, we were lucky enough to have a great Pittsburgher in Charlie Batch as our guest speaker and he did not disappoint. The scholarship winners were outstanding representatives of their respective schools and it was a great networking event for our industry.", said George Petrus, Traffic Club President.

The 121st Traffic Club Annual Dinner will be held in March 2025. For more information on the Traffic Club of Pittsburgh, click here: https://www.trafficclubofpittsburgh.org/

Protecting Your Network From External Threats
by Nate Turer

I hope everyone is having a good spring, and that neither you, nor your computers have been having an allergic reaction to anything. Just as during springtime we take steps to protect ourselves from sunburn, allergies, and other inconvenient maladies, we should protect our computers and infrastructure.

A term often used in security is "threat surface". Your threat surface, sometimes called an attack surface, is the points of vulnerability that your organization or even a specific piece of hardware or software has. For software, this may be all the points of commands or data into or out of the program. For an organization, phishing and social engineering against those with access to critical systems may be another point of vulnerability. In this article, I'm going to talk about minimizing your organization's threat surface.

Access control is a first step in managing your organization's or system's attack surface. You wouldn't leave your home, your office, or your company vehicle unlocked with the key in the ignition. So why should you leave your computers vulnerable? While it might be harder to visualize, the digital realm and communications signals in the air and wires are as real as you and me, and the damage or loss of them, could be just as devasting as an invaded home or office.

This is why password protection is important. (For a more complete overview of choosing and setting passwords you can refer to back issues of The Newsflow for pertinent articles.) But having a password set in the meantime is vital. Hackers trawl the internet for unsecured access points. It isn't a question of if it will be found, but how soon. All networks should be password protected, including guest networks. Workstations or any device that connects to a company network should be password protected. Devices that you are not able to ensure if they have access control, such as employee or personal computers, should not be allowed on a secure network with clear separation between the secure network and guests.

But what good Is a gate without a wall? Certain exploits can be conducted without even having to log in to your device. These exploits may take advantage of flaws in software or configuration. To prevent these exploits, we must prevent those connections. And for that, we use a firewall. A firewall is a network control system, that monitors and controls the incoming and outgoing traffic of your network according to parameters you have set.

A core concept to this is "ports." Digital communications take place over different ports for different purposes on the software level. A firewall may open or close ports, or set rules for what can not connect to them. A firewall, when properly configured, should not just be one way, but also monitor outbound traffic to prevent unauthorized traffic outwards. A firewall limits your threat surface by limiting who and what can even touch the secure network.

Organizations with manufacturing equipment or heavy equipment utilizing SCADA ("Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition" used for controlling, monitoring, and analyzing industrial devices and processes) systems should have internal

NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Pittsburgh District
Public Affairs Office
1000 Liberty Avenue
20th Floor Suite 2003
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 2, 2024
Release No. NR24-123
Contact: Public Affairs Office
Phone: 412-395-7500
E-mail: CELRP-PA@usace.army.mil

Corps invites public to attend information session about dam removal, new navigation lock opening

ELIZABETH, Pa. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District is hosting a public information session to provide an update on the Lower Monongahela River Project as it nears the final phase.

As part of the project's next phase, the Pittsburgh District plans to demolish the dam near Elizabeth and open a newly constructed navigation lock in Charleroi this year.

WHO: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District (USACE)

WHAT: This public information session is a forum for the community to learn about the project's progress and future and to address community concerns. It will consist of a 60-minute presentation followed by a question-and-answer segment.

Stations will be available after the presentation for community members to engage district experts one-on-one about topics such as the project's history, status, river levels, potential effects to nearby residents' personal property, and upcoming project activity.

"Many of the navigation improvements made on our rivers go unnoticed by the residents and communities bordering the river," said Steve Fritz, the district's megaproject program manager. "However, there will be noticeable changes to river levels in the summer of 2024."

In 1994, USACE began modernizing locks 2, 3, and 4 on the lower Monongahela River in the Braddock, Elizabeth, and Charleroi communities. USACE will begin removing Monongahela River Locks and Dam 3 in mid-2024. Removing Locks and Dam 3 is the project's final phase after completing construction work at Locks and Dam 4 in Charleroi. The initial phase was completed in 2004 and included major construction work at Locks and Dam 2 in Braddock.

"This signifies the culmination of 30 years of engineering and construction efforts to modernize the navigation facilities on the lower Monongahela River," said Fritz. "In addition to providing reliable river navigation for the next century, this project will return more than $200 million in annual benefits to the region and nation."

More information about the project and related documents are available at https://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/Submit-ArticleCS/Projects/Article/3640563/lower-monongahela-river-project.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT
1000 LIBERTY AVENUE, 20TH FLOOR, PITTSBURGH, PA 15222
www.lrp.usace.army.mil

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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

WHEN: 7 – 9 p.m., Thursday, May 16.

WHERE: Elizabeth Forward High School, 1000 Weigles Hill Road, Elizabeth, PA 15037.

WHY: Public meetings are important opportunities for communities to learn about, provide feedback, voice concerns, and share information about district activities and objectives. Locks and Dams 2, 3, and 4 on the Monongahela River in Allegheny, Washington and Westmoreland counties are the three oldest currently operating navigation facilities on the Monongahela River. These locks experience the highest volume of commercial traffic on the entire Monongahela River navigation system, and the pools created by these facilities provide industrial and municipal water and are popular with recreational boaters.

General Information:

Pittsburgh District's 26,000 square miles include parts of western Pennsylvania, northern West Virginia, eastern Ohio, western Maryland, and southwestern New York. Our jurisdiction includes more than 328 miles of navigable waterways, 23 navigation locks and dams, 16 multi-purpose reservoirs, 42 local flood-protection projects, and other projects to protect and enhance the Nation's water resources, infrastructure and environment.

To find Pittsburgh District's published photos & videos, visit:
DVIDS: https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/USACE-PIT

Website: https://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/About/Districts/Pittsburgh-District
LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/usacepittsburgh
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/PittsburghUSACE
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/PittsburghUSACE
Twitter: https://twitter.com/pittsburghusace

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Three Rivers Pollution Response Council, Inc.
PO Box 349, Westmoreland City PA 15692
threerprc@gmail.com

Alice Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund

Date: _____

Name: _____

Institution you will be attending: _____

Your Home Address:

_____

E-mail: _____

Telephone Number: (_____)_____

GPA: _____ (must have at least a 3.5 HS or 3.0 College) Please provide a school transcript.

Class Rank: _____

On a separate piece of paper please answer the following questions:

1. List your school activities including offices held, awards received, athletic, music, drama, science and/or other participation and areas of special interest.

2. Describe your community services activities. How have you made a difference?

3. Express your future plans, education or career goals.

4. What is your parent's participation with the TRPRC? Name, Company and Email?

5. What interests you for your own enjoyment outside of school or community service activities that you are involved in?

Please submit this completed application, along with a copy of your school transcript to Three Rivers Pollution Response Council, PO Box 349, Westmoreland City, PA 15692. The winner will be award $1,500. The winner will be selected by the TRPRC Board of Directors by June 30th, 2024.

Deadline to apply is May 31, 2024

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants must be 1) a direct relation to a **member company who attends the meetings** of the Three Rivers Pollution Response Council and 2) This does not include worldwide offices. This is for High School Seniors who will be applying to the fall term as a freshman, or any current College Student attending a 4-year college program.

THE NEWSFLOW

PORTPITT
Port of Pittsburgh
Commission

2024 Vol 2

Page 9

Protecting Your Network (continued)

firewalls separating enterprise networks from those the SCADA system is connected to only allowing necessary traffic into that secure network. SCADA systems should not be exposed to the greater internet or wider area network. These systems are of great importance, and likewise have significant vulnerabilities due to the fact they may interact with physical, tangible items via programable logic controllers.

Compromise to this system could represent a risk to the safety of persons, equipment, and infrastructure. Firewalls should prevent external access to the internet from these devices, with internal firewalls separating them from enterprise systems. SCADA systems controlling PLCs, actuators, or other machines that can affect physical change on the environment should be controlled from an engineer's terminal or human machine interface, with any form of remote control done only when strictly necessary if at all.

Further internal firewalls should also exist between the HMI (human machine interface) and SCADA servers, and any data or historian servers as well, providing another layer of defense between the logic controllers and internet. Configuring a virtual private network to allow access for remote workers, traveling management, or internet networks can be a secure way of "crossing" the wall. Firewalls need to be configured for this, and two factor authentication should be utilized to ensure it is only those you want inside the castle, i.e., who can make it past the walls. Limiting your organization's threat surface may seem to be a daunting task, but is essential. And we wish everyone success in their spring cleaning of both their office and their network.

Traffic Club *of* **Pittsburgh**

Election Golf Outing

Cranberry Highlands Golf Course

Registration is OPEN 🏌️
June 12, 2024 10:00 A. M.

www.trafficclubofpittsburgh.org

OUR PORTPITT TEAM

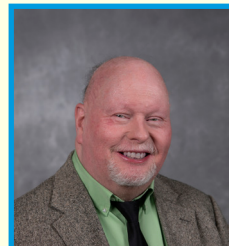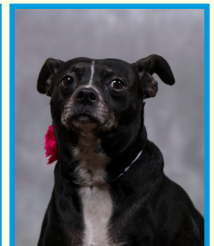| **MARY ANN BUCCI** Executive Director	**SCOTT HARSHMAN** Marketing & Program Manager	**MATT PAVLOSKY** Public Relations Manager	**MIKE BRINZA** Operations Manager	**NATE TURER** Logistics & Cybersecurity	**MICHA** PortPitt Mascot

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