

People, Progress, Impact: business finance, entrepreneurial coaching, community revitalization

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press Releas

Meyer House Improved, Expanded, Ready for Love The Progress Fund helps restore home, enhance area's status as a romantic getaway

Davis, W.V. – July 9, 2007 – Historic renovations at the 115-year-old Meyer House Bed and Breakfast are complete, and a new suite custom-made to transport couples straight to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century is projected to open July 29, 2007.

The work's completion is the result of three years of effort by owners Jonathan and Cindy Robeson, aided by financing from The Progress Fund, which specializes in helping businesses that build the tourism industry.

The Robesons have restored Meyer House to its former glory, removing drop ceilings and carpeting to expose the original surfaces, and bringing new attention to the fine late 1800s woodwork. The original three rooms have been enhanced and remain available to visitors, and the added suite brings a new level of luxury lodgings to Tucker County at just the right time.

"This is a very popular area that's coming into its own," says Jonathan. "A lot of people are coming here now for high-end romantic getaways."

In fact, the Robesons themselves left the bustle of the Washington, D.C., area in search of a better lifestyle in Davis. When they set out to buy and restore Meyer House, the first challenge was finding financing.

They turned to The Progress Fund, which loaned \$57,000 in spite of the difficulty in appraising the value of the venerable Meyer House.

"We're happy to help the Robesons, because we feel the area's tourism industry is really taking flight," says Fund President & CEO David A. Kahley. "Polishing the jewel

that is Meyer House and adding the new suite to the area's offerings can only help that process along."

For more information on Meyer House, visit www.meyerhousebandb.com, or call (304) 259-5451. Media tours are available. For further information on The Progress Fund, call (724) 216-9160, or visit www.progressfund.org.

The Progress Fund is a vigorous non-profit loan fund that creates jobs and improves communities by providing entrepreneurial coaching and capital to small businesses in the travel & tourism industry. The Progress Fund serves 39 counties in Pennsylvania, Appalachian Ohio and West Virginia. The Progress Fund was founded in 1997, and has loaned more than \$18 million to 207 enterprises, creating or preserving more than 1,573 jobs.

The Progress Fund is an equal opportunity provider and employer.