

PROGRESS, STABILITY GROWTH

Governor Edward G. Rendell said the budget unveiled earlier this month will provide more than \$2.3 billion to invest in Pennsylvania's infrastructure, communities and citizens to continue creating jobs and growing the economy.

"A stimulus package is urgently needed to protect and build on the progress we've made in the past five years," Governor Rendell said in unveiling his "Protecting Our Progress" initiative — a major element of the 2008-09 budget proposal he will submit to the General Assembly.

"Right now, Pennsylvania's economy remains strong because we worked in a bi-partisan manner to address the challenges we faced," the Governor said. "Our revenues remain stable so far this fiscal year and we have a record-high job count at 5.8 million. But there are storm clouds in the national economic forecast and we need to continue working together now to ensure residents and businesses can weather any storm."

Governor Rendell's Protecting Our Progress strategy has three key elements:

- Immediate, targeted tax rebates to keep struggling families afloat given rising energy and fuel prices;
- Release of state funds to meet the pent-up demand for public construction development projects; and
- Stimulating business expansion and job creation and retention. In addition to providing the tax rebates, Governor Rendell's Protecting Our Progress plan calls for:
 - Quick passage of an additional \$750 million in Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program, or RACP, funding to jump start \$1.5 billion in community and economic development projects. Nearly \$200 million worth of projects are ready to go by the end of this year, and nearly a billion dollars more are in various stages of readying for development.
 - Immediate enactment of The Jonas Salk Legacy Fund to provide \$1 billion to build new facilities for health-related research. Right now, \$750 million in projects are ready to break ground before the end of this year. Tobacco Settlement Funds would cover half of development costs at no cost to taxpayers.
 - Enactment of the Energy Independence Strategy to put \$850

(Continued on page 2)

What's going on Next Week.....

"Intro to CareerLink Services"

Presented by Sharone Glasco
Tue, February 19th, 10:00-11:00 am

"Interview Basics"

Presented by Sharone Glasco
Tue, February 19th 12-1:30 pm

"Salary Negotiation"

Presented by Sharone Glasco
Tue, February 19th, 1:30-2:00 pm

"Career Exploration"

Presented by Sharone Glasco
Wed, February 20th 9:00-2:30pm

"Resumes and Cover Letters"

Presented by Sharone G.
Thur, February 21st 9-11:30 am

"Resume Critique"

Presented by Debbie H.
Friday, February 22nd, 9:00-12:00

million to work expanding the alternative energy sector and helping consumers bring down their household energy costs.

- Launching “Rebuilding Pennsylvania” to repair the state’s aging infrastructure with more than \$700 million to accelerate progress in the next three years to repair at least 1,000 bridges, all state-owned high-hazard dams, and help local governments repair their dams. In addition, capital funds will provide targeted infrastructure improvements to expand rail freight and aviation facilities and mitigate flooding.
- Replenishing one of the commonwealth’s most successful economic stimulus programs —Business in Our Sites — with \$100 million to continue cleaning up and revitalizing old industrial sites, making them “shovel-ready” for business reuse. The Department of Community and Economic Development has a waiting list of projects worth \$50 million. Approval of the funds would clear the way for business development that could commence by the end of this year.
- Increasing incentives for job creation from \$1,000 per job to \$3,000 per job through the job creation tax credit program and lowering the interest rate charged for key commonwealth economic development program loans to two percent below the prime rate.
- Adding \$10 million to the infrastructure development program. There now are at least 10 businesses, including new and expanded manufacturing facilities in the pipeline, that could put these funds to use by the end of this year. These funds leverage an additional \$250 million in private capital.
- Extending the Keystone Opportunity Zone program to encourage development of underutilized land and buildings, creating business districts to revitalize local economies, spur job creation and improve the quality of life in KOZ areas.

NEWS CLIPS.....



.....**One of the nation’s most effective workforce development leaders**, someone who helped participating Pennsylvania workers earn 13 percent higher wages, has been named by Governor Edward G. Rendell as the commonwealth’s acting secretary of the Department of Labor & Industry.

Sandi Vito, Pennsylvania’s deputy secretary for workforce development for the past five years, is replacing Stephen Schmerin, who announced his resignation this past month after serving as Labor & Industry secretary since the Governor appointed him.

.....**Aiming to make tuition more affordable for career changers** and those just out of high school, **Career Development & Employment, Ltd. (C.D.E.)**, a partner in the **PA CareerLink Monroe County** has achieved U.S. Department of Education designated Accreditation and Title IV student funding. Accreditation is a rigorous standard that certifies the quality and competency of licensed colleges and vocational learning institutions. Title IV is a U.S. Department of Education student funding program, available only through accredited learning institutions, that provide student loans and grants.

.....**Mark Your Calendars-Save the Date!** For the Pennsylvania Partners 24th Annual Employment Training & Education Conference, May 7th-9th at Hershey Lodge in Hershey. This year’s theme: “Leading the Way in the Global Economy”, Keynote Speaker: “Robert Pruitt”—provides leadership training, motivational speaking, workshops and seminars throughout the United States and in other nations.

February Birthday Wishes Go Out to....

Diare Bogusky

Mike McGowan



.....with many thanks to the Donna’s—

*Sokolowski for baking the Birthday Cake for our Celebration on Wednesday,
and Gerrity for coordinating, creating and hosting the Valentines Day Extravaganza! (pictures in the next F41)*



TEAMOLOGY

TEAM: A number of persons associated together in work or activity to perform a common goal.

CareerLink

Administration TEAM

It really is just around the corner!!! This year, Daffodil Days, one of the most popular and longest running benefits for the American Cancer Society, will be March 24 - 28, 2008. **Nancy Henry** will have more information in the coming weeks!



Business Services TEAM

On Thursday, February 7th, the BST coordinated an “Employment and Education Fair” for the soon to be dislocated workers at LAIRD TECHNOLOGIES. The Employer session was held in the morning and featured 15 area employers of which the 200 Laird workers were able to personally inquire about employment. In the afternoon 150 workers took the opportunity to check out training programs presented by the 18 educational providers in attendance.

On Monday, February 25th, from 12:30 to 4:00 pm, WEILER CORPORATION will be here recruiting for production workers and maintenance mechanics. If any job seekers are interested in WEILER, please have them come in by 2:30 so they are able to complete the application and testing process.



Career Guidance TEAM

AND THE NOMINEES ARE ...

The Pennsylvania CareerLink recently nominated Angelica Arieta for the Governor's Achievement Award under the Adult Funding. She attended Career Technology Center of Lackawanna County and successfully completed the Practical Nursing Program. She is presently an LPN with Loving Care Agency, Inc.

The EARN Program is excited to announce 2 nominations for the 2008 Governor's Achievement Awards. Amparo Alvarez is the nominee for the participant and Advance Door Technologies (ADT) is the employer nominee. If they are chosen, they will be presented an award at the PA Partners Conference in Hershey on May 7-9. Good Luck!



Customer Information & Resource TEAM

February's Staff In Service was held yesterday. Coordinated by the CIRT, and facilitated by team member **Sharone Glasco**, the meeting kicked off with the Team Building Exercise-“Getting to Know You Bingo” and included an overview of **CareerLink** and Workforce Information by **John Casella**, a sample of the workshop “Introduction to CareerLink Services” by **Sharone** and “The Latest Hands On CWDS Job Search Developments” by **Ken Oakman**.



JOB ORDERS Spotlight



Weiler Corp

DS2

—Machine Operator Production
-web 542665

—Industrial or Autobody Painter
-web 540856

ReDCo Group

Pocono Pool & Spa

—Psychiatric RN or LPN
-web 542423
—Intake Utilization Review Coordinator
-web 542419

—Construction Supervisor
-web 542001
—Retail Store Clerk
-web 542113



North Penn Legal Services

NE PA Community Federal Credit Union

—Staff Attorney-Stroudsburg
-web 542654



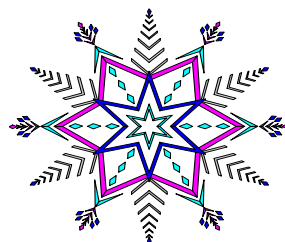
—Operations Support Specialist
-web 598

Writing on The Wall....

**Have a Safe & Happy
Presidents Day Weekend
The Office Will Be Closed
Monday, February 18th**

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Any submission, request or question to be included in the FYI can be submitted to Deborah Harrison, at:

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