

## PA KEEPS IN BALANCE

With the national economic crisis continuing to affect state revenue collections, Gov. Edward G. Rendell said that his administration has identified \$350 million in cuts to help keep the 2008-09 budget balanced while preserving crucial services.

Cabinet secretaries have responded to the Governor's request by identifying \$289 million in savings in their agencies while preserving critical spending, including funding for state police protection and much-needed health, education and safety net programs for our most vulnerable citizens.

The \$289 million in cuts to agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction is in addition to the 1.3 percent budget reduction that Governor Rendell agreed to in budget negotiations because of economic conditions. The enacted budget is \$72.4 million less than the budget he proposed in February. With revenues for the current fiscal year coming in below expectations, last month the Governor directed his cabinet secretaries to cut 4.25 percent of their enacted budgets. Agencies that provide public safety, health and education services were given smaller percentage targets to meet. As part of his call for fiscal restraint, the Governor also announced a general hiring freeze and bans on out-of-state travel and on the purchase of new vehicles for the state fleet. The funds from all cost-saving measures will be put into budgetary reserve.

Unlike many other large industrial and competitor states, the commonwealth continues to have historically high numbers of Pennsylvanians working. The state has 163,700 more jobs today than it did in January 2003, and Pennsylvania's unemployment rate was 7 percent better than the nation in September and has been at or below the national average for 67 of the past 69 months.

This high level of employment bodes well for projected personal income tax collections next April. "The national economy is extremely volatile and, despite the solid footing

*(Continued on page 2)*

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

#### **"Resumes & Cover Letters"**

Presented by Sharone G.

Monday, November 3rd, 9:00-11:30

#### **"Intro to CareerLink Services"**

Presented by Sharone G.

Tue, November 4th, 10:00-11:00

#### **"Mock Interviews"**

Presented by Sharone G.

Tue, November 4th, 12-1:30 pm

#### **"Career Exploration"**

Presented by Sharone G.

Wed, November 5th 9-2:30 pm

#### **"Resume Critique"**

By Appointment with Debbie H.

Fri, November 7th 9-12:00 noon

#### **Our Mission**

**"The Primary Source of Excellence in  
Workforce Development in the  
Pocono Communities"**

of Pennsylvania's economy, we recognize that there will be additional challenges throughout the year," he said. "The wisest course of action is to reduce spending now while being prepared to take additional steps as needed as we gain more information until the crisis subsides."

Earlier this week, in his role as chairman of the National Governors Association, Governor Rendell sent a letter on behalf of the nation's Governors asking Congress to pass an economic recovery package that helps states and spurs economic growth by temporarily increasing the federal matching rate for Medicaid and providing additional funds for infrastructure investment.

As he reviewed the current state of the commonwealth and national economies, the Governor emphasized: "This is a work in progress. We will continue to take the steps necessary to ensure that our budget stays in balance."

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# BIO-TECHNOLOGY



Life sciences, technology, manufacturing-it's all a part of biotechnology, another High Demand Occupation Industry Cluster in our workforce investment area. To succeed and grow in the 21st century economy, biotechnology employers need to fill each position in their companies, from entry-level to the most advanced with qualified, skilled individuals. Because the industry is experiencing such a rapid growth, biotechnology firms often demand more skilled workers than are available and are projected to need more workers than are currently enrolled in training programs.

Different stages of the biotechnology process include Research and Development (R & D), Quality Control & Assurance, and Manufacturing & Production with sub sectors of biotechnology such as Agriculture, Bioprocessing, and Bioinformatics.

**Northampton Community College** offers specialized diploma programs in this area and has recently presented PETRI (Pipeline for Education, Training, Resources and Innovation) Project Information Sessions educate both potential students and employers of the opportunities in this field. For more information contact **Cindy Adams**, PETRI Project Director at 610-332-6095.....Also note, **Cindy** will do a special presentation at the next Staff In Service on Wednesday, November 12, 2008.



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## Before October leaves .....

**Happy Halloween!** A Spooktacular time was had by all at the CareerLink Halloween Monster Bash. The Customer Information and Resource Team hosted the party, (with a hand-literally on the cake made by **Nancy Henry**-from other teams). Thanks to everyone present! (photo's on page 3)

**Happy Belated October Birthday to....Bob Garraty.**

## November is almost here.....

**Fall Back! Day light savings time ends** at 2:00 am Sunday, November 2nd. Don't forget to set your clock's back to gain that hour of sleep lost last March!

**Lo Cost Eyeglass Clinic will be** Monday, November 3rd, 9:00 am-1:00 pm. Income eligible individuals of all ages can get glasses for \$36 which includes new frames, lenses for single vision or lined bifocals. Folks need to get a prescription form an eye doctor and call 1-800-901-1912 for an appointment.

**Get Out and Vote.....**on Tuesday, November 4th. Check out The Pennsylvania Department of State's official election Web site – [VotesPA.com](http://VotesPA.com) . It's winning praise from the Pew Center on the States, which recently ranked the site fourth out of the 50 states and the District of Columbia for its usability.



# TEAMOLOGY

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



## Veterans Affairs



Get Straight Answers About Veterans Benefits...Disabled American Veterans Mobile Service Office will be in the CareerLink of Monroe County on Monday, November 3, 2008, 10:00 am-6:00 pm. Veterans can get free benefits counseling from a specially trained professional DAV National Service Officer.



## Customer Information & Resource TEAM

On the road again....Monday, November 3rd, CareerLink Workshop Coordinator Sharone Glasco will be presenting "Resumes and Cover Letters" and reviewing "Interview Basics" with students in the school to work program at Pocono Mountain East High School.



The seats are filling quickly for the special seminars and events to be held during Health Careers Week, November 9th to 14th! The "Healthcare Employer Symposium" will be held Monday, November 10, 2008, 9:00 am-12:00 noon. Designed to give job seekers an in depth look at high demand health care careers, this symposium will feature panel presentations by top employers in the health care profession. "Healthcare Training Opportunities" is scheduled for Thursday, November 13, 2008, 9:00 am-12:00 noon to provide information on training opportunities and includes presentations by area training providers, financial aid officers and workforce training professionals.

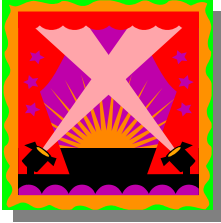
Welcome back Kathi Hamilton! She is once again available to assist in the Career Resource Room and will be on the schedule Wednesday afternoon. Thanks Kathi and CDE!



## Halloween Photo Scenes.....



....Beach Bum, Witchy Woman, Sarah, The Colonel



# JOB ORDERS Spotlight



## Eastern Monroe Public Library

—Circulation Manager  
-web 601986

## Licensed Practical Nurse

—Loving Care Agency Inc  
-web 603214

## Chateau Hotel

—Sous Chef  
-web 601976



## Fernwood (Bushkill Group)

—Cooks  
-web 601035



## Robbins-Gioia, LLC

—Associate Analyst  
-web 602202

## Freelance Writer

—Twin Willow Publishing Co  
-web 598243



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