Mr. Bob Stone, Manager of the Susquehanna Home Center, contacted the Youth Career Advisor about accepting a youth for a spring 2012 PWE. Ben Gall, a high school senior who graduated on June 9, 2012, was selected to participate in the PWE (Paid Work Experience) with the Home Center. Ben worked from May 7 to June 4, 2012, through the WIA Youth IN Program.

After the PWE was completed, the Career Advisor was contacted by Mr. Stone and Ben was hired as a part-time employee. The role of our youth in the workforce needs to increase in preparation for the aging workforce that is getting ready for retirement. Ben now has the opportunity as he transitions from the life of a student, to experience the workforce and build his resume history.

Trehab is very grateful for the support that the Susquehanna Home Center Staff offered Ben. Ben was involved in many extracurricular activities his senior year and the Home Center went above and beyond to accommodate Ben’s schedule. The Susquehanna Home Center understands the importance of hiring today’s youth and is a tremendous Workforce Partner.

Finding a summer job is difficult for youth due to the current nationwide adult unemployment situation. The WIA Youth Program helps the teenager have an opportunity to gain the work experience for a positive life experience.

As an employer, if you are interested in any WIA services, please contact your local BST Member for more information.

Joan Mazikewich/Patti Brown
Susquehanna County
The “Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012,” extended EUC benefits and added a requirement for reemployment and eligibility assessments (REA) for individuals receiving Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) benefits.

Similar to the Profile Re-Employment Program (PREP) where regular UC claimants are identified and called-in to the PA CareerLink® office for services, EUC claimants will be informed that they are required to participate in the reemployment and eligibility assessment as mandated under section 4001(i)(2)(A) of the EUC Act. This new requirement was implemented to assist individuals receiving EUC benefits to become reemployed more quickly.

The assessment will include Orientation to all the available services provided by the PA CareerLink®, an overview of labor market and career information, and how to obtain or locate that information. Assessments of the individual’s skills, which also will include one on one help with resume and looking for or obtaining employment. Last but not least, a EUC work search activity review will be completed to ensure that applicants are applying to open positions which match their knowledge, skills, and abilities.

The overall mission of the staff at the PA CareerLink® Tioga County is to help these individuals who have been long-term unemployed get back into the workforce in positions which not only match up with their skill set but also provide sustaining wages.

Robert Shannon
PA CareerLink® Tioga County

All PA CareerLink® Commonwealth Workforce Development System (CWDS) and Partnering Agencies services are provided to our customers at absolutely no cost!

Please visit us at www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us to connect to online services whether you are an applicant seeking good employment, or employer, in search of good applicants.
This year, the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce combined a business expo, gas expo and job fair into one incredible event. Sponsored by Southwestern Energy, Williams, and Citrus Energy, the exciting jam-packed event took place at the Wyoming County Fairgrounds from 10 AM to 4 PM on Friday, June 1, 2012.

This was the first time the Chamber combined three events, as well as the first time utilizing the Kiwanis fairgrounds as a venue. Nearly 2,500 people attended the expo. Over 140 vendors were present for job seekers and businesses hoping to network with other businesses.

Participating companies promoted their business and educated new customers. Those who hired new employees were pleased with the outcome and expressed interest in being notified of this event for next year.

Businesses interested in participating in next year’s event should contact the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce at 570-836-7755. If your business is not a Chamber member, this is another great reason to join the Chamber.

In the future, should you be looking to hire new employees, please contact your local PA CareerLink® representative to discuss advertising your job openings at no cost.
Effective Monday, June 25, 2012, the PA CareerLink® Bradford/Sullivan Counties has a new home. The CareerLink office, located for the past 20 years at 218 Main Street in Towanda, is now located at the newly renovated first floor of 312 Main Street, Towanda.

The PA CareerLink office now shares the historical First National Bank of Bradford County building with the Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission (NTRPDC). The relocation brings additional public services under one roof as NTRPDC provides opportunities for small businesses and municipalities including loans, procurement, export assistance and other services.

NTRPDC also houses the staff to the Workforce Investment Board (WIB), which is charged with the oversight of workforce development activities in the five-county region. “Our lease was up and we were renting more space than we were utilizing,” stated Melissa Fleming, CareerLink Site Administrator. “When NTRPDC offered us the first floor, it made sense that we would offer our services in the same building, and it resulted in a significant cost savings for CareerLink”.

The move took six months of planning and a lot of work and cooperation from both NTRPDC and PA CareerLink staff. “It is an adjustment for everyone, but overall the transition has gone smoothly. More importantly, we are just down the street from our previous location so our customers have been able to find us without any difficulty,” stated Fleming.

The Towanda office can still be reached at 570-265-2171, and we welcome you to stop by and visit us at our new location.

William Knowles

PA CareerLink® Bradford/Sullivan Counties
The year 2012 marks Animal Care Sanctuary’s 45th Anniversary as a no-kill, non-profit organization located in East Smithfield and Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. Their mission is that of a dedicated, nurturing stepping stone for animals of all kinds. Their goal is to promote the humane care and treatment of all animals in need of protection including rescued, abandoned, and abused animals. Their adoption program seeks to promote the enrichment of the lives of the animals being adopted as well as the lives of their new families.

Sitting on 129 scenic acres, ACS is a truly perfect setting for an animal sanctuary and shelter. The Canine Care facility is well-maintained and fully staffed with caring and dedicated individuals who are committed to ensuring that the ACS residents are well cared for regardless of the length of their stay. The Canine Care building is 400 feet in length, and ACS is in the process of remodeling the building through the addition of separating walls and real-life rooms. The size and location of the living space of each individual dog within the Canine Care building is carefully selected to best meet the needs of every resident. A high quality diet is fed to the dogs twice daily, including special foods for those who have unique dietary requirements. They work diligently to reduce the stress levels of the dogs in Canine Care. Indoor enrichment, such as stuffed Kongs, Nylabones, and toys are available to the dogs, and the staff and volunteers interact with the dogs as much as possible including walks through the fields, wading in the ponds, quiet time at an out-of-the-way picnic table, and positive reinforcement training.

Animal Care Sanctuary’s cattery stands out as an exceptionally clean and well organized example of cat sheltering. With a capacity for over 500 cats, it takes a large team of individuals to maintain the high standards of cleanliness ACS
upholds. Time for socialization and one-on-one care for the cats is scheduled into each employee’s day, so as to ensure that the cats are receiving everything they need to be happy, healthy cats. They have created communal cat enclosures to best provide for the socialization and “colony-mind” of the cats that are living here.

ACS’ vision is to be a center of excellence and leader for all animal care services. Their work to achieve this includes: a partnership with Maddie’s Fund Shelter Medicine Program at Cornell’s College of Veterinary Medicine; a low cost spay/neuter and wellness clinic for the community; humane education provided in schools, on site, and in the community; Pup Partners Canine Behavior Assessment & Matching Program; a surrender prevention program that includes access to a canine behaviorist, food pantry & low cost veterinary care.

The East Smithfield location employs over 35 full time staff and proudly trains and utilizes volunteers from the community. They have a budget of over $1,000,000 annually and participate in Greater Valley, Canton, Troy, and Bradford Chamber of Commerce. ACS also has veterinarian care provided in-house by their own veterinarian team as well as care to the community with the community clinic for low-cost spay/neuter.

The Wellsboro location employs over 4 people from the community, has a budget of over $135,000 annually, and participates in Wellsboro and Mansfield Chamber of Commerce.

Animal Care Sanctuary rescues animals that are abused, abandoned or about to be euthanized at other shelters and adopts them to new homes after compassionate care and medical screening. They work closely with many state and national associations to be current in all regulations and issues concerning animal welfare.

ACS is a 501(c)3 organization that relies entirely on donations. No local, state, or federal government assistance is received.

Information provided by Rachel Higham
Animal Care Sanctuary

Edited by Jason Sitcosky
More than 3.2 million small businesses are eligible for tax credits who offer health care coverage for their employees. A report released in early May, 2012, contains detailed information on the number of employers and employees who could benefit from the program. Results of polling published in the report indicate that the majority of small businesses don’t know these credits exist.

To find out more about the tax credit program, a provision of the Affordable Care Act, visit http://www.familiesusa.org/resources/publications/reports/health-reform/small-business-health-care-tax-

If you are interested in having your business in the Northern Tier Business Services Team Quarterly’s “Business Spotlight On…” section, please contact one of the Business Services Team members.

Workforce Links

Unemployment Compensation
UC Information for Employers: 1-866-223-4718
UC Information for Claimants: 1-888-313-7284
Website: www.dli.state.pa.us

The Center for Workforce Information and Analysis (CWIA)
Pennsylvania's Workforce Statistics
Website: http://www.paworkstats.state.pa.us

O*Net Online
Occupation Handbook/Titles; Industry Statistics, etc.
Website: http://online.onetcenter.org

Services and Information for Employers
Link on left margin for "Employers"
Website: www.dli.state.pa.us