

## PA Secretary of Revenue Gregory Fajt Attends Breakfast Meeting

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- Todd Faulk, Allegheny Energy
- Ernest Gigliotti, Int'l. Brotherhood of Teamsters #30
- Michael Hartung, Greater Westmoreland County Labor Council
- James Huggler, Elliott Company
- LuAnn Justice, Hempfield Area Education Association
- Paul Smiy (Honorary), Smiy Family Foundation
- Robert Sommers, Greater PA Regional Council of Carpenters



Pictured with Secretary Gregory Fajt (third from left) are: Commissioner Tom Balya, former Congressman Ron Klink, Ron Aiello, Representative Ted Harhai, Frank Zadylak, and Chris Masciantonio

Gregory Fajt, Pennsylvania's Secretary of Revenue, attended a breakfast meeting co-sponsored by WCALMC, the Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corporation, and the PA CareerLink Westmoreland County on Monday, September 11, 2006. Approximately fifty people attended the meeting, which focused on new business tax reforms and initiatives included in the 2006-07 budget.

According to Secretary Fajt, this year's state budget is set at \$26.1 billion, a 5.8% increase over last year. More than half of the increase is for education, but the budget also increases the Rainy Day Fund by fifty percent. The budget includes \$297 million in business tax cuts and

a \$25 million tax break for Pennsylvanians making contributions to qualified Tuition Account Programs. Fajt also touted the administration's efforts to cut government waste and improve operations, creating \$841 million in annual savings in 2005-06.

While *Site Selection* magazine listed Pennsylvania sixth among states in new and expanded business facilities, Secretary Fajt added that more could be done to support a friendly business climate. The 2006-07 budget begins to phase out Capital Stock and Franchise Taxes and changes the CNI Tax apportionment formula from sixty percent to seventy percent sales. It also increases the net operating loss deduction from \$2 mil-

lion to the greater of \$3 million or 12.5% of income.

In addition, Fajt stressed that several other proposals would add to Pennsylvania's "business friendly" atmosphere. These include reducing the CNI Tax rate from 9.99% to 7.90%, eliminating the annual cap on net operating losses, and adopt mandatory combined reporting to create a fairer tax system.

On a final note, Secretary Fajt mentioned that the Rendell Administration has been able to pass a minimum wage hike, provide property tax relief, and expand PACE and PACENET through limited slots gaming and a revitalized lottery program.

## Careers “Under Construction” Day Highlights Opportunities for Local Youth



*(Robert Lavelly shows a student how to maneuver the Allegheny Energy bucket truck)*

On Wednesday, April 26, 2006, PA Career-Link Westmoreland County hosted the first annual Careers “Under Construction” Day at the Westmoreland County Community College. Approximately 125 students and educators from across the County participated in the all-day event.

Students had the opportunity to learn about different job opportunities in the building & construction trades by attending half hour sessions on electrical repair, plumbing & pipe-fitting, machining, and road construction. In addition, they also watched videos on the con-

struction trades and on NANO technology. After the morning sessions ended, students had the opportunity to take tours of the WCCC trades areas and met with vendors who specialize in construction careers, post-secondary construction education, financial aid, as well as national construction associations.

The highlight of the day was the arrival of Allegheny Energy’s bucket truck. Students were able to wear the necessary safety equipment and go up in the bucket to gain a first-hand perspective of what a linesman faces each day.

This experience was partially afforded to students through the industry partnership grant received by the local WIB to work with the building & construction trades in Westmoreland & Fayette Counties. Other partners in the event included the PA CareerLink Westmoreland County, PHEAA, and Goodwill Industries.

A special thank you to the following members who donated their time and equipment to make this day an incredible learning event for all of the students who attended: Allegheny Energy, Carol Brady & ChipRowan from C.H.&D. Enterprises, Inc., Lee Dolfi from the Plumbers & Pipefitters Local #354, Robert

Lavelly from the Utility Workers Union of America Local #102, and the instructors & staff at WCCC who provided tours, lunch, and a lending hand in any way needed.

We look forward to next year’s construction trades career day and hope more members will be interested in participating. Getting the word out about the numerous opportunities available to young people in the trades is the best way to ensure a strong pool of qualified, educated workers for the future!



*(Carol Brady talks to students about the availability of high-paying jobs in the road construction industry)*

### **LABOR-MANAGEMENT LETTER**

The official letter of the Westmoreland County Area Labor-Management Committee

Heidi Petrosky,  
Executive Director

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Westmoreland County Community College  
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Send your comments/stories to:  
[wcalmc@wccc-pa.edu](mailto:wcalmc@wccc-pa.edu)

#### **MISSION:**

*To enhance economic development  
through positive and productive  
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*Welcome to  
Our Newest Member...*

***Michelle Miller-Kotula,  
Labor Arbitrator***



***Thank You to Everyone Who Helped Make Our 9th Annual Golf Outing A Success!***

*WCALMC was able to raise \$500 for the WCCC Career Tech Scholarship, provide the \$500 WCALMC Labor – Management Studies Scholarship, and donate funds from the putting contest to the Hempfield Football Boosters.*

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## Smiy Award for Labor-Management Cooperation

The Second Annual Smiy Award for Labor-Management Cooperation will be presented by the Westmoreland County Area Labor-Management Committee to a company and/or union that exemplifies the positive character traits possessed by the award's namesake, Mr. Paul Smiy, Chairman Emeritus of the Elliott Company and former Management Co-Chair of WCALMC. Candidates for this award may be nominated by a fellow colleague or may nominate themselves, based on positive contributions they've made in their workplace and community. Candidates should be nominated based on efforts to promote labor-management cooperation in the workplace, including, but not limited to,

early bird contracts, in-house labor-management committees, equitable grievance processes that reduce the number of grievances filed, or other labor-management initiatives that enhance the relationship between labor and management and create a better work environment for all.

Candidates may also be nominated based on community service projects that have been undertaken by labor and/or management. Emphasis on cooperative efforts to service the community will receive special consideration.

In order to apply for this award, please submit, in writing, the name(s) of the candidates being

nominated, the qualities that make them worthy of nomination, and a description of their efforts to promote positive labor-management relations and/or community service projects. Any additional information or press releases related to these efforts may also be included in the letter of nomination.

The deadline for nominations is November 17, 2006. The Board of Directors will review all nominations at the November 28<sup>th</sup> board meeting and select a winner. The award will be presented at the annual holiday reception on December 7, 2006.

## Good Working Environment is Key to Strong Locals

Reprinted from PSEA's *Voice Magazine*, April 2006

We've all been in work environments at some time in our careers that are bad. Every conversation turns to acrimony and blame. People begin to dread going to work. The same old problems and controversies get rehashed endlessly, but never resolved.

The employees of Westmoreland County Community College found themselves in that situation as the new millennium dawned. And worst of all, everyone had lost hope that there was any possibility of change.

But change did come, in August 2005, with the arrival of Dr. Steve Ender, WCCC's new president. Ender is a self-described "educator who is a first-generation college student with some

sense of wanting to help others." His management style brought a lot of attention.

Michael Hricik, president of the WCCC Professional Association, found the change refreshing. "It's good to be able to be open with him, to listen to his ideas and then say, 'Well, this is what we agree on, and this is what I don't agree with,'" said Hricik.

Gloria Cook, president of the WCCC Education Support Professionals, said, "I feel very comfortable that I can go to him with any concerns that we may have... It's been very, very positive working with him."

What lessons have the members of the faculty and support staff unions learned from this drastic change in environment? Why does it matter to them as union members that the working

environment has improved?

It matters because a good working environment also makes for a better, more involved association. "We are seeing more and more faculty involved and volunteering," says Hricik.

And Cook echoes his comments. "I think that, with the things that are happening in the college right now, we will see more people getting involved in the union, to be not just a member here, but to be an active member."

At WCCC, with hard work, commitment and respect, all the stakeholders in the community are feeling proud and happy to be working there.

### Healthcare Seminar

Tuesday, October 24, 2006

8:00-10:30AM

Commissioners Hall Dining Room  
WCCC

*Watch for registration flyer!*

# 2006 WCALMC Labor-Management Studies Scholarship Winner Shawn Dilmore



Shawn Dilmore, a graduating senior from Belle Vernon Area High School, received the 2006 WCALMC Labor Management Studies Scholarship at the annual golf outing held on July 21, 2006. Shawn will be attending Penn State University this fall to major in Business.

A stellar student and athlete, Shawn participated in National Honor Society and Interact Club, as well as competing in football, wrestling, and track. As a tri-athlete, Shawn was captain of both the wrestling and track teams his senior year. Shawn was also involved in numerous volunteer activities, including Toys for Tots, highway clean-up, and Relay for Life. He also served as a bell ringer for the Salvation Army and was a volunteer for

the Rostraver Little League.

This exceptional student received many awards for academics and athletics, but the most notable award Shawn received was the Rotary Youth Leadership Award. This award afforded him the opportunity to attend a week-long camp at Saint Vincent College with other award recipients. Committee members who interviewed Shawn were very impressed with his presence and his well-rounded nature. He struck members as an intelligent, hard-working young man who strived to do his best at everything he attempted.

According to his high school English teacher, Shawn is an "intelligent, industrious, and conscientious" young man who

manages to maintain a solid academic record while remaining active in many organizations. "He does not need the spotlight in order to perform although he is quite comfortable at center stage. Shawn's academic promise coupled with his athletic ability sets him apart from his peers."

Shawn expressed his gratitude to WCALMC for the scholarship award and plans to use the money to help buy books for his first semester at Penn State.

We wish Shawn the best of luck in his future endeavors and look forward to hearing about the many great things he will accomplish in the business world!



Lauren Farrell, WCALMC Treasurer, presents a \$500 check to Linda Morlacci, WCCC Education Foundation Executive Director.

**WCALMC wishes to express its gratitude  
to the following for their donations to:**

**WCCC Career Tech Scholarship**

*9th Annual Golf Outing Participants*

*Petrosky Family*

*PSEA*

**WCALMC Labor-Management Studies Scholarship**  
**(In memory of Lou Farrell)**

*Sharon Seiler, Willochell Ice*

## 2006-2007 Meeting Dates

### Board of Directors

September 26, 2006  
November 28, 2006  
March 27, 2007  
May 22, 2007

### General Membership

October 24, 2006  
April 24, 2007  
June 26, 2007



Economic Development Seminar: November 9, 2006 (8:00-10:30AM)



Holiday Reception: December 7, 2006 (5:30-7:30PM) at Lakeview

*Please note our new mailing address:*

4205 Business & Industry Center  
145 Pavilion Lane  
Youngwood, PA 15697