



# NTRPDC update



SERVING BRADFORD, SULLIVAN, SUSQUEHANNA, TIOGA, AND WYOMING COUNTIES

## Congressman Thompson Honored for WIOA Leadership



**Congressman Glenn Thompson; Susan Snelick, Workforce Investment Board Director at North Central Regional Planning and Development Commission; and Frank Thompson, Deputy Director and Workforce Investment Board Director, NTRPDC.**

Representatives from local workforce investment boards, businesses, educational institutions, and economic development organizations gathered on February 17 to honor Congressman Glenn Thompson for his work in the development and passing of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014. At the event, Congressman Thompson participated in a roundtable discussion on the skills gap that often exists with a newly hired employee.

ers and residents. The roundtable was a great opportunity to open up a dialogue on the training needs, opportunities, and challenges the workforce system and local businesses face regarding a local workforce. Open communication with practitioners and employers always helps us better understand the needs of the region," said Frank Thompson, Deputy Director for Workforce Development, NTRPDC—the administrative entity for the Northern Tier

He sought input from practitioners and employers on how the WIOA can help close that gap.

"Congressman Thompson has served on a local workforce investment board and understands the importance of providing relevant services to both our local employ-

ment board.

As the nation's largest source of federal funding for workforce development activities, the WIOA was signed into law on July 22, 2014, replacing the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. This legislation will strengthen relationships among workforce development practitioners, local employers, and training providers, resulting in more efficient implementation and operation of training programs.

Congressman Glenn Thompson represents Pennsylvania's 5<sup>th</sup> District, which comprises five workforce investment areas. He sits on the U.S. House of Representatives Education and Workforce Committee where he sought input from Pennsylvania stakeholders for the legislation. The WIOA will take effect on July 1, 2015, and establishes funding levels for the next six years subject to appropriations by Congress.

## Upcoming Meetings

### **Executive Committee**

*NTRPDC Conference Room*  
10:30 a.m.

April 17, 2015

[kulick@northerntier.org](mailto:kulick@northerntier.org)

### **Economic Development Advisory Committee**

*NTRPDC Conference Room*  
10:30 a.m.

April 1, 2015

[hauser@northerntier.org](mailto:hauser@northerntier.org)

### **Local Management Committee**

*NTRPDC Conference Room*  
11:00 a.m.

April 28, 2015

[fay@northerntier.org](mailto:fay@northerntier.org)

### **RTAC**

*NTRPDC Conference Room*  
10:00 a.m.

April 13, 2015

[baker@northerntier.org](mailto:baker@northerntier.org)

### **Workforce Investment Board**

*NTRPDC Conference Room*  
10:30 a.m.

May 20, 2015

[warner@northerntier.org](mailto:warner@northerntier.org)

### **Youth Council**

*NTRPDC Conference Room*  
9:30 a.m.

May 20, 2015

[felten@northerntier.org](mailto:felten@northerntier.org)

### **NTRPDC Annual Meeting: Friday, April 17, at the Wysox Fire Hall**

Come join us as we reflect on our work in the Northern Tier region in 2014 and discuss 2015 initiatives. This is a valuable time of networking with area residents and business owners, local elected officials, and other economic and workforce development professionals. The event is free but pre-registration is required. Contact Nancy Kulick at [kulick@northerntier.org](mailto:kulick@northerntier.org) or 570-265-9103 with any questions or to register.



*Howard and Janette Holdren, owners, with Stacey Urban, NTRPDC Loan Program Manager.*

## Loan Granted to Holdren's

Will enable machine shop to update equipment and remain competitive.

In February, NTRPDC provided financing assistance to Holdren's Precision Machining, Inc., in Ulster (Bradford County). The \$35,000 loan will assist the company in purchasing two new types of welders to increase efficiency by cutting production time by more than half. The Climax AutoBore Welder and a Praxair-Lincoln V350 3 phase welder will assist Holdren's Precision Machining in meeting current customer needs more effectively, and will also increase their marketability as a machining company.

Howard Holdren, owner of Holdren's Precision Machining, Inc., has more than 40 years of experience in machining (tool and die making) at Osram Sylva chine shop in 2002 and since then, the company has successfully weathered the changing economy and has diversified as the industries have changed in the region. Holdren's Precision Machining currently employs 10 full time machinists, all with several years of experience in various industries.

## Health Care Trainings Scheduled

Four Spring classes offered.

Four health care training programs have been coordinated by the Northeast Regional Health Care Industry Partnership for Spring 2015, beginning with "Perfecting Patient Care," which was offered at Soldiers + Sailors Memorial Hospital March 17 through 20. Upcoming courses are listed below.

Interested employers may apply for funding to offset the cost of these trainings, or other trainings that are important to their facility, through June 30, 2015. The Northeast Regional Health Care Industry Partnership represents the Workforce Investment areas of the Northern Tier, Lackawanna, Luzerne/Schuylkill, and Pocono counties. The four Workforce Investment Boards work together to establish a formal health care industry network that addresses common and overlapping needs of employers in the field.

For more information, contact Sherry Felten, NTRPDC Workforce Development Program Manager, at 570-265-1516 or [felten@northerntier.org](mailto:felten@northerntier.org).

Training	Date	Location
<b>Dementia Care and End of Life Training for Direct Care Workers</b>	April 8, 2015	Soldiers + Sailors Memorial Hospital, Wellsboro
<b>Building Strong Hiring and Employee Evaluation Practices through Values Matching</b>	April 23-24, 2015	Memorial Hospital, Towanda
<b>Pennsylvania's Approach to Impaired Nurses</b>	May 4, 2015	Deane Center, Wellsboro, and Guthrie Patterson Auditorium, Sayre

## International Trade Events

CORE PA Global to represent Pennsylvania at two international trade events.

CORE PA Global, a 53-county Pennsylvania program intended to attract foreign investment to Pennsylvania, will be represented at two international trade events this month. CORE PA Global will be part of the Pennsylvania booth at NPE2015: The International Plastics Showcase in Orlando, Florida, from March 23- 25. They will also have their own booth at the SelectUSA Investment Summit in Washington, D.C., March 23-24.

CORE PA will be represented at the Plastics Showcase by Don Alexander, Union County Economic Development Corporation; Lauren Bryson, Focus Central Pennsylvania; and Aaron Gantz, Greater Reading Economic Partnership.

"Pennsylvania is an excellent location for international plastics companies and related industries," said Noelle Long, Director of SEDA-COG's Export Development Program and

Project Manager for CORE PA. "Manufacturers across our state use plastics materials as part of their production processes, whether it's for medical devices, packaging, or consumer goods, and there's a strong connection to our natural gas industry as the by-products are used in the fabrication of numerous manufactured goods."

The Investment Summit in Washington is limited to economic development professionals and qualified international investors. "This is a one-of-a-kind event," said Long. "Firms from across the globe will be represented—firms that have chosen to establish a presence in the United States." In addition to staffing their booth at the event, CORE PA's representatives will have pre-arranged appointments with potential investors. "It is a wonderful opportunity to tell foreign companies about our

state and the workforce and resources that are here for them," said Long.

She will be joined at the Investment Summit by Cody Richard, an export specialist from SEDA-COG, and Katie Lentz of the York County Economic Alliance.

CORE PA was initiated in December 2013 to bring foreign investment and generate economic growth across Pennsylvania's rural counties. A portion of the program's funding has been provided through a federal Make It in America grant, one of just ten such grants approved nationwide by the Obama Administration. It is administered through the SEDA-Council of Governments, based in Lewisburg, PA, and involves numerous economic development organizations at the state and county levels.



## Community Outreach Clinic Scheduled

Learn about available services.

A Community Outreach Clinic is scheduled for Thursday, May 14, for individuals interested in assistance with:

- Employment services
- Veteran's claims
- Social Security claims
- Driver's license and ID questions
- Birth certificate questions
- Public welfare benefits

The clinic will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Bradford County YMCA at 9 College Avenue in Towanda. Exhibitors will include, but are not limited to: PA CareerLink®; the Veteran's Affairs Office; Deb Barr, Esquire; Representative Tina Pickett's Office; and the Department of Public Welfare.

As an exhibitor PA CareerLink® will be providing employment services and assisting interested individuals in their job search. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact the Bradford County Domestic Relations Office at 570-265-1718.

## LTAP Classes Scheduled in the Northern Tier

Free training for municipal highway maintenance staff.



The Northern Tier's Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) for municipalities has scheduled several training courses in 2015, listed below.

These trainings, provided at no cost to municipalities, relay important transportation

and infrastructure technology and help municipalities maintain the transportation system. If you have any questions or would like to register for a class, please contact Brian Baker, NTRPDC Transportation Program Manager,

at 570-265-1540 or [baker@northerntier.org](mailto:baker@northerntier.org) or Ethan Sexton, NTRPDC Regional Planner, at 570-265-1511 or [sexton@northerntier.org](mailto:sexton@northerntier.org).

LTAP Class	Date	Location
<b>Bridge Maintenance &amp; Inspection</b>	June 9, 2015	Tunkhannock Township Building
<b>Drainage: the Key to Roads that Last</b>	May 19, 2015 June 4, 2015	Sullivan County Ag Resources Athens Township Building
<b>Full Depth Reclamation</b>	March 27, 2015 June 3, 2015	Sullivan County Ag Resources Montrose Borough Building
<b>Liquid Bituminous Seal Coat</b>	May 14, 2015	Mansfield Fire Hall
<b>Signs &amp; Safety Features for Bridges</b>	July 7, 2015	Athens Township Building
<b>Unpaved &amp; Gravel Roads Common Maintenance Practices</b>	May 26, 2015 May 27, 2015	Tunkhannock Township Building Mansfield Fire Hall
<b>Work Zone (Temporary) Traffic Control</b>	May 28, 2015	Athens Township Building



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**Introduction to Government Contracting Workshop Scheduled**  
 Tuesday, April 21, 2015, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
 NTRPDC office, 312 Main Street, Towanda, PA

Federal, state, and local government agencies contract with thousands of small businesses every year, buying everything from paper clips to space ships...from landscaping services to computer software...and more. The federal government alone buys more than \$6 billion in products and services each year. More than 20 percent of all contracts must be awarded to small businesses! At this workshop, small business owners will learn how to tap into government contracting opportunities, the challenges of working with government agencies, and assistance programs available to help break into the market. The workshop is free but pre-registration is required.

To register for this workshop, please contact Laurie Lentz, NTRPDC Procurement Program Manager, at 570-265-1538 or by e-mail at [lentz@northerntier.org](mailto:lentz@northerntier.org).