Robert A. Allison (top) and Thomas C. Degan perform a scene in “tick, tick ... BOOM!” – an autobiographical musical by Jonathan Larson, the creator of “Rent” – in the Klump Academic Center Auditorium. Also featured in the all-student cast were Dylan T. Lackey, Justine P. Leaman, Jennifer M. Lauver, Heather C. Barnhart and Rachel L. Gerstenberg. The production was sponsored by the Student Activities Office.
A Reminder of Home
Students and alumni, serving as part of the military’s Operation Enduring Freedom, celebrate their Penn College ties in Afghanistan.

First Impressions Matter
The Career Services Office steps into action to help students look their best for interviews with the Career Gear Clothes Closet.

A Degree of Green
Penn College launches a building science and sustainable design major.

City Lights Shine on Designer
Austin Hoyt, ’06, designs his own success in New York City, where his work hits the big time – in Times Square and across the nation.

Welcoming the Opportunity
State Sen. Jake Corman, ’90, named Pennsylvania Senate Appropriations Committee chair, becomes a key player in the state’s budget negotiations.

To Help a Family in Need
Helpful hands from the Penn College Construction Association join the sea of blue-shirted volunteers on the site of “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition.”

degrees that work.

On the Cover
Surrounded by defenders, Tom Little drives to the basket during a win over Penn State Hazleton. Wildcat athletes proved themselves not only on the playing field but also in the classroom. Fall athletes earned a cumulative grade-point average of 2.94 for the Fall 2008 semester, topping the all-student average. Fall-team academic performance was led by women’s soccer (3.20), men’s soccer (3.12), and tennis and men’s cross country (3.06).
New Residence Hall, Student-Housing Complex Named

The new residence hall to be constructed at the west end of Pennsylvania College of Technology’s main campus will be named Dauphin Hall, and the entire complex within which it will be situated – encompassing Rose Street Apartments and College West Apartments – will be known as Rose Street Commons.

The decision was made with considerable input from students and staff of Residence Life. All residence-hall buildings in that area are named for Pennsylvania counties (Clinton, Delaware, Juniata, Lancaster and York). The new building will be the center of student life within the complex and will include a dining unit, offices, a Fitness Center annex, meeting rooms and a lounge.

Construction for Dauphin Hall began in January and is scheduled for completion for the Fall 2010 semester.

College Joins Community’s Peace Walk

Pennsylvania College of Technology students and staff participated in Williamsport’s first Martin Luther King Jr. Day Peace Walk on Jan. 19, which followed a portion of the Underground Railroad, starting in South Williamsport and crossing the Market Street Bridge. Several of the students also helped to staff the event, including Nadrease D. Price, a mass media communication student, who read excerpts of a Martin Luther King Jr. speech during a ceremony to kick off the walk.
Reading With the Wildcats

Penn College’s Student Athlete Advisory Council started a program last fall called “Reading with the Wildcats,” in which athletes from the college’s 15 varsity sports read to the children at Sheridan Elementary School in Williamsport.

Penn College Establishes Facebook Presence

Pennsylvania College of Technology launched its first official social-networking presence online.

Pennsylvania College of Technology’s page on Facebook allows prospective students to interact with the college and one another in a familiar setting that many of them regularly use.

Visitors will find Penn College Web resources, videos, PCToday articles, upcoming events and more on the page, including “The Wall,” where they can post comments and questions.

Become a “fan” of the page at www.facebook.com.

Environmentally Conscious SGA Goes ‘Paperless’

In an effort to lessen its impact on the environment and natural resources, Penn College’s Student Government Association has begun the process of going “paperless.”

Inspired by the desires of students, SGA’s Executive Board decided it would use technologies, such as the organization’s Web site and the recently implemented SharePoint program known as the myPCT portal, to make this environmentally friendly goal a reality. During the 2007-08 academic year, SGA made its budgeting process paperless and, in January, meeting agendas and minutes went digital, as well. This will cut back approximately 1,600 pages of paper per year.

“Going paperless not only lessens our draw on natural resources, it more importantly provides an example for other groups and offices on campus and in the Williamsport community to follow as we enter into this environmentally conscious era,” said Brian D. Walton, association president.

Find Complete Articles on PCToday

To find more comprehensive versions of the articles in Campus News – and to read other news stories about Penn College – visit PCToday, the college’s news-and-information Web site, at www.pct.edu/pctoday.
Pennsylvania College of Technology was well-represented at the Pennsylvania Farm Show, held Jan. 10-17 in Harrisburg. Each of the college’s eight academic schools hosted hands-on events and demonstrations throughout the popular event.

Center Supports Oil-and-Gas Industry

Pennsylvania College of Technology and Penn State Cooperative Extension collaborated to form the Marcellus Shale Education & Training Center, which provides a wide variety of resources to the community and the oil-and-gas industry.

Natural-gas exploration activities escalated dramatically in 2008 in central Pennsylvania, and the industry is moving at a rapid pace to extract the natural gas contained within the region. Central Pennsylvania is in the heart of the Marcellus Shale play, and the region is expected to experience substantial economic growth over the next several years. That growth will result in numerous economic and workforce-development impacts, including community and workforce needs.

The center’s initial emphasis is to establish a central information and training resource – both for the industry and the community.

The center is fueled by Penn College’s established workforce-training and technology-based programs, including welding, heavy-equipment operations, diesel technologies and computer technologies, and Penn State Cooperative Extension’s outreach programs on gas leasing and gas-lease development, water quality and the environment, forestry, and economic and community development.

A workforce-needs assessment is under way in an effort to forecast the skill needs and number of workers required to support the natural-gas industry. It is envisioned that colleges, universities and regional career and technical centers will play a significant role in providing many of the workforce-training programs that will be needed.

Find more information about the Marcellus Shale Education & Training Center online at www.pct.edu/msetc.
College, Salvation Army Again Allies in Tax-Help Program

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, through which Pennsylvania College of Technology students and community volunteers from The Salvation Army annually help hundreds of low- and moderate-income local residents prepare their returns, resumed for the 2008 tax season.

The Internal Revenue Service’s free program was offered at Penn College’s Madigan Library, at The Salvation Army in Williamsport and at the Muncy Public Library.

Volunteer preparers – all of whom were trained and certified by the IRS – are tax, accounting, business, finance and legal assistant students at Penn College. The college’s VITA site is coordinated by Phillip D. Landers, professor of business administration and accounting, who also supervised a satellite service offered over three days at the college’s North Campus near Wellsboro.

Volunteers also helped prepare state and local returns for taxpayers and assisted Lycoming County Prison inmates and employees of the Hope Enterprises social-service agency.

The VITA program is designed for low- to moderate-income taxpayers who generally have noncomplicated returns and less than $45,000 in income.

College Forgoes Portion of State Appropriation

Pennsylvania College of Technology, along with other state-related colleges and universities, saw a second reduction in its 2008-09 state appropriation in December.

Over the course of the year, the state appropriation approved for 2008-09 was reduced by 6 percent, or about $870,000.

“We understand that the economy is suffering and that no one is going to be spared a certain level of pain as a result,” Penn College President Davie Jane Gilmour said. “We strongly believe that Penn College represents an important asset to the commonwealth – especially as we try to rebuild our economy – and we will do everything in our power to maintain our quality of education and service.”

“These are difficult times for the commonwealth and for the nation’s economy. It is our responsibility, as a public institution, to be part of the solution,” Gilmour said.

She also promised a steadfast commitment from Penn College so that it can help prepare men and women to contribute to the growth of the nation’s economy.

“Political and economic leaders around the globe agree that applying technology in the workforce is a key to future success,” she said. “As a Penn State affiliate with the special mission of providing applied technology education, we are uniquely positioned to contribute to immediate and long-term economic growth.”
More than 6,000 miles from Pennsylvania College of Technology’s main campus, a group of students and alumni serving in the military’s Operation Enduring Freedom celebrated their Penn College connection.

The seven National Guard soldiers, primarily from central Pennsylvania, were deployed to Forward Operating Base Mehtar Lam in Afghanistan, where they were stationed from February to November 2008.

While in Afghanistan, Spc. Robert A. Miller, a student enrolled in information technology: web and applications development concentration, read an article in the Stars and Stripes military newspaper about a dining facility at another base that had banners from various schools hanging from its ceiling.

“It seemed to me that it would be nice to have a reminder of home and a connection to the school at our base, since several of the people located there, and many more throughout the country, were current or previous Penn College students,” Miller said.

With the support of his company commander, Miller talked to his wife, Shawnalee, secretary for student support services at Penn College, about his idea, and she encouraged him to contact the college administration.

“It didn’t take long for the school to respond, and in a big way,” Miller said. “Dr. William Martin (senior vice president) and I began fairly regular communication.”

Martin arranged for the Admissions Office to send Miller a college banner at Mehtar Lam.

“When it arrived, we were all amazed at the sheer size of it,” he said. “It was nice to see such a large physical representation of the college’s support for its current and previous students while so far away from home.”

Miller then concentrated on finding as many alumni as possible. “I was surprised to discover that Capt. Jeffrey Tudor, the company commander for our headquarters element, was not only on board to support the project, but also a previous (Penn College) graduate himself,” Miller said.

“Most everyone I talked to was excited to be involved in any way they could.”

Seven guardsmen – each serving a different specialty while in Afghanistan – signed the banner that was given back to Penn College after the group returned home in November. To further demonstrate their Penn College pride, Miller said, “Not only did the guys sign the banner, but we also had some of our local interpreters write the school slogan, ‘degrees that work,’ in the local language of Pashtu.”

The banner was shown off to campus employees by President Davie Jane Gilmour at a meeting in January to open the spring semester.

“I want to tell you about a student, a veteran who has been in touch and what came of his contact,” she told the audience. “This is not a statement for or against war, but a real story of Penn College pride, worth telling over and over again.”

The banner hangs in the Financial Aid Office and was dedicated during a public ceremony in April.
Staff Sgt. Edward T. Bendas Jr., attended ’96-’00, landscape/nursery technology
Landscaping was not part of Bendas’ regular duties as company supply sergeant, but he found he was one of few soldiers who knew how to run various pieces of machinery that are used in the landscaping field and frequently fielded questions regarding ideas for plants and design from the reconstruction team. “Horticulture is very important, especially in identifying plants and establishing greenhouses,” he said. “One greenhouse in particular is located immediately outside our Forward Operating Base.”

Spc. Robert A. Miller, ’06, computer information systems: programming and database processing concentration, and currently enrolled, information technology: network specialist concentration
Miller was administrative specialist for the Maneuver Company of Task Force Pacesetter, which included many human resources and personnel accountability tasks. Miller said he specifically used skills he was taught at Penn College to automate many day-to-day tasks, producing a significantly more efficient and productive command post. “My knowledge and experience in the information technology field have been called upon on an almost daily basis to assist with troubleshooting and improving existing tasks, especially with regards to networking and technical customer support,” Miller said.

Capt. Jeffrey T. Tudor, ’96, welding and fabrication engineering technology
As part of overseeing daily life sustainment and security operations of the Forward Operating Base in Mehtar Lam, Tudor managed construction projects, including the design and fabrication of steel gates used to control the flow of vehicle traffic on and off the base. He’s also provided technical advice to local national contractors with the fabrication of rebar cages and the welding of structural steel members for the construction of buildings used by U.S. soldiers, airmen and civilians to work and live in.
You’ve probably heard it a thousand times: You don’t get a second chance to make a first impression. This is especially true when interviewing for employment. The amount of effort, or lack thereof, one puts into his or her attire speaks volumes, and prospective employers listen carefully to each and every “word.” For instance, appearance can communicate messages prospective employers may interpret as indicators of one’s maturity, work ethic and professionalism.

Many Pennsylvania College of Technology students, however, do not own and lack the resources to obtain professional clothing when it comes time to interview for employment. In Fall 2008, Career Services opened Career Gear to address this need. Career Gear is a closet of professional dress clothing donated by Penn College faculty and staff. The purpose of Career Gear is to empower students preparing to enter the workforce with professional attire, free of charge, that they can use to project the professional image employers are seeking.

If you’re like the typical American, you throw away 67.9 pounds of used clothing and rags each year, according to statistics from the Secondary Materials and Recycled Textiles Association. The good news is that 95 percent of used clothing is reusable or recyclable, and indeed, millions of pounds of clothing are spared from landfills each year as people pass along items to other family members or donate their used clothing to nonprofit groups that help the less fortunate. Such organizations include The Salvation Army, Goodwill, homeless shelters and thousands of religious and service-based organizations.

Career Gear was created in the same service-oriented spirit. The goal is to address a student need that many are simply unable to address on their own. This need intensified rapidly when the economy nosedived at the tail end of 2008, and employers had no choice but to downsize and adapt to a tighter budgetary environment. As the news all too often reminds us, the greatest impact of our troubled economy has been within America’s workforce. As a result, the competition for open jobs has increased.

Employers are forced to make tough decisions about how they do business. With regard to human resources, many employers have had no option but to consider quality over quantity. Having fewer but more productive employees is simply more cost-effective than having a greater number of individuals who are less productive.

For those seeking employment, such as students on the cusp of graduation from Penn College, “survival of the fittest” has therefore become the vocational battle cry. Demonstrating that one is the proverbial fittest among a group of applicants vying for the same job is a competitive process in a good economy, let alone in the challenging work environment our graduating students are now facing. This heightened competition only made the development of Career Gear all the more timely.

Imagine being the best candidate for an open position, maybe even your dream job, and failing to be considered because your inability to project a professional image left you unable to compete with less-qualified candidates. None of us would wish this experience for anyone and certainly not for the students we serve.

While it may be unfair to judge a book by its cover, the reality our graduating students will face involves just that. Judgments based upon appearance are inherent anytime someone is interviewing. Think about the idea of going on a date or attending a class reunion. Some assessments will invariably be made based upon appearance. The same is especially true when interviewing for employment. While the candidate in jeans may be as competent and intelligent as the one wearing the formal suit, or more so, the fact remains that some vocational
Fall Career Fair

More than 170 employers were on hand at Penn College’s Career Fair in October, offering students a close-up opportunity to say ‘hello’ to their potential tomorrows. ‘We had 173 employers registered, breaking last fall’s record of 165. The best part was that those employers came to campus offering a grand total of 899 full-time, part-time, summer, international and internship opportunities for students,’ said Erin S. Shultz, coordinator of career development.

A similar event was held in March; next Career Fair is scheduled Oct. 20-21.

attributes will be assumed based on appearance.

The mission of Career Gear is to complement the host of services offered in the Career Services Office. Career Services offers a network of support and career-development tools to enable our students to thrive in school, in work and in their independent young adulthood following graduation. Competencies such as the ability to interview well and present a dynamite résumé may be all for naught, however, if a student is judged a poor candidate because he or she isn’t dressed well for the interview. This dynamic becomes all the more heartbreaking when the student’s interview attire, while unimpressive to the potential employer, comprised the very best professional clothing the student owned.

Career Gear was developed to level the playing field in this regard and give our graduating students the edge they’ll need in today’s competitive economic environment. Our students deserve a fair chance, and Career Gear was developed to make sure they receive it.

Anika A. Stewart, a work-study student in the Career Services Office, has assisted in the operation of Career Gear.

“Working with the staff in the Career Services Office on the Career Gear project has been a wonderful and exciting experience,” Stewart said. “The donations received were phenomenal. I am very honored and proud to be a part of something so wonderful for Penn College students.”

If you are interested in donating professional clothing to Career Gear, please call the Career Services Office at (570) 327-4502. Your donation may constitute the little extra that a graduating student needs to represent the true caliber of employee that he or she is poised to become.

Our students have invested time and money for degrees that work. With your assistance, we can make sure that they get the chance they deserve to show what they, and their degrees, are made of. In today’s tough economy, our students can use any edge they can get.

Career Services for Alumni

Did you know that even after you graduate, Career Services is here for you?

Alumni are eligible for:
• Career Fair
• Résumé and cover letter help
• On-campus interviews
• Penn College Career Hub (an online job posting and recruitment service)

Career Services can also offer advice, coaching and support as you re-evaluate your career options, seek career advancement or consider graduate school.

For more information:
www.pct.edu/careerservices
careerservices@pct.edu
(570) 327-4502
Green has evolved over the past decade from a word to a lifestyle choice, from an adjective to a verb. It has long been associated with money, envy and vegetables. Nowadays, the mention of the word more likely triggers thoughts of rain forests, recycling and hybrid cars. Once associated primarily with environmental-activist trends, it has since transformed to define our daily choices, with far-reaching impact on almost every aspect of lifestyle, society, resources, climate, politics and economy.

Green building is one of those choices. It began quietly as an unconventional alternative for those who disliked the extravagance or the inefficiency of much traditional housing. It is now broadly acknowledged as a mainstream movement that will neither be reversing its direction nor slowing its momentum.

Consistent with its basic mission to provide educational opportunities that are “responsive to economic and employment realities,” Pennsylvania College of Technology has instituted the building science and sustainable design major within the School of Construction and Design Technologies. This Bachelor of Science degree with a focus on technology-and construction-related programs is structured to address industry needs and promote a better way of building, along with a healthier environment.

Building science examines how to achieve the highest performance from the various interacting systems of a structure. It looks at how these systems influence air quality, heat loss and moisture infiltration. These issues are fundamental to supporting the goals of environmental sustainability. Students enrolled in this major will study sustainable aspects of materials, construction, site design, building design and the production of material.

Green Tips for Homeowners

1. Size your new home appropriately to your need.
2. Put the sun to good use, both in orienting your home and in collecting energy from its rays. Even in central Pennsylvania, you can save 50 percent on your heating bill by having the long axis of your building run east-to-west and having big, south-facing windows.
4. Recycle your construction waste.
5. Use effective, non-toxic insulation.
6. Use energy-efficient lights and install dual-flush toilets.
7. Choose appliances, windows and doors with the Energy Star* rating.
9. Landscape with native, drought-tolerant plants.
10. Think about where you build in respect to where you work, shop and recreate. The average American spends more than 100 hours each year commuting. – U. S. Census

*Energy Star is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy, helping consumers save money and protect the environment through energy-efficient products and practices.
energy, along with the technologies for recording and measuring those factors. Additionally, the interdisciplinary major will equip students with skills in renovation and reuse of existing buildings, including historic preservation.

“One of the major factors in considering the implementation of this degree was the enthusiasm of our current students,” said Tom F. Gregory, associate vice president for instruction at Penn College. “When some found out about the curriculum-development process for this new major, they sent a petition signed by more than 20 students to Academic Affairs asking for a rapid implementation so they would not have to interrupt their studies.

“Students are well aware of the issues facing our country, and they see this as a career area where they can make a positive difference.”

**DIFFERENT WORDS, SAME IDEA**

In the early ‘70s, “energy” was the buzzword, sparked by the awakening oil crisis that made OPEC a household word. In response to those events, numerous government agencies were created, including the Federal Energy Office and the cabinet-level Department of

> “Problems cannot be solved at the same level of awareness that created them.”

*Albert Einstein*

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**Green Building Growth Factors**

1. Unprecedented level of government initiatives
2. Heightened residential demand for green construction
3. Improvements in sustainable materials

*Source: FMI (2008). U.S. Construction Overview*
Energy. Renewable and alternative energy sources gained immediate, widespread interest. Special-interest groups also formed, such as the American Institute of Architects Energy Task Force that later became the AIA Committee on Energy.

In the ’80s, the word “sustainability” appeared with prominence. In 1987, the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development provided this definition of sustainable development: “meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

Today, the word “green” is most often used to refer to that which is sustainable. In 1999, an executive order established a President’s Council on Sustainable Development, and the final report of that council contained 140 recommended actions to improve the nation’s environment, many of which were related to building sustainability.

For much of the 20th century, the availability of cheap energy had been the driving force of most building practices. However, world population has soared from 2 billion in 1930 to 6.7 billion today. Globalization has more closely connected communities with diverse lifestyles, whetting a universal quest for a higher standard of living. Energy and resources are no longer cheap and, in many cases, not renewable.

Geoffrey M. Campbell, assistant professor of architectural technology at Penn College, has been instrumental in gathering data and providing the rationale for this new program. He emphasizes the urgency of the need: “We can no longer design, construct and operate buildings as we’ve done in the recent past. The buildings erected today will have a significant impact on the planet. Architects, contractors and building owners can contribute to a healthier tomorrow by learning about and adopting sustainable building practices.”

**Economy Spurs Action**

The current economic impact of energy demands has greatly accelerated attention to the issues of residential and commercial building sustainability at all levels, including individual consumers, architects, engineers, manufacturers, builders, educators, government and environmental agencies.

Commenting on how this focus will affect the market for “green collar” jobs, Gregory notes: “Recent economic developments make the implementation of this degree even more important to our region. Energy production, conservation and efficient management of resources are key areas for careers that can have a direct impact, and our graduates will be in high demand as jobs in these areas rapidly develop.”

A Penn College survey of Pennsylvania employers in the architecture, engineering and construction industries highlighted an increasing need by these firms to employ workers with an understanding of sustainable practices. The American Solar Energy Society predicts that the number of renewable-energy and energy-efficiency industry jobs will grow to 40 million by 2030, with the appropriate public policies in place to support those initiatives.

Penn College graduates of the building science and sustainable design major will stand ready to play a vital role in this green growth, moving into jobs with employers such as architects, engineers, contractors, environmental organizations, building-materials manufacturers and government agencies.

The new program at Penn College is uniquely modeled to fit students with varying backgrounds in design and construction. This approach provides the opportunity for students to work together and learn from their counterparts in the industry. Green-building projects benefit greatly from this integrated team strategy.

**Measuring the Future**

The U.S. Green Building Council, one of the leading proponents of green building, is a nonprofit organization made up of corporations, builders, universities, government agencies and nonprofits dedicated to expanding green-building practices and education. USGBC developed the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System to provide the standards by which sustainable buildings can be measured.

To date, more than 2,271 commercial buildings in the United States have achieved LEED certification. LEED-certified buildings typically have energy savings of 30 percent, carbon savings of 35 percent, water-use savings of 30-50 percent, and waste-cost savings of 50-90 percent. According to the most recently available data, Pennsylvania has the second-highest number of newly constructed LEED-certified buildings in the country.

Equipping both new and existing buildings with renewable-energy technologies will be a significant action for the ultimate sustaining of green principles. Augmenting its teaching tools and shrinking its footprint, Penn College is integrating several forms of solar-energy processing into instructional programs and the campus environment.
The college received a $15,000 grant from the Sustainable Energy Fund that will be used to construct a photovoltaic solar panel array on campus grounds. Once installed, the system will use solar energy to monitor and produce electricity for the Victorian House, a campus building that already has one green technology in place – ground-source heat pumps. The solar-panel system will also serve as an excellent instruction model for students in the schools of Construction and Design Technologies and Industrial and Engineering Technologies.

Students in heating, ventilation and air conditioning majors can now experience similar hands-on learning from recently installed solar collectors for hot water. These collectors, donated by Sun Source Energy Products, of New Jersey, will become permanent working tools to teach skills to save energy for both the consumer and the environment.

Two students in electronics and computer engineering technology focused their senior project on the setup and launch of a system that will collect, monitor and analyze the power output of a photovoltaic panel system that will be located off-campus. Patrick F. Potter, of Middleburg, and Curtis T. Wrable, of Howard, stated their objective was to determine which forms of green energy are most efficient in comparison to the system installation costs.

“We will be researching solar, wind, geothermal and other alternative-energy sources to evaluate and reveal what are the most cost-effective green-energy sources,” Potter said at the outset of the project. “We chose this to study because of the increasing popularity and potential for career placement.” With the successful completion of the project, the college will be able to continue to collect and transmit data from the system for future class projects.

Expanding further to respond to evolving need, Penn College has formed a focus group to begin assessment for the development of a new, two-year degree in renewable-energy technology. The program would cover wind-turbine, photovoltaic, solar-hydronic and energy-storage technologies.

• Buildings in the U.S. account for 72 percent of electricity consumption, 40 percent of all energy use, 39 percent of carbon dioxide emissions, 40 percent of raw materials use, 30 percent of waste output, and 13.6 percent of potable water usage. – U.S. Green Building Council

• By 2035, experts predict that the United States will demolish 52 billion square feet of buildings, remodel 150 billion square feet, and construct another 150 billion square feet of new structures. – Edward Mazria, founder of Architecture 2030.org

• The United States uses 25 percent of the total world energy consumption and has contributed more than three times the carbon dioxide emissions of any other country. – Dorothy J. Gerring, Penn College associate professor of architecture technology, “Defining Sustainable Practices”

• The size of the average new American house has more than doubled, from 1,100 square feet in the 1950s to 2,414 square feet in 2004. Meanwhile, the average household has shrunk by more than one person. – National Association of Home Builders, Census Bureau

• Twenty-five to 40 percent of landfill waste is construction debris. – Common Fee Foundation

• For every ton of cement produced, approximately 0.9 tons of carbon dioxide are released as a byproduct, while producing one ton of steel releases almost 3.3 tons of carbon dioxide. – “Forest Facts: Forests, Timber and the Greenhouse Effect”

• A small, upfront cost of less than 2 percent for green design will result in life-cycle savings of 20 percent of total construction costs – more than 10 times the initial investment. – Aileen Adams, secretary of State and Consumer Affairs, California

• Seventy percent of homebuyers are much more inclined to buy a green home over a conventional home in a down housing market. – McGrawHill Construction’s 2008 SmartMarket Report, “The Green Home Consumer”}

Retrofitting Perceptions

Because green building is often thought to be more expensive upfront than traditional building methods, the challenges to maintain momentum will most likely increase as economic issues rise. These challenges are stimulating more interest and research into retrofitting options, acknowledges Michelle Moore, senior vice president of policy and public affairs for USGBC.

“USGBC is turning its focus to greening our existing buildings ... homes, schools and offices,” she said.

The Governor’s Green Government Council, whose mission is to implement environmental practices to support sustainable development for Pennsylvania agencies, reports that, although some green materials and technologies do cost more, many strategies actually cost the same and even less than traditional methods.

Michael J. Reier, an architectural technology sophomore from Pottsville, notes the hurdles he may face: “In making green building technologies more available and appealing to homeowners, the hardest challenge is getting past the usual way of doing things. Like they say, ‘If it isn’t broken, don’t fix it.’ Well, in this age of
environmental and economic hardships, things need to be fixed.”

Initial planning and design, including careful environmental and site evaluation, are crucial to keeping the costs of green building more affordable. Also paramount is the close collaboration among all the participants of the process – homeowner, architect, building contractors, etc. – from concept through construction.

Julie R. Younes, a residential construction technology and management junior from Williamsport, is already tuned into the need – in her future profession – to be sensitive to the cost of green building.

“The most important ‘green’ factor for a contractor is to look at the design, make sure the design is sustainable … and make sure that the elements that they include in the home won’t cost the owner more than it normally would,” she said.

**ENERGIZING CHANGE**

USGBC’s Greenbuild, the world’s largest conference and expo dedicated to green building, attracted more than 28,000 attendees to its 2008 event in Boston, with representatives from all 50 states, 85 countries and six continents. Nobel Peace Prize recipient Archbishop Desmond Tutu was the keynote speaker. Even with the tough current economic outlook, this attendance spoke to the industry’s commitment and urgency to much-needed education and action. A group of Penn College students, accompanied by Dorothy J. Gerring, associate professor of architectural technology, attended the momentous gathering in November. The USGBC purchased offsets for the carbon footprint of the conference, making it the first large-scale conference to be carbon neutral. There were recycling stations throughout the conference, and Penn College students spent some time monitoring the stations as part of their learning experience.

One of those attending was Melissa A. Maruszak, a junior majoring in residential construction technology and management: architectural technology emphasis.

“Even knowing (that) sustainable practices have been around for decades, I feel that it is still a new thing, and it was shocking to see how many people were there to learn about it,” said the Vernon, N.J., native.

Resources for green building and green living are abundant. Educational institutions and training facilities across the country are implementing programs that cover emphases from sustainable engineering and construction to social and economic challenges of sustainability, as well as urban design and sustainable landscaping. Responsible practitioners of sustainable building are concerned with energy and material conservation at each stage of a structure’s design and construction, as well as throughout its entire life span, according to Campbell.

Most green building principles, techniques and materials are, in most cases, not new. Designing habitats with solar orientation in mind was done long ago out of necessity, for both heating and cooling purposes. Buildings, and even communities, can no longer be simply functional, aesthetically impressive or grandiose because they can be. It is no longer just fashionable for our homes, offices and lifestyles to be energy-efficient, resource-sustainable and healthful. It is fundamental to our survival.

Summarizing the fundamental green ideology, Gerring observed: “It takes the same resources to build a beautiful high-performance building as it does a low-performance one. The high-performance building will continue to pay back the owner and the planet for all of its useful life span.”

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**Students in Dorothy Gerring’s Sustainability class visited Ithaca, N.Y., to tour several sustainable-focused locations, including Ithaca College, the downtown area and EcoVillage.**

A paramount example of green building technologies, the Dorothy D. And Roy H. Park Center for Business and Sustainable Enterprise, Ithaca College, includes layered volumes of spaces, daylight screens, a green roof, low/no VOC finishes, and high recycled-content steel and furniture. The building achieved LEED Platinum, the highest LEED rating.

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**Web Extra**

find more resources and read about alumni in the green industry at [www.pct.edu/oca](http://www.pct.edu/oca)
Austin D. Hoyt, '06 graphic design, is embarking on success in New York. Having grown up in a sparsely populated area in southern Vermont, he had not considered working in the Big Apple – until he outgrew his first job out of college and decided to interview with a New York-based, freelance-staffing agency.

After freelancing for seven months and learning the ropes on projects for such clients as the National Football League, HBO and Clinique Cosmetics, Hoyt landed his first full-time position in the city in late 2007 with Van Wagner Communications.

A junior art director graphic designer for the company, Hoyt's graphic-design responsibilities run the gamut of branding, collateral material, billboard development, advertisements, e-mail “blasts” and sales photography. Among his more memorable projects have been incorporating the work of George Kalinsky, official photographer for Madison Square Garden, onto giant billboards.

“Most recently, I had been asked to set up a series of George’s famous photos that included Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra and Jimi Hendrix to go on three billboards in Times Square,” he said.

He’s also been kept busy by complete brand-development responsibilities for the Foot Locker College Hoops Tour, a basketball exhibition that traveled to 19 universities in February and March. Hoyt developed not only the brand logo, but also T-shirts, posters, floor graphics, basketball backboards and more.

The small-town transplant is also learning lessons about the lifestyle of the “Capital of the World.”

“Living and working here in New York requires a constant energy that you must maintain every day,” Hoyt said. “New York, although tough at times, continues to be an amazing adventure for me … I had never planned on working on this grand of a stage in the job world, but now that I have been working in the city for the better part of 2 1/2 years, I wouldn’t have it any other way,” he said.

City Lights Shine on Designer

A series of Times Square billboards, developed by Austin D. Hoyt to showcase the work of famed photographer George Kalinsky, features Elvis Presley, Jimi Hendrix and Frank Sinatra.
State Sen. Jake Corman, ’90, came to then-Williamsport Area Community College as a 24-year-old returning to school after taking a break from higher education. It was a good place for him to return to the classroom, he said.

“It was a great experience; it sort of started my feet on the track for where I am today,” he said.

The “where” of today is chair of the Pennsylvania Senate Appropriations Committee, one of the legislative body’s top leadership positions. He was elected to the seat by fellow Republican senators for 2009. The Appropriations Committee participates in annual budget negotiations and reviews all bills for fiscal impact before they go to the Senate floor.

But Corman, 44, steps into the job amid a deep economic downturn and a projected state budget shortfall in the billions by the end of the fiscal year on June 30.

“I look at it as an opportunity for government to really prioritize its spending,” he said, likening it to his family of five that did not come up with new revenue but decreased spending on other items when, as the family grew, it had to devote more money to child care.

“Government is the same way,” he said. “The taxpayers aren’t an endless pot of money.”

He said state policy-makers must ask: What’s the most important thing government should be doing? “Do that, and do it well. Cut the other things,” he said.

While the result will be a more efficient government, he acknowledges there will be pain along the path to achieve it. When unemployment rises, it prompts both increased demand for state services and decreased tax revenues to fund those services, which will be a huge challenge for the legislators. But he hopes to repeat past economic success by enacting bills to improve the state’s infrastructure, ultimately creating jobs to help spur recovery from the economic downturn.

In addition to general infrastructure upgrades, Corman also has high hopes for natural-gas exploration in the Marcellus Shale rock formations in central Pennsylvania, which he called a tremendous opportunity for the state, both to be at the center of an effort that could reduce dependency on foreign energy sources and to keep Pennsylvanians working.

A key, though, for both infrastructure improvements and exploration of the Marcellus Shale, is having a pool of capable employees.

“A skilled workforce is imperative,” he said. “We need to have a workforce that can handle all this work.”

Community colleges and technical colleges like Penn College can be a “major force” in providing those employees, he said.

“Having a school like Penn College or others that can prepare this skilled workforce is a tremendous opportunity,” he said.

Penn College recently partnered with Penn

Welcoming the Opportunity

Alumnus Named State Senate Appropriations Chair

by Jennifer A. Cline, writer/editor-One College Avenue

“…getting involved with local communities really sparked my interest.”
State Cooperative Extension to open the Marcellus Shale Education & Training Center, which, among other services, will help provide research, training and new-technology development.

Funding for higher education has not been a priority under current Gov. Edward G. Rendell, Corman claimed. On the plus side, the governor has given high priority to basic education, but Corman said keeping higher education affordable and accessible is important. “It’s something that we need to try to do better,” he said.

Corman, who lives in Bellefonte, represents the 34th Senatorial District, which includes all of Juniata and Perry counties and parts of Centre, Mifflin and Union counties. He first ran for office in 1998, following in the footsteps of his father, Sen. J. Doyle Corman, who retired from the same senatorial seat after holding it for 20 years.

But it was in 1995 when he began working as state director for U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum that Corman got excited about holding public office.

“Around 1995 was when the (U.S. Rep. Newt) Gingrich revolution started; there were a lot of exciting things happening at that point,” he said. “That was really my first exposure to public service; (helping) people with local problems and getting involved with local communities really sparked my interest.”

His father and Santorum have provided great support, he said, both lending opinions when asked, but neither offering unsolicited advice.

“I’ve been fortunate in my life to have good role models,” he said, counting in that group Williamsport radio personality Ken Sawyer.

Corman lived in Williamsport for three years, with two of those years spent pursuing an associate degree in electronic media at Penn College. In addition to spending a year as general manager of the college’s radio station, he also worked at local radio station WRAK as a sports broadcaster, where he met Sawyer.

“He’s a wonderful man and had a significant impact on my life.” Sawyer, he said, showed him the meaning of work ethic and professionalism.

After earning his associate degree from Penn College, Corman went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in journalism from The Pennsylvania State University.

“Being able to communicate with people … has been extremely helpful to me in my career,” he said.

Corman gains his greatest satisfaction as a senator from having an impact on the community in which he lives and represents, counting one of his greatest joys in helping create a climate that allowed a Mifflin County employer to bring new jobs to that area.

“I, like everyone else, want to live in a place that has a good economic climate, good schools and safe streets,” he said.

Outside of the joys and frustrations of his senatorial work, Corman focuses on his wife, Kelli, and their three children, all between the ages of 2 and 6.

“That is my life,” he said. “Trust me, that’s a full-time job.” ■
To Help a Family in Need

by Tom Wilson, writer/editor-PCToday

The glory of real-world experience and the glare of reality television intersected for a group of Pennsylvania College of Technology students and their mentors who traveled to Franklin County for an “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition” construction project to benefit a family dedicated to helping special-needs youngsters.

Helpful hands – mainly from the college’s School of Construction and Design Technologies – worked Nov. 11-12 on a new house for Matthew and Blasia Drumm and their three children in South Mountain, a southcentral Pennsylvania community near the Maryland border.

The group was invited by Dan Ryan Builders, of Frederick, Md., which employs a number of Penn College graduates and has provided internships to current students over the past three summers. Alumni helped recruit volunteers through the Penn College Construction Association, which rounded up 17 students in addition to Garret Graff and Bernard A. “Barney” Kahn, instructors of building construction technology and club advisers, and Marc E. Bridgens, interim dean of construction and design technologies.

Chosen as exemplifying this season’s theme of “Heroes in the Community,” the Drumms have two autistic sons and a history of helping disabled youngsters in the Little League Baseball Challenger Division and through Blasia Drumm’s work as a teacher’s aide. Their dilapidated residence, built on a former dump site that still was marked by broken glass and shards of metal, was termed “the worst home I’ve ever seen” by one of the show’s designers.

ABC’s hit series has the uncanny power to wring tears from even the most jaded television viewers when the bullhorned cry of “Move that bus” heralds the official “reveal” – the homeowners’ heart-tugging introduction to a home that miraculously has risen from the footprint of what they left a mere week earlier.

“It was just awesome to see what they did in such a short amount of time,” said Seth L. Culbert, a residential construction technology and management major from Quakake. “The scheduling and logistics that took place were amazing. It was an awesome opportunity to help out in the community and spread the college’s name a little bit. To see what the family was living in, and then seeing what they were being given, was great.”

Vice president of the PCCA and organizer of the trip, Culbert interned with Dan Ryan last summer. He learned of the “Extreme Makeover” project from one of the firm’s employees – Penn College graduate Matthew S. Divok – and brought the idea to the student chapter.

“I was completely overwhelmed when I first asked the club (and) so many of them wanted to volunteer,” he said of the enthusiastic feedback, even when students initially were told they’d be paying their own way.

“I was pleased with members, as well,” said Andrew A. DeGregorio, a building construction technology major from White Plains, N.Y., and club president.

“So many of them, when they were first approached with this event, were willing to help. Originally, we planned on staying with friends, renting our own vans and paying for fuel, and everyone agreed to split the cost.”

Penn College, which strongly encourages community-service work among its students, employees and alumni, absorbed the costs of a coach bus and overnight lodging.

“We all greatly appreciated this and were happy to see the school get involved,” DeGregorio said. “I would definitely do it again. It is a great way to help others and a great experience.”

Graff said it was heartening to have so many student volunteers and “extremely exciting” to see 100 or more workers at the job site.

“I think you could characterize it as ‘organized chaos’ – a swarm of blue shirts as you stood back and watched the work unfold.”
“I think you could characterize it as ‘organized chaos’ – a swarm of blue shirts as you stood back and watched the work unfold,” he said. “Our students gave a hand wherever they needed help, from laying sod, sanding drywall and even stacking firewood. I’m proud to see the hard work the Penn College students did.”

The students were scheduled to work from 2 to 10 p.m. both evenings, but were asked to come in at 6 a.m. the second day for what turned into a double shift on the 2,500-square-foot home.

“The entire time we were down there, no one complained about how much work we were doing or the shifts that we worked,” Culbert said. “Everyone found something constructive to do. I was very proud to say that I was with Penn College.”

Steven R. Brannan, of Warminster, said he declined an earlier offer to help an “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition” work crew near his suburban Philadelphia hometown when the project coincided with his Fall 2005 enrollment at Penn College.

“When Seth told me that we might have the opportunity to help out Dan Ryan Builders with a home, I thought to myself, ‘There is no way I am letting this slide by me again,’” said Brannan, who expected to receive a bachelor’s degree in residential construction management in May.

Other students on the Penn College crew and their majors were:

- Residential Construction Technology and Management – Derek J. Geisinger, Red Lion.
- Residential Construction Management – Brendan I. Curry, Upper Falls, Md.; Brian S. Ferguson, Conneaut Lake; Zachary T. McAllister, East Berlin; Joshua L. Murray, Annville; Andrew J. Polski, Chantilly, Va.; and Erich L. Snyder, Downingtown.

The show was broadcast Jan. 18, but the college work crew didn’t have to wait until then for its reviews.

“You’re students worked so hard doing whatever was asked of them,” Dan Ryan said. “From carrying lumber to different locations on the job site, to raking leaves, they were pitching in. I think it was a great experience for all of us.” And an experience that affirmed what Ryan already knew from hiring Penn College graduates and interns.

“We think the world of you guys,” he said. “They get a hands-on feel for what this business is all about, and we get smart, young kids who want to make a difference.”

Brannan, a self-described fan of the show since its debut, scarcely could conceal his pride when discussing the “difference” that he helped bring about for the Drumms.

“It was amazing to see a home get built in five days when it usually takes somewhere around 80 or so,” he said. “To see the teamwork they had there … was great – so many people working together. After the skills, tips and tricks I have learned from this program, I would love to get this opportunity again – only next time, be part of the management team.”

Brannan said the show has given him a number of ideas he would like to practice in his post-graduate, home-construction career. His ultimate lesson, however, is timeless:

“Just remember,” he said, “to help a family in need goes a good, long way.”
**Industrial and Engineering Technologies**

Jeffrey D. Mather, assistant professor of drafting and computer aided design, presented two papers at the Autodesk University conference, held Dec. 2-5 in Las Vegas. His session “Working With Neutral Format Surface and Solid Models in Autodesk Inventor” was one of 11 Autodesk Inventor “PowerTrack” sessions. Portions of his presentation were previewed in an article published in the September/October 2008 issue of AUGI World magazine, the official publication of Autodesk Users Group International. Mather also presented a session titled “Functional Design Tools for Educators in Autodesk Inventor Professional” and served as a lab assistant for a class titled “Using Autodesk Inventor Tooling: Mold Design.”

**Integrated Studies**


An article written by Jeremiah C. Gee, assessment coordinator, and student Brandon J. Close was published in the January-February 2009 issue of American Jails. The article, titled “Unlocking Correctional Education for Jails: Step 1,” details the inception and development of Penn College’s Collegiate Association for County Correctional Education, a student organization founded by Close in Fall 2008. Close serves as the CACCE president; Gee is its adviser. CACCE is the first organization of its kind in the United States. American Jails is the official publication of the American Jail Association. In September, Gee led a panel discussion at the Re-entry Seminar for County Officials. The panel examined the similarities and differences of challenges faced by rural and urban counties. The one-day seminar, orchestrated by the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, was held in State College. In October, Gee presented a session titled “Continuous Improvement Tools 101” at the annual Assessment Institute in Indianapolis, where he led attendees through a streamlined method to simplify the process of outcomes assessment.

**Richard Sahn**, instructor of sociology and psychology, presented a paper at the Pennsylvania Sociological Society’s annual conference in Harrisburg on Nov. 1. The paper was titled “Cognitive Dissonance and 9/11: Why People Reject the Inside Job Conspiracy Theory.” On Nov. 6, Sahn presented a paper titled “Tearoom Trade Revisited” at the Association of Humanist Sociology’s annual meeting in Boston. On Nov. 22, he gave a talk on “Patriotism and Social Democracy” at the Norman Thomas Society Dinner in Lewisburg.


Six members of the mathematics faculty offered presentations at the annual conference of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges, held Nov. 20-23 in Washington, D.C. Edwin G. Owens, assistant dean/liberal arts, and Joanna K. Pruden, assistant professor of mathematics, presented “A Multiple Measures Approach to Mathematics Placement.” Sandy Carlson, assistant professor of mathematics, teamed with Owens to present “Development of a Web-based Placement Exam.” Pruden, with Lauren Gordon, assistant professor of mathematics; LeAnn M. Henry, instructor of mathematics; and Diana L. Kuhns, assistant professor of mathematics, presented “A Way to Help Students Read and Understand Their Math Textbooks.”

**Natural Resources Management**

Steven R. Parker, assistant professor of environmental technology, is assisting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in evaluating an EPA-sponsored financial-management publication for Native Americans. Because he is experienced in training representatives of several dozen tribes across the country for the EPA, the Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Parker was asked to ensure that the guidance manual – designed to help the tribes manage their expenditures of EPA grant funding – is sensitive to Native American culture.
organized youth sports program. Williamsport, is the world’s largest Little League, founded in 1939 in League Baseball and Softball. The Little League International Board of Directors, a volunteer board, is responsible for the management of the property and affairs of Little League Baseball and Softball. Little League, founded in 1939 in Williamsport, is the world’s largest organized youth sports program.

Administration

Davie Jane Gilmour, president, was voted chairperson-elect of the Little League International Board of Directors. Board Chairman Dennis Lewin’s term will expire in 2012, at which time Gilmour will assume the chair – the first woman in that role. The Little League International Board of Directors, a volunteer board, is responsible for the management of the property and affairs of Little League Baseball and Softball.

The College Store

Matthew P. Branca, director, was recertified as a Certified Collegiate Retailer in December by the National Association of College Stores. The Certified Collegiate Retailer program was established to recognize those individuals who have demonstrated mastery of the skills and knowledge required to successfully manage a retail-services operation within a higher-education setting. To initially achieve the credential in 2005, Branca met the required minimum of experience and passed a comprehensive four-hour exam. To be recertified, he completed 60 hours of continuing education and professional-development activities. He also led seminars, acted as coach for industry professionals taking online courses offered by NACS, and was active on national and regional committees committed to the college-bookstore industry.

Madigan Library

Tracey Amey, librarian for digital initiatives, contributed a chapter to the Association of College and Research Libraries’ new publication, “Gaming in Academic Libraries: Collections, Marketing and Information Literacy.” Her contribution, which contains examples of ways libraries are integrating video games into their learning and outreach programs, discusses building a library collection that supports the academic and career facets of the game industry. She presented her chapter at the 2009 ALA TechSource Gaming, Learning and Libraries Symposium held in Chicago in November. At the Susquehanna Library Cooperative’s recent “Web 2.0 Untangled Workshop,” held at Lycoming College in October, Amey presented a poster session on the Madigan Library podcast tour. Jeffrey A. Bower, virtual resources developer, and Matthew David, assistant director, library services, participated in a panel discussion, where they spoke about reverse engineering. Georgia R. Laudenslager, librarian for reference and outreach, presented a poster session on the reference desk wiki, which is located on the Madigan Library’s intranet site and includes library services, policies and procedures and information about the library’s various departments.

In Memory


Ealer was born Dec. 9, 1941. A registered architect, following completion of his education at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1965, he worked with several Williamsport-area architectural firms, including Ealer and Sampsell. He had taught architecture at Penn College and its predecessor Williamsport Area Community College since 1965.

Involved in many community organizations, he was a member and longtime chair of the Historical Architectural Review Board for the City of Williamsport and held leadership positions in the Greater Williamsport Community Arts Council and the Williamsport Community Concert Association. He was a charter member of Preservation Williamsport.


Quinn was born in Philadelphia. He earned a bachelor’s degree at St. Joseph’s University and held a master’s degree and a doctorate from the University of Notre Dame. For 30 years, his occupation was based in education, having taught at Franklin Pierce College, New Hampshire Technical College, St. Anselm College and the University of South Alabama before joining the Penn College faculty. He was a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow and worked as a technical writer and editor for several firms, including the Army Corps of Engineers.

William H. Sprinsky, 69, retired associate professor of civil engineering technology, died Nov. 18.

Sprinsky was born June 26, 1939, in the Bronx, N.Y. He earned his bachelor’s degree at the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute and held master’s and doctoral degrees from Ohio State University.

He retired as a colonel from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1984 after 24 years of service and three combat tours during the Vietnam War. He was the first chairman of the Department of Photogrammetry, Cartography and Survey at Texas A&M University. He then taught at Penn College from 1991 until he retired in May 2007.

He was buried, with full military honors, at Arlington National Cemetery.
1960s

Don Wane Klinger, '61, architectural drafting, is a self-employed registered architect and owns Value By Design. Klinger, who resides in Millersburg, has earned architecture certificates from the International Correspondence School and Harvard University School of Design and has received numerous design awards over the years, including the Harrisburg Builders Association Pyramid Award for best custom home presentation in 2000, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2008. He also has had several projects published in numerous professional magazines.

Richard C. Taylor, '64, toolmaking technology, received a bachelor's degree in manufacturing engineering from Utah State University in 1972 and retired from IBM Corp in 1995. Taylor, who resides in Fuquay-Varina, N.C., has earned two U.S. patents.

1970s

Ann Marie Root, '74, licensed practical nursing, resides in Manheim and is an LPN/staff nurse at Lancaster's Community Surgical Associates.

1980s

David J. Bowesox, '82, building technology, is owner of D.B. Construction and resides in Selinsgrove. He is pursuing a bachelor's degree in technical education from National University of San Diego. While serving in the U.S. Navy, Bowesox received electrical training. He has a California contractor's license.

Eric Paul Rodenhauser, '83, plumbing/HVAC, resides in Marietta and is a territory manager for HVAC Distributors Inc.

Timothy D. Snyder, '84, computer science, is a senior programmer/analyst at Weis Markets and resides in Dornsife.

Kevin E. Sanford, '86, building construction technology, earned a master's degree in mechanical engineering from Drexel University. He lives in Chalfont and is vice president of engineering for Medical Components Inc.

1990s

Darlene L. Hepler, '92, nursing, received a bachelor's degree in nursing from University of St. Francis in December. She is a NextGen educator for Susquehanna Health, responsible for development and implementation of an education system for physicians and office staff in the use of a new computerized office-charting system. She also assists in support of those offices going “live” on the new electronic medical record. She and her husband, Robert J. Jr., '86, electronics technology, reside in Williamsport.

Carolyn Mitchell, '95, office technology: executive assistant, has been a homemaker for the past eight years. She resides in Dover with her husband and three children.

Rebecca R. Hoover, '97, floral design/interior Plantscape, resides in Scranton and is employed in administration and accounts payable at Leveling Edge.

Cletus Waldman Jr., '99, applied health studies, recently completed his master's degree in education with a concentration in adult education from The Pennsylvania State University. Waldman is clinical director and assistant professor of radiography at Penn College.

2000s

Matthew William Broadbent, '00, plastics and polymer engineering technology, lives in Lebanon, where he is employed by Tyco Electronics as a medical plastic molding technician.

Jennifer L. (Miller) Heit, '03, dental hygiene, lives in Harrisburg and is a registered dental hygienist for Dr. Edward S. Geyer.

Samuel D. Fenstermaker, '04, diesel technology, lives in Linden and is an aerial-lift technician for Equipment Depot. His job involves preventive maintenance and repair of lifts, cranes, hoists and rough-terrain reach trucks.

Jarod Heath Lentz, '05, electrical technology, is an electrician for The H&K Group. He and his wife, Miranda, '07, dental hygiene, live in Fleetwood. Miranda is a dental hygienist for Aspen Dental.


Eric Hann Wong, '06, automotive technology, resides in Holmdel, N.J., and is a district manager trainee for Subaru in Cherry Hill, N.J.

Join the Alumni Online Community

Register with the Penn College Alumni Online Community to enjoy the benefits of staying connected to your alma mater. You'll be able to network with fellow alumni, stay up-to-date with alumni news, post notes to your class, maintain a personal page, upload photos to share and more. For more information on this and other benefits available through the Alumni Relations Office, visit www.pct.edu/alumni.

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Give Us Your Nominations

Help the Alumni Relations Office honor worthy graduates from Pennsylvania College of Technology and its predecessor institutions (Williamsport Area Community College and Williamsport Technical Institute) by nominating someone for an alumni award.

The college accepts public nominations for four of its annual awards:

**Outstanding Varsity Athletic Alumni Award**
Presented during Homecoming, this award recognizes the accomplishments of Penn College varsity athletic alumni and contributions they have made to their communities. Nomination deadline is July 1.

**Alumni Citizenship/Humanitarian Award**
Presented to two alumni at December commencement, this award recognizes distinguished community or volunteer service. Nomination deadline is Oct. 1.

**Distinguished Alumna/Alumnus Award**
Presented at May commencement, this award recognizes significant contributions by a graduate in his or her career, as well as leadership in the community and commitment to college and community relations. Nomination deadline is March 1.

**Alumna/Alumnus Achievement Award**
Presented to a recent graduate at May commencement, this award recognizes noteworthy professional or career accomplishment or dedicated volunteer service to the college or community. Nomination deadline is March 1.

A nomination form and the full criteria for each award are published on the Alumni Relations Web site: www.pct.edu/alumni/nominate.htm or call toll-free 877-PCT-ALUM.

Kurtz Loving Life in Landscaping

Casey Kurtz, '02, landscape/nursery technology, lives for the outdoors. When it came time to select a major, landscaping was a natural fit. When visiting colleges, Kurtz says Penn College was the most impressive on his list. He remembers seeing a bulletin board at the Schneebeli Earth Science Center posted full of job opportunities to match his interests, and that was enough to convince him that Penn College was the place he needed to be. Kurtz is a senior superintendent at the Brickman Group, where he is responsible for about 50 clients in northeastern Pennsylvania. He loves his work. He says the outdoor atmosphere, varied challenges and daily responsibilities keep his career interesting, and he welcomes the diversity of each project and client. According to Kurtz, Penn College is well-respected in the landscape industry. He advises students to learn as much as possible while studying the industry and to attend career fairs. His relationship with Brickman started at a career fair hosted by the college’s School of Natural Resources Management.

Show your Penn College pride by purchasing a Pennsylvania College of Technology license plate! Alumni, as well as employees and friends of Penn College, are encouraged to take advantage of this new opportunity.

Of your $74 contribution, $50 is tax-deductible and will benefit Penn College Alumni Relations. For more details, contact the Alumni Relations Office at alumni@pct.edu or call toll-free 877-PCT-ALUM.

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Culinary-arts student Christopher J. Harris comments on February’s Visiting Chef event, which featured award-winning Washington, D.C., restaurateur Chef Bob Kinkead.

“I found the lobster with gnocchi and roasted peppers was the most interesting dish. There were so many levels of flavors, color, richness and preparation…”
One College Avenue Article Earns Award

“Hearing the Voice Within,” a story written by Tom Wilson, writer/editor-PToday, and published in the Spring 2008 issue of One College Avenue, received a Bronze CUPPIE in the annual awards competition for CUPRAP—The Association of Communicators in Education. The award was announced in March.

Wilson’s winning feature chronicled the success of Travis Clawson, a December 2007 graduate and commencement speaker, who is deaf. For an update on Clawson’s post-graduation success, visit One College Avenue’s home on the Web at www.pct.edu/oca.
A Note to Parents
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The Penn College Wildcat hits the books in the Madigan Library with William J. Steinhauser III, a senior in the business administration: management major. The library hosts 1,000 seats for study, research and collaboration.