



Ken Field

Owner of Slate Belt Energy Services

Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times

Learn and Grow

There are some good training courses for most of the trades today but for someone who is already employed it can be difficult to attend them. Over the years I have gone to many 2 or 3 day sessions and even a few weeklong courses. I have always taken at least one of my employees along and for some of the really important ones I took everyone. Most are general troubleshooting classes and not specific to one brand. There are always at least a few things we left with that make us better technicians.

After 20 or 30 years of this it makes a well-rounded technician. There are no requirements in Pennsylvania for any certifications in the heating and air conditioning fields except the one needed to buy refrigerant. So any certifications I hold are really useless in the eyes of the government but they should mean something to the customers who we serve for a number of reasons. We're not learning on your equipment and we don't have to live by trial and error. After a training course we have printed and online resources to draw upon and usually a contact person who we can call for those really annoying and elusive problems.

I think the most valuable training we ever attended was about carbon monoxide and gas appliances. That was a week of information I've never seen anywhere else and we left with several flowchart type troubleshooting and adjustment handouts created by a man by the name of Jim Davis. He is a legend in the area of carbon monoxide training and I have contacted him a few times since our training for his thoughts on service problems we have had. We test every system we service and sometimes we find dangerous conditions that may have been going on for a long time. Even a new furnace right out of the crate can have problems from being banged around in transit. Carbon monoxide is by far the most dangerous thing in your home if you have any kind of a gas appliance. That is unless you store plastic cans full of gasoline next to your fireplace. The best thing you can do is have a low level carbon monoxide detector in your home. It won't say UL listed on it if it's a low level model because the UL standards are way too high for real safety. A UL listed detector won't alarm until 4 hours passes with a level double what's allowed in a parking garage. You won't find that information just anywhere but it's the truth. Ken Field is the owner of Slate Belt Energy and Field's Service, Inc. As a certified energy rater and contractor, he is qualified to assess every aspect of energy usage and prescribe solutions to save energy. He can be reached at 610-759-6306 or email Ken@FieldsService.com

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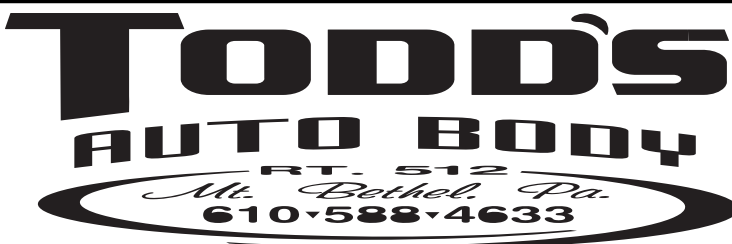
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Join us for a fun filled family day with over 50 vendors to shop with, fantastic food and drinks, sweet treats, and more!

Beer, wine & sangria will also be available.

Skeggy's Axe House will be set up for patrons to practice their axe throwing skills.

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SEPTEMBER 25, 2021

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