



## Ken Field

Owner of Slate Belt Energy Services

*Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times*

### You Can't Mandate Comfort

Government agencies and builders will tell you that they are all about homes being energy efficient and yet they don't walk the walk. I don't believe that government should even be involved but that's just me. There are ways around every expensive rule that is created and instead of making a home more efficient, it just makes it more expensive and gives a new homeowner a false expectation. You can't make rules that give shady builders a conscience. You can't make rules that require contractors and inspectors to fully understand their jobs. Rules are minimum guidelines and they set the stage for people to skirt the real essence of the rule when they want more money in their pocket and don't care if the homeowner gets value or not. Believe me when I say that even Stephen King could not put into words some of the work I've seen in brand new homes. I am truly ashamed of some of the people who call themselves contractors and builders. If their truck said home scammers I would be relieved but that level of honesty is never going to be realized. It is virtually impossible to build a home too tight so everyone can just stop saying that right now. I have been involved in dozens of jobs where we tried to make a house too tight and we failed every time. Yes I am a failure, but I save people thousands of dollars on energy every year. The horror story is easier to see before the drywall goes on but you can feel it more after the house is completed. Of course by then it's too late to do any more than a band aid repair, so enjoy the lousy comfort you paid several hundred grand for forever.

Homes should be designed around an efficient comfort system and when I am involved from the start they are, or I decline any involvement. I refuse to ruin my name because some architect wanted to have a cool looking building that was impossible to heat and cool. Unfortunately building inspectors are not required to catch any of the flaws in an HVAC system. They are just there to be sure a house doesn't collapse before the uncomfortable occupants sell it because they can't afford the energy bills.

Just know that an efficient home is possible and very practical. But not built by fast talking slackers who take low bidders and slap together substandard junk. Benjamin Franklin said "The bitterness of poor quality remains long after the sweetness of low price is forgotten." He nailed it.

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](mailto:Ken@FieldsService.com)

## PennDOT is Hiring!

By Sean Brown

HARRISBURG - The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) currently has many positions open in a variety of areas around the commonwealth. These positions include but are not limited to:



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

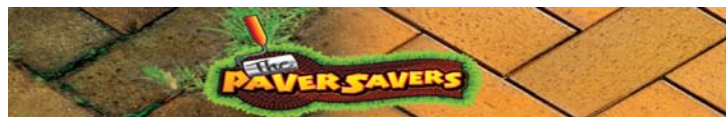
Civil Engineers  
Transportation Construction Inspectors  
CDL Operators  
Highway Maintenance Workers  
Diesel and Construction Equipment Mechanics  
Driver License Examiners/Assistants  
Real Estate Appraisers  
Roadway Programs Technicians  
Immediate openings can be viewed and applied for by clicking here <http://enews.senatorboscola.com>.

### State Agencies Hiring

There are currently more than 750 openings within Pennsylvania state agencies. These openings are for jobs across the commonwealth in a variety of sectors.

To view positions available throughout the state, please visit [www.employment.pa.gov](http://www.employment.pa.gov). On the site, you may also sign up to receive email notifications when new opportunities in your field of interest become available.

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## School Openings

With schools opening in August, many school districts in the region are hiring teachers, substitute teachers, custodians, nurses, counselors and paraprofessionals. Precision HR posts many of these openings which can viewed by clicking here.

The Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) also posts various openings at schools across the commonwealth. To view these openings, please visit [www.psba.org](http://www.psba.org) and click on the "Career Gateway" tab at the bottom of the home page.



## Employment Opportunities Through CareerLink

CareerLinkPA CareerLink is a one-stop shop for available jobs, apprenticeships and training opportunities throughout Pennsylvania. I encourage anyone looking for work to visit [www.pacareerlink.pa.gov](http://www.pacareerlink.pa.gov). Jobs can be searched using a keyword or the location of the position.



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