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Contacts:

Mike Gerfin, Thaddeus Stevens College: (717) 391-3598

Liz Smith, media contact at Lancaster County Planning Commission (717) 299-8333

**Preservation Trades Technology
Classes Offered This Fall
At Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology**

Two classes in preservation trades technology, Wood Repair and Wood Window Repair, will be offered this fall at Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology.

Launched last February during the spring semester for those already in the building trades, both classes were full and received good feedback. Because of their initial success, the classes will be offered again this fall. Wood Repair will start October 14 and end October 30 and Wood Window Repair will start November 4 and end November 20. Registration information is available at Thaddeus Stevens College office of Continuing Education. Tuition cost to incumbent workers is subsidized by the Lancaster county Workforce Investment Board (WIB).

"A need for preservation trades technology education was identified during the development of *Heritage*, an element of the County Comprehensive Plan," said Scott Standish, director of the Long-Range and Heritage Division at the Lancaster County Planning Commission (LCPC). "As part of the planning process we discovered that there is a scarcity of people who have skills in the preservation trades and a multitude of historic property owners who are searching for people with preservation trades skills. To address this disparity, the concept of starting a preservation trades technology educational program became a goal of the plan."

According to Carole Wilson, LCPC's Historic Preservation Specialist, subsequent implementation measures brought together a large group of diverse organizations and institutions that, over the course of a few months, evolved into a core group determined to move the project forward. The members of this group, the Preservation Trades Education Committee, are made up of representatives from the Lancaster County Planning Commission (LCPC), the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), the Lancaster County Workforce Investment Board (WIB), and Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology.

Using implementation funds provided by the Lancaster County Planning Commission two consultants, David Mertz and John Fugelso, experts in preservations building trades education, were hired. Working closely with Barry Loveland from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) and Charlie Byers from Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology the consultants developed an outline curriculum for the entire program, and detailed curricula for two courses, wood repair and wood window repair,

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geared toward incumbent workers. The Lancaster County Workforce Investment Board, headed by Scott Sheely, helped subsidize the cost of tuition for incumbent building trade workers. The program was advertised by Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology who also hosted the classes at their facility.

Mike Gerfin, Thaddeus Stevens Workforce Development Department, says, "Now that the viability of the program has been tested the Preservation Trades Education Committee would like to proceed with the development of curricula for additional courses including Preservation Masonry, Preservation of Porches, Complex Moldings and Painting." The Committee is currently seeking funding for this purpose.

Loveland of PHMC noted that core courses in preservation theory including Fundamentals of Historic Preservation, History of American Architecture, and American Building Technology are being developed by PHMC professional staff who will also present the courses as their contribution to the project. After the full curriculum has been developed it is expected that the preservation trades technology program will become self-sustaining.

The preservation trades technology education program is the only one of its kind in Pennsylvania according to Dr. Eric Pelligrino, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Thaddeus Stevens College. "It is anticipated that at some point the courses will also be opened to students at Thaddeus Stevens College who currently learn the techniques of new construction using new materials."

To learn more about the preservation technology classes or to sign up, contact the Continuing Education Department at Thaddeus Stevens College at 717-391-3543 or go to their website at www.stevenscollege.edu Those already skilled in the construction trade \ who want to learn more about preservation technology are encouraged to contact Mike Gerfin in the college's Workforce Development Department at 717-391-3598.

Companies who sent employees for training in the spring semester were:
Kreider-Diller Builders, HomeWorks, Harmony Painting & Restoration, JDHC-John D. Hughes, Wayne Olson Quality Carpentry, Smucker Company, Kevin Sypien Remodeling, Joseph Thomas Remodeling, and Hishman Services, Inc.

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