

Membership



State Manufacturing Advocate to Headline Oct. 20 Membership Meeting

Carl Marrara, the chief lobbyist for Pennsylvania's manufacturers, is coming to Sharon. The executive director of the Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association (PMA) will speak at our Semi-Annual Membership & Community Meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 20, at the Hope Center for Arts and Technology.

Manufacturers, educators and community-based organizations are all welcome -- both members and non-members.

PMA is a nonprofit statewide trade group founded in 1909 that represents manufacturers in Pennsylvania's public policy process. From its headquarters in Harrisburg, PMA works to strengthen the state's business climate and help it compete with other states for investment, jobs and economic growth.

Marrara will talk about PMA's legislative priorities, including the workforce development and education issues that will shape Pennsylvania's future workforce. Many of those priorities line up closely with our own policy agenda. That makes this a rare chance to see how the work in classrooms and training programs across Lawrence and Mercer counties connects to decisions made at the Capitol.

At the meeting, you'll also hear how we're inspiring the next generation, building a skilled workforce and expanding pre-apprenticeship and work-based learning pathways.

Tuesday, Oct. 20

7:30-8 a.m.: Registration and breakfast

8-10 a.m.: Meeting

Hope Center for Arts and Technology, 115 Anson Way, Sharon

[Register today.](#)

Subscribe to our Newsletter

If you were forwarded this email and would like to receive LMMC's newsletter directly, please send your name, company affiliation and email address to jim@houckpr.com.

Youth Outreach



Manufacturing Month Promotes Local Careers

October is Manufacturing Month, and this week is Manufacturing Week here in our region. The Manufacturing Institute leads the celebration nationally, and communities across the country mark it in their own ways.

Here, we're partnering with Lawrence County School to Work and five member manufacturers to bring the industry into 10 Lawrence County schools: Ellwood, FirmaPak, Berner, Flowline and Hall Industries.

Each event gives students a firsthand look at modern manufacturing and the people who do the work. The message to students is clear: they don't have to leave home to build a rewarding career. Manufacturers in our region

offer in-demand, well-paying jobs with real room to grow, and many don't require a four-year degree.

With a culture built on promoting from within, Thigpen said investing in skills training and employee engagement are a top priority, and one that LMMC is well positioned to support.

LMMC welcomes nVent-ILSCO Extrusions and looks forward to adding their voice and experience to the coalition.

In Mercer County, Penn-Northwest is again partnering with Mercer County Career Center and Ellwood to facilitate a hands-on manufacturing case study for students (see photo above from last year's event). The collaboration centers on giving these student learners a realistic scenario that mirrors many of the common challenges found in today's manufacturing environments. The case study is designed to reinforce foundational concepts such as safety, quality, workflow awareness, critical thinking, and practical problem-solving.

Throughout the experience, students are challenged to apply logic to address real situations, such as people constraints or various production delays. There is also learning how different roles contribute to the broader workflow and how individual decisions can impact the entire plant. They work to identify operational issues, recommend solutions and engage in collaborative, effective communication across multiple functional areas of the business.

This partnership continues to demonstrate how the manufacturing industry and education can work together to build awareness of rewarding careers in the manufacturing sector and strengthen the future talent pipeline within our region.

Look for full coverage in the October edition of our newsletter.





Regional Business Group Spotlights Board Chair's Workforce Vision

Anna Barenfeld's column in The Business Journal last month reached readers well beyond Lawrence and Mercer counties.

The Manufacturer & Business Association (MBA) featured Anna in the Sept. 22 edition of "The Hill Report," its government affairs newsletter. The MBA represents employers across Pennsylvania and neighboring states.

In her "Issues & Innovations" column, Eileen Anderson, the MBA's director of government affairs, builds on Anna's op-ed with a closer look at Ellwood's long-term people strategy. She also examines the coalition model Anna helped bring to our region. Anna is our Board Chair and Vice President of Strategic Initiatives at Ellwood.

Anderson points to Anna's foresight. Many MBA members trace their workforce problems to the Covid-19 pandemic, she writes. Ellwood, however, began planning for a workforce crunch in 2017. Anna was also clear about the kind of talent manufacturers need: "I don't want bodies." She wants "the best and the brightest."

She notes the coalition is "in a much stronger position than individual manufacturers" to show young people local career paths, and that it "has influenced curriculum." The column ends with a vote of confidence: "While the Manufacturer & Business Association doesn't usually place bets, we are placing our money on Anna Barendsfeld."

Coverage like this shows that employers and policy leaders are paying attention to what our board and members have to say about building the workforce.

Read the full column on our website

Events



**ENERGY &
MANUFACTURING®**
— in Appalachia —

Manufacturing Grant Workshop Set for Oct. 15

Manufacturers are invited to attend the AHS/ANSEL Energy Grant Workshop on Thursday, Oct. 15 at Westminster College in New Wilmington.

We're co-sponsoring the workshop with Catalyst Connection and regional partners. It's designed to help manufacturers find funding for growth, workforce initiatives, new technology and energy projects. You'll learn about grants from the Appalachian Regional Commission's ARISE program and other sources. You'll also hear from manufacturers who have won funding and leave

Thursday, Oct. 15

7:30 P. Presentation on the new edition of the book

8-9:45 a.m.: Grant workshop
10-11:45 a.m.: Energy Efficiency for Everyone workshop

Westminster College, 319 S. Market
Parking: Lot C

Training

Supervisor Training Pilot Delivers Strong Results

Twelve supervisors from eight manufacturing companies are back

LMMC's first Frontline Leadership and Supervisory Training cohort wrapped up this month at [BC3@Lawrence](#). Kristen Goodell, senior consultant for organizational leadership

The program came straight from member input. In LMMC's spring workforce training survey, more than 90 percent of employers named supervisory training as a top priority. Many frontline leaders are promoted for their technical skills and step into the

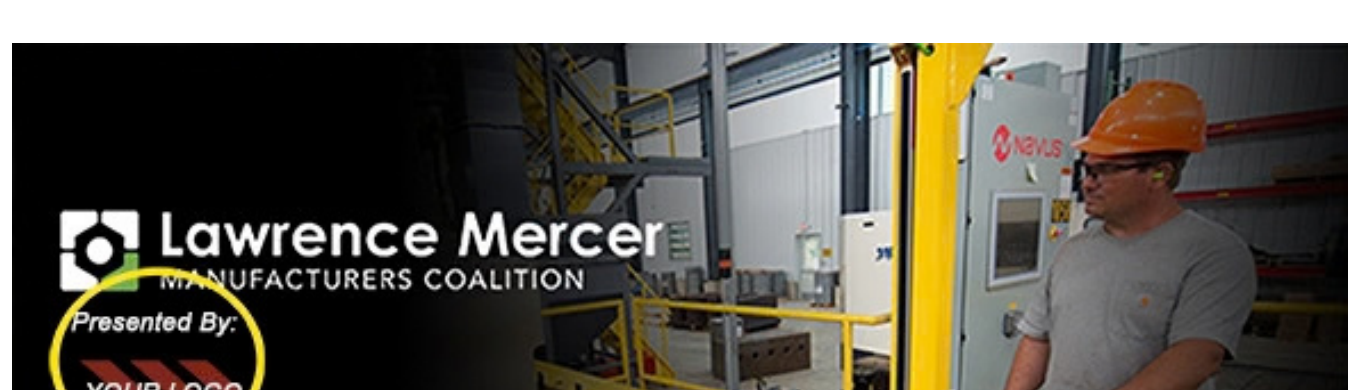
role with little formal preparation for managing people.

- 100% understood the material and stayed engaged
- 98% said the facilitator's expertise enhanced their learning

Participants singled out the practical scenarios, coaching practice and real-world discussion. Several also encouraged managers and senior leaders to take part in future sessions so they could bring forward their own problems for discussion.

Watch for details on upcoming cohorts.

Member Benefits



Manufacturing Grant Workshop Set for Oct. 15

LMMC has opened up a new advertising opportunity for Associate members: “Presenting Sponsor” of our monthly

For \$2,500 for the year, one Associate member's name, logo and website hyperlink will run prominently under the newsletter's masthead in every issue, putting your brand in front of roughly 500 executives, hiring managers, business and community leaders, educators and workforce development professionals.

The newsletter's average open rate tops 60%, well above industry benchmarks, so this placement reaches an audience that actually reads and engages with the coalition's primary

This opportunity is exclusive to LMMC Associate members in good standing and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Only one company can hold the Presenting Sponsor spot at a time.

Interested Associate members should contact Jim Houck for more information or to confirm availability and lock in their spot.

Calendar

- [Oct. 15 - ARC Arise Energy Grant Workshop \(Register Here\)](#)
 - [Oct. 20 - Semi-Annual Membership Meeting \(RSVP Here\)](#)
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