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Southern Chester County Job Fair September 29

MUSHROOM INDUSTRY SEEKS NEW HIRES AT ALL SKILL LEVELS

West Grove, PA...The Southern Chester County Chamber of Commerce is hosting the region's first Job Fair of its kind September 29 from 9am to 3pm at their headquarters in West Grove, Pa., to fill a diverse range of jobs in the mushroom industry, including machine operators, supervisors, packers and administrative roles. Employers invited to exhibit are looking for job applicants of all skill levels with available part-time and full-time positions, many of which offer benefits and flexible hours.

"The mushroom industry could easily hire hundreds of people by the end of 2017," says Chris Alonzo, President of Pietro Industries, one of the larger mushroom growers in the region. "People may not be aware that the mushroom industry has been paying wages exceeding the minimum wage for over two decades."

The Job Fair is an initiative of the Mushroom/Ag Labor Crisis Task Force, consisting of business and community leaders from around the region. The group formed because of the existing scarcity of labor in the mushroom industry, leaving a wide range of job openings immediately available throughout one of Chester County's most important industries.

"When we realized how serious the labor shortage is, we knew we needed to do something to help our mushroom growers. They play such an important role in our community and local economy," says Cheryl B. Kuhn, President and CEO of the Southern Chester County Chamber of Commerce.

Applicants are welcome to bring a resume to the job fair but many positions do not require one. Offers may be made on the spot and bilingual support will be onsite.

The mushroom industry accounts for over 6,000 jobs in Chester County and contributes an estimated \$2.17 billion to the local economy, according to a 2008 Penn State study.



WHAT: Southern Chester County Job Fair: Mushroom Industry

WHEN: September 29 from 9:00 am-3:00 pm

WHERE: Southern Chester County Chamber of Commerce, 8 Federal Road, West Grove, Pa.

For more information about the Southern Chester County Job Fair, go to www.scccc.com or call the Chamber office at 610-444-0774.

About the Southern Chester County Chamber Mushroom/AG Labor Crisis Task Force

The SCC Mushroom/AG Labor Crisis Task Force is represented by:

American Mushroom Institute	Laura L. Phelps
American Mushroom Institute	Daniel Rahn
American Mushroom Institute	Kari Piatt
Chester County Agricultural Development Council	Hillary R. Krummrich,
Esq.	
Chester County Department of Community Development	Lila Singleton
Chester County Economic Development Council	MaryFrances McGarrity
Chester Water Authority	James E. Turner
C. P. Yeatman & Sons, Inc.	Meghan Klotzbach
EDSI Solutions	Joseph A. Farrell
Eichman Law, PLLC	Karen E. Eichman, Esq.
Genesis	Doug Doerfler
Office of PA State Representative Harry Lewis, Jr. - 74 th Legislative District	Amber Little Turner
Office of Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.	Lara Flynn
PathStone	Nita D'Agostino
PathStone	Juan Gabriel Martinez Guzman
PathStone	Tracy L. Jones
PathStone	Evelyn Rodriguez
Penn State Extension	Maria Gorgo-Gourovitch
Pennsylvania CareerLink Chester County-EDSI Solutions	Bill O'Brien
Pennsylvania State Representative - 13 th Legislative District	John Lawrence
Pietro Industries, Inc.	Chris Alonzo
Pietro Industries, Inc.	M.E. Cathcart
Southern Chester County Chamber of Commerce (SCCCC)	Cheryl B. Kuhn
Transportation Management Association of Chester County (TMACC)	Tim Phelps