

LOCAL & STATE

JLG Rebrands Gradall Rear Pivot Steer Telehandlers

Expands JLG telehandler line

JLG Industries Inc., an Oshkosh Corp. company, and leading manufacturer of telescopic material handlers, announced last week that by the end of 2008, Gradall-branded telehandlers will become part of an expanded JLG-branded telehandler family.

"The Gradall name has been an icon in the telehandler industry for decades, with a reputation built on reliability and performance. We're maintaining all the finest qualities of the Gradall name and product, including the famous blue color, but will begin branding these models under the JLG name," said Kirsten Skyba, vice president of global marketing at JLG. "The same number of models will be available and the equipment will continue to be built, serviced and sold with the high level of quality inherent in all JLG products."

JLG will continue to provide Ground Support, JLG's industry leading aftermarket service, parts, training and technical support services, for existing Gradall-branded telehandlers. Aftermarket support for Gradall-branded telehandlers, as well as new JLG-branded, rear-pivot steer machines, will continue with the same service network as before as well as many additional JLG dealers throughout the country.

This rebranding initiative marks the completion of a plan that began in 2006, when JLG sold the Gradall excavator line.

PSU Students To Raise Money For Pediatric Cancer Nov. 7-9

Attention all residents! November 7-9, 2008, Penn State students will be in the area raising money to support The Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon. Penn State students will be raising money by canning. Canning is a fundraising event where students stand with cans and signs on roadsides, by strip malls and anywhere else inside police jurisdiction collecting money. The Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon, also known as THON, is the largest student-run philanthropy in the world that collects money year round in an effort to achieve its main goal: to conquer pediatric cancer. The proceeds are donated to The Four Diamonds Fund where the money is used to financially aid families fighting pediatric cancer and to support cancer research.

Over the past 35 years, THON raised more than \$50 million and has helped over 2,000 children with pediatric cancer. With the help of generous donations, just last year THON raised over \$6.6 million.

This weekend, look for Penn State students with signs and cans. Each donation helps save a child's life and makes one more step towards the cure for pediatric cancer. Help Penn State and THON conquer pediatric cancer! FOR THE KIDS!

For more information about THON, visit <http://www.thon.org> or contact Nathan Cecco, Overall Public Relations Chairperson, at public.relations@thon.org.

Toy Drive Begins

STAFF REPORT

Odd Fellow Lodge #773 based in New Grenada has initiated a toy drive for local, needy children that will run through the end of November. All toys donated must be brand new and be in their original packaging. Drop-off locations for residents include post offices in Waterfall, Wells Tannery, Hustontown and Burnt Cabins.

All toys collected as a result of the generosity of area residents will in turn be given to the Fulton County Catholic Mission, which is overseeing the collection and distribution of toys on a countywide basis.

"We really wanted to do something that would have an impact on the community, and we soon learned of the possibility of a toy drive program through conversations with area residents," said lodge Noble Grand Kevin Mountz. "Without the cooperation of the local postmaster and residents, this project would never have become a reality."

Any residents in need and wishing to receive toys for their children through the Fulton County Catholic Mission should contact Sister Margie Monahan at 717-485-5917. Anyone requiring more information regarding the holiday toy drive is asked to call 717-552-0071.



A time capsule filled with items from the past year is buried in front of the new hospital to mark its first anniversary.

—PHOTO COURTESY OF FULTON CO. MEDICAL CENTER

FCCM Celebrates First Anniversary

One year after dedication of new hospital

By Jean Snyder
STAFF WRITER

Fulton County Medical Center (FCCM) celebrated its one-year anniversary on Sunday, November 2. The center was open to the public for self-guided tours from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The celebration was held to commemorate the center's dedication of the new \$37-million hospital on

November 2, 2007.

Sunday's program began at 1:30 p.m. with the unveiling of the memory wall that depicts the center's 50-plus-year history. At 2:00 p.m. FCCM officials planted a time capsule bearing items from the past year in front of the new facility. At 2:30 p.m. the Community Relations and Development Department unveiled its new Web site in the employee/visitor dining room.

In a press release issued by FCCM, the public was invited to "re-

member the past, experience the present and embrace the future."

During Sunday's open house, the public, in addition to touring the hospital, was also able to visit the local artist's hallway, and displays in the main lobby included architects renderings of the new patient services building project. Visitors could also view drawings of the planned environmental impact of the "green" landscaping design.

Refreshments were also served in the employee/visitor dining room.

Operation Christmas Child Collection Dates Set

Shoe boxes should be dropped off Nov. 17-24 at new church location

By Jean Snyder
STAFF WRITER

Collection week for Operation Christmas Child has been set for November 17-24 this year, according to information released from the Samaritan's Purse organization and from local coordinator Dixie Henry. Once again, shoe boxes will be collected locally at My Father's House Ministries Church. Those interested in participating in the shoe box program should note that the church has moved to its new location at 1653 Lincoln Way East (one mile east of McConnellsburg off old Route 30).

The Operation Christmas Child project has been sponsored annually by Samaritan's Purse International Relief since 1993 when 28,000 shoe box gifts were collected. Since then the kids-helping-kids project has hand-delivered more than 61 million shoe box gifts to needy chil-

dren in 120 countries.

Operation Christmas Child is a project of international Christian relief organization Samaritan's Purse, ranked three times by SmartMoney magazine as America's most efficiently run charity. Headed by Franklin Graham, and based in Boone, N.C., Samaritan's Purse has world offices in Canada, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Australia, Germany and Ireland.

Kids, families, churches, Scout troops, schools, civic clubs, and businesses are busy filling their shoe boxes now. Locally, the shoe boxes will be collected at My Father's House Ministries located at the church's new location. The hours for the collection during the week of November 17-24 will be Monday: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.; Tuesday - Wednesday: 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.; Thursday: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.; Friday: 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.; Saturday: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.; and Sunday: 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. On Monday, November 24, the boxes will be shipped to the collection center in Waynesboro to begin their journey

to children around the world.

How to pack your shoe box gift

Find an empty shoe box (standard size). Wrap it - lid separately - if you like, but wrapping is not required. Decide whether your gift will be for a boy or a girl and the age category as follows: 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14. Label the top of the box with the gender and age information. Fill the box with a variety of gifts such as toys: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch-A-Sketch toys that light up or make noise (be sure to include batteries) or Slinky toys; school supplies such as pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons or markers, stamps and inkpad sets, coloring books, writing pads, paper, solar calculators, etc.; hygiene items such as toothbrush and toothpaste, bar soap in a plastic bag, comb and washcloths; and other items such as hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, sunglasses, flashlights (with batteries), ball caps, socks, T-shirts, jewelry, hair clips, watches and small picture books.

It is requested that the follow-

Powell Gets State Time For Indecent Assault

Judge orders minimum sentence of 5 years

By Chanin Rotz-Mountz
STAFF WRITER

After hearing testimony from the parents of an 8-year-old Winchester, Va., girl subjected to an act of aggravated indecent assault at a picnic last summer and reviewing a handful of letters written by the accused's friends, pastor and family physician, a minimum sentence of five years in a state prison was handed down to Needmore area resident Matthew Powell.

Taking into account the severity of the act as well as the rehabilitative needs of Powell and the impact on the victim and surrounding community, Judge Richard J. Walsh opted not to send Powell to a structured group home as requested by defense attorney David Keller but instead ordered him to a state correctional institution for a period of five to 15 years.

Judge Walsh, who presides in the Fulton/Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, pointed out that both Keller and District Attorney Travis Kendall exhibited extraordinary advocacy skills in suggesting sentencing options to the court. In addition, Walsh pointed out that

even though Powell may have special needs as a result of suffering from Aspergers Syndrome and possible mental retardation, the Department of Corrections does have the capability to handle his needs.

While Powell is not categorized by the court system as a violent sexual predator, he will still be required to register his whereabouts with the state police for the remainder of his lifetime. He will also be listed as a Megan's Law offender and will undergo DNA testing and sexual offender treatment. Furthermore, the 23-year-old was ordered to refrain from contacting the victim and her immediate family as well as anyone under the age of 18.

"Some of what I heard today was absolutely compelling," related Walsh, who deemed the case as "extraordinary."

Among those asking for jail time rather than a structured group home setting with 24-hour round-the-clock supervision, was the girl's father. He pointed out at the slight knock of a door his daughter will try to find a place to hide, thereby diminishing the sense of security he established in creating a home for his family.

In addressing mitigating circumstances needing to be reviewed during the sentencing process, the victim's father said that in spite of Powell's "deficiencies" he still managed to register for a postsecondary education through IIT Technical Institute and even provides DJ services for his friends.

The man added the incident involving his daughter was not the first time Powell sexually assaulted a child, and evidence was presented to the court as documentation. "The children of Franklin and Fulton counties are not safe ... Even though there will be people to speak on Matthew's behalf, would any of them allow him to babysit their young children?" he concluded.

In addition to the victim's biological mother reading aloud the chain of events that occurred at the Powell's Timber Ridge Road household on June 23, 2007, during a belated Father's Day picnic, the girl's stepmother tearfully shared with her family and the crowded courtroom she too was sexually assaulted at the young age of eight.

"The anger and fear stay with you your entire life," she said. "There were children only feet away when this happened (referring to the incident involving her stepdaughter). He's brazen, and he has no conscience."

While the defense presented a total of five letters to Judge Walsh written on Powell's behalf, attorney Keller stressed that the defense would in no way paint a picture of Matthew being the victim and down-play his actions. Keller stated at the age of 23, Powell has no juvenile or criminal history and was diagnosed in elementary school as having Aspergers Syndrome. In recent years, the family has been led to believe he also suffers from mental retardation.

"His deficiencies have to be taken into account," Keller said. "... His needs can't be ignored."

Powell wrapped up the sentencing proceedings by publicly apologizing "for the whole incident."

Energy Hogs: U.S. Prisons Now Recycle, Grow Food

By PHUONG LE
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Littlerock, Washington (AP) - Of all the things convicted murderer Robert Knowles has been called during his 13 years behind bars, recycler hasn't been one of them.

But there he was one morning, pitchfork in hand, composting food scraps from the main chow line and coffee grounds from prison headquarters - doing his part to "green" the prison.

"It's nice to be out in the elements," said Knowles, 42, stirring dark, rich compost that will amend the soil at the small farm where he and fellow inmates of the Cedar Creek Corrections Center grew 8,000 pounds of organic vegetables this year.

Inmates of the minimum-security facility, 25 miles from Olympia, the state capital, raise bees, grow organic tomatoes and lettuce, compost 100 percent of food waste and even recycle shoe scraps that are made into playground turf.

"It reduces cost, reduces our damaging impact on the environment, engages inmates as students," said Eldon Vail, secretary of the Washington Department of Corrections, which oversees 15 prisons and 18,000 offenders. "It's good security."

As around-the-clock operations, prisons are voracious resource hogs, and administrators are under increasing pressure to reduce waste and conserve energy and water.

In 2007, states spent more than \$49 billion to feed, house, clothe, treat and supervise 2.3 million offenders, the Pew Center on the States reported this year.

As the prison population has grown this decade, up 76 percent from 1.3 million in 2000, the number of prisons and jails has risen with it. The latest U.S. Bureau of Justice data show 1,821 facilities in 2005, up

from 1,668 in 2000.

To keep costs down, the Indiana Department of Corrections installed water boilers that run on waste wood chips, and built a wind turbine at one prison that generates about 10 kilowatts an hour and saves \$2,280 a year.

At Ironwood State Prison in Blythe, California, 6,200 solar panels send energy back to the grid, enough to power 4,100 homes a year. The prison was trying to meet an executive order requiring state agencies to reduce energy use by 20 percent by 2015, said a spokeswoman, Lt. Sue Smith.

North Carolina's Department of Corrections switched to chemical-free cleaners and vegetable-based inks. This summer, because of a water shortage, inmates converted 50-gallon pickle barrels into small cisterns that capture rainwater.

Under a state mandate to reduce energy use, the Oregon Department of Corrections replaced old appliances with energy-efficient ones, installed solar water heaters and used a geothermal well to heat water. It also modified washing machines so they could reuse rinse-water to wash about a million pounds of clothes a month.

At Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution in Pendleton, Oregon, inmates recycle scraps from old prison blues to make diaper bags for women's shelters and dog beds for animal shelters.

"We try to model prosocial behavior," said Vern Rowan, business manager for the Oregon Department of Corrections. Being sustainable "is something that everybody should be doing, regardless of where they're at."

Cedar Creek, in the heart of a forest, feels more like an outdoor retreat than institutional lockup.

Most of the 400 inmates are in a work program, and put in between six and eight hours a day. The responsibility of caring for

the prison's three hives of Italian honey bees falls mostly to Daniel Travatte, 36, a soft-spoken former drug addict who is serving 10 years for attempted armed robbery.

Under the supervision of prison counselor Vicki Briggs, Travatte has learned to harvest honey - which inmates occasionally eat with breakfast biscuits - and use beeswax to make lotions. He's become an expert on their habits.

"I'm trying to change myself," said Travatte. "A lot of people go through prison with no intention of changing. I love working with the bees. It keeps me busy. I have a lot of responsibility to take care of."

While there isn't scientific evidence that such activities are helping inmates, Nalini Nadkarni, an environmental studies professor at Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington, notes anecdotal evidence that it's working.

"They were stimulating their minds and having conversations that were different than 'How much more time we have left?'" said Nadkarni.

One inmate went beyond conversations, enrolling in a doctoral program when he got out and co-authoring a research paper with Nadkarni on a moss-growing project she started to help reduce the impact of wild moss harvesting on forest.

While Cedar Creek went green out of economic necessity - it had to conserve because it didn't have the wastewater capacity to expand four years ago - it is now embracing other benefits, said Dan Pacholke, a state prison administrator who helped implement many of the practices.

Cedar Creek uses 250,000 (946,300 liters) fewer gallons of water a year, saves \$6,000 to \$8,400 annually on garbage bills and avoided a \$1.4 million sewage treatment plant upgrade.

A large "Con-Post" marks the prison's composting station, made of

ing not be included: war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items or aerosol cans.

Once the shoe box is packed, you are invited to enclose a note to the child and/or a photo of yourself or your family. Please enclose a check for \$7 to cover shipping costs. The check should be made out to Samaritan's Purse with a note on the memo line that it is for Operation Christmas Child. Brochures are available that contain envelopes for the checks. Place the envelope on top of the gift items and then simply place a rubber band around your box and lid and drop it off at the collection site during the hours listed above.

Every U.S. president since Ronald Reagan has packed an Operation Christmas Child shoe box gift, and My Father's House Ministries asks for the community's support of this unique and worthwhile project.

For more information locally regarding the project, call 717-987-9512.

recycled concrete blocks and reclaimed wood, where Knowles spends about six hours a day, making sure the compost gets enough heat, moisture and air to break down food scraps.

"They trust me to do all this with no supervision," said Knowles, who is serving time for the hit-and-run death of an off-duty police officer.

"I like growing the vegetables," Knowles said. "My mom had a garden. I can see having my own garden."

Halloween Parade Full Of Scary, Silly Characters



An assortment of weird, wacky and scary characters, including this witch and T-Rex, visited McConnellsburg last Thursday evening to take part in the McConnellsburg Volunteer Fire Co.'s annual Halloween parade. The "News" is happy to report that the parade weather was good and the turnout in "good spirits."