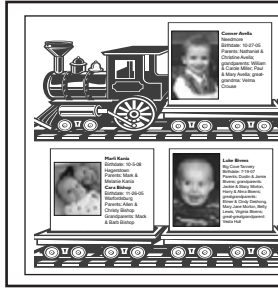




AVTS Students Attend Skills USA Competition

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Parade Of Little People

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109TH YEAR, NO. 5

MCCONNELLSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

JANUARY 29, 2009

Former Resident Named DCED Head

George Cornelius selected by Rendell administration to serve as secretary of DCED

STAFF REPORT

A former Fulton County resident was handpicked by the Gov. Ed Rendell administration last



Cornelius

week to serve in the capacity of secretary of the Department of Community and Economic Development. George Cornelius was chosen, according to Rendell in a special announcement last Thursday, based on his tenure with Arkema, a global diversified chemical company dealing in vinyl, industrial and performance products.

Cornelius, who grew up in Fulton and neighboring Huntingdon County, had served with Arkema as well as its parent company, for a period of almost 13 years. During that time, Cornelius led the company as chief executive officer (CEO) and previously as vice president and head legal counsel.

Arkema, which is based in Philadelphia, serves a variety of industries, including agricultural, chemical, automotive, construction and water treatment. Products manufactured by Arkema are used in the production of personal hygiene and beauty products, paper goods, athletic apparel and electronics, although its best-known creation is likely to be Plexiglas.

The company is a subsidiary of Arkema SA of Colombe, France, that touts itself as the country's top producer of chemicals. The company has a total of 15,200 employees spanning 40 countries.

"When George took the helm of Arkema, he applied a strong focus on outcomes and turned the chemical company into a competitive player in the Americas," said Rendell in his announcement. "George's experience and track record as a CEO is stellar. While the improved financial condition of the company is evidence of George's talent, he understood that in order for the bottom line to grow, the company had to function better at all levels."

Cornelius was also touted by the governor as being a civic leader through his active involvement with the United Way and an experienced manager. "Given George's experience leading a multi-national organization and facilitating agreements in other countries, he's a terrific fit to build upon our international trade efforts - increasing exports while attracting more cross-border investments to our state.

See CORNELIUS, Page A2

DEATHS

Bivens, Helen, 82, Chambersbg.
Bristol, Harold, 60, Mercersburg
Home, Miles, 90, McConnellsbg.
Marshall, John, 64, Big Cove Tan'ry
McCarty, Paul, 77, Hancock
Peck, John Sr., 72, Killeen, Tex.
Schetrompf, Penny, 38, Hancock
Strait, George, 64, Waynesboro

OBITUARIES, Page B3



The historic Fort Loudon Inn was heavily damaged Tuesday morning by a fire that originated on the second floor of the building. One person is missing and four were injured, including two firemen. The property has 11 efficiency units that are rented weekly for long- and short-term occupancy. The main house of the inn is a stone structure believed to date back to the 1790s.

-FULTON COUNTY NEWS PHOTO BY DAVID GREGORY

Ft. Loudon Inn Erupts In Flames

One missing, four injured in Tuesday fire

STAFF REPORT

A Tuesday morning fire that injured a total of four people could have originated on the second floor of the historic Fort Loudon Inn.

A fire marshal with the Pennsylvania State Police was called to the scene to investigate the January 27 blaze that sent four people, including two firefighters, to the hospital. The firefighters from Maugansville Goodwill Volunteer Fire Company were injured when a portion of

the building's ceiling collapsed. An additional two people, a woman and child who had been staying at the inn located at 13703 Main Street, are listed in stable condition at Chambersburg Hospital.

Meanwhile, the search for a young child or baby possibly trapped inside the building continued throughout the morning hours. Officials on the scene would not confirm the age of the missing person.

A total of 13 people were in-

side the multiple-story structure that was constructed in the 1790s when the fire erupted around 7 a.m. Five of those individuals displaced by the fire will be housed by the Franklin County Chapter of the American Red Cross. Remaining evacuees are slated to stay with relatives after being taken to the Fort Loudon Community Center where the county crisis team and the Red Cross established an operations center to assist the fire victims.

Even though the majority of the blaze had been extinguished

by mid-morning, the fire had managed to spread to the third floor of the stone structure, which was purchased in the summer of 2006 by current owners Dick and Dawn Gogin. The inn contained 11 efficiency apartments or units that could be rented on a long or short-term basis. Five units were believed to have been rented at the time of the fire, and other common areas were available for rent for a variety of community events.

Approximately 18 fire companies responded to the call for help.

Preparations Under Way For 2010 Census

Census Bureau now recruiting temporary workers

By Jean Snyder
STAFF WRITER

Although it may seem just like yesterday that you either received a census form in your mailbox or a census worker visited you, it has actually been nearly 10 years and now the U.S. Census Bureau is gearing up for Census 2010.

According to Cheryl Smith of Huntingdon, the census bureau is recruiting for five separate positions in order to begin the work necessary to be prepared for the next decennial census. Those positions are office clerk, administrative assistant, recruiting assistant, crew leader, assistant crew leader and enumerator. Smith added that only four of the job types will be filled in Fulton County as an office clerk will not be needed here.

Smith is currently in charge of four counties but indicated that a person who will direct the Fulton County census activities will be hired soon. Recruiting for the census has started and will continue through May 2010. The local census office is located in Altoona, Pa.

Persons interested in applying for any of the four job titles must take a 28 question exam that lasts about 30 minutes. The employment test consists of 28 multiple-choice questions designed to measure the basic skills and abilities required to perform a variety of census jobs. These include clerical skills, reading, number skills, interpreting information and evaluation alternatives, and organizational skills. You may retake the test if you would like to improve your test score. The jobs are

temporary and mostly part-time in nature.

Conducting the census is a huge undertaking. Thousands of census takers are needed across the country to update address lists and conduct interviews with community residents. Most positions require a valid driver's license and use of a vehicle. According to the Census Bureau Web site, census takers receive competitive pay on a weekly basis and are also reimbursed for authorized mileage and related expenses.

Interested parties may apply by calling the bureau's toll-free jobs line at 1-866-861-2010 and schedule an appointment to take the employment test. You can also download an application online at www.2010.census.gov. Applicants will be hired from almost every community and are selected based on the hiring needs of each particular area. Qualified applicants are contacted to work as census jobs become available. Most hiring will take place February through May 2009.

As a census taker, you will work individually as part of a small team in your own local community. Your work will be supervised by a crew leader. Although your work hours will be flexible, you will be expected to complete your work assignments on time.

Census takers are expected to visit all the residences in the assigned area to verify address lists. One thing has changed since the last census. Now all information will be recorded on a small, hand-held computing de-

United States
Census
2010

vice, which will transmit the data via wireless communications.

You may qualify to be a census taker if:

- Able to read, write, and speak English.
- A U.S. citizen.

Are a legal permanent resident or noncitizen with an appropriate work visa, and you possess a bilingual skill for which there are no available qualified citizens.

- At least 18 years old.
- Have a valid Social Security number.
- Must take a written test of basic skills.
- Have a valid driver's license (for field jobs only).
- Pass a background check.
- Commit to four days of training.

Trainees will be paid for these days at the regular hourly rate. Training can be held either during daytime hours or during evening and weekend hours. The census is a count of everyone living in the United States every 10 years. It is mandated by the U.S. Constitution and participation in the census is required by law. The census normally takes less than 10 minutes to complete and federal law protects the personal information shared during the process.

The 2010 census will use one of the shortest questionnaires in history and will ask for name, gender, age, ethnicity, relationship and whether the home is owned or rented - or "ten questions in ten minutes" as it is being characterized. In the 2000 census, one in six households received a long questionnaire ask-

ing for detailed socioeconomic information. In 2010, every residence will receive a short questionnaire that is simple and fast to complete and return. More detailed information will be collected annually from a small percentage of the population through the American Community Survey.

Census data are used to distribute congressional seats to states, to make decisions about what community services to provide, and to distribute \$3 trillion in federal funds to local, state and tribal governments over the next 10 years. In addition, census counts determine which states gain or lose representation in Congress as well as the boundaries of legislative districts. Census information helps determine locations for schools, roads, hospitals, childcare and senior citizen centers and more. Businesses use census data to locate supermarkets, shopping centers, new housing and other facilities.

By 2010 there will be an estimated 310 million people residing in the United States. In the last census in 2000, the population of Fulton County was 14,261 with 6,790 housing units counted.

April 1, 2010, has been declared National Census Day and census applications should be received in the mail, completed and returned by that date. From April-July 2010, census takers will visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail. By law, the census bureau must deliver the census report to the U.S. president in December 2010 for apportionment.

In the meantime, census workers will begin canvassing neighborhoods to update mailing lists in preparation for the questionnaire mailings to begin in February 2010.

JLG Wipes Out 100 White-Collar Positions

Rest of nonproduction gets unpaid leave

By Lindsay R. Mellott
STAFF WRITER

JLG Industries told another 100 employees last week that they would lose their jobs, bringing the total number of workers cut from the manufacturer's payrolls over the last six months to 1,500.

The latest layoff was announced last Tuesday and affects only nonproduction personnel. It is JLG's fourth downsizing since the company first announced, in July 2007, that it would trim its workforce around the globe. That layoff of 600 employees was followed by a second, announced in late August, which released 220 more and a third layoff, totaling 500, employees, in late November.

The four downsizings have come in response to a crumbling global economy that has sapped demand both here and abroad for JLG products.

JLG continues to decline to say how many of the laid-off workers were employed at its McConnellsburg plant. Spokesperson Kirsten Skyba, vice president of global marketing, on Friday, would say, however, that the 1,500 number represents a third of JLG's global workforce.

Nonproduction workers were singled out in this round of layoffs because production workers had been affected by the previous layoffs, and because JLG, at this time, according to Skyba, is able to manage production by adjusting manufacturing schedules as market conditions affect demand.

In November, Skyba told the "News" that the three previous layoffs had "largely eliminated our second and third shifts."

Skyba also said on Friday that JLG is requiring all North American nonproduction personnel to take a weeklong unpaid leave sometime during the company's fiscal second quarter, which runs Jan. 1 through March 31. The furlough was imposed, she said, in the hope of minimizing future workforce reductions.

The mandatory furloughs include JLG executives.

"As painful as something like this is," Skyba said, "we hope they (the furloughs) reduce the likelihood of continued reductions."

Skyba says that JLG is continually looking at different ways to manage the challenges created by reduced demand for its products.

On Monday, heavy equipment maker Caterpillar announced that it is slashing 20,000 jobs from its payrolls, including employees, contract and agency workers, and lowering sales and profit expectations for 2009 after reporting a 32-percent plunge in its fourth-quarter profit.

In late 2005 Caterpillar entered into a global alliance with JLG Industries to produce a full lineup of Cat-branded telehandlers. Skyba could not be reached on Tuesday to ask how, or if, Caterpillar's massive downsizing will affect the JLG alliance.

Oshkosh Corp., JLG's parent company, announces its fiscal 2009 first-quarter earnings Jan. 29.

Besides McConnellsburg, JLG has facilities in Shippensburg and Bedford, Pa.; Ohio; North Dakota; Belgium; France; and Romania. JLG and Oshkosh announced construction of a new manufacturing plant in Tianjin, China, in November.

Skyba says the schedule to complete the Chinese plant is on track, with production still expected to begin in 2010.