



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION**

**CONTACT:
RACHEL SMITH, CPWDC
570.522.0600
RSMITH@CPWDC.ORG**

**PENNY HESS, PA CAREERLINK®
570.387.6288
PHESS@CENSOP.COM**

Grand Re-Opening Set for PA CareerLink® Columbia/Montour Counties

Bloomsburg, PA – PA CareerLink® Columbia/Montour Counties has announced plans to officially celebrate the re-opening of its location at 351 Tenny Street on Friday, February 17, 2012, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Attendees can learn more about the services offered to employers and job seekers through a site tour and discussions with PA CareerLink® staff. Invitees include local officials, business leaders and the general public. The event will include an official ribbon cutting at 12:00 noon in partnership with the Columbia Montour Chamber of Commerce.

Re-open since November 7, 2011, the PA CareerLink® Columbia/Montour Counties had been temporarily closed for two months after Tropical Storm Lee flooding in September.

The Grand Re-Opening coincides with the January 1, 2012 implementation of the work search requirement for all new unemployment compensation (UC) claimants. Act 6 of 2011, signed into law by Governor Corbett on June 17, 2011, requires UC claimants to demonstrate that they are actively searching for work in order to maintain their eligibility for weekly benefits. All new claimants are required to register for employment services with the Pennsylvania CareerLink® system (www.cwds.state.pa.us) within 30 days of applying for benefits and then may choose several ways, including accessing additional PA CareerLink® services, to meet and document weekly requirements.

PA CareerLink® staff can also help employers understand how these new requirements may affect their applicant pool and what services are available to help employers best match qualified workers to open positions.

PA CareerLink® staff provides personalized assistance for individuals preparing for and locating employment opportunities through job search resources, interactive job preparation workshops and career assessments including the ability to earn a National Career Readiness Certificate powered by WorkKeys®. A wide range of employment-related services to help any employers locate, recruit, screen and hire qualified candidates are available, including labor market information, staff assistance to market job openings, job matching to identify qualified, skilled workers and job seeker screening.

Regular business hours for the Bloomsburg location are Monday, Thursday and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. More information is available at www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us or by calling 570.387.6288.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Equal Opportunity Employer.

##