



# Quotes, Notes & Anecdotes

Monthly Employee Newsletter Published by the Department of Administration  
JUNE 2015 - Volume 22, Issue 6

## Employee of the Month

### Lionel Adams' Professionalism Earns Praise with CPRB



**LIONEL ADAMS**  
June Employee  
of the Month

Lionel Adams, a Programmer Analyst III for the Consolidated Public Retirement Board (CPRB), has been selected as the Department of Administration's *Employee of the Month* for June.

A state government employee for more than 11 years, Adams' duties consist of application development, including programming, testing, training and maintenance.

"During his employment,

Lionel has demonstrated professionalism to his co-workers and staff, which has improved customer relations within the agency," said a co-worker. "His demeanor is always pleasant to clients, and his soft-spoken explanations make the clients eager to work with him on future projects."

Another co-worker said, "As the primary developer associated with the CPRB interface needs for the new wvOA-

SIS system, Lionel has proven to be essential to maintaining the annuity processes critical to our retired clients."

In his spare time, Adams enjoys tennis, fishing, gardening and church activities. He will be joined by friends and co-workers at a special ceremony presented by Secretary Jason Pizatella on Thursday, June 4, at 3 p.m. at the CPRB office in Kanawha City.

## IT Recycling Program Benefits Schools and State Agencies

The West Virginia Office of Technology's (WVOT) IT Recycling Program allows WVOT to donate older computers and other information technology equipment to requesting state agencies, state authorized recyclers, and certified information technology equipment recyclers.

The program, which was created during the 2012 Regular Session of the State Legislature, ensures that all information technology equipment is properly cleansed of data following industry standards prior to redistribution. The program allows the state to "go green," extending the life and use of equipment that would otherwise no longer be utilized by its original agency.

Recipients of the donated equipment have realized many benefits of the program. The equipment often re-



**Pre-K students at Country Kids Daycare in Belle play an educational game on a computer donated by the West Virginia Office of Technology.**

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# Department of Administration Employees Recognized as Part of the 2015 Public Service Recognition Week

In conjunction with the 2015 Public Service Recognition Week, the Department of Administration offered a ceremony for its longest-serving employees on May 7 in the Upper Rotunda of the State Capitol. Secretary Jason Pizatella recognized department employees with 20 and 25 years of service. A breakfast reception followed the ceremony. Secretary Pizatella commended the commitment of those honored and their dedication to the Department as well as to the state of West Virginia. Those honored included:

## 20 Years of Service

- **BRIM:** Melody Duke
- **CPRB:** Cynthia Adkins, Terasa Miller, and Candace Moore
- **Finance:** Joan Chapman
- **General Services:** Martha Phillips
- **Office of the Secretary:** Carol Nichols
- **PEIA:** Jason Haught
- **Public Defender Services:** Brenda Thompson
- **Technology:** Tina Bishop, Kenneth Bowles, Brian Hatcher, Donald Patterson, Joseph Perks, Lynn Sisson, Mark Sizer, and Edwin Trader

## 25 Years of Service

- **Grievance Board:** Landon Brown
- **Public Defender Services:** Betsy Chapman
- **Technology:** Ali Dabiri, Scott Dobson, Dianna Gertz, and Deidre Rainwater

Our appreciation is extended to all of our honored employees for their service and dedication to the citizens of West Virginia.



Department of Administration employees recognized for 20 years of service were, first row, left to right: Ed Trader (WVOT), Terasa Miller (CPRB), Secretary Jason Pizatella, and Candace Moore (CPRB); second row: Martha Phillips (GSD), Brenda Thompson (Public Defender Services), Carol Nichols (Office of the Secretary), and Joan Chapman (Finance); and third row: Mark Sizer (WVOT) and Melody Duke (BRIM).



Secretary Jason Pizatella and West Virginia Chief Technology Officer Gale Given (far right) honored two WVOT employees, Deidre Rainwater (left) and Dianna Gertz (right), for their 25 years of service.

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## State Government Celebrates the Dedication of Its Employees

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West Virginia state government honored the hard work and dedication of its employees in May during the 2015 Public Service Recognition Week celebration.

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin issued a **Proclamation** designating the week of May 4-8, 2015, as Public Service Recognition Week in West Virginia and encouraged Mountain State residents to recognize the many contributions of federal, state, county and city public employees.

Gov. Tomblin offered his keynote speech at a special awards ceremony on May 6 in the Upper Rotunda of the State Capitol for state employees with 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50 years of service. Agency leadership was also present.

Department of Administration personnel who were recognized for their extended years of service included:

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# Flowers Bloom on the State Capitol Grounds



Tulips bloom brightly with the Capitol in the background. Thanks to Susan Scott of the West Virginia Supreme Court who shared her picture with us!

Do you have photos taken around the Capitol or the state that you would like to share? Let us spotlight them in *Quotes, Notes & Anecdotes*. Email photos and information to [chad.b.williamson@wv.gov](mailto:chad.b.williamson@wv.gov).

## Consolidated Public Retirement Board to Conduct Statewide Seminars this Summer for PERS Members

The West Virginia Consolidated Public Retirement Board is conducting its annual statewide retirement seminars in June and July, and Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) members are invited to attend.

Participants will gain valuable insight into the retirement process, including information related to retirement eligibility, retirement benefits, allowed use of unused leave, annuity options, and other important issues to consider when approaching retirement. Seminar presenters will be available following each session to answer any questions PERS members may have.

The seminars are open to all PERS members, whether they are just beginning their state government career or preparing for retirement. Spouses of PERS members, as well as designated beneficiaries, are also encouraged to attend.

Registration is not required. All seminars will be conducted from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. For more information, call the WVPERS office at 304.558.3570, or visit their website at [www.wvretirement.com](http://www.wvretirement.com).

Below is the schedule for PERS seminars scheduled during the months of June and July:

**Tuesday, June 2, 2015**

*Consolidated Public Retirement Board*

Charleston, WV

**Thursday, June 4, 2015**

*Stonewall Resort*

Roanoke, WV

**Tuesday, June 30, 2015**

*Consolidated Public Retirement Board*

Charleston, WV

**Wednesday, July 1, 2015**

*Oglebay Resort*

Wheeling, WV

**Tuesday, July 14, 2015**

*Holiday Inn & Suites*

Barboursville, WV

**Thursday, July 23, 2015**

*Holiday Inn*

Martinsburg, WV

**Thursday, July 30, 2015**

*Grand Pointe Conference Center*

Vienna, WV



# 4th Annual State Career Fair Results in Another Success

The 4th Annual West Virginia State Government Career Fair welcomed a steady flow of potential candidates for a wide variety of jobs available throughout state government. The event took place on May 7 at the Great Hall inside the Culture Center. It was conducted by the Division of Personnel in collaboration with WorkForce WV.

There were nearly 300 job seekers in attendance, as well as representatives from 18 state agencies, ranging from Mount Olive Correctional Center in Fayette County to Mildred Mitchell-Bateman Hospital in Cabell County.

"After speaking with agency reps, those seeking career paths in state government are now more aware of our lucrative benefits package and the fulfillment of serving the public," said Mary Jane Ayoob of the Division of Personnel, who served as event coordinator. "This event continues to be a great success because of the state representatives who attend and the dedication of the staff from the Division of Personnel and Workforce WV."

The purpose of the State Govern-

ment Career Fair is to highlight all of the critical-need vacancies and maintain contact with each and every applicant who attends. Following the Career Fair, Division of Personnel employees will follow up with attendees to make certain that they understand the process and answer any questions they may have.

"The Career Fair is a great opportunity for agencies to meet with potential candidates to fill critical-need positions. They can promote their invaluable programs and tout the services they provide to West Virginia citizens," Ayoob said.

State agencies that participated this year included the Office of Technology; Bureau for Child Support Enforcement; Bureau for Medical Services; Bureau for Health & Health Facilities; DHHR Office of Management Information Services; Department of Environmental Protection; Division of Highways; Division of Financial Institutions; Division of Rehabilitation Services; Division of Corrections; South Central Regional Jail; WV Lottery; WV State Police; and the WV Library Commission.



**The 4th Annual West Virginia State Government Career Fair gave nearly 300 potential applicants the chance to meet with representatives from 18 state agencies. The Division of Personnel joined with Workforce West Virginia to offer this informational event again this year to share job opportunities with potential job seekers.**

## Administration's Leslie Townsend Crowned Ms. West Virginia



**Leslie Townsend, Administrative Secretary in the Department of Administration's Office of the Secretary, was named Ms. West Virginia United States at this year's state pageant.**

Leslie Townsend, Administrative Secretary in the Department of Administration's Office of the Secretary, was named Ms. West Virginia United States at this year's state pageant, held at Fairmont State University on April 25. Townsend represented the Kanawha Valley.

Delegates to the national pageant, which are selected at the state level, must be between the ages of 26 and 39 and be unmarried, though they may have been previously married and may have children.

Townsend grew up in Clay County and graduated from Clay

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## IT RECYCLING

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places much older machines, such as personal computers, laptops, printers, and fax machines. Oftentimes, state agencies cannot afford to replace all of their out-of-date equipment with brand new machines. By using retired equipment donated by WVOT, the needs of these agencies are met in a practical and economical manner.

In addition to replacing old equipment, WVOT maintains a loaner pool for agencies with short-term equipment needs. "The West Virginia Office of Technology encourages state spending units to reap the benefit of this program within their operations," stated West Virginia Chief Technology Officer Gale Given.

To date, the program has donated 3,314 units since the program's inception. As of May 2015, the total dollar value of those items equaled \$965,311.

Perhaps most notably, WVOT has partnered with the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) on its project, SecondLaunchWV. Given joined West Virginia State Superintendent of Schools Michael Martirano on May 8 to celebrate the collaboration. Students at Country Kids Day Care in Belle, West Virginia, demonstrated the use of computers donated to their classroom by playing educational games while Given and Martirano observed.

"The West Virginia Office of Technology is pleased with the partnership

that has developed with the Department of Education for this program. The amount of equipment that has been recycled for use in our school programs, along with other agencies within state government, showcases how the life of property continues beyond its initial use," said Given.

In addition to its partnership with the WVDE, WVOT recently built an entire training center for the Public Defender Services office with recycled equipment. According to Dana Eddy, Executive Director of Public Defender Services, the agency will be able to provide hands-on training to hundreds of attorneys on the use of the agency's online billing system more efficiently and effectively than ever before following the donation of 16 computers.

Moreover, Eddy states that the agency will have the capacity to sponsor continuing education seminars using the technological capacity of the recycled equipment rather than having to pay for commercial space and equipment at private facilities.

"In short, the agency's mission has been furthered by the availability of functioning equipment at a nominal cost that is supported by the expertise of the Office of Technology," Eddy said.

For additional information on the IT Recycling Program offered through WVOT, please contact [erecycle@wv.gov](mailto:erecycle@wv.gov) for assistance.

## Digital Summit Encouraged to Share Best Practices

Best practices for technology among state and local governments was the focus of the West Virginia Digital Government Summit on May 6<sup>th</sup>, hosted by e.Republic and the West Virginia Office of Technology (WVOT). The event focused on fostering discussion and dialogue on the use of information technology as a strategic tool for government managers, executives and policy makers.

Chief Technology Officer Gale Given said more than 120 government information technology professionals attended the event. "We were exceptionally happy with the turnout and response within the field," she said. "This event gave professionals the chance to network with one another, and to learn best practices from some of the leading experts in the field."

The event focused on digital government trends, cyber security, and collaboration. "Technology and change are inexorably linked," she said. To stress the power of technology, Given shared a quote from Apple Co-founder Steve Jobs: "Technology is nothing. What's important is that you have a faith in people, that they're basically good and smart, and if you give them tools, they'll do wonderful things with them."

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## TOWNSEND

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County High School. She studied Business Administration at West Virginia State University.

She resides in Elkview with her daughter, Kendall, age 8.

Townsend will represent West Virginia at the Ms. United States pageant on July 3 at the University of the District of Columbia in Washington, D.C.

"I feel very excited and blessed to be representing our state at the Ms. United States pageant. I'm looking forward to making lasting friendships and memories. I plan on using this opportunity to work with the Miss United States Organization to promote the American Cancer Society and Relay for Life," stated Townsend.

**30 Years of Service**

- **CPRB:** Susan Estep and Tammy Patton
- **General Services:** Harold Loy
- **Personnel:** Jeanie Bowe and Darlene Fletcher
- **Public Defender Services:** Marjorie Wilson
- **PEIA:** Tammy Scarberry
- **Technology:** Diana Arden, Anne Crabtree, and John Dunlap

**35 Years of Service**

- **General Services:** B. John Carter and Ricky Morris
- **Technology:** Donna Meadows and Brian Pratt

In addition to this ceremonial event, there were several activities organized by the Secretary's Office during the week for Department of Administration employees, including:

- **Capitol Cook-Off 2015**
- **WV Baby Shower**
- **State Employees Walk-a-Thon**
- **School Spirit Day**

"Our public servants are ordinary citizens doing extraordinary work, yet they rarely get the recognition they deserve," said Kim Nuckles, Chairwoman of the PSRW Committee. "They are people who care about their communities and each day place the public good over personal gain. I am humbled by them. It was an honor to serve as the 2015 chair of this celebration."

**Read past issues of Quotes, Notes & Anecdotes at [www.administration.wv.gov/newsletters](http://www.administration.wv.gov/newsletters)**

**Welcome! ...** The Department of Administration is pleased to welcome **Curt Hastings** (Aviation); **Emily West** (Ethics); **Elizabeth Bush Hoh** (Fleet); **William Raines** (General Services); **Joy Dalton** and **Joshua McAtee** (Personnel); and **Jennifer Harless**, **Jason Nichols**, and **David Nolawski** (Technology).

**Happy Retirement! ...** After years of hard work and dedication, we would like to congratulate **Sarah Hunter** (CPRB), **Larry LeRose** (General Services), and **Ann Wilmoth** (PEIA) on their retirements. Congratulations!

**Best Wishes ...** to those who recently resigned from our department: **Gary Riffle** and **Claudia White** (CPRB); **Tina King** (Ethics); **John Smolder** (Finance); **Sheryl Goodwin** (Personnel); and **Curtis Gambill** (Technology).

**Got News? ...** Share YOUR good news with your department co-workers! Send your information to [Diane.M.Holley@wv.gov](mailto:Diane.M.Holley@wv.gov) with details!

**Reminder ... Department Employees Switch to Bi-Weekly Pay on June 12**

Department of Administration employees are reminded that we will be among the first to participate in the implementation of Wave 1 of *wvOASIS*' Phase D. Beginning June 12, participating agencies will convert from a semi-monthly pay schedule to a bi-weekly pay schedule.

May 29<sup>th</sup> was the last semi-monthly paycheck for employees. Looking forward, employees will be paid bi-weekly over 26 pay periods each calendar year rather than the traditional 24 pay periods.

For more on the change, please visit [wvOASIS.gov](http://wvOASIS.gov).

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY ... in June**

1 Karen Gray ..... PEIA	16 Levi Wade ..... Technology
Anthony Thaxton ..... Gen. Svcs.	17 Joey Campbell ..... Gen. Svcs.
2 Jeff Fleck ..... CPRB	Dan Shriver ..... Technology
Scott Kebler ..... Technology	18 Susan Estep ..... CPRB
Robert Miller ..... BRIM	Rebecca Stepto ..... Ethics
3 Mary Youngblood ..... Personnel	19 Michael Green ..... Technology
4 Bill Brogan ..... Technology	Jason Ratliff ..... Technology
Amy Leslie ..... Pros. Atty. Inst.	Shannon Workman .. Technology
Amy Newman ..... Technology	20 Danielle Cox ..... Technology
5 Eddie Bell ..... CPRB	21 Phillip Baker ..... Fleet
Kelly Breedlove ..... Technology	Roger Chapman ..... Technology
Lee Orr ..... Gen. Svcs.	Dempsey Dickson.....Technology
Gary Riffle ..... CPRB	John Poindexter ..... Ethics
7 John Carter ..... Gen. Svcs.	Amy Stalnaker ..... PEIA
Kitty Wilson ..... Pub. Def.	22 Joyce Jones ..... Sec. Office
8 Kim Patrick ..... Technology	23 Robert Dake ..... Technology
9 Beth Collins ..... Purchasing	Ron Reece ..... Grievance
Cavan Riley ..... Technology	24 James Carter ..... Technology
Tim Thomas ..... Gen. Svcs.	25 Kimberly Bennett ..... Pub. Def.
Crystal Walden.....Pub. Def.	Jody Brown ..... Technology
10 Kim Scott ..... CPRB	27 Richard Harris.....Gen. Svcs.
11 Gary Smith ..... Technology	Frank Whittaker ..... Purchasing
12 Tracy Jones ..... Technology	28 John Persinger ..... Gen. Svcs.
13 James Amos ..... Technology	Annamarie Short ..... CPRB
Tina Eddy ..... CPRB	30 Samantha Anderson ..... CPRB
Laura Mann ..... Personnel	Twila Neil ..... PEIA
15 Dianna Gertz ..... Technology	Josh Tinnel ..... Technology

**Administrative Notes**

**Quotes, Notes & Anecdotes** is published by the West Virginia Department of Administration

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