

# Quotes, Notes & Anecdotes

Monthly Employee Newsletter Published by the Department of Administration  
NOVEMBER 2010 - Volume 17, Issue 11

## Employee of the Month

### Perez Always Ready To Go Beyond Regular PEIA Duties

**PATRICIA PEREZ**, an Insurance Assistant Lead for the Public Employee Insurance Agency (PEIA), has been selected as the Department of Administration's *Employee of the Month* for November.

A state government employee for 10 years, Perez responds to the needs of telephone and walk-in inquiries from members, providers of services, third party administrators, and other government agencies. Perez also responds to other

general correspondences made to the agency.

"Patty is very knowledgeable of the benefits offered through PEIA. Her communication skills are truly a testament to one of her many traits that make her an excellent customer service representative," said one co-worker. "She always assures PEIA members that their concerns are important and she will take care of them."

Said another co-worker, "Patty accepts new job responsi-

bilities within the unit willingly and performs each duty to the highest standards. She defines what a team player should be."

In her spare time, Perez likes to spend time with her children and grandchildren, work in her flower garden and go fishing. She will be joined by her friends and co-workers at a special ceremony presented by Cabinet Secretary Rob Ferguson on Thursday, Nov. 4 at 11:15 a.m. at the PEIA office in Kanawha City.



**PATRICIA PEREZ**  
November Employee of the Month



**Free shuttle service at the State Capitol will be extended in response to employee requests, beginning November 1. There are various stops around the Capitol which the shuttle makes every 10 minutes.**

### Schedule Extended for Free State Capitol Shuttle Service

Effective November 1, 2010, the schedule for the shuttle service at the State Capitol will be extended in response to employee requests. Due to varying office hours, service will begin at 6:45 a.m. through 9:00 a.m. and from 3:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m., Monday through Friday.

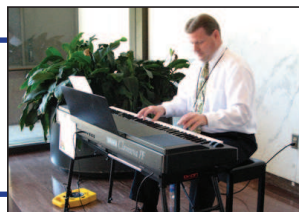
The shuttle stops are listed below:

- Laidley Field (Parking Lot)
- State Parking Building (Piedmont Road)
- Building 5 – Piedmont Road
- Building 6 – California Avenue
- State Capitol – East Wing Entrance (California Avenue)

**Please see SHUTTLE, Page 4**

## SNEAK PEEK

- PEIA's Paul Dixon Keeps Audiences Entertained / Page 2



- Clay Chandler to Lead Fleet Management Office / Page 2

- Administration Employees Recognized / Page 3

# PEIA's Paul Dixon Keeps Audiences Entertained During Public Service Recognition Week Event

For the past 10 years, it has been convenient for Public Service Recognition Week organizers to find a pianist to provide music prior to the awards ceremony held at the Culture Center. The individual who has aptly filled this role is a state employee.

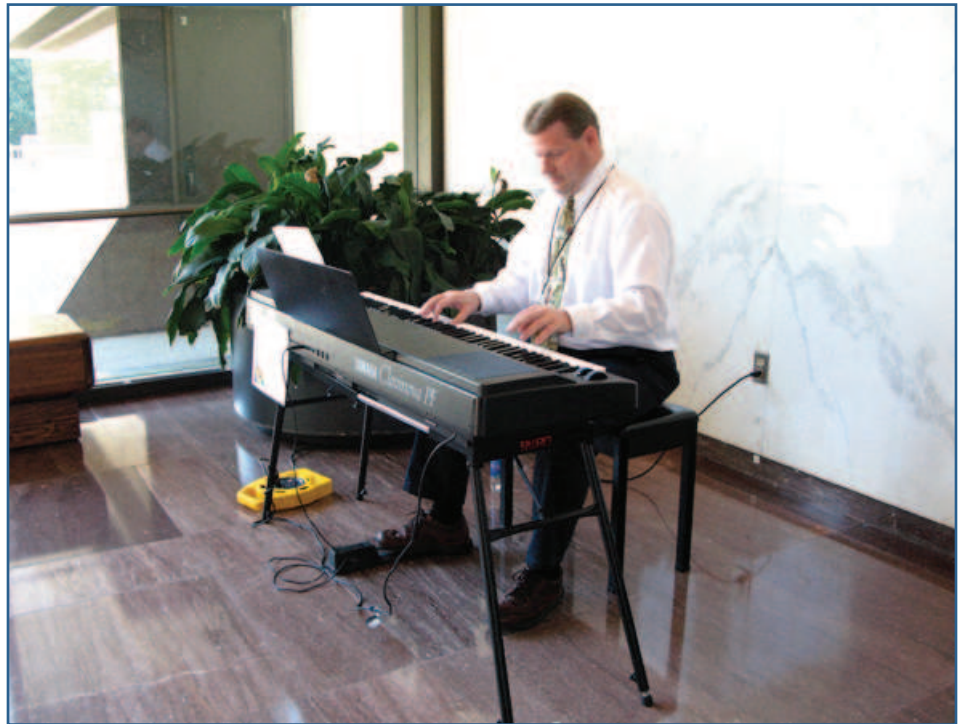
Paul Dixon, a compliance and quality specialist with the Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA), has filled the Culture Center grand hall with music for this event and done the same for many occasions around the Kanawha Valley for more than a decade.

"I play at wedding receptions, dinner meetings, retirement parties and grand openings for businesses, and I am real active now playing in gospel groups. I play every day for at least an hour, sometimes two hours," said Dixon. "I have been doing this for awhile. I played my first professional gig when I was 14 at a business meeting."

Not bad for someone who got off to a rocky musical career.

"My parents had me take piano lessons at an early age, and my first piano instructor told me that I would never play the piano and was wasting my time," said Dixon, who made a CD in 2007, with a laugh. "Good thing I did not listen to her."

Dixon kept his interest alive in the piano and learned on his own, developing such a liking that he majored in music at Arizona State University, a far cry from his hometown of Malden.



**Paul Dixon performs during the Public Service Recognition Week event. Dixon, a compliance and quality specialist with PEIA, has played for the event for more than a decade.**

"I was young and really wanted to live out west," Dixon recalled. "Arizona State had a highly rated music program, so that is where I decided to go."

Dixon was able to translate his musical skills into full-time employment while living in Phoenix after college graduation but said he began missing the "southern hospitality" of Appalachia. He returned to the Kanawha Val-

ley in 1998 but had to adjust his earnings plan.

"I did play full-time for a living in Phoenix, but in Charleston, there are not enough engagements to make a living. I get paid well to play the piano, not just often enough here," Dixon said.

Initially, Dixon worked for Union

**Please see DIXON, Page 5**

## Claton Chandler Named to Lead State Fleet Management Office



**CLATON CHANDLER**

Claton D. "Clay" Chandler has been selected as executive director of the State Fleet Management Office in the Department of Administration. He began his duties on October 4.

Chandler brings an extensive background in fleet management to the position, as he has most recently served as the state fleet manager for the State of Oklahoma, providing statutory oversight for the acquisition, management and maintenance of 9,000 vehicles in nearly 60 state agencies. His work experience also includes serving as a development officer for a non-profit organization serving at-risk children and as a program manager for

strategic and global operations, asset, and life-cycle management within the U.S. Army.

Chandler's responsibilities will include overseeing all aspects of the fleet operation for the State of West Virginia, which consists of more than 7,000 state-owned passenger vehicles and aircraft. He will develop short- and long-term plans, implement best fleet management practices, ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations and monitor and analyze utilization and mainte-

**Please see CHANDLER, Page 6**

# WV Public Service Recognition Week



West Virginia state government celebrated Public Service Recognition Week during the week of September 27 – October 1. Gov. Joe Manchin III offered the keynote speech at an awards ceremony held September 30 at the Culture Center for those state employees with 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50 years of service.

During a ceremony for Department of Administration employees on October 1, Cabinet Secretary Rob Ferguson recognized our department employees who have 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service.

Those honored included:

## 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

- Landon Brown – Public Employee Grievance Board
- Betsy Chapman – Public Defender Services
- Ali Dabiri – Office of Technology
- Scott Dobson - Office of Technology
- Dianna Gertz - Office of Technology
- Sue Ann Lipinski - Office of Technology
- Deidre Rainwater - Office of Technology
- Lucy Suchy – Ethics Commission
- Donald Wheeler – PEIA
- Rufus Wingo - Office of Technology

## 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

- Diana Arden - Office of Technology
- Jeanie Bowe – Division of Personnel
- Anne Crabtree - Office of Technology

Please see WEEK, Page 5



**(Above) 20-Year Employees:** Deidre Rainwater, Office of Technology; Secretary Ferguson; Ali Dabiri, Office of Technology.

**(Left) 25-Year Employees:** Tammy Patton, Consolidated Public Retirement Board; Theresa Kline, Consolidated Public Retirement Board; Diana Arden, Office of Technology; Secretary Ferguson; Carolyn Saul, Office of Technology; Kitty Wilson, Public Defender Services; Jeanie Bowe, Division of Personnel.



**(Above) 40-Year Employees:** Secretary Ferguson and Joyce Larrabee, Office of Technology



**(Above) 35-Year Employees:** Roger Haynes, General Services Division; Kathy Thomas, Office of Technology; Secretary Ferguson; Cecil Hill, Consolidated Public Retirement Board.



**(Above) 30-Year Employees:** Yolonda Tyler, Public Employees Insurance Agency; Diana Lunsford, Consolidated Public Retirement Board; Susan Lowe, Finance Division; Secretary Ferguson; Ann Mollohan, Purchasing Division; Brian Pratt, Office of Technology; Ken Lucas, General Services; John Carter, General Services Division.



## Office of Technology Stays Busy



**Chief Technology Officer Kyle Schafer speaks to the conference attendees at the West Virginia Technology Summit held October 26-27 at the Charleston Civic Center. The annual conference, hosted by the Office of Technology, was for public and private sector IT professionals to discuss and learn new ways to use technology as a means to reduce operating costs while increasing work efficiency.**



**Will Pelgrin, founder of the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center, was among the speakers at the Office of Technology's Cyber Security Seminar on Oct. 5, at the Culture Center.**

## OT Receives High Marks in Digital States Survey

The West Virginia Office of Technology was recently honored by the Center for Digital Government with a grade of "B" in its 2010 Digital States Survey, ranking 10th among states.

The survey, conducted biannually in even years, is a comprehensive study that examines best practices, policies and progress made by state governments in their use of digital technologies to better serve citizens and streamline operations. The survey evaluated states across eight broad categories, covering such areas as adaptive leadership and innovation; citizen engagement and open government; and administration and human resource management.

The grade B is considered a good grade in the survey. According to the Center for Digital Government, the grade reflects a state that is "Trending up. Demonstrated results in many categories. Leadership using modernization to change entrenched practices to prepare for more sustainable operations. Incentives for collaboration in place. Measures used in key areas."

The other states receiving grade B are Arizona, Arkansas, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, North Dakota and Texas. West Virginia received a grade of C- in the 2008 survey, ranking 44th. West Virginia now ranks 13th.

"The results of the Digital States Survey show what happens when states take technology seriously – you can deliver services, you can reduce costs and you can cope with budget cuts," said Cathilea Robinett, executive vice president of the Center for Digital Government. "The survey shows that many states are doing just that, and many others are doing the hard work of getting to that point."

For more details, please visit <http://www.centerdigitalgov.com>.

## SHUTTLE

Continued from Page 1

- State Capitol – Main Building Entrance (California Avenue)
  - Governor's Drive – Greenbrier Street
- Each stop is served approximately every 10 minutes. The shuttle does not operate on weekends or state holidays.

Visitors are encouraged to use the Laidley Field parking areas (Lots A and B) or the metered parking spaces around the campus when doing business at the State Capitol.

The shuttle service is free of charge.

# Statue to Honor Female Veterans

The dedication of West Virginians defending our nation is well known and symbolized by the West Virginia Veterans Memorial, located on the State Capitol campus.

Four bronze statues represent America's four major military conflicts of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam) with the names of the more than 10,000 West Virginians who sacrificed their lives to defend our freedom etched into the memorial.

A new statue, commemorating the service of the state's female veterans, is expected to join the memorial as the state readies to honor its veterans with Veterans Day on Thursday, Nov. 11.

The bronze statue is the work of Charleston sculptor Joe Mullins, a Vietnam veteran and also the designer of the original veterans memorial. Mullins expressed his sincere gratitude to Cabinet Secretary Rob Ferguson for his leadership and commitment to this project.



Robert Krause, acting head of the architectural engineering section of the General Services Division (GSD), said the statue honors not just female veterans, but also veterans of conflicts within the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Approximately eight feet tall and 600 pounds, the statue will stand on a base constructed of limestone to match the Capitol with a granite cap, and will be located between the original memorial and Building 3. Room will be left at the statue's base for plaques to commemorate West Virginians who have died in this century's conflicts. Krause said the plaques are still being designed and will be added later.

Mullins praised the work of GSD and the Department of Administration. "I am very appreciative for their work in this," he said. "They have been wonderful throughout the process."

In respect to all veterans, the Department of Administration salutes all of our men and women in the military for the service they provide to our country.

## DIXON

Continued from Page 2

Carbide when he returned home until he was laid off when Dow Chemical took over the company.

His career path led to PEIA, beginning as a customer service representative. Ten years and a master's degree in technology management later, he is responsible for training the new customer service employees.

Dixon finds humor in the notion that his office sits where he used to hang out often.

The state Department of Environmental Protection building, where PEIA now has its offices, was once home to Kanawha Cinemas.

"I used to come to movies here all the time. I had a friend who was a manager at Kanawha Cinemas, and he used to let me in," Dixon said. "I never dreamed I be working in this building. I think my office is where I saw my very last movie in this place."

## WEEK

Continued from Page 3

### 25 YEARS OF SERVICE, Continued

- John Dunlap - Office of Technology
- Susan Estep - CPRB
- Darlene Fletcher - Division of Personnel
- Janine Gano - Office of Technology
- Tammy Haynes - Office of Technology
- Theresa Kline - CPRB
- Harold Loy - General Services Division
- Robert Norvell - Office of Technology
- Tammy Patton - CPRB
- Carolyn Saul - Office of Technology
- Tammy Scarberry - PEIA
- Sheila Straley - Finance Division
- Stephen Tucker - Ethics Commission
- Kitty Wilson - Public Defender Services

### 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

- John Carter - General Services Division
- Ken Frye - Purchasing Division
- Susan Lowe - Finance Division
- Kenneth Lucas - General Services Division
- Diana Lunsford - CPRB
- Donna Meadows - Office of Technology
- Ann Mollohan - Purchasing Division

- Ricky Morris - General Services Division
- Brian Pratt - Office of Technology
- Yolonda Tyler - PEIA

### 35 YEARS OF SERVICE

- Annie Anderson - Office of Technology
- Marta Dean - Office of Technology
- Roger Haynes - General Services Division
- Cecil Hill - CPRB
- Mable Jones - Finance Division
- Kathy Thomas - Office of Technology

### 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

- Barbara Haddad - CPRB
- Joyce Larrabee - Office of Technology

Also recognized at the Department of Administration awards ceremony were employees with superior attendance for not having taken any sick leave during the 2009 calendar year.

The Department of Administration applauds the dedication and valuable service demonstrated by all of our tenured employees. Although Public Service Recognition Week may only be celebrated once a year, please know that your service is greatly appreciated throughout the year!

## CHANDLER

Continued from Page 2

nance of the fleet. Chandler will work collaboratively with staff, management, state agencies, political leadership, vendors and other stakeholder groups to develop streamlined, transparent processes while achieving optimum operating costs.

“As the consolidated fleet program evolves, Claton will spearhead this transition by formulating the policies and procedures necessary to provide accountability and cost-efficiencies,” said Cabinet Secretary Rob Ferguson. “With his vast knowledge and experiences in the management of fleet vehicles, I am confident that he will quickly identify the areas to be addressed in order to produce positive outcomes in this program. His leadership skills and understanding of fleet management operations will truly benefit the newly created Fleet Management Office and our state government as a whole.”

A graduate of East Central State University, Chandler attained his master’s degree in business administration from Oklahoma City University. Other certifications include Certified Public Fleet Professional (CPFP) from the American Public Works Association and most recently, receipt of a Master Certificate in Applied Project Management from Villanova University.

The 2010 State Legislature passed Senate Bill 219, which consolidated the state’s fleet under the Department of Administration.

**Welcome!** ... to the Department of Administration our new employees: **Judith Jarrell** (CPRB); **Claton Chandler** (Fleet); **Jennifer Stollings-Parr** (Grievance); **Adewale Adelaja** and **Wenjing Gu** (Office of Technology); **Teresa Burdette** and **James Lovell** (PEIA); **Lu Anne Cottrill** (Purchasing); and **Justin Alston** (Real Estate).

**Best Wishes** ... to our employees who recently resigned from our department: **Syble Atkins** and **Carlos Fortune** (Office of Technology), and **Heather Carnefix** (Personnel).

**Time to Relax** ... After years of hard work, **Gerald Stricklen** (General Services) and **Donna Amos** (Office of Technology) are now ready to kick back and relax. Happy retirement!

**Daylight Savings Time** ... On November 7, 2010, it is time to set your clocks back one hour for the “fall back time change.” The official time to reset your clocks is on Sunday, November 7, at 2 a.m.

**Got News?** ... Let us know! Contact Diane Holley-Brown, editor, at (304) 558-0661 or at [Diane.M.Holley@wv.gov](mailto:Diane.M.Holley@wv.gov) with information to share with the department’s employees.

### On happiness

“Words can sometimes, in moments of grace, attain the quality of deeds.”

— *Elie Wiesel*

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY ... in November

- |                                      |                                     |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Steven McCloud ..... Technology    | 17 Debra Pendleberry.....Technology |
| Yvonne McCormick ..... Personnel     | Bill Ward ..... Technology          |
| 2 Karen Hall ..... PEIA              | 18 James Lovell ..... PEIA          |
| Sam Payton ..... Technology          | Sarah Tignor ..... Aviation         |
| 3 Shane Hall ..... Purchasing        | Lisa Worledge ..... Finance         |
| Carla Hayman ..... Technology        | 19 Gregory Finley ..... Technology  |
| 4 Jeremy Tyler ..... Technology      | Matthew Harper ..... Purchasing     |
| 5 Paula Lowe ..... Purchasing        | Philip Roberts ..... Technology     |
| Terry Young ..... Technology         | 20 Donald Kushner ..... Technology  |
| 6 Kathy Moore ..... Technology       | James Peters ..... Finance          |
| 8 Melody Bailey ..... CPRB           | 21 Margaret Ingram ..... Purchasing |
| Molly Mullins ..... Technology       | Carol Jarrett ..... Purchasing      |
| 9 Derek Bailey ..... CPRB            | Mark Sizer ..... Technology         |
| Melissa Hapney ..... PEIA            | Waltt Vest ..... Finance            |
| Charles Lawrence ..... Real Estate   | 22 Chuck Mazingo ..... BRIM         |
| Ricky Lee Morris ..... Gen. Svcs.    | 23 Gilbert Richard ..... Technology |
| 10 Tierra Gable ..... Aviation       | 24 Matthew Barger ..... Technology  |
| Michael Slaughter .... Technology    | Terry Friend ..... Technology       |
| Robert Surface ..... Technology      | Mariamama Kouroma .... Grievance    |
| 11 Bill Judy ..... Technology        | Susan Lowe ..... Finance            |
| 12 Carrie Casto ..... Technology     | Michael Urban ..... Gen. Svcs.      |
| Steven Roberts ..... Technology      | Carleen Wilson ..... Personnel      |
| 13 Melody Haynes ..... Gen. Svcs.    | 25 Charles Hager ..... Gen. Svcs.   |
| Janese Sexton ..... PEIA             | Pamela Russell ..... CPRB           |
| 14 Jennifer Tucker ..... Personnel   | 26 Barbara Bowe ..... Personnel     |
| 15 Cammie Parker ..... Ethics        | Timothy Pauley ..... Technology     |
| 16 David Dangerfield .... Technology | 29 Robin Rose ..... PEIA            |
| 17 Chris Avis ..... Technology       | 30 Stanford Moss ..... Technology   |
| Rob Ferguson ..... Sec. Office       |                                     |

# Administrative Notes

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

Joe Manchin III  
Governor

Robert W.  
Ferguson, Jr.  
Cabinet  
Secretary

Diane Holley  
-Brown  
Communication  
Director/Editor

**Production**  
Tony O’Leary  
Chad  
Williamson

**Special  
Thanks**  
Kaye Parks

Past issues of **Quotes, Notes & Anecdotes** are available at <http://www.administration.wv.gov/newsletters/Pages/default.aspx>