

Quotes, Notes & Anecdotes

Monthly Employee Newsletter Published by the Department of Administration JUNE 2009 - Volume 16, Issue 6

Employee of the Month

Hubbard Leads Agency's Effort To Maintain Grounds

GREG HUBBARD, a MaintenanceOperator for the Grounds Unit of the General Services Division, has been selected as the Department of Administration's *Employee of the Month* for June.

A state government employee for 12 years, Hubbard's primary duties include supervising the 25 employees of the Grounds Unit and ensuring all the work orders are performed in a timely fashion. Hubbard also leads the daily efforts of trash pick up around the Capitol's outer building areas and parking lots, along with snow removal in the winter. In addition, he is responsible for ensuring equipment, tools and personnel are utilized appropriately throughout the campus to the various work sites.

"Greg is constantly working the radio and command for all events and stays on top of all work orders," said one co-worker. "Without his constant supervision and effort, the mission of the Grounds Unit would not be fulfilled."

Said another co-worker, "Greg starts his work every morning at 4 a.m. and he does not stop. In the winter, he is always here early to remove the snow and treat the ice on the sidewalks and clears the walkways and handicap entrances to ensure safety."

In his spare time, Hubbard enjoys playing softball, basketball, football, riding his bike and fishing. Hubbard will be joined by his friends and coworkers at a special ceremony presented by Cabinet Secretary Robert Ferguson on Thursday, June 4 at 11:30 a.m. in Room MB-60 of the main Capitol building..



GREG HUBBARD June Employee of the Month

New State Museum Offers a Tour Through our History

Entering the new West Virginia State Museum, located in the basement of the Cultural Center, could border on being an overwhelming experience. After all, the museum manages to encapsulate much of the state's history, reaching to even before its admission to the Union, in 24,000 square feet of space.

A stroll through the museum brings together an authentic Logan County log cabin dating from the 1800s to a recreation of the Keith-Albee Theater in Huntington. It gives you the stories of the state

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Culture and History Commissioner Randall Reid-Smith unveils a flag that is part of the new West Virginia State Museum, set to open June 20 at the Cultural Center.







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Hats Off to our Graduates for this Year!

This is the season to celebrate the academic achievements of our children and grandchildren, who are graduating from high school and college. Below are some of our proud employees:

<u>Michael Austin</u> (Purchasing): Son, Justin, graduates from Saint Albans High School with plans to attend Davis & Elkins College, majoring in accounting.

Heather Bartholomew (PEIA): Son, Dylan, graduates from University High School in Morgantown and plans to attend West Virginia University, majoring in secondary education/psychology. <u>Tina Bishop</u> (Office of Technology): Daughter, Tamara Deskins, graduates from Wyoming East High School and plans to attend Concord University, majoring in social work.

Joseph Bolar (**PEIA**): Son, Christopher, graduates from Capital High School and plans on majoring in elementary education.

<u>Wanda Casto</u> (CHIP): Daughter, Paige, graduates from Riverside High School.

<u>Sue Chapman</u> (General Services): Daughter, Keri Ann Griffith, passed the Maryland Bar after graduating with honors from The University of Maryland, Baltimore, Law School with plans of working for the law firm of Peter G. Angelos in Baltimore.

Anne Crabtree (Office of Tech-

nology): Daughter, Shannon, graduates from Winfield High School with plans to attend West Virginia University, majoring in visual arts.

Robert Cramer (Office of Technology): Son, Robert, graduates from South Charleston High School with plans to attend West Virginia University, majoring in mechanical and aerospace engineering.

<u>Ali Dabiri</u> (Office of Technology): Son, David, graduates from George Washington High School and plans to pursue a career in medicine.

Diane Holley (Purchasing): Son, Josh, graduates from Sissonville High School with plans to attend Marshall Univer-

sity, majoring in civil engineering.

Kim Huffman (Office of Technology): Son, T.J., graduates from George Washington High School with plans to attend West Virginia University Institute of Technology, majoring in chemical engineering and playing football.

Lori Hypes (Purchasing): Daughter, Felicia, graduates from Nicholas County High School with plans to attend Concord College, majoring in biology.

Barbara Jarrell (Personnel): Daughter-in-law, Hollie, graduates from West Virginia University with a masters degree in elementary education.

Patty Johns (Finance): Daughter, Nicole, graduates from Charleston Catholic High School and plans to attend Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

<u>Bill Judy</u> (Office of Technology): Daughter, Rachel, graduated from WVU with a bachelor's degree in exercise physiology in

2008 and is pursuing a physician's assistant master's degree from Alderson Broaddus.

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Deadline Approaches to Complete Online Driver Training Initiative

State employees are reminded that June 30 is the deadline to complete an online defensive driver training course offered by the Board of Risk and Insurance Management (BRIM). The training is for all state employees who drive a vehicle (state-owned, leased, rented or personal) on state business.

BRIM is providing incentives for agencies participating in this initiative. If 90 percent or more of an agency's listed drivers successfully complete the training prior to June 30, an agency may receive a two percent credit toward its automobile insurance premium for the 2011 fiscal year. Conversely, if fewer than 80 percent of an agency's listed drivers complete the program, a five percent surcharge will be applied to an agency's premium.

As an added benefit to this training program, drivers may qualify for a reduction in their personal automobile insurance premium as a result of their efforts. The training provided by the National Safety Council is nationally recognized and may be approved by many of this state's insurers for a premium adjustment. BRIM officials note that it is the responsibility of employees to check with their insurer for further details regarding this benefit.

The online training program lasts approximately four hours, but does not have to be completed at one time. Please contact BRIM's Loss Control Department at 304-766-2646 with any questions.



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both tragic (the 1970 Marshall University plane crash) and triumphant (the state's formation in 1863 in the midst of the Civil War). It paints these pictures in strokes both broad (one display chronicles the various locations of the state capitol) and detailed (another display re-creates a coal town company store down to authentic cans of food on the shelf).

There is an innate amount of pride in discussing the museum by West Virginia Division of Culture and History Commissioner Randall Reid-Smith. The project has been one of Reid-Smith's primary focuses as commissioner. "It has been a wonderful, but humbling, experience, and I am so grateful to have been a part of it," he said. "To be able to finish it, to have been a part of it, I am thankful."

The museum has been closed for eight years, said Jacqueline Proctor, deputy commissioner for the Division of Culture and History, with work to rebuild the museum beginning in January 2008. Proctor said the goal was to create a museum experience that could contain the scope of culture and history for the state.

"It has been an inspiration to see it come together," Proctor said. However, because of the state's rich history, it has also meant that the museum can hardly be taken in entirely in one visit. "You can not just see it once; you have to come back," she said.

Reid-Smith said the museum's structure, designed as a walking tour through the state's history, through wilderness country to a detailed re-creation of an underground coal mine to the importance of the rail system, is meant to put a visual style to the history so many studied in school. "It is a wonderful way to discover West Virginia history, because it makes it fun and enjoyable," he said. "You visualize it and you never forget it."

Proctor said the museum works on multiple levels, depending on your own knowledge of the state's past. "From the perspective of a visitor from outside of the state, they will be blown away by the depth and richness of the heritage of West Virginia and its people and its resources," she said. "As a native of the



A worker places finishing touches on one of the building re-creations located throughout the State Museum located in the Cultural Center.



Above, workers add "trees" to a scene on display at the State Museum. Right, Commissioner Randall Reid-Smith unveils one of the time line plates on the mock railroad which winds through part of the museum.

state, you will be just so full of pride."

The State Museum is scheduled to open to the general public June 21, with a special "sneak peek" on June 20 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. The museum will be open Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and noon-5 p.m. on Sunday. Ad-



mission is free to the public.

A museum shop is scheduled to open at the same time as the State Museum. Staffed with Tamarack personnel, the shop will offer a variety of items for visitors to purchase.



The Soldiers and Sailors Monument has returned to the south side of the Capitol lawn. A new granite foundation replaces the old cracked one (see left) and the Union soldier statue and four plaques were cleaned and restored to their original finish.

Soldiers and Sailors Monument Returns to State Capitol

The Union Soldiers and Sailors monument has returned to the Capitol grounds, looking better than ever.

Last November, the cracked and worn monument was disassembled from its foundation on the south side of the Capitol. The removal of the Union soldier statue and the four plaques encased in the original granite foundation was the first stage of the restoration. The items were removed for cleaning and refurbished to their original finish. The original granite foundation was then removed to make way for a new one.

The stone bottom was reset and the new, 26,000-pound granite foundation was put in place May 12, followed that day with the return of the soldier statue and plaques. The musket being carried by the soldier was also repaired. The granite is from the same quarry as the original foundation.

The Union Soldiers and Sailors monument was commissioned by the state's Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Commission in 1927. The commission was created by the state legislature to design and erect a memorial to the 32,000 West Virginians who fought for the Union during the U.S. Civil War.

The statue depicts a Union soldier who is stepping forward onto his right leg. The soldier rests a flint lock musket against his right shoulder, holding it in his right hand. His proper left arm is held at his side, arm slightly bent. A bed roll is draped over his left shoulder. He also carries a canteen, pouch, ammunition box, and a bayonet. He wears a hat and around his waist is a belt with a U.S. buckle.

State Public Health Officials Offer Tips to Prevent Swine Flu

By Cathy Slemp, M.D., M.P.H. Department of Health and Human Resources

Novel influenza A (H1N1) is a new flu virus of swine origin that was first detected in April of this year. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that to date, this virus appears to be similar to seasonal flu in its symptoms and severity.

During the regular flu season, about 200,000 people are hospitalized due to flu-related causes with about 36,000 deaths yearly. CDC and state and local public health departments continue to track the spread of this novel virus to learn more about it, to adapt recommendations accordingly, and to watch for

changes in the situation.

This is a situation in evolution. It is important to stay informed, for information will likely change over time as more is learned and the outbreak progresses. Interventions are likely to vary somewhat from community to community based on local levels of disease occurrence.

Like seasonal flu, the H1N1 virus (swine flu) is primarily spread from person-to-person through respiratory droplets. People most at risk of infection are those within three to six feet of an infected individual when they cough or sneeze. Touching recently infected surfaces and then touching your eyes, mouth, or nose can also result in infection. To date, the virus has infected several thousand people in the United States with an increasing number of cases being reported in other countries.

Closer to home, the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources has developed informational documents about

the current outbreak to keep you, your co-workers and family informed and to help you prevent the spread of the swine flu virus. These posters and fact sheets are available for you to

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Got Nominations?...for Employee of the Month

One of the best ways to ensure that your dedicated co-workers receive proper recognition is to nominate them for the Department of Administration's Employee of the Month program. Each month, a committee reviews and selects an Employee of the Month from its list of nominees submitted by their peers.

Nominations can be made by co-workers, supervisors or subordinates as well as agency customers, employees from other state agencies and the general public. An employee's name remains on the nomination list for one year unless the number of candidates is fewer than 25.

For complete details and a nomination form, visit *http:// www.state.wv.us/scripts/admin/eom/eomProgram.cfm*. You may also e-mail Donna Lipscomb, chair of the Em-

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AnneLambright(CPRB):

Daughter, Emily, graduates from West Virginia University College of Law with her Juris Doctor with plans of joining the law firm of Bowles Rice in Charleston as a tax associate.

<u>Sue Lore</u> (Office of Technology): Son, Andrew, graduates from South Charleston High School with plans to attend the University of Charleston, majoring in education.

Teresa Martin (Per-

sonnel): Son, Matthew,

graduates from Herbert Hoover High School with plans to attend Ben Franklin Career Center.

Teresa McClung (Office of Technology): Son, Joel, graduates from West Virginia State University with a bachelors degree in mechanical engineering with plans of training at Seimens Corp. as a wind engineer.

<u>Marlena Moore</u> (CPRB): Son, Jihad Dixon, graduates from St. Anthony Catholic School.

<u>Tina Murdock</u> (CPRB): Son, Chase, graduates from Clay County High School with plans to attend welding school at West Virginia University Institute of Technology.

Ed Nelson (Office of Technology): Son, Matthew, graduates from Nitro High School with plans of attending Marshall University to study computer science.

<u>Marilyn Padon</u> (Office of Technology): Son, Alex, graduates from Eastern Kentucky University with a major in political science and communications.

<u>Richard Pickens</u> (Office of Technology):



Son, Michael, graduates from South Charleston High School with plans to attend Marshall University, majoring in engineering.

Karen Scaggs (General Services): Son, Tyler Bias, graduates from Huntington High School with plans to attend Marshall University next fall.

Teresa Siders (Public Defender Services): Daughter, Torie Roderick, graduates from West Virginia State

University with a bachelors in business administration in accounting.

Frank and Nancy Stark (Office of Technology): Son, Michael, graduates from West Virginia University with degrees in economics and political science and plans to attend law school.

Stanley Stewart (General Services): Daughter, Mollie Rae, graduates from West Virginia Tech/Carver Career College with an associates of applied science degree in veterinary technology.

<u>Alice Thibodeaux</u> (Purchasing): Grandson, Andrew Gage, graduates from South Charleston High School with plans to attend Marshall University and major in pre-med.

<u>Sarah Tignor</u> (Aviation): Son, Wesley, graduates from Herbert Hoover High School with plans to attend a welding school.

<u>Rebecca Wass</u> (CPRB) graduates from Marshall University with a master's degree in business administration. She was an intern with the Governor's Internship Program and members of her CPRB family wish her well.

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download and post at your worksite and to share with friends and family. Access the documents at: *http:// www.wvdhhr.org/H1N1-SwineFluDocs.pdf.*

Proper hand washing is one of the most important things you can do to minimize the spread of swine flu. It is also important to cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue or your arm (not hands) and to stay at home if you are sick with flu.

The West Virginia Bureau for Public Health offers anticipatory guidance and recommendations for managing illness if one does develop swine flu. This information sheet, DHHR-Managing H1N1 Flu Illness, is provided at the Web site listed above.

During situations like the current outbreak, it is extremely important to take care of yourself. It is normal to experience anxiety or stressful moments. WVD-HHR, via its Web site, has provided a fact sheet to help you with self-mental health care and tips to talk with your children about H1N1 (swine flu), as well.

Other West Virginia specific information can be found on the DHHR Web site at *http:www/wvdhhr.org*, click on "Follow Swine Flu Updates." Additional guidance documents are available on the CDC website at: *http://www.cde.gov/hiniflu/*.

Remember, there are many things that you can do at home and at your workplace to help prevent the spread of this virus. If you have questions or concerns contact the local health department in your community or find out more through the Web sites listed above.

Quotes, Notes and Anecdotes

Updated State Agency Listing Now Available

An updated State Agency Listing is now available for viewing or to download from the West Virginia state portal (*www.wv.gov*).

At the state portal, users may access the State Agency Listing by clicking under the left panel "Help and Alerts."

The State Agency Listing is part of the State Government Directory, which is also accessible at the state portal under "Help and Alerts" or directly at *http://www.wv.gov/Documents/ StateGovernmentDirectory.pdf*.

The State Agency Listing provides contact information for state departments, divisions, programs and services, which is updated periodically to ensure that current, accurate information is available.

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ployee of the Month committee, at **Donna.M.Lipscomb@wv.gov**; Anita Allen, secretary of the committee at **Anita.C.Allen@ wv.gov**, or speak with your agency committee representative.

The Employee of the Month Committee members are:

Shelly Lowery Division of Personnel **Chuck Bowman Purchasing Division June Butterfield** Board of Risk Insurance Management Joan Chapman **Finance** Division **Carolyn Hager** General Services Division **Brian Pratt** Office of Technology Tammy Scarberry PEIA Anita Brewster CPRB

Welcome! ... to our new employees: Christopher Bailey, Ali Dabiri, Lisa Maurer, Cavan Riley and Wanda Shafer (all of the Office of Technology).

Best Wishes ... to our employees who recently resigned from our department: **Timothy Hughes** and **James Foster** (General Services); and **Eric Holstein** (Office of Technology). Additionally, Division of Personnel Director **Otis Cox** resigned to accept an appointment as the state Equal Employment Opportunity director.

Summer Plans ... **Pat Quinlan** (Personnel) and his wife Carolyn are planning a very busy summer. His nephew, Mark Meil, is getting married on May 16 in Annapolis, Md., and their son Scott is getting married in Nashville on May 23. In July, Pat and Carolyn are expecting their fifth grandchild, the parents being their youngest son, Casey, and his wife, Stacey, who are expecting a baby boy.

Baby News ... Kristi Strader Scott (Purchasing) gave birth to Isiah KhaLeel Scott on March 6. He was 7 lbs, 7 oz., and 20 inches long.

Father's Day ... Let us not forget our department employees who will be celebrating Father's Day on June 21. Enjoy the day to all of you dads!

Got News?...Let us know what's going on with you and your family. Contact Diane Holley, Editor, at (304) 558-0661 or at *Diane.M.Holley@wv.gov* with information to share with the department's employees.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ... in June

1 Linda Chaty Technology Karen Gray PEIA
Anthony Thaxton Gen. Srvcs. 2 Jeff Fleck CPRB
Scott Kebler Technology
Robert Miller BRIM
3 Houston Woodson CHIP
Mary Youngblood Personnel
4 Liza ChilesCPRB
Amy Leslie Pros. Atty. Inst.
Amy Newman Technology
Pat Quinlan Personnel
5 Tracy Batman CPRB Kelly Breedlove Technology
Gary Riffle CPRB
b Josh King Gen. Srvcs.
7 John Carter Gen. Srvcs.
Kitty Wilson Public Defender
8 Jennings Ashby Gen. Srvcs.
Kim Patrick Technology
Yolonda Tyler PEIA
9 Jeff Perkins Finance
10 Judy King CPRB
12 Kim Henry Purchasing
Vickie Ross CPRB
13 James Amos Technology
Tina Eddy CPRB 14 Pam Jarrell Purchasing

15 Dianna Gertz Technology 16 Michael Gray Personnel
Levi Wade Technology 17 Dan Shriver Technology
18 Susan Estep CPRB
Quentin Johnston Technology Carolyn Wiesen PEIA
19 Wendelyn Campbell . Grievance Michael Green Technology Jason Ratliff Technology Shannon Workman Technology
20 Syble Atkins Technology
Freda Holcomb Gen. Srvcs. JoAnn Edwards-Lucas CPRB
22 Joyce Jones Sec. Office
Deanna Karlen Technology
Alice Thibodeaux Purchasing
23 Ron Reece Grievance
24 Demeire Gist Technology
25 Mart Denison Technology
26 Angela Long CPRB
Dennis Stewart Gen. Srvcs.
27 Eric Dye Technology
Richard Harris Gen. Srvcs.
Frank Whittaker Purchasing
29 Roger Haynes Gen. Srvcs.
30 Samantha Anderson CPRB Twila Neil PEIA

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Special