Purchasing’s Ferrell Earns Recognition for Work Ethic

KRISTA FERRELL, a Senior Buyer in the Acquisition and Contract Administration section of the Purchasing Division, has been selected as the Department of Administration’s Employee of the Month for November.

A state government employee for more than two years, Ferrell is the Purchasing Division’s buyer for the Department of Administration and the Department of Agriculture, performing the technical work needed to purchase goods and services by state agencies for contracts valued at $25,000 or more. She is also the Purchasing Division’s representative on the Administration team that is writing and assembling a Continuity of Operations Plan.

“Krista has a really good work ethic and takes great pride in the work she performs,” said one co-worker. “She goes the extra mile to help her agencies in the procurement process and does it while maintaining an excellent professional attitude.”

Said another co-worker, “Krista takes the time to work every detail, whether it is a large or small, with the buyers she works with on a daily basis. Around the office, she always has a cheerful attitude and gets a long great with her co-workers.”

In her spare time, Ferrell is an avid reader, a movie buff, enjoys the outdoors and loves to cook.

Ferrell will be joined by her friends and co-workers at a special ceremony presented by Cabinet Secretary Robert Ferguson on November 6 at 11 a.m. at the Purchasing Division office.

Reviewing the feedback and attendance from the Governor’s Job Fairs held through the state during the months of September and October, Division of Personnel Director Otis Cox said the event was a resounding success in ways both expected and unexpected.

The six job fairs, held in Fairmont, Wheeling, Elkins, Huntington, Bluefield and Martinsburg, drew nearly 1,200 interested individuals who were wanting to learn more about opportunities in state employment in West Virginia.

“It was a great success to have people come out and to make them aware of state employment opportunities,” Cox said.

Please see FAIR, Page 8
Employee of the Year To Be Announced

This month, the Department of Administration employees place their ballots for the 2008 Employee of the Year. It will soon be time to find out who is the recipient of this annual award. This is the 15th year of this program.

Cabinet Secretary Rob Ferguson will make the official announcement of this year’s selected honoree at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, December 17, in the Upper Rotunda on the House of Delegates side of the Capitol. A reception will immediately follow the announcement. The nominees for this honor are the 12 Employees of the Month who were selected throughout this year. Unfortunately, only one will receive this prestigious award.

The winner of this award receives a certificate of recognition signed by Gov. Joe Manchin and Cabinet Secretary Ferguson, along with a monetary award of $2,500 (before deductions). The 2008 nominees for the Employee of the Year are listed below:

CRYSTAL CUNNINGHAM, our January Employee of the Month, is a Medical Claims Analyst for the Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA).

GRACE MORTON, our February Employee of the Month, is an Eligibility Assistant for the Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA).

FRED CURRY, our March Employee of the Month, is a Building Supervisor 1 for the Operations and Maintenance Section of the General Services Division. (Retired from the Department of Administration / Not eligible for award).

DIANE TITTLE, our April Employee of the Month, is a Customer Service Supervisor for the Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA).

TIERRA GABLE, our May Employee of the Month, is the Program Coordinator for the Organization and Human Resource Development Section of the Division of Personnel. (She is now with Aviation Services).

STEPHEN SCHUMACHER, our June Employee of the Month, is the Chief Financial Officer for the Board of Risk and Insurance Management (BRIM).

JENNINGS ASHBY, our July Employee of the Month, is a Grounds Keeper for the General Services Division.

MISCHA DIFILIPPO, our August Employee of the Month, is a Secretary 2 for the Board of Risk and Insurance Management (BRIM).

KIM HUFFMAN, our September Employee of the Month, is a Secretary 1 for the Office of Technology.

ELLEN FLEET, our October Employee of the Month, is an Office Assistant 3 for the Consolidated Public Retirement Board (CPRB).

KRISTA FERRELL, our November Employee of the Month, is a Senior Buyer for the Acquisition and Contract Administration Section of the Purchasing Division.

BILL JUDY, our December Employee of the Month, is a Programmer/Analyst 3 for the Office of Technology.

All department employees are encouraged to attend the Employee of the Year ceremony in December to support our outstanding employees. A special congratulations is extended to our well-deserved Employees of the Month for this year!
Sec. Ferguson Honors Office of Technology’s Pamela Keatley as the ‘Woman in the Arena’

Pamela Keatley of the Office of Technology has been selected as the latest recipient of the “Man/Woman in the Arena” award, given by Cabinet Secretary Rob Ferguson.

Secretary Ferguson created this award in 2006 to recognize our department employees who demonstrate leadership beyond the call of duty; achieved unique positives to benefit the department and the state taxpayers and enhanced programs and services while reducing operational costs.

“Pamela’s courageous actions as the Manager of Field Support for the Division of Client Services within the Office of Technology led to the implementation of innovative solutions to serve state government,” said Secretary Ferguson. “By pushing forward when others stepped back, by making an extra effort to support those around her when others were weary, and by challenging the status quo when others did not, she architected a pilot project of field support that became the proof of concept for technological consolidation of the executive branch.”

One of Keatley’s co-workers added to her praise, “She inspires those she leads. Just by her very nature she causes others to strive to emulate her. Pamela is protective, supportive, encouraging, sympathetic, empathetic, nurturing, caring and always filled with gratitude. Nobody manages chaos better and juggles thousands of details daily to ensure that the jobs are done to clients’ satisfaction like Pam.”

Veterans Day Honors Those Who Served Our Country

On November 11, 2008, America will continue the tradition of honoring the men and women on Veterans Day who have served with honor in the military, be they living or deceased or whether they served during peacetime or in war, particularly our most recent group of veterans who served in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The date of November 11 was chosen because toward the end of World War I, an armistice between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

This day allows us to not only honor veterans as a group, but as individuals. For each who put his or her life on the line, it was a very personal experience. Our veterans today are the everyday men and women. We know them as friends, neighbors, relatives and co-workers. They have persevered and strengthened our country with their sacrifices and contributions, many of which were beyond duty’s call. Veterans are our finest citizens.

As we honor them, we also think about their successors, those who are fighting to defend our freedom at home and abroad.

Gordon Mansfield, acting secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, in 2007 reminded us of the solemn pledge of Abraham Lincoln made during his second inaugural address in 1865.

He set forth our obligation to care for those injured in body and spirit in their defense of our nation and for their families. In part, Lincoln said:

“As God gives us to see the right, let us strive to finish the work we are in ... to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and his widow, and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace.”
Lights, camera, action!

As film crews throughout the country search for the best settings to serve as backdrops, the West Virginia Film Office is promoting the State Capitol as a locale worth consideration.

The Film Office has produced several promotional resources, which are circulated to the many film industry individuals to promote the state. The Film Office has included the Capitol in its latest West Virginia Signature Locations 2 brochure. The brochure touts the Capitol as a perfect “government building stand-in for Washington, D.C.”

The brochure highlights the Capitol’s many architectural features, such as its Buff Indiana Limestone, extensive marble interior and the leaf and gray-colored dome, which is five feet higher than the U.S. Capitol dome. Each Signature Location highlighted in the brochure generally provides something unique for the film industry and has a track record for being film friendly,” said Pam Haynes, director of the West Virginia Film Office.

Haynes added that photographs of the Capitol were taken from specific angles in and around the campus to promote various areas that could act as a “double” for governmental buildings elsewhere, especially those found in Washington D.C. A film permit is required for use of any portion of the Capitol and must be made in advance.

Other West Virginia locations promoted in the brochure include the Palace of Gold in New Vrindaban near Moundsville; the former Weston State Hospital; and the underground bunker located at The Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs.

The West Virginia Film Office is promoting the Capitol campus as a unique locale for film crews in its latest Signature Location brochure.

The Office of Technology (OT) is introducing a statewide Learning Management System (LMS) which will make valuable learning programs available to state employees without them having to leave their office. A Learning Management System (LMS) is software for delivering, tracking and managing training. Courses that may be purchased, developed internally or developed by the Office of Technology may be loaded into the LMS and delivered to all or a select group of employees.

“Given the focus on all state agencies to reduce their travel costs, the Learning Management System can deliver the same information to employees in the easiest way possible,” said Marilyn Padon, technology training coordinator for the Technology Learning Center. “This can assist agencies in accomplishing their training with the least amount of interruption.”

One example Padon said of the LMS’s usefulness is security training. “Rather than have a security coordinator travel around the state to administer the program to that agency’s many branch offices, an e-learning course can be used. This course is delivered to employees through the LMS. Employees can receive the training delivered right to their desktop,” Padon said. “By using a specific e-learning program, all the state employees are receiving the same message delivered in the same format, which provides for a consistent message.” The LMS also tracks when the employee completed the course.

The OT’s Technology Learning Center section is currently working with a number of state agencies in utilizing the features of the LMS to meet training, certification and education needs.

Padon anticipates within the next few months, executive branch employees will be receiving e-mails notifying them to take the two different courses: Privacy Awareness and Security Training. Employees will have a set amount of time to complete the online programs. Each employee will access the LMS using their personal identification number now used to sign on to their computers.

For more information about the Learning Management System, please contact Padon at Marilyn.J.Podon@wv.gov or by telephone at (304) 558-5472, ext. 8842.
Personnel Names Three Assistant Directors

The Division of Personnel is pleased to have three new assistant directors now on board, according to Otis Cox, State Personnel Director.

Named to the position of assistant director of staffing services is Mike Campbell. With more than 30 years of experience in human resources, Campbell started with the Division of Personnel as a personnel analyst in the Test Construction and Staffing Research Unit and was eventually promoted to manager of test construction and research.

Among his accomplishments are the design and implementation of the Division of Personnel Selective Placement Program for Persons with Severe Disabilities; the design and issuance of a large scale Division of Personnel customer services survey; and the development of a more efficient application training and experience scoring procedure for high volume application processing.

Campbell has a bachelor’s degree in political science, a master’s degree in industrial relations and a master’s degree in public administration, all from West Virginia University.

John Bowyer was named Assistant Director of Employee Relations. Born and raised in Charleston, Bowyer studied liberal arts at the University of Cincinnati and business at the Florida Institute of Technology.

Bowyer worked for two years for the United Nations in Montreal, with the International Civil Aviation Organization. He worked for and retired from Charleston Newspapers after 26 years before going to then-Putnam General Hospital as the director of human resources for two years.

Bowyer joined state government in February 2007 as director of administration for the Division of Culture and History.

Named assistant director of classification and compensation is Lisa Dalporto. Dalporto was the health information management lead human resources business partner for Unisys Corporation, acting as the lead human resources representative. She held other human resources positions with Unisys and previously worked in human resources for Tri-State Racetrack and Gaming Center and Lowe’s of Charleston.

Dalporto has a bachelor’s degree in industrial relations and human resource management from West Virginia University Institute of Technology.

We welcome all of these assistant directors of the Division of Personnel to the Department of Administration!

Dalporto was unavailable for a photograph.

PEIA Schedules Hearings

The PEIA Finance Board will conduct annual public hearings for comments on the proposed financial plan, which once approved will go into effect July 1, 2009. Details of the plan, which will be available at www.wvpeia.com after the PEIA Finance Board’s meeting on Nov. 6, will be distributed at the public hearings. PEIA and Advantra Freedom will answer questions from members at each public hearing from 4-6 p.m. Registration for the hearings will begin at 5:30 p.m., with the hearings scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. If you wish to speak at the hearing, you must indicate your interest at the time of registration.

The hearings will be held as follows:

- **Wednesday, November 12, 2008:** Wheeling (WV Northern Community College, 1704 Market Street)
- **Thursday, November 13, 2008:** Morgantown (Ramada Inn, 20 Scott Avenue)
- **Monday, November 17, 2008:** Martinsburg (Holiday Inn, 301 Foxcroft Avenue)
- **Tuesday, November 18, 2008:** Beckley (Tamarack Theatre, One Tamarack Park)
- **Wednesday, November 19, 2008:** Charleston (Civic Center, Little Theater, 200 Civic Ctr. Dr.)
- **Thursday, November 20, 2008:** Huntington (Marshall University Medical School -- Harless Auditorium, 1600 Medical Ctr. Dr.)

Hearings are scheduled from 6-8 p.m. Comments may also be submitted in writing to PEIA.Help@wv.gov.

Combined Campaign Allows State Employees to Support Others

The 2008 West Virginia State Employees Combined Campaign (WVSECC) for the United Way, “It’s West Virginians, Helping West Virginian,” is now underway. This is the only state sanctioned fund raising effort in which state employees can use payroll deduction.

In 2007, 541 state employees received some type of assistance from an United Way agency.

Employees may contribute to the general fund, known as the Community Impact Fund, or can designate their gift toward a favorite United Way agency. December 19 is the last day to submit pledge forms.

Individuals who donate at least $156 ($6 a pay period) will be entered into a drawing to win a vareity of prizes sponsored by Appalachian Power, Chesapeake Energy and Walker Equipment Company.

The following individuals are the WVSECC coordinators in Department of Administration agencies:

- **Aviation Services** / Charles “Chip” McDowell;
- **Board of Risk and Insurance Management** / Barbara Houchins;
- **Children’s Health Insurance Program** / Wanda Casto;
- **Consolidated Public Retirement Board** / Barbara Moss;
- **Ethics Commission** / Jackie West;
- **Finance Division** / Dave Mullins;
- **General Services Division** / Sue Chapman;
- **Real Estate Division** / Lisa West;
- **Office of Technology** / Carla Pullen;
- **Prosecuting Attorney’s Institute** / Amy Leslie;
- **Public Defender Services** / Mary McFarland;

Please see CAMPAIGN, Page 8
West Virginia state government celebrated Public Service Recognition Week during the week of Sept. 29-Oct. 3.

On Oct. 1, Gov. Joe Manchin III offered the keynote speech at an awards ceremony held at the Cultural Center for those state employees with 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50 years of service.

During a ceremony for Department of Administration employees on Oct. 6, Cabinet Secretary Rob Ferguson recognized our department employees who have 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of service. Those employees who were honored include:

### 35 Years of Service
- Romona Allen: CHIP
- Deborah Anderson: Personnel
- Tari Crouse: Personnel
- Lynn Schillings: Personnel
- Yvonne Wilhelm: Personnel

### 30 Years of Service
- Steve Forsythe: Personnel
- Janice Hartman: Purchasing
- Joyce Kinder: Technology
- Richard Pickens: Technology
- John Rogers: Public Defenders
- Bernard Simmons: Technology
- David Tincher: Purchasing

### 25 Years of Service
- Sheila Coughlin: Public Defenders
- Thomas Harper: PEIA
- Kim Huffman: Technology
- Thomas Marchio: PEIA
- Bill McClanahan: Technology
- Ronnie Phipps: Purchasing
- Debra Watkins: Purchasing

### 20 Years of Service
- Joan Adkins: Purchasing
- Barry Arthur: Technology
- June Butterfield: BRIM
- Marsha Casto: Personnel
- Janice Long: PEIA

The Department of Administration wishes to applaud 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!
2008 Agency Purchasing Conference Proves Successful For State Agency Participants

With an attendance edging 270, in addition to about 30 Purchasing Division staff and guest presenters, the 2008 Agency Purchasing Conference at Canaan Valley Resort and Conference Center on October 14-17 was one of the best attended conferences offered by the Purchasing Division.

In total, this year’s conference offered 27 different workshop topics from which agency purchasing agents could choose. One of the most successful aspects of the conference was the introduction of the “Beginners Track,” a series of classes specifically designed for individuals with two years or less of state procurement experience. The six workshops in this series focused on the basics of purchasing, allowing those in attendance to have stronger footing not just for future classes but also for their jobs upon return. More than 70 first-time attendees were at this year’s conference.

In addition, all presentation material will be made available soon on the Purchasing Division’s Web site at http://www.state.wv.us/admin/purchase/training.

The conference enabled the Purchasing Division staff and agency procurement officers an opportunity to connect outside of the realm of work and office, while also using time between sessions to discuss work-related issues. “Accessibility of our staff is not limited to the workshop session, but throughout the conference,” Purchasing Director Dave Tincher told those in attendance during the opening session. Tincher also took the time to spotlight various Purchasing Division training initiatives, including the development of a comprehensive training program for procurement officers and agency staff; online training modules; and in-house/on-site overview of purchasing training sessions.

This year’s highly anticipated game show event was the “Wheel of Misfortune,” again hosted by Senior Buyer Chuck Bowman. The Purchasing Division began utilizing a game show format in the 1990s to incorporate learning in a fun, relaxed environment.

State Officials Join Governor to Dedicate New Logan Building

Governor Joe Manchin III was joined by Department of Administration officials at a ceremony in Logan to recognize the future Logan State Office Building in the city’s downtown area.

The new office building will consolidate state employees from several agencies currently located in the Logan area into one central locale, saving the state money in leasing fees over time. At the dedication event, Cabinet Secretary Robert Ferguson served as the master of ceremonies, introducing Governor Manchin and other special guests which included Senate President Earl Ray Tomblin, D-Logan, Senator Ron Stollings, Logan County Administrator Roscoe Adkins D-Boone, Logan County Commission President Art Kirkendoll, Logan Mayor Serafino Nolletti, Cabinet Secretary Robert Ferguson, and Governor Joe Manchin III.

Participating in the dedication ceremony of the new State Office Building in Logan were, from left, Senate President Earl Ray Tomblin, D-Logan, Senator Ron Stollings, Logan County Administrator Roscoe Adkins D-Boone, Logan County Commission President Art Kirkendoll, Logan Mayor Serafino Nolletti, Cabinet Secretary Robert Ferguson, and Governor Joe Manchin III.

WV and Veterans Affairs.

The Logan State Office Building is currently in the design phase, with construction expected to begin in the spring of 2009.
FAIR
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said. But an unexpected benefit was the connection made between participating agencies during the fairs.
“We created a camaraderie that we did not have before,” Cox said. The primary goal of the Governor’s Job Fairs was to target key crucially needed positions, while also increasing the applicant pool of all classifications. Cox added that he learned more about the human resource needs of the various state agencies that the Division of Personnel may not have realized.

Cox said the positive response to the job fairs in even such competitive areas as Martinsburg is a sign that many individuals may wish to move from the Washington DC/Virginia area, to where they may commute, back to the Mountain State. “What we are finding is that a lot of people like to come home to West Virginia,” he said.

Cox added he hopes to conduct the Governor’s Job Fairs annually.

In the meanwhile, he said his focus will remain on the Division of Personnel’s “next steps” in the areas of recruitment and retention of state employees.

CAMPAIGN
Continued from Page 5
Public Employees Insurance Agency / Frances Buchanan;
Purchasing Division / Carol Jarrett;
Division of Personnel / Ada Kennedy;
Grievance Board / Robin Perdue;
Please contact your agency coordinator or Penney Hall at 558-1783/Penney.A.Hall@wv.gov to make a contribution.

Welcome! … to our new employees: Rick Counts, Timothy Hughes and Robert Penn (all of General Services); Mark Barney and William McGinley (both of Grievance Board); Philip Roberts (Office of Technology); and Kathy Bowling (PEIA).

Time to Relax … After years of hard work, the following employees are now ready to kick back and relax. Those employees who recently retired from our department include: Neil Bowman (General Services) and Priscilla Bickley (PEIA).

Best Wishes … to our employees who recently resigned from our department: Janie Belcher and Joselyn Sturgill (Finance); Jennifer Ballard (Personnel); and Matthew Francis (Office of Technology).

New Arrivals … let’s all wish a hearty congratulations to Candi Moore (CPRB). Her grandson, Blair Lee Walker, was born on Sept. 6, weighing six pounds, three ounces, and was 19 inches long. He is the son of Amanda Walker (Candi’s daughter) and her husband Jeff.

New Service … The General Services Division’s Service Desk is accepting work order requests through the email address gsd.gsdservicedesk@wv.gov. The General Services Division may still be contacted by phone at (304) 558-2317.

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.

On Perseverance
“I hated every minute of training, but I said, ‘Don’t quit. Suffer now and live the rest of your life as a champion.’”
— Muhammad Ali

HAPPY BIRTHDAY … In November

1 Steven McCloud … Technology
2 Yvonne McCormick .. Personnel
3 Sam Payton ………… Technology
4 Shane Hall …………. Purchasing
5 Carla Hoyman ……… Technology
6 Anna Jarrett-Jones … Personnel
7 Paula Lowe …. General Services
8 Terry Young ………….. Technology
9 Kathy Ann Moore … Technology
10 Melody Bailey ……… CPRB
11 Molly Mullins ………… Technology
12 Derek Bailey ………….. CPRB
13 Melissa Hapney ……… PEIA
14 Charles Lawrence … Real Estate
15 Ricky Lee Morris … General Services
16 Tierra Gable ………….. Aviation
17 Michael Slaughter … Technology
18 Robert Surface ……… Technology
19 John Abbott ………….. Purchasing
20 Bill Judy ………….. Technology
21 Carrie Castro ………….. Technology
22 Janese Sexton ………….. PEIA
23 14 Marvin Crawford … Technology
24 Jennifer Tucker ……….. Personnel
25 15 Cammie Parker ……… Ethics
26 17 Chris Avis ………….. Technology
27 Rob Ferguson … Cabinet Secretary
28 Debra Pendleberry…Technology
29 Bill Ward ………….. Technology
30 Tammy Lambert ……… Personnel
18 Sarah Tignor ………….. Aviation
17 Lisa Worledge ……… Finance
19 Kathy Bowling ………….. PEIA
20 Hugh Chambers ……… Personnel
21 Laura Johnson ……… Technology
22 Philip Roberts ……… Technology
23 Karen Byrd ………….. Purchasing
24 James Peters ………….. Finance
25 21 Carol Jarrett ………….. Purchasing
26 Jennifer Scott Schieber … BRIM
27 Mark Sizer ………….. Technology
28 Watt Vast ………….. Finance
29 Chuck Mozino ………….. BRIM
30 Mark Barney ………….. Grievance
31 Gilbert Richard ……… Technology
32 Matthew Barger ……… Technology
33 Terry Friend ………….. Technology
34 Marlima Kourama … Grievance
35 Susan Lowe ………….. Finance
36 Carleen Wilson ……… Personnel
37 25 Charles Hager … General Services
38 26 Barbara Bowe ……… Personnel
39 Timothy Pauley ……… Technology
40 28 Lillian Branham … Finance
41 29 Robin Rose ………….. PEIA
42 30 Stanford Moss ……… Technology