



Quotes, Notes & Anecdotes

Monthly Employee Newsletter Published by the Department of Administration
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Employee of the Month

Lunsford Performs Work with Accuracy and Dependability



DIANA LUNSFORD
June Employee
of the Month

DIANA LUNSFORD, an Account Tech III for the Loans and Benefits Disbursement Section of 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 31 years, Lunsford is responsible for maintaining and balancing the annuity payroll for all the Teachers Defined Benefit retirees and beneficiaries, which totals more than 29,000 monthly check

recipients. She serves as a backup for retirees of the Public Employees Retirement System and all Uniformed Services Retirement Plans.

"All aspects of Diana's job duties are based on deadlines, and she always meets her deadlines. Diana is one of the most organized people I know and she takes great pride in her work," said one co-worker.

Said another co-worker, "Diana is a very reliable co-worker and always there when you need

her. Diana's work is always done correctly and she works very well as a team member."

In her spare time, Lunsford enjoys spending time with her family, being outdoors, and is an avid Marshall University football fan.

She will be joined by her friends and co-workers at a special ceremony presented by Cabinet Secretary Rob Ferguson on Friday, June 4 at 11:15 a.m. at the CPRB office in Kanawha City.

Office of Technology Moves Back to Capitol Campus



West Virginia Office of Technology employees spent several busy days moving and unpacking boxes for their move into their new offices on the 10th floor of Building 5 on the Capitol campus. This floor was completely remodeled into an open-air office layout, setting an example for the design of future state offices.

The West Virginia Office of Technology (WVOT) has moved to the Capitol campus. WVOT employees completed the transition onto the 10th floor of Building 5 in early May, moving from their One Davis Square offices in downtown Charleston.

The 10th floor of Building 5 was refurbished and transformed from its previous traditional office arrangement into an open air layout, which emphasizes shared space, bright lighting and colorful décor.

Chuck Lawrence, Executive Director of the Real Estate Division, said the de-

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SNEAK PEEK

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Purchasing Division's Open House

The West Virginia Purchasing Division held its third annual Open House at its Washington Street Office on May 4. Nearly 60 procurement officers located throughout the state attended the function to meet and discuss with the staff purchasing-related issues. This year, the Purchasing Division gave the attendees a chance to win a complimentary registration to its annual Agency Purchasing Conference this September. Cindy Fisher of the Department of Agriculture was the fortunate recipient.

Partnership Between PEIA and WVU Researchers Earns Agency Spotlight

The West Virginia Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA) was recently spotlighted for its partnership with a group of West Virginia University researchers and their shared battle against obesity.

Preventing Chronic Disease, the Center on Disease Control's electronic journal, wrote about PEIA's medical-related benefits to all active state employees, related state agencies and local governments. PEIA's Weight Management Program is offered at approved sites throughout West Virginia.



The program, in effect since 2004, had little in the way of guidance for best practices or outcomes measures, said Nidia Henderson, health promotion director for PEIA. The program found the assistance of Dr. Christiaan Abildso, along with fellow researchers Sam Zizzi and Bill Regernash, in August 2008 when the group conducted a survey to see if participants followed the program. They were given access to nearly 2,000

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Organizations Boost WVCHIP through Outreach

The West Virginia Children's Health Insurance Program (WVCHIP) got a significant



boost recently in its mission to enroll eligible children for health coverage.

The state's Partnership of African American Churches (PAAC) was part an outreach campaign in late April and May to assist parents to sign up eligible children in WVCHIP and Medicare primarily in the Charleston and Kanawha County area.

"The outreach by PAAC is a great way to find the last remaining families who still don't know CHIP can help with health coverage," said WVCHIP Executive Director Sharon Carte. "Here in our office, it may seem to us that everyone knows or should have heard about CHIP by now, but there are families who are not familiar with the program."

Carte said parents who had health coverage for their kids and did not have to seek health coverage may have to do so now if coverage was lost because it became unaffordable or the loss of a job. The outreach project is funded by a \$330,000 grant through the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009. Several organizations, including PAAC, participated through the West Virginia Health Kids and Family Coalition.

"It is important to remember that some working families may still think their income would not qualify them for CHIP, not realizing the qualifying income has changed since they may have applied a few years ago," Carte said. "That is where PAAC and others are excellent assets to the program. PAAC is not in an office; they are people out there in the community seeing, working with and helping families day after day, week after week. Community access is what this is all about."

To learn more about applying for CHIP, visit www.wvinroads.org, or call 877-982-2447.

Department Employees Recognize Our Graduates

This is definitely 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 Department of Administration employees:

Michael Austin (Purchasing): Daughter, Genel, graduates from West Virginia State University with a bachelor's degree in social studies with plans to attend Marshall University Graduate College for a masters degree in counseling.

Nancy Baire (Office of Technology): Son, Chad, graduates from Teays Valley Christian School with plans to attend Marshall University, majoring in computer sciences.

Anita Brewster (CPRB): Granddaughter, Sara Cox, graduates from Riverside High School with plans to attend West Virginia University Institute of Technology before transferring to Concord University, majoring in education focusing on autistic children.

Jean Chapman (Office of Technology): Son, Nathan, graduates from Mercer University with plans to attend Dallas Theological Seminary.

Joan Chapman (Finance): Son, Michael, graduates from West Virginia State University with a bachelor's degree psychology and in criminal justice with plans to attend graduate school.

Anne Crabtree (Office of Technology):

Daughter, Amanda Dent, graduates from West Virginia University with a bachelor's degree in nutrition and plans to attend West Virginia University graduate school for a master's degree in public health.

Bryant Cramer (Office of Technology): Daughter, Amy, graduates from West Virginia University with a bachelor's degree in biology with plans to attend West Virginia University for a master's degree in public health administration.

Mischa DiFilippo (BRIM): Daughter, Devon, graduates from Charleston Catholic High School with plans to attend Marshall University, majoring in medicine.

Robert Fisher (BRIM): Son, Adam, graduates from Nitro High School with plans to attend Marshall University.

Melissa Hapney (PEIA): Son, Andy, graduates from St. Albans High School with plans to attend West Liberty University, majoring in marketing.

Jann Hoke (EEO): Daughter, Sarah, graduates from Lincoln County High School with plans to attend Concord University, majoring in communications.

Carla Hoyman (Office of Technology): Daughter, Brooke, graduates from Philip Barbour High School with plans to attend Davis & Elkins College, majoring in business management.

Kelley McClanahan (Personnel): Son, Zachery, graduates from Marshall



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Erica Mani Named Executive Director for CPRB



Erica Mani was recently named as the executive director of the Consolidated Public Retirement Board, overseeing nine different retirement plans.

Erica Mani has been named as executive director of the Consolidated Public Retirement Board (CPRB).

Mani recently served as the deputy cabinet secretary and general counsel of the West Virginia Department of Revenue. Previously, she worked as general counsel under Governor Bob Wise and as a general defense litigation attorney in the private sector. Her experience with CPRB extends to her time in private practice when she served as outside counsel for the agency.

"I am thrilled at the opportunity to work with a wonderful team of professionals to provide quality service to public servants and an overall positive retirement experience," she said.

Mani's responsibilities will include overseeing the nine different retirement plans under the Board's jurisdiction, consisting of the Public Employees Retirement System; Judges' Retirement System; Teachers' Retirement

System; Teachers' Defined Contribution Retirement Plan; WV State Police Death, Disability and Retirement Fund (Plan A); West Virginia State Police Retirement System (Plan B); Deputy Sheriffs' Retirement System; Emergency Medical Services Retirement System; and the new Municipal Police and Firefighters Retirement System.

Gov. Joe Manchin praised Mani's experience and enthusiasm. "She brings to this agency a wealth of knowledge from her legal background as well as her vast understanding of state government. Her compilation of knowledge, skills and experiences will greatly benefit the continued progress of all our retirement systems."

Department of Administration Secretary Rob Ferguson echoed the governor's sentiment. "Her vast knowledge and experience within state

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sign was a collaboration of the project architects and employees from WVOT and the Real Estate Division.

“A lot of thought and energy went into this design. When we all sat down, the focus was on what the Office of Technology employees needed to do their jobs,” Lawrence said. “The workspace at OT reflects the trends you see in the workplace today.”

Lawrence said looking forward was the key to the plan.

“It is important that we design for the future and not replicate the past,” he said. “We have had a lot of state employees from other agencies visit the space now occupied by the Office of Technology to see this new design.

“I heard a lot of ‘wows’ from the employees,” Lawrence said. “We hope this is a showcase for what can be accomplished in other locations.”

Kyle Schafer, WVOT Chief Technology Officer, said the move is a welcomed one.

“This move is quite beneficial for us. We constantly work in teams and the new layout allows our employees to readily interact with each other,” Schafer said. “Another plus is we are now on campus and are much closer the many state agencies that we serve.”

Lawrence said once renovations are complete at One Davis Square, Department of Health and Human Resources employees will next be moved there, which will make Building 3 vacant and ready for similar renovations.



Race for the Cure

Consolidated Public Retirement Board employees and their families participated as a team in the Susan G. Komen “Race for the Cure” in Charleston in May. Named “Little Annie’s Orphans,” the CRPB team participated in support of former CPRB director Anne Lambright, middle row with pink shirt and pink hat, who has battled breast cancer in the last year.

Revolutionary State Tournament for Public School Students Dancing Its Way Across WV

DanceDanceRevolution (DDR) is living up to its name in West Virginia. The video game is the center of a statewide competition among public school students, and it is certainly revolutionary in nature. This DDR competition is the first of its kind nationwide.



Officials with Konami Digital Entertainment, Inc., DDR’s creator, said approximately 10,000 students from 120 public schools in grades 3 through 12 registered to participate in the competition, which began in May and concludes with the state championship tournament at the Governor’s Mansion on June 17.

Prizes and awards await the winners in

the various age groups; but in the end, all participants are winners. It is one key reason why the West Virginia Children’s Health Insurance Program (WVCHIP) signed on as a tournament sponsor.

“WVCHIP is proud to be a sponsor of Konami’s DanceDanceRevolution state tournament,” said Sharon Carte, WVCHIP executive director. “Kids and teens of all ages can see for themselves that fitness can be fun. Or should we say that having fun can help you stay fit? We are pleased that so many students have taken advantage of this tournament. It is a great rain or shine activity and can help

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PEIA

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records to allow them to study participants at the 31 sites that offered the program benefit.

The study found the program to be “effective and sustainable,” but needs to be expanded for more public health benefit, said Abildso.

“(This study) shows the leadership and openness of an insurance agency dedicated to provide a quality product through research and evaluation,” said Zizzi.

“The work of Dr. Abildso and Dr. Zizzi with the WVU College of Physical Activity and Sport Sciences has been invaluable in enabling us to make program adjustments based upon member interviews, focus groups, claims analysis and participant health benefits,” Henderson said. “As we move forward, this work will become even more critical given the challenges we face as a result of the epidemic of

obesity and related chronic conditions.”

Currently, approximately 670 members participate at nearly 60 sites throughout West Virginia. Abildso said one half of PEIA’s adult members are potentially eligible.

“The CDC article sheds a positive light on efforts to fight obesity in West Virginia and improve people’s health. It took trust, confidence and encouragement in the original research efforts to allow our efforts to succeed,” he said. “PEIA took our suggestions, the results of the study, and used them to benefit the state. We are thankful for their support and openness to work with us.”

For more information on the Weight Management Program, please visit to <http://www.wvpeia.wv.gov>.

DANCE

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get kids away from sedentary video games.”

The DDR state competition is a positive outcome of the video game’s inclusion in public school curriculum, beginning in 2005, as a means to offset the state’s rising childhood obesity rate.

The West Virginia Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA) and other state agencies partnered with Konami to promote physical activity among youth through the use of DanceDanceRevolution.

“Since 2004 when we began using DanceDanceRevolution on a clinical, home-based project with

West Virginia University, this effort has since been recognized both nationally and internationally by major media networks and leading health authorities. We are proud to now continue this collaboration through the DDR Tournaments and the ongoing implementation of the West Virginia Games for Health project,” said Nidia Henderson, health promotions director.

Shinji Hirano, president of Konami Digital Entertainment, Inc., is scheduled to join Gov. Manchin and First Lady Gayle Manchin at the state championship.

It's Your Employee Benefit...The State Credit Union

The State Credit Union (SCU) offers great benefits established exclusively for state workers and their families. We're here to serve you and ONLY you! If you're not a member, it's easy to join over 10,000 of your co-workers receiving the benefits of the State Credit Union. Visit www.wvpecu.org and click on “How to Join the SCU.” Just follow the steps and start enjoying any of the following: loans, payroll deductions, direct deposit, credit cards, savings, online banking and phone service, check cards and much more! For details, call 304-558-0566 or e-mail contact@scuwv.com.

GRADUATES

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University with a bachelor’s degree in finance and plans to attend law school in the fall.

Shelda Martin (PEIA): Daughter, Rebecca, graduates from West Virginia University Institute of Technology with a bachelor’s degree in chemistry and plans to attend University of Cincinnati graduate school for a Ph.D. in environmental chemistry.

Beverly Myers (Office of Technology): Daughter, Nikki, graduates from Parkersburg South High School with plans to attend Marshall University, majoring in biomedical sciences.

Brian Pratt (Office of Technology): Son, Christopher, graduates from George Washington High School with plans to attend Shepherd University, majoring in pre-law.

Paula Roberts (Personnel): Daughter, Jessica, graduates from Nitro High with plans to attend Marshall University, majoring in veterinary medicine.

John Smolder (Finance): Son, Ethan, graduates from Capital High School with plans to attend Marshall University, majoring in sports management and marketing.

Frank and Nancy Stark (Office of Technology): Daughter, Nicole, graduates from West Virginia Wesleyan College with a bachelor’s degree in biology and has been accepted into West Virginia University’s physical therapy program.

Charles Warner (General Services Division): Daughter, Katelyn, graduates from Nitro High School with plans to attend West Virginia University, majoring in nursing.

Debbie Watkins (Purchasing): Son, Jordan, graduates from Ravenswood High School with plans to attend West Virginia University-Parkersburg, majoring in engineering.

Beth Williams (Personnel): Graduates from West Virginia State University with a bachelor’s degree in history. The members of her Personnel family wish her well.

Ann Wilmoth (PEIA): Grandson, Christopher Byrd, graduates from South Charleston High School with plans to attend Eastern Kentucky University in the fall.

Carleen Wilson (Personnel): Son, Shaka, graduates from South Charleston High School with plans to attend West Virginia University.

Kitty Wilson (Public Defender Services): Daughter, Celeste, graduates from George Washington High School with plans to attend West Virginia University, majoring in nursing.

MANI

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government, and the CPRB in particular, will make the transition process very smooth," he said. "I look forward to watching the CPRB under her leadership continue to build and improve upon its past accomplishments."

A West Virginia native, Mani earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and attained her Doctor of Jurisprudence, both from West Virginia University. She is a member of the West Virginia State Bar and has served on various boards and commissions, including the Charleston Area Alliance, the Ronald McDonald House, and the Streamlined Sales Tax Governing Board. Mani and her husband, Jon, live in Charleston, with their two children.

She replaces Anne Werum Lambright, who retired in April.

Afton Hutson Named Assistant General Counsel for Administration

Afton Hutson was named Assistant General Counsel of the Department of Administration on May 1, 2010. Prior to her appointment, Hutson served as the attorney for the West Virginia Purchasing Division. Familiar with the Department of Administration, Hutson worked in the office of the Cabinet Secretary previously as a participant in the Governor's Internship Program.

Hutson received her Doctor of Jurisprudence from the West Virginia University College of Law. She has a bachelor's degree in journalism from West Virginia University and graduated from Bridgeport High School. Prior to her state government employment, Hutson practiced law in Fairmont.

Welcome! ... to the Department of Administration our new employees: **Charles Lynch** (CPRB); **Thomas Hackney** and **David Sawyer** (General Services); **Deborah Amos**, **Robert Caldwell**, **David Dangerfield**, **Andrew Eagle**, **Rebecca Neely**, **Ruth Shaffer** and **Ruby White** (Office of Technology); and **Steven Monroe** (Real Estate).

Time to Relax ... After more than 35 years of service to the state of West Virginia, **Ron Price** of the Purchasing Division is now ready to kick back and relax. Happy retirement!

Best Wishes ... to our employees who recently resigned from our department: **Demeire Gist**, **Natalie McGill** and **Norma Cross** (Office of Technology); **Kathleen Dempsey** and **Susan Lockard-Hammock** (Personnel); and **Joseph Bolar** and **Barbara Randolph** (PEIA).

Number Change ... The **Public Employees Day Care** telephone number has changed. It is now 304-720-0839.

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

On Creativity

"Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep."

— *Scott Adams*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ... in June

1 Linda Chaty Technology	14 Pam Jarrell Purchasing
Karen Gray PEIA	15 Dianna Gertz Technology
Anthony Thaxton Gen. Svcs.	16 Michael Gray Personnel
2 Jeff Fleck CPRB	Levi Wade Technology
Scott Kebler Technology	17 Dan Shriver Technology
Robert Miller BRIM	18 Susan Estep CPRB
3 Houston Woodson CHIP	Carolyn Wiesen PEIA
Mary Youngblood Personnel	19 Wendelyn Campbell . Grievance
4 Amy Leslie Pros. Atty. Inst.	Michael Green Technology
Amy Newman Technology	Jason Ratliff Technology
Pat Quinlan Personnel	Shannon Workman .. Technology
5 Tracy Batman CPRB	20 Syble Atkins Technology
Kelly Breedlove Technology	Freda Holcomb Gen. Svcs.
Gary Riffle CPRB	21 Roger Chapman Technology
6 Josh King Gen. Svcs.	22 Joyce Jones Sec. Office
7 John Carter Gen. Svcs.	Deanna Karlen Technology
Kitty Wilson Public Defender	23 Ron Reece Grievance
8 Kim Patrick Technology	25 Mart Denison Technology
Yolonda Tyler PEIA	26 Angela Long CPRB
9 Jeff Perkins Finance	Dennis Stewart Gen. Svcs.
Cavan Riley Technology	27 Eric Dye Technology
10 Judy King CPRB	Richard Harris Gen. Svcs.
Louliza Wills Gen. Svcs.	Frank Whittaker Purchasing
12 Kim Henry Purchasing	29 Roger Haynes Gen. Svcs.
Vickie Ross CPRB	30 Samantha Anderson CPRB
13 James Amos Technology	Twila Neil PEIA
Tina Eddy CPRB	

Administrative Notes

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