



Quotes, Notes & Anecdotes

Monthly Employee Newsletter Published by the Department of Administration
MAY 2009 - Volume 16, Issue 5

Employee of the Month

CPRB's Tammy Patton Described As 'Jack of All Trades'

TAMMY PATTON, an Information System Specialist II for the Consolidated Public Retirement Board (CPRB), has been selected as the Department of Administration's *Employee of the Month* for May.

A state government employee for 24 years, Patton's primary duties include network administration of the agency's main file server, imaging server, scanners and software. Patton does the purchasing, inventory, installation, maintenance and sup-

port of the agency's servers, computers, monitors, laptops, desktop and network printers and all software for the users and agency. She assists with the help desk and is responsible for the building security.

"When I think of Tammy, I think 'jack of all trades.' Tammy works extremely hard and is always willing to go that extra mile to help improve work situations," said one co-worker. "You can always count on her to come running when you call her."

Said another co-worker, "I cannot say enough what she means to this agency and it is good to see her efforts are not going unnoticed."

In her spare time, Patton enjoys the outdoors, reading and Harley Davidson motorcycles. Patton will be joined by her friends and co-workers at a special ceremony presented by Cabinet Secretary Robert Ferguson on Monday, May 4, at 1:30 p.m. at the CPRB offices at 4101 MacCorkle Avenue, SE, in Charleston.



TAMMY PATTON
May Employee of the Month

Summer Intern Project Blossoms into Restored Kanawha Levee

In the summer of 2007, West Virginia University student Brian Gillespie was assigned a project while serving as a Governor's Internship Program participant with the General Services Division.

His project was to develop a way to beautify the Kanawha Levee across the street from the Capitol which was in need of many repairs while finding a deterrent for vandals who made a habit of using the levee to paint graffiti.

Not only did Gillespie get to begin the project, he is now close to completing it as a fulltime employee

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General Services Division employees Brian Gillespie, left, building project manager specialist, and Bill Shanklin, grounds manager, confer on the Kanawha River Levee Project which is nearing completion.

SNEAK PEEK



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Purchasing Draws Crowd With Training Classes

The expansion of training efforts by the Purchasing Division has achieved success, as the division's in-house training classes fill up regularly at the Gaston Caperton Training Center (Building 7) at the Capitol. The classes focus on laws, rules and procedures in the state procurement process, in line with similar classes offered during the division's annual Agency Purchasing Conference. It is the first time the classes have been offered locally in the Charleston area.

"In the Purchasing Division, we strive toward greater customer satisfaction," said Purchasing Director Dave Tincher. "We felt that by offering these in-house trainings, in addition to our annual conference, agencies and their procurement officers would have even more educational opportunities."

The classes began in January with the Beginners Track, a series of workshops designed for procurement officers with two years or less of experience in purchasing. Among those in attendance



Technical Services Manager Dan Miller speaks to attendees of the Beginner's Track training session held at the West Virginia State Training Center. The Purchasing Division is planning a series of in-house training sessions throughout the year, in addition to its annual Agency Purchasing Conference.

during that first in-house training was Bryan Arthur, an administrative services assistant with the Division of Corrections. Arthur said he had worked in payables previously but had little experience with large purchases, so when he recently changed job duties, he opted to take the Beginners Track.

"It was very informative, especially for someone starting at the beginning point with purchasing," Arthur said. He said that the Division of Corrections is scheduled to attend future trainings.

Brian Holmes, staff development specialist with the Purchasing Division, said response has been excellent

to the various trainings offered so far. "Participants appreciate the ability to attend classes here in Charleston," he said. "It allows them to catch a class they may have missed during the annual conference."

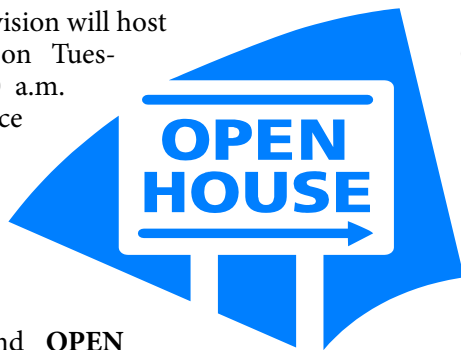
Tincher said an additional benefit of the classes is that procurement personnel hired throughout the year do not have to wait until the annual conference for training. Also, because the in-house classes tend to be smaller than those at the conference, there is more chance for face-to-face interaction between participants and instructors. "These classes benefit our staff as much as they do our procurement colleagues," he said.

Classes are scheduled throughout the remainder of the year, and all classes are free and open to those involved in state procurement. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information on classes, go to <http://www.state.wv.us/admin/purchase/training/inhouse.htm>, or contact Holmes at 558-7022 or by e-mail at Brian.J.Holmes@wv.gov.

Purchasing Division Invites Procurement Officers to OPEN HOUSE

The Purchasing Division will host its **OPEN HOUSE** on Tuesday, June 2, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at its office in Building 15, 2019 Washington Street. The event is for state agency procurement officers and their staff.

This is the second **OPEN HOUSE** hosted by the Purchasing Division. A year ago, more than 90 attendees visited the Purchasing Division to informally meet with staff to discuss the agency's latest programs and updates to purchasing law, rules and the agency handbook.



"At last year's **OPEN HOUSE**, we definitely exceeded our expectations. Following last year's event, it was an easy decision to determine that we would continue the **OPEN HOUSE** event,"

said Dave Tincher, Purchasing Division director.

There will be no set agenda for the day. Tours of the facility will be offered, but more importantly, the entire Purchasing Division staff will be available to discuss specific purchases that are

either being prepared or currently in progress. The informal gathering will allow state agency purchasing personnel to become more familiar with staff and to learn more about additional Purchasing Division programs, such as inspection services, Surplus Property, Travel Management, and Fleet Management.

Printed resource materials will be available for reference purposes regarding all aspects of the Purchasing Division. Refreshments will be served.

For more details or to RSVP, procurement officers may contact Tony O'Leary at Tony.M.Oleary@wv.gov / 558-4213 or Chad Williamson at Chad.B.Williamson@wv.gov / 558-2315.

LEVEE

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of the General Services Division.

“It has been interesting to see this project through from start to finish,” said Gillespie. “I designed the project and now am the project manager. It has been rewarding experience.”

Gillespie was able to maintain contact with the project, as he was hired in September of 2008 by the General Services Division with a degree in landscape architecture from WVU in hand. Gillespie is now a building project manager specialist with the agency, and his first big assignment was to complete the Kanawha River Levee project he spent time working on in the previous two summers.

“The first priority in restoring the levee was to restore it to its original design,” Gillespie said of the levee, which was built in 1939. It was designed by famed architect Cass Gilbert at a time when river travel was the primary means to the Capitol.

One of the first priorities, Gillespie said, was to remove “at least seven or eight coats of paint” which were applied through the years to cover graffiti in order to get down to the original surface of the Indiana limestone. The layers of paint caused moisture buildup through the years leading to cracks and deterioration in the limestone which has to breathe. With the limestone back to its original state and pressured washed to remove dirt and stain, the rehabilitation was underway.

A drainage system was installed below the base of the wall to eradicate water. All damaged stones and mortar joints were replaced. To keep the wall exposed per original design but to discourage would-be graffiti vandals, 10-foot green screens have been



Spray-painted graffiti was one of the problems addressed when the Kanawha River Levee restoration project began. Rather than continually paint over graffiti which damaged the Indiana limestone, green screens and a surveillance camera have been installed to beautify the levee and minimize the chance of vandalism while restoring the levee to its original design.

installed along the entire wall.

Bill Shanklin, General Services grounds manager, said Boston ivy will be woven onto the base of the green screens and evergreens will be placed in the gaps between the green screens, making it a near-impossible reach for would-be vandals to reach the exposed limestone above them. Shanklin said the Boston ivy will eventually grow up through the screens and the ivy will be green in the spring and summer

and turn red in the fall. Gillespie said the green screens can be taken down if need be. Shanklin added the roses will be added around the perimeter of the levee. Another deterrent is a recently-installed surveillance camera which keeps a watchful eye over the area.

“We have had good responses from everyone who has been down here to see what we have done,” Gillespie said.

No doubt Cass Gilbert would concur.

Director Sharon Carte Honored for Leadership of WVCHIP

Sharon Carte, director of the West Virginia Children’s Health Insurance Program (WVCHIP), has been honored with the 2009 Champion for Children Award. The award is presented annually in recognition of someone who has demonstrated lead-

ership and dedication to improve the well-being of children throughout the state.

Carte said that while she was honored to receive the recognition, she also credited the hard work being done across the state in building and promoting the program.

“I really think the Children’s Health Insurance Program is one of those things that happens when ordinary citizens join together with a common vision and work to achieve their goal,” she said. “This is what community groups and citizens did throughout West

Virginia when they worked to inform people about the program, and to identify those children in the early year with a tremendous outreach effort.”

Carte has been director of WVCHIP for eight years. Dur-

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Order Up! New Vendor Coming to Capitol Food Court

The Capitol Food Court will soon have a new vendor providing the daily selections and catering services to statehouse employees and visitors.

In March, Guest Services Inc. of Fairfax, Va., requested, and was granted permission by the Department of Administration, to be released from its contract as the Food Court operator. Guest Services was the vendor chosen for the Capitol Food Court when the completely remodeled and refurbished dining hall was reopened in January of 2008 in the bottom floor of Building 1.

The General Services Division held a walk-through for interested bidders on April 9 and Request for Proposals from those interested to be the next vendor were due to the General Services Division on May 1.

“We have been pleased and appreciate what Guest Services has provided our state employees, legislators and Capitol guests for the last 16 months. We respect their wishes to withdraw as the Food Court vendor, and we look now look forward to working closely with the new vendor to provide a quality and affordable dining experience here on the Capitol campus,” said Cabinet Secretary Robert Ferguson.

Ferguson emphasized until the new vendor is selected, Guests Services will continue to operate the Food Court without any disruptions.



Bob Kilpatrick, procurement officer with the General Services Division, speaks to representatives of companies attending a mandatory pre-bid conference for those interested in being the next vendor at the Capitol Food Court.

CARTE

Continued from Page 3

ing this time, eligibility for coverage has been increased to 250 percent of the Federal Poverty Level and the number of children enrolled has increased. The program offers incentives to health care providers, provides health screenings and assessments, promotes oral health exams (which has led to more than 90 percent of all WVCHIP children getting dental exams) and works to establish and measure indicators of program care quality.

The Champion for Children award is presented in recognition of someone who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and dedication to improve the well-being of children throughout West Virginia. The award is presented on behalf of West Virginia's leading organizations working for children including Prevent Child Abuse WV, National Association of Social Workers (NASW) WV Chapter, WV KIDS COUNT, WV Healthy Kids and Families Coalition and others. Previous recipients include Dawn Miller (Charleston Gazette), Susan Sobkoviak (NASW), Beverly Railey Robinson (Benedum Foundation) and Sister Janet Peterworth (ABLE Families).

WVCHIP Plans to Embark on a Statewide Awareness Campaign

The West Virginia Children's Health Insurance Program (WVCHIP) has experienced some major positive changes in the past few months. In January, WVCHIP expanded its health coverage for eligible state children up to 250 percent of the federal poverty level and in February, a newly signed federal law ensured that WVCHIP has enough funding for its current enrollees and this most recent expansion for the next four years

Now, with good news in hand, WVCHIP's goal is to spread the message. WVCHIP is set to embark on an important statewide outreach campaign to make parents aware of these changes.

“Some parents whose kids are eligible probably have no idea their kids could participate in a public program like CHIP,” said WVCHIP Director Sharon Carte. “The new expansion now allows families of four with incomes between \$44,102 and up to \$55,125 to qualify if they are willing to pay a monthly premium. Premiums run \$35 per month for one child and \$71 per month for two or more children. So, we will be doing our best to get the word out.”

The WVCHIP campaign will be advertised in various media outlets throughout the state, particularly in regions where statistics indicate

Please see CHIP, Page 6

State's Historic Famous Feud Now Associated with Recreation and Economic Development

If only every economic project could be this much fun!

After more than 10 years of planning, the Hatfield-McCoy Trail System was opened to the public in October of 2000. The trail system is a statutory corporation created by the West Virginia Legislature to generate economic development through tourism in nine southern West Virginia counties. In the nearly 10 years since opening, hundreds of off-road all-terrain enthusiasts from across the United States and around the world have enjoyed the scenic mountains of southern West Virginia and the down home hospitality of its residents.

The Hatfield-McCoy Trail System is made up of more than 500-plus miles of trails and is one of the largest off-highway vehicle trail systems in the world. There are currently six independent trail systems located in five of the system's nine project counties. Many of the trail systems also offer community connecting trails that allow visitors to access "ATV-friendly towns" to experience the charm of southern West Virginia.

All trails are open 365 days a year to ATVs, dirt bikes, select utility vehicles (UTVs), mountain bikes, horses and hikers. All trails are marked green (easiest), blue (more difficult), black (most difficult), or red/black (extreme difficult).

In 2008, the Hatfield-McCoy Trail System was rated "Top ATV Trail System on the East Coast" by Dirt Wheels magazine.

For more information about trail locations, directions, permits, lodging facilities and other items related to the system, go to www.trailsheaven.com or call 1-800-592-2217.

Some of West Virginia's most scenic views can be seen while enjoying the Hatfield-McCoy Trail System.



Vandalia Gathering A Chance To Celebrate State Culture

The opportunity to see old friends, make new ones and to sample a bit of West Virginia culture rolls around again this year at the 33rd Vandalia Gathering, the state's annual celebration of the traditional arts, music, dance, stories, crafts and food.

Scheduled for Memorial Day weekend (May 22-24), the event fills the Cultural Center and State Capitol grounds with the sites and sounds of traditional West Virginia culture.

For music buffs, a special jam tent will be set up on the grounds that will

be manned with musicians playing 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday. That is in addition to the numerous musicians scheduled to perform throughout the event, as well as musician competitions.

In addition, Vandalia offers the chance for visitors to sample the wares of more than 50 West Virginia craftspeople. For sale will be everything from candles, wall hangings and wind chimes to salad dressings, salsa and gourmet coffee.

For those who a hunger slightly more

immediate, a variety of traditional and ethnic foods will be for sale, including favorites like funnel cakes, roasted corn, cobblers and German sausages.

Visitors may also see the annual Quilts and Wall Hangings exhibition on display in the Great Hall of the Cultural Center. For those wishing to take a piece of Vandalia home with them, a variety of souvenirs will be for sale in the festival sales tent.

For more information on the Vandalia Gathering, please go to <http://www.wvculture.org/vandalia/vansched.htm>.

Tell Us About Your Graduate

Quotes, Notes & Anecdotes will be recognizing all of our graduates for this year. If you have a child or grandchild graduating from high school or college, please e-mail Chad Williamson at chad.b.williamson@wv.gov with the name, school and future plans of your special graduate.



CHIP

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there are a high percentage of families eligible to enroll in WVCHIP. The advertising will compliment customary WVCHIP outreach efforts conducted through health clinics, hospitals and schools.

The outreach campaign will utilize both print and broadcast media during the next several months, particularly in late summer before the start of the school year.

“Late July and August is when parents are thinking about what needs to be done to get kids and teens ready for school,” said Carte. “Also around this time each year, community groups sponsor health fairs; pool parties are conducted with school-related themes; and school sport teams require physicals. All these happenings make for good opportunities to let parents know health care coverage is available with CHIP, while reminding past participants who may have lapsed to re-enroll.”

Questions concerning any additional details, such as eligibility information, benefits, co-payments, and requests for applications, should be directed to the WVCHIP Helpline at 1-877-982-2447 or go to www.wvchip.org.

Welcome! ... to our new employees: **Amber Hawkins** (CPRB); **Wendelyn Campbell** (Grievance); **Teresa Tarr** (Prosecuting Attorney’s Institute); **Jackie Linthicome** (Public Defender); and **Gino Saget** (Technology).

Time to Relax ... After many years of hard work, **Gary Warner** of the Office of Technology is now ready to kick back and relax. Happy retirement!

Best Wishes ... to our employees who recently resigned from our department: **James Fisher** (Real Estate) and **John Kirkpatrick** (Technology).

In Sadness ... The Department of Administration sadly notes that **Ada Louise Miller** of the Finance Division passed away. Our thoughts are with her friends and family.

Baby News ... Alli Madison Samples, granddaughter of **Susan Samples** (Personnel) was born to Jason and Nikki Samples on April 21 at 9:22 a.m. Alli was seven pounds, 15 ounces, and 20 inches long.

FORE!!! ... It’s not too late to register to participate in the 18th Annual Public Employees’ Golf Tournament at Pipestem State Park on May 18th. For more information, go to <http://www.pipestemresort.com/WVPEGT2009.pdf> or visit www.pipestemresort.com.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ... in May

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Jerry Digman Technology
Ted Payne Gen. Svcs.
Susan Samples Personnel
Roger Wines Gen. Svcs.</p> <p>2 Timothy Hughes Gen. Svcs.
Lewis Withrow Gen. Svcs.</p> <p>3 Elias Majdalani Technology
Larry Stover PEIA</p> <p>4 Jeffrey Bartlett Technology
Carolyn Hager Gen. Svcs.</p> <p>5 Alan Nease Technology
Andrew Zicafoose Technology</p> <p>6 Caroline Brady CPRB
Cindi Cvechko Technology</p> <p>7 Jane Bracken Technology
Thomas Lucas Gen. Svcs.</p> <p>8 Anthony Cooper Purchasing
Phillip Hart Technology
Danny Holt Gen. Svcs.
Larry Leros Gen. Svcs.
Laurie Lewis Technology</p> <p>9 Don Clark Technology</p> <p>10 Cynthia Boyd CPRB</p> <p>11 Sam Ratliff Finance</p> <p>12 Bill McCallister Jr. CPRB
Carolyn Saul Technology
Kyle Schafer Technology
Roberta Wagner Purchasing</p> <p>13 Ken Lucas Gen. Svcs.
Tim Nicholas Gen. Svcs.
Ann Wilmoth PEIA</p> <p>14 Paula Atkinson CHIP
Sherra Barker PEIA
James Easley Technology
Ed Trader Technology
Burley Williams PEIA</p> <p>15 Debra Asbury CPRB</p> | <p>15 Mandy Carpenter Technology
Scott Mason Gen. Svcs.</p> <p>16 Amanda Allison PEIA
Martha Mohammad ... Personnel</p> <p>17 Carol Lyn Thornton Finance</p> <p>18 Ryan Jett Technology
Kelley McClanahan Personnel
Charles Warner Gen. Svcs.</p> <p>19 Andrea Darr Pros. Atty. Inst.</p> <p>20 Junior Blount Purchasing
Heather Carnefix Personnel</p> <p>21 Chuck Bowman Purchasing
Ellen Fleet CPRB
Diane White Gen. Svcs.</p> <p>22 Elizabeth Williams Personnel</p> <p>23 Mary McFarland. Public Defender</p> <p>24 Jennifer Lovejoy Purchasing
Nicole Michaelis Personnel
Susan Young Technology</p> <p>25 Brett Clutters Technology
Diane Fletcher Technology
Brenda Jones CHIP
Shannon Looney PEIA</p> <p>26 Brian Lanham Pros. Atty. Inst.
Mark Totten Purchasing</p> <p>27 Janice Hartman Purchasing
Carolyn Thomas Real Estate</p> <p>28 Kelly Williams Finance</p> <p>29 Rob Dixon Technology
Sara Poe CPRB
Robin Roberts Technology
Gene Walters Technology</p> <p>30 Susan Lockard-Hammock
..... Personnel
David Mullins Finance</p> <p>31 Jeff Swisher Gen. Svcs.</p> |
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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
Communication Director/Editor

Production
Tony O’Leary
Chad Williamson

Special Thanks
Kaye Parks