



Stateline

A Newsletter For West Virginia State Government Employees

March 2001

Volume 12 Number 2

Shopper's Guides to be mailed by March 23

Spring Into PEIA Open Enrollment Apr. 2 - May 4

Information contributed by Jan Long and Bill Rainey of the PEIA.

It may be hard to believe that Spring is right around the corner, but it is ... and that means Open Enrollment time for Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA) members. Members can review their current health insurance plans, as well as the others offered, in order to choose a plan that will best fit their needs in the upcoming Plan Year.

The actual Open Enrollment period will run from April 2 through May 4, 2001. According to Jan Long, PEIA Communications Manager, Shopper's Guides will be mailed to all currently-insured members by March 23, 2001. Transfer forms (the forms needed if you intend to switch plans) will be mailed by March 30.

Several changes have taken place for the Plan Year 2002, which runs from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002.



- ★ **Under a new Preferred Premium plan, PEIA PPB Plan insureds who are tobacco-free will receive a \$5 discount for single coverage and a \$10 discount for family coverage.** To qualify, **ALL** enrolled family members must be tobacco-free for 5 months by July 1, 2001. If qualified, members must sign the affidavit on the transfer form to receive the Preferred Premium. The discount enrollment option will not be offered throughout the year; you can make this selection only during Open Enrollment periods.
- ★ Three plans will no longer be offered: Optimum Choice HMO, MAMSI Life & Health PPO, and Carelink Plan A have withdrawn. Employees currently enrolled in any of these plans must choose a new option or they will be automatically enrolled in the PEIA PPB Plan.
- ★ Employees who earn over \$18,000 annually will see an across-the-board premium increase that will raise the cost of single coverage by \$4, employee and children coverage by \$7.50, family coverage with an employee spouse by \$8.50, and family coverage by \$13.50 (all increase figures are approximate).

Other changes include:

- ★ A restriction requiring that members and their dependents live in the service area or in an adjoining county of the service area of the plan they wish to join.
- ★ Discontinuance of fertility drug coverage as of July 1, 2001; however, those currently using the benefit may continue their 3 cycles of covered treatment.

To help employees make informed decisions, PEIA is conducting Benefit Fairs around the State. See the box (right) for dates, times, and locations. In addition, PEIA's Open Enrollment Helpline will be available beginning March 26. If you have questions, call the Helpline at 1-877-676-5573.

PEIA BENEFIT FAIRS

- BECKLEY:** Apr. 17 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Tamarack Park Gallery
- BLUEFIELD:** Apr. 16 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Holiday Inn
- CHARLESTON:** Apr. 5 (9 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.)
State Capitol Conference Center
- CHARLESTON:** Apr. 18 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Charleston Civic Center
- CLARKSBURG:** Apr. 24 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Holiday Inn
- ELKINS:** Apr. 19 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Day's Inn
- FAIRMONT:** Apr. 24 (9 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.)
Fairmont State College
- FLATWOODS:** Apr. 23 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Day's Inn
- HUNTINGTON:** Apr. 20 (9 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.)
Marshall University Alumni Lounge
- HUNTINGTON:** Apr. 23 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Best Western Gateway
- LEWISBURG:** Apr. 9 (9 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.)
School of Osteopathic Medicine
- LOGAN:** Apr. 5 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Chief Logan St. Park Restaurant
- MARTINSBURG:** Apr. 2 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Comfort Inn
- MORGANTOWN:** Apr. 25 (9 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.)
WVU Mountainlair; WVU Rhododendron Rm.
- MORGANTOWN:** Apr. 25 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Holiday Inn
- NEW MARTINSVILLE:** Apr. 12 (3 - 7 P.M.)
New Martinsville Public Library
- PARKERSBURG:** Apr. 9 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Holiday Inn
- PETERSBURG:** Apr. 4 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Grant County Library
- RIPLEY:** Apr. 26 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Best Western McCoys Inn
- ROMNEY:** Apr. 3 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Hampshire County High School
- WEIRTON:** Apr. 10 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Holiday Inn
- WHEELING:** Apr. 11 (9 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.)
Northern Community College
- WHEELING:** Apr. 11 (3 - 7 P.M.)
Ramada Plaza City Center

West Virginia: Moving Dirt Instead of Shuffling Paper

Taken from the Governor's Weekly Column.

If there's one thing I learned in 18 years in Congress, it's how to get roads built. I was a member of the Transportation Committee for most of that time, and I believe I know the ins and outs of federal highway funding as well as anyone.

So why, many have asked, did my administration cancel so many road engineering contracts around the State? The answer is simple: we want to build highways today, not waste money on planning roads that simply cannot be built in the next decade or two.

We'll continue to build important roads that can spur economic development. Some, like Corridor H, are well along in construction. Others, such as the Coalfields Expressway, have just begun. Not one of the ongoing projects has been slowed, let alone stopped, by shelving some long-term engineering projects.

The need for roads in West Virginia is great. In fact, if we were to build all of the roads that these plan-

ning projects represent, we could easily spend as much as \$9 billion. Unfortunately, we will be eligible for only about \$1.5 billion in road building funds from the federal government over the course of the current 6-year funding cycle, which ends in 2003.



West Virginia drivers contribute to our roadbuilding program through State and federal gas taxes. They deserve better roads in exchange for these taxes.

Governor Bob Wise

Choosing which roads to build, and where to locate them, is always a difficult process. It will be made more difficult if we squander our limited highway funds on symbolic acts – like planning a road we know we can't build for a generation

simply to make political points. West Virginia drivers contribute to our roadbuilding program through State and federal gas taxes. They deserve better roads in exchange for these taxes.

I'm in favor of redirecting as much as we can of that money into construction. We already have plans ready and waiting. I intend to be out there with a shovel and a hard hat as this spring construction season begins, making sure that our Division of Highways is moving dirt, not just shuffling paper.

Capitol Ideas

For You & Your Money



FREE SEMINARS!

Increase your financial literacy by hearing from expert speakers.


FINANCIAL WELLNESS SERIES

Offered by the State Treasurer's Office
John Perdue, Treasurer

Bring your lunch and a friend, and gather some valuable financial information. The State Treasurer's Office is offering free lunchtime seminars to assist you in planning and managing your finances. All seminars will be held in the Highways Conference Room, Building 5, Room 122. Seating is limited; call today for your reservation: 340-2711.

March 29	Why Should I Think About Financial Planning?
April 12	Why Are Paydays So Far Apart?
April 26	Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Banking Services ... and more!
May 10	Credit – a Blessing or a Curse?
May 24	Investing 101 – Let's Get Started!

On April 1, move your clocks ahead an hour to begin Daylight Savings Time ...
APRIL FOOL ... NOT!!!
 Yes, set your clocks ahead on April 1.



Gnet GAIN

Internet info ... a byte at a time

Personnel Web Address Changed

We reported in an earlier edition of *Stateline* that the website address for the Division of Personnel would be changing. That change has taken place. Please update your bookmarks to the following address:

www.state.wv.us/admin/personnel

Cabinet Position, Other Appointments Profiled

Joe Martin, Cab. Secretary Military Affairs & Pub. Safety

Martin has served in the West Virginia Legislature since 1978, chairing a variety of committees such as Political Subdivisions, Forest Management Review Commission, Joint Committee on Government Operations, and the Select Committee on Health Care Policies. He is also a former Mayor of Elkins.



Joe Martin

And on the agency level:

Randy Dye Dir. of Forestry/State Forester

Dye has served as Forestry Director and State Forester since April, 1999. He's worked in the timber industry for more than 25 years, performing numerous related duties throughout the southern United States. He is a member of the National Association of State Foresters and the West Virginia Forestry Association.



Randy Dye

Nancy Herholdt, Comm. Division of Culture & History

Herholdt has been with the Division of Culture and History for 21 years, 18 of which were as Director of Events. She has experience in radio, community theater, arts management, and she has



Nancy Herholdt

served on a number of councils and committees dealing with cultural and arts activities and events.

Tom Keeley, Comm. Alcohol Beverage Cntrl. Admin.

Keeley has served as a Harrison County Commissioner and was instrumental in attracting the 3,000-employee FBI Center. He has served on the Benedum Airport Authority for 20 years, 8 of those as president. He has experience as President of the Harrison County Emergency Squad, as Director and/or Executive Committee Member of the Harrison County Development Authority, the Region Six Planning and Development Council, the Harrison/Clarksburg Board of Health, and several other organizations. Keeley is a former Clarksburg Police Commissioner, business consultant, and was the first Executive Director of the WV Public Employees Retirement System Association.



Tom Keeley

Roger Pritt, Comm. Division of Motor Vehicles

Pritt has held administrative and financial positions including Treasurer and then President and CEO of Astar Abatement and Astar Inc., Financial Manager of MTI Corporation, and Controller for both Peake Energy and Falcon Drill-



Roger Pritt

ing. His financial experience will be beneficial to the DMV, since it is one of the State's leading revenue-generating agencies.

Larry Stark, Comm. Division of Banking

Stark has a law degree and began his banking career in 1970 at the First National Bank in Ceredo. Since then, he has served as Executive Vice President of Milton Tri-County Bank and was Vice President of Investor Relations of Key Centurion Bank Shares. Upon Key Centurions' merger with Bank One in 1993, he remained with them until 1998.

Tom Susman, Exec. Dir. Public Emp. Insurance Agency

As president of The Susman Group, LLC, Susman worked with the WV Behavioral Health Care Association, Camden-Clark Hospital, Golden Rule Insurance, the WV Emergency Medical Services Coalition, and other agencies. A former member of the WV House of Delegates, he served as chair of the Insurance Committee, a member of the Medicaid Uncompensated Care and Health Committees. Susman is a current member of the Health Care Access for the Uninsured and Medicaid Policy Task Force through the WV Health Care Authority. He has experience in administration of health insurance benefits, marketing management, and as a board of directors member for the First National Bank of Beckley.



Tom Susman


**THANKS TO THE PROFILED INDIVIDUALS
FOR PROVIDING THEIR
BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES AND PHOTOGRAPHS.**

Call Now for **FREE** Training!

Information contribution by Mark Moore of the Employee Development Center.

Back in the November issue of *Stateline*, we told you about The Employee Development Center: After Hours Program which provides computer, math, and grammar classes; college-level classes; and seminars on a variety of topics ... **all FREE!** Maybe you meant to check into it and just forgot, so here's your reminder.

The program is open to State employees and members of their immediate families (parents, spouses, and children). Classes are held in Building 7 at the Capitol Complex, and there is an open computer lab Monday through Thursday from 4-8 P.M. Classes offered include:



Introduction and Advanced Microsoft Word
Introduction and Advanced Microsoft Excel
Introduction and Advanced Microsoft PowerPoint
Microsoft Outlook
Microsoft Access
Microsoft Publisher
Microsoft FrontPage
Introduction to Computers
Introduction to Windows
Introduction to the Internet
How to Purchase a Home Computer
Computer File Management
Downloading from the Internet
Algebra review
Business Letter Writing Review
AND MANY OTHERS!!!

Visit www.state.wv.us/edc on the internet and register yourself for e-mail notifications. This will ensure that you are notified about upcoming classes and events. There is no registration necessary for the open computer lab – just stop by and surf away. For more information contact:

MARK MOORE
 Phone: 558-5030  FAX: 558-5707
 E-MAIL: mramoore@access.k12.wv.us



*We're gearing up
 for Public Service
 Recognition Week,
 and ...*

Your Help is NEEDED!!!

If you can assist with this year's
 celebration, contact Jane Fouty:
 558-3950, ext. 206
jfouty@gwmail.state.wv.us

Did'ja Know ...

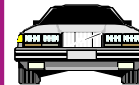
April 23 marks the 16th anniversary of the date that The Coca Cola Company changed the soft drink from it's 99-year-old secret formula to it's "new and improved" version. They didn't anticipate the public outcry demanding they change back to the original recipe!

Secretary's Day has undergone a name change. Now called **ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY**, it's on April 25 this year.

Pencil In ...




The Enterprise Car Sale for Public Employees Credit Union members will be held at the So. Chas. Community Center on April 28, 2001. A pre-approval loan application will be included in the next PECU newsletter. The current 60-month new car rate is 7.95% APR, and pre-approved applications earn 25 basis points off the loan rate for the day of the sale. Call the PECU at 558-0566 for more details on the sale or other services.



The rules for **withdrawing funds from IRAs, 401(k)s, and profit sharing accounts** just got simpler and less restrictive for 2001. New IRS regulations let seniors take out less from accounts each year and relax other rules. A new table makes it easier to calculate your required annual withdrawal. Get details from your accountant, banker, or investment professional.



 *Stateline* is a publication of the West Virginia Department of Administration, Division of Personnel

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