

# Stateline

A Newsletter For West Virginia State Government Employees

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## Manchin Inauguration Held January 17 at Capitol

“Thank you” were the sincere words that began the first several statements of West Virginia’s 34<sup>th</sup> Governor’s Inaugural Address.

Governor Joe Manchin III stated he was both humbled and honored to stand as Governor of West Virginia. He thanked and acknowledged those who had supported him in his successful gubernatorial bid, including campaign workers/volunteers/contributors, his staff, and his friend and family. He also expressed his deep appreciation to all citizens who voted in last November’s election. “And, last but certainly not least, I want to say a very special thank you to all of the people who cast a vote on November 2<sup>nd</sup> – no matter whom you cast it for. By participating in our country’s democracy, you are ensuring its survival.”

Manchin continued by recognizing the distinguished work of the many State- and national-level West Virginia officials who were present, stating that public service is the no-

blest of all professions, and acknowledging that we owe those who willingly serve a debt of gratitude.

The Governor promises a tough stance in his effort to better West Virginia. “The days of giving in to those who would take advantage of our State and our system of government are over. ... You deserve better.” With that, he also told of his great hope in several areas. “Without hope, there can be no vision. And without vision, there can be no progress,” said Manchin. Among the many issues for which he holds hope of success and progress are better treatment and services for our citizens, progress for communities, fiscal responsibility, affordable health care, and saving and creating good jobs. In addition, he addressed hope for improvements in education and for a better quality of life for our seniors and veterans.

Governor Manchin quoted Abraham Lincoln, saying, “Things may come to those who wait, but only the things left over by those who hustle.” He left no question that he intended to hit the ground run-



*Governor Manchin takes his oath of office, administered by WV Supreme Court Chief Justice Joseph Albright.*

ning. Approximately halfway into his 18-minute speech, he announced that his first official act would be to sign an Executive Order calling our State legislators into special session. The focus of the session is on some tough and pressing issues, primarily the State’s unfunded Workers’ Com-



*Governor Joe Manchin joins former Governor Bob Wise at the podium*

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### TSUNAMI RELIEF DONATION INFORMATION

*If you made a donation to assist the victims of the December 26, 2004 Asian tsunami disaster, please be aware of the following:*

Donations to **charities located in foreign countries** are only tax deductible if a U.S. organization has full control over the funds. **Generally, U.S.-based charities are eligible for a federal tax deduction.** You can check on your charity at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

A bill has been signed into law which allows contributions made January 1-31, 2005 specifically for tsunami relief purposes to be deductible from your 2004 federal income tax. Donations made after January 31 are not deductible until you file your 2005 taxes.

## 2005 Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources Grants Announced

Reprinted from the Winter 2004 issue of *Art Works*, a publication by the Division of Culture and History.

The West Virginia Division of Culture and History and the West Virginia Commission on the Arts have announced the recipients of the 2005 Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources Grants. The grant panel reviewed applications on August 19 and funding suggestions from the panel were forwarded to the West Virginia Commission on the Arts for review on September 14. Seventeen awards were made for a total of \$3,094,326.

The 17 award recipients for 2005 include Arts-link, Wetzel County, \$50,000 for renovation; The Aurora Project, Inc., Preston County, \$300,000 for renovation; Charles Mathena II Foundation, Mercer County, \$500,000 for acquisition and construction; City of Charleston, Kanawha County, \$34,147 for durable equipment; Grant County Public Library, \$250,000 for new construction; Greenbrier Historical Society, Greenbrier County, \$402,481 for renovations to the North House Museum; Hampshire County His-



*Photo of Pricketts Fort by Melissa May Dobbins, Executive Director of the Pricketts Fort Memorial Foundation. The Foundation was one of the 2005 grant recipients.*

torical/Arts Museum, \$358,073 for renovation; Harrison County

Schools, \$35,000 for renovation; Historic Beverly Preservation, Randolph County, \$244,885 for renovation; Main Street Point Pleasant, Mason County, \$18,500 for durable equipment; Metropolitan Theatre Preservation Foundation, Monongalia County, \$100,000 for renovation; Morgan Arts Council, Morgan County, \$450,000 for renovation; Mountain Made Foundation, Tucker County, \$124,496 for renovation; Mountain Partners in Community Development for C-HOPE, Randolph County, \$72,620 for renovation; North Wheeling Community Youthbuild Center, Ohio County, \$63,000 for renovation. Pricketts Fort Memorial Foundation, Marion County, \$50,000 for renovation; and Step by Step, Lincoln County, \$41,124 for renovation.



The panelists who reviewed the applications were selected for their expertise in accessibility, theater,

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### INAUGURATION – Continued from Page 1

pensation and pension program liabilities. Manchin believes the key to creating more good jobs is fixing the Workers' Compensation system – in his eyes, “the Achilles heel of our State’s economy.” The Governor held true to his word, signing the order the next morning. Legislators reported on January 24 for the purpose of working on “the business of getting the state’s house in order.”

Near the end of his speech, Manchin told his audience he would like his administration to be remembered as one that promoted raising our children to be competent, caring adults. To accomplish this, he cited five promises that must be made to and kept for our children. Every child should:

-  have a caring adult in his/her life
-  have a safe place
-  have a healthy start
-  be taught a marketable skill, and
-  learn to be a caring adult and be given an opportunity to serve his/her community.

As of press time, the Governor has been pleased with the work transpiring in the special session. The Senate Finance Committee has endorsed Manchin’s proposed legislation to privatize Workers’ Compensation and pay off its \$3+ billion debt, and sent it to the Senate floor for voting.



*A bitter cold and sometimes snowy, blustery day couldn't dampen or deter the spirits for the inauguration of Governor Joe Manchin III. Manchin (above) delivered his address to a crowd of over 1100 enthusiastic attendees.*

# West Virginia Lottery Hosts New, Improved Website

From a press release issued by the West Virginia Lottery.

The web site [www.wvlottery.com](http://www.wvlottery.com) has become a site to behold, according to West Virginia Lottery Director John Musgrave.

“Since the West Virginia Lottery went into cyberspace in 1996, our webpage has been praised as being user-friendly and informative by players, vendors, retailers, and researchers, alike. However, there is no site past, nor few present, that can compare with this one,” said Musgrave.

While the Lottery has introduced a number of progressive changes since 1996, the recent undertaking represents an extensive overhaul. “From top to bottom, we have utilized some of the highest levels of technology available, making the site more informative and entertaining for our customers. It’s something of which this State can truly be proud.”

Along with technology, Musgrave noted that player use has changed, as well. “In our first year, the site had around 8,000 hits a month. That monthly average is now around a million; when we have a large jackpot, the figure moves to about two million a month.”

Easy, quick, and informative, the [www.wvlottery.com](http://www.wvlottery.com) site is streamlined and easier to navigate. Users find less scrolling necessary for the information they seek. Musgrave outlined some of the features that can be accessed.

- ▶ Lottery retailer locations
- ▶ Historic information as to whether specific numbers have been drawn
- ▶ The percentage of time a number or set of numbers has been drawn
- ▶ Information on winners, as well as retail locations selling winning tickets
- ▶ “Database driven” winning numbers and jackpot amounts, for faster, more accurate updates
- ▶ “Database driven” information on instant game availability and the dates by which prizes must be claimed, allowing for more up to date statistics
- ▶ Keno drawing results are available 15-30 minutes after the actual drawing. Players can check their numbers or watch an animation of the drawing at home!



◀ SEE WHAT'S NEW AT [WWW.WVLOTTERY.COM](http://WWW.WVLOTTERY.COM) ▶

50% off CABIN RENTALS

WATOGA

State Park

January–February–March 2005  
Sunday–Thursday nights only  
Three-night minimum

Applies to modern cabins only. Excludes holidays and holiday weekends.  
Not available with other discounts or promotions.  
Call (304) 799-4087 or 1-800-CALL-WVA and ask for Watoga.

Go online at [www.wvstateparks.com](http://www.wvstateparks.com) for other discounted specials at Beech Fork, Bluestone, Twin Falls Resort, Lost River, and North Bend.

PEIA Offers

Online Open Enrollment

For the upcoming Spring Open Enrollment period (April 4-May 6, 2005), the Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA) is offering those who are able a chance to complete their enrollment forms and tobacco affidavits online. Interested participants must have an e-mail address and computer access (either at home or at work).

Enrolled members should have received a letter in the mail advising them of this service. The letter contains a sign-up form that must be completed and returned to PEIA, and postmarked **NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 15, 2005.**

If you are interested and haven't received a letter, contact your agency payroll office or PEIA. Those not interested or who are unable to use the online procedure will receive a Shopper's Guide, Transfer Form, and Tobacco Affidavit in the mail as in past years.

museums, finance, and construction. Panel members included the following individuals: Frederick A. Lambert, Ed.D., LLC, president emeritus of Oglebay Institute and consultant from Wheeling; Kevin Sutton, AIA, an architect for the federal court system from Charlotte, N.C.; and Penney Hall, APR, State Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator from Charleston. Commission members Pete Holloway from Wheeling and Susan Stevenson Landis from Daniels also served on the panel.

The Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources Grants program is an unusual program – one of very few in the country that offer grant opportunities for arts facility improvement and capital purchases. The goals of this program are to increase or assure public access to the arts, involve collaborations and partnerships that leverage additional public and private investment, to encourage projects that serve more than one county and to increase artistic excellence. Additional weight is given to projects that contribute to economic development; promote cultural development in rural, underserved and/or minority communities; address known health and safety deficiencies; create or improve access to facilities for working artists with disabilities; and improve, expand, or rehabilitate existing buildings for physical accessibility. Secondary priority is given to history organizations. Grants are awarded for the acquisition of real property, renovation, and/or construction of facilities, including alterations needed in order to comply with Section 504 of the 1974 Rehabilitation Act and the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act, and for durable equipment.

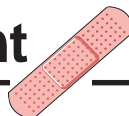
Due to legislative changes in 2004, funds available for 2006 have been reduced. **The deadline for applications is July 1, 2005.** Applicants are encouraged to begin planning now for a 2006 application. Eligible applicants must be not-for-profit, tax-exempt West Virginia corporations or agencies of municipal or county governments, including county school boards.

For more information or to request a complete set of guidelines and forms, contact Rose McDonough by phone at (304) 558-0240, ext. 152, or by e-mailing her at [rose.mcdonough@wvculture.org](mailto:rose.mcdonough@wvculture.org).

### HARASSMENT POLICY CHANGES MADE

The Division of Personnel announces a revision to its Sexual Harassment Prohibited Policy. *The policy has been changed to an Interpretive Bulletin* and has been expanded to cover all types of harassment. The new bulletin is DOP-B6, Prohibited Workplace Harassment. You can obtain a copy of the new bulletin from your supervisor or view it on the internet at [www.state.wv.us/admin/personnel/emprel/bulletin/harass5.pdf](http://www.state.wv.us/admin/personnel/emprel/bulletin/harass5.pdf).

## News From the Medical Front



Children who grow up with a cat allowed in the bedroom reduced their asthma risk by 67% and their hay fever risk by 45%, according to a German study in *Prevention*. Doctors think that exposure to cat allergens may toughen up kids' immune systems.

As always, if there are any concerns or known allergies, it's best to consult with your physician before introducing a cat into your family. If the doctor gives the ok, it might just be the purrrrrfect solution!

## Pencil In ...

protect your loved ones



lock and secure all weapons

The Charleston Police Department has received a supply of **gun locks** from the American Shooting Sports Federation. These locks are being **distributed free** to the public to encourage interest in child safety. If you are interested in a gun lock, call the CPD's Community Services Unit at 348-6411.



While the federal **"Do Not Call List"** for telemarketing has been in place for some time now, scam artists are out in force. Signing up for the list ([www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov)) is free; yet there are ads claiming you must pay a \$2.95 fee to be included and list 1-800-DO-NOT-CALL as the number to call. This is NOT the FTC's phone number – **the correct number is 1-888-382-1222.** You can register at either the website or the correct phone number above.



February is **National Bird Feeding Month.** Help our feathered friends!