

## Manchin Appoints Veteran Trooper to Lead State Police

As Col. David Lemmon ends his run as head of the West Virginia State Police (WVSP), State Police Captain Timothy S. Pack has been tapped to assume the Superintendent position. The announcement was made by Governor Joe Manchin on December 16.

Pack is a Raleigh County native who currently serves as the Director of Executive Protection, an extension of the State Police that serves as the security detail for the Governor and First Lady. Pack assumed the Director position in May 2007 after joining the unit in 1997. He graduated from the West Virginia State Police Academy in 1988, after which he worked in Princeton and Hinton. He also served in the United States Air Force from 1985-1988.

Governor Manchin had high praise for Pack. "Capt. Tim Pack is a highly capable and talented police officer and I've been fortunate to know him as the leader of the Ex-

ecutive Protection Unit," Manchin said. "Tim has extensive experience in law enforcement and is a skilled negotiator who will be able to objectively assess critical law enforcement situations. He has the judgment and wisdom to lead one of the most respected law enforcement organizations in the country.

"As Col. Lemmon steps down, he leaves the State Police in good hands, and Tim will be able to continue moving this organization forward."

Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety Cabinet Secretary James W. Spears speaks of his appreciation for both the outgoing and newly appointed superintendents.

"We have the fourth-oldest state police agency in the country, with a very proud tradition of service. Col. Lemmon served us well in this capacity the last four years, and I have no doubt that Capt. Pack will continue that progress and lead us in our constant efforts to improve."



*Capt. Timothy Pack will assume the position of West Virginia State Police Superintendent on January 1, 2009. Photo courtesy of the West Virginia State Police.*

Lemmon announced his retirement in November, 2008, to be effective December 31.

*The West Virginia State Police is looking for new recruits! Testing will be held on specific dates in January and early February at the WVSP Academy in Institute, and in Bluefield, Charlestown, and Morgantown. Detailed information and directions are available at: [www.wvstatepolice.com/employ/employ.shtml](http://www.wvstatepolice.com/employ/employ.shtml).*

### HIGHWAYS KEEPS US MOVING ALONG!

Get current road conditions for West Virginia and our surrounding states online from the Division of Highways.

[www.wvdot.com/14\\_roadconditions/14\\_roadcond.cfm](http://www.wvdot.com/14_roadconditions/14_roadcond.cfm)

### Schedule of West Virginia Inaugural Events

Schedule of West Virginia Inaugural Events			ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC EXCEPT AS NOTED.
Jan. 18	Noon	Ecumenical Mass	Sacred Heart Co-Cathedral
Jan. 19	08:30 AM	MLK Tribute and Remembrance	Asbury United Methodist Church
Jan. 19	10:00 AM	Inaugural Parade	Kanawha Boulevard at the Capitol
Jan. 19	01:00 PM	Inauguration Ceremony	State Capitol, North Steps
Jan. 19	07:30 PM	Inaugural Ball (ticket required)	Charleston Civic Center

# Smoke Alarms: The Difference Between Life and Death


Contributed by Carol Nolte of the State Fire Marshal's Office.


Last year, West Virginia's fire departments responded to over 8,000 fires. **Thirty-six of these fires resulted in 42 deaths.**


"What we know for certain is that many of these deaths could have

## Kerosene Heaters Can Be Safely Used

It's winter, and mild or not, we still experience those cold snaps here in the Mountain State. Many people have opted to supplement their heating systems with kerosene heaters. To do so safely, there are several important things to remember.

 First and foremost, the number one safety precaution you can take is to **MAKE TIME TO READ THE INSTRUCTIONS!** Too often, people buy the heater, open the box, and begin using it without reading the manual. Even if you've used a kerosene heater in the past, things change over time. Read the instructions so there's no doubt about how to properly use your heater.

 Use the proper fuel (generally water-clear 1-K grade). Gasoline **IS NOT** a substitute/equivalent to kerosene. Never, never, never use gasoline, and never, never, never mix gasoline and kerosene. Even small amounts of gas (or any other volatile liquid) can incite a fire or explosion. Use only the fuel recommended by your heater's manufacturer. You'll find that information in ... **THE INSTRUCTIONS!**

 Kerosene is sold at many gas stations and other locations. Use the right container when pur-

been prevented if there had been working smoke alarms in the homes to alert the occupants of the fire," commented Sterling Lewis, Jr., West Virginia's State Fire Marshal. "Fires can grow and spread so much more quickly than people realize. Every second of warning you get from a smoke alarm can literally mean the difference between surviving a fire or becoming a victim."

There are many types of smoke alarms to suit different needs. Standard ionization and photoelectric smoke alarms are two of the most common types, and although they function differently, both detect and give notification of fires.









Ionization type alarms are characterized by their ability to sense faster-moving, flaming fires. Photoelectric alarms tend to sense slower, more smoldering-type fires

Provided both kinds of alarms have the UL<sup>®</sup> seal (Underwriters Laboratories) to ensure they have met nationally recognized safety standards, having either type or using both types in the home provides adequate warning in case of fire.

Smoke alarms have a wide range of user-friendly options, including hush buttons for nuisance alarms, long-life (10-year) batteries, and various types of notification sounds.



### Remember these tips about smoke alarms:

-  Have smoke alarms on every level of your home, especially outside sleeping areas, and preferably inside bedrooms as well.
-  Test your alarms at least once a month, and replace batteries at least once a year – use a birthday or anniversary as a reminder, or do so when you adjust your clocks for spring and fall time changes.
-  Replace detectors after 10 years.
-  Place smoke alarms according to manufacturer's directions.
-  Clean the outside **ONLY** of a smoke alarm by gently going over the cover with the brush attachment of your vacuum cleaner. Never paint a smoke alarm.
-  Whenever a smoke alarm beeps, **take it seriously.** It might just be a false alarm from cooking, temperature fluctuations, or dust—but it might not. You can't afford to ignore the alert. Everyone in the family needs to react immediately.
-  Develop and practice a **home escape plan.** Make sure your family knows two ways out of each room, a safe meeting place outside, how to call 911 once they're out, and why they should **NEVER** go back into a burning house.
-  West Virginia State Code requires **all property owners** to provide and install a working smoke alarm in the vicinity of the sleeping areas.

For more on smoke alarms and home fire safety, visit these websites:

[www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)  
[www.usfa.dhs.gov](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov)  
[www.homesafetycouncil.org](http://www.homesafetycouncil.org)

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# Lottery Announces Powerball Game Changes

Contributed by the West Virginia Lottery.

West Virginia Lottery players can expect more frequent, large Powerball jackpots after minor changes are made to the game on Saturday, January 3, announced Lottery Director John C. Musgrave. He said the minimum jackpot would move from \$15 million to a guaranteed \$20 million.

“We’re adding four more numbers to the selection of white balls and dropping the number of red Powerball numbers to 39,” Musgrave said. “The overall odds of winning a prize will improve, starting with the drawing for Wednesday, January 7.”



Musgrave announced a significant change affecting those who pay a dollar extra for the PowerPlay multiplier option. “Anyone who matches all five white balls, who has purchased a PowerPlay Powerball ticket, will automatically win \$1 million, regardless the multiplier number drawn.”

He said odds of winning any Powerball prize would drop from 1 in 36.6 to 1 in 35. Odds of winning the Powerball jackpot will increase from 1 in 146 million to 1 in 195 million, “but the jackpot will be higher, grow more quickly, and be hit more often, when Florida’s players join the Powerball group January 1.”

According to Musgrave, Powerball players want to play for higher jackpots than those offered now. “When the jackpot reached \$295 million in 2001, our sales increased by 3,700 percent, when compared to the base jackpot of \$10 million,” he said.

With the addition of Florida on January 1, the 32 Powerball lotteries will include WV, OR, ID, MT, CO, AZ, NM, ND, SD, NE, KS, OK, LA, MN, WI, IA, MO, IN, KY, TN, NC, SC, PA, VT, NH, ME, RI, CT, DE, DC, and the US Virgin Islands.

## Keep Informed Through The State Dollar

From the website of the West Virginia State Auditor: [www.wvsao.gov/communications/statedollar/statedollar.aspx](http://www.wvsao.gov/communications/statedollar/statedollar.aspx).

The “State Dollar” is a television program written and developed by the West Virginia State Auditor’s Office, produced by the West Virginia Library Commission, and distributed by the Library Television Network.

The program is designed to educate the public about the duties and functions of the Auditor’s Office, its divisions, and their interactions with other entities.


Each episode includes exclusive interviews with various federal, State, and local leaders on current news and events affecting West Virginians.

The “State Dollar” is a monthly program airing on various cable networks around the state. Please check your local listings for airtimes and dates.





Clips are available for viewing on the Auditor’s website (above). You’ll need the latest version of Windows Media Player.

## KEROSENE – Continued from Page 2

chasing kerosene. Kerosene containers are generally blue; gasoline containers are red. Too often, people use the same container for either type of fuel. Coffee cans, milk jugs, pop bottles, juice containers, and other household containers **ARE NOT** appropriate or safe to use. If you’re going to use a kerosene heater, purchase the proper vessel in which to transport the fuel.

 Fill your heater outside the house, in the open air. You should never add fuel indoors, and the heater should be in the off position when filling. Be sure the unit has cooled sufficiently

before you add kerosene, and never, never, never smoke or use any other open flame (including burning candles) while filling or refilling it. Do not, under any circumstances, fill the heater’s reservoir past the full mark.

-  Once operable, your heater should be placed at least three feet away from any combustible items like curtains, furniture, papers, etc. Your manufacturer may recommend differently. You’ll find that information in ... THE INSTRUCTIONS!
-  Know where the apparatus’ manual shut-off valve is located (have we mentioned reading the instructions?). This is extremely important in the case of flare-up or controlled flaming. Use the shut-off valve if possible. If not, leave the house and call the fire department. Don’t attempt to cover or move the heater.
-  Make sure you have working smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors installed appropriately in your home.
-  Never leave the heater unattended, and be especially mindful if you have children and/or pets. Always turn off the heater at night before going to bed.

Staying safe while using a kerosene heater is mostly a matter of common sense ... and reading the instructions.

## Concord Website Consolidates Volunteer Opportunities for Agencies, Event Planners

*Edited from information provided by Anita Moody of Concord University.*

A new website is now up and running to serve volunteers! Found at <http://volunteer.concord.edu>, the site provides a way for community agencies and event organizers to easily submit their service opportunities. Moreover, those wishing to volunteer may register on the site, which will serve as a clearing house, matching volunteers with needs.

The website was designed by Jesse Call and Alex Overmiller, both recent Concord graduates who are serving year-long stints as members of AmeriCorps VISTA. VISTA members commit to serve full-time for a year at a nonprofit organization or local government agency, working to fight illiteracy, improve health services, create businesses, strengthen community groups, and much more.

The site provides links for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of Concord with community service and training opportunities throughout the two Virginias.

“Service to the regional community is part of Concord’s mission statement. Every day I see more and more how much this University desires to truly impact its community,” said Call.

“This new web tool,” according to Call, “will allow that energy and desire of the volunteers to be more easily fulfilled according to the diverse service areas in which the Concord community is interested.”

According to Call, the site was designed with concern for the already busy and complicated lives of local community service agencies and the Concord community.

“Unlike many other websites listing opportunities for volunteers, this one is local to the two Virginias and is directed towards a large body of potential volunteers,” Call said. “In addition, it’s extremely easy to add your listing to the site. Agencies can simply fill out a short form. There are no extra requirements, accounts or commitments necessary.”

Individuals can search for opportunities based on a variety of descriptions: one-time events, part-time commitments, or full-time volunteer positions. And, the opportunities are also listed by county, with a special page for on-campus opportunities.

“We also used a lot of new technology and provided maps with pinpoints where service opportunities exist, as well as a calendar of local one-time service events,” Call said. “And, those seeking a volunteer opportunity can call us toll-free as well, and we’ll help them find one in our listings.”

“Alumni, supporters, neighbors, and friends, as part of our Concord community, are encouraged to utilize the site,” Call said.

To list an event or need, or to find a local service opportunity, visit the website listed above. Interested parties may also contact the Bonner House for Campus-Wide Community Service at [volunteer@concord.edu](mailto:volunteer@concord.edu), 1-800-344-6679 ext. 6009, or locally at 304-384-6009.

### Can the Earned Income Tax Credit Help You?

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) has helped many families combat poverty. EITC is a refundable credit for low- to moderate-income workers. The credit applies even if you owe little or no income tax. To see if you qualify, go to: [www.wveitc.com/eligibility.html](http://www.wveitc.com/eligibility.html)

### Pencil In ...



**December 10** marked the anniversary date for the **first recorded sighting of the aurora borealis in New England**, in 1719. It also marks the anniversary of **Albert Nobel’s death** in 1896. In his last will and testament, Nobel gave his amassed fortune to establish the coveted Nobel Prizes.



What do fresh pineapple, fresh ginger root, kiwi, papaya, guava, and figs have in common? **None of these can be successfully mixed with jell-O.** They contain the natural enzyme bromelain which breaks down gelatin; however, bromelain is an excellent meat tenderizer (think Hawaiian Chicken!). Canned pineapple works fine - it’s been heated in processing, denaturing the bromelain.



**January 1:** Early colonists Paul Revere (1735) and Betsy Ross (1752) were born. Former Batman villains Victor Buono (1982) and Cesar Romero (1994), died.