

“Riding the Rails: Railroads Connecting West Virginia” Exhibit Opens at Chief Logan State Park

Contributed by Terri Marion of the Division of Culture and History.

The Museum in the Park at Chief Logan State Park has unveiled a new exhibition entitled *Riding the Rails: Railroads Connecting West Virginia*. The exhibit is free and the public is invited to attend.

The *Riding the Rails* exhibition has text panels detailing railroad development in West Virginia. As early as 1830, western Virginia had several companies proposing the construction of various types of transportation including railroads, but the Virginia General Assembly opposed all the plans fearing that westward development would draw business from eastern Virginia cities such as Norfolk and Richmond. Once West Virginia became a state, all that changed. Railroads and river transportation became the primary means to move large and heavy products.

The exhibit also contains artifacts from the West Virginia State Museum collection, including tongs for holding odd-shaped pieces of iron forged on the anvil; side shears used to cut hot, soft iron; nippers used to trim horses’ hooves while shoeing them; claw hammers; a coal drill sharpener stake used to place in an anvil to sharpen coal drills; rail spike pullers; a coal shovel; a C&O Adlake Kero Lantern; a C&O Yellow Dog Lamp which burned on waste oil; and a B&O Railroad compartment plate, cup and saucer for use in the dining car, among others. The display also has a

photograph display courtesy of the museum collection, Del. Lynwood “Woody” Ireland’s Collection, and



the West Virginia State Archives Photograph collection.

Visitors are invited to tour other current exhibits at the Museum. *Ladies Fashion Dolls of the Nineteenth Century* features 56 costumed dolls from the West Virginia State Museum collection made of papier mache. The dolls, created by West Virginia artist Pete Ballard of Peterstown, Monroe County, span the three periods that dominated ladies’ fashion in the 19th century including the revival of the Classical Period (1800 - 1820); the Romantic Period (1820 - 1840); and the Victorian Era (1840 - 1900). The *We Are Marshall* exhibit displays items produced as props for the movie production and actually used in the film



CONGRATULATIONS, HONOREES!

Over 1,730 State employees with 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50 years of service were honored during this year’s Public Service Recognition Week in West Virginia. Of these, nearly 700 fell into the 30 and above categories.

Three employees had 50 years of service: Virginia Cook (Tax), Martin Hayden (Adjutant General’s Office), and, pictured at the left with Governor Joe Manchin, Juanita Trigg (Highways).

Congratulations to everyone for these milestone achievements!

To see how one State agency enjoyed PSRW, turn to Page 2.

Photo of Ms. Trigg courtesy of Steve Rotsch.

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Lottery Director Musgrave Named NASPL President

Photo and article contributed by the West Virginia Lottery.

West Virginia Lottery Director John Musgrave was named president of the National Association of State and Provincial Lotteries (NASPL), the world's largest lottery organization, representing 51 state and provincial lotteries in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean, at its annual conference September 26.

Governor Joe Manchin congratulated Musgrave during a September 30 meeting of the West Virginia Lottery Commission. "We appreciate the job you're doing for West Virginia. Lottery revenue provides a significant portion of funding for states

across the country. I know that we have the right person managing our lottery responsibilities," Manchin said.

Also serving on the board of directors and as president of the Multi-State Lottery Association (MUSL), most commonly known for its Powerball game, Musgrave became the 29th president NASPL since the association was organized in 1971. Unlike MUSL, NASPL does not administer lottery games. Musgrave's NASPL term is for one year.

"This marks the first time that a West Virginia Lottery director has served as an officer of NASPL," Musgrave said. "I'm honored to have both the privilege and the responsibility to serve as a leader in an industry that provides billions of dollars of revenue for the well being of others."

Since Musgrave's appointment in 1996, West Virginia Lottery sales have grown from \$210 million to more than \$1.5 billion a year. In its 22-year performance, the Lottery has produced net profits of \$4.4 billion, raising revenues for State programs benefiting senior citizens, education, tourism, and economic development.

Musgrave ushered in the full operation and regulation of the State's four licensed racetracks and the Limited Video Lottery initiative, both of which have help fund projects such as the PROMISE scholarship program and the Homestead Exemption Act.

As director of one of the lottery industry's great success stories, Musgrave said that he has always understood the responsibilities that come with success. "It was clear to me from the beginning that we needed a much stronger, more proactive program for persons with gambling problems," he said. "Today, revenue from racetrack video lottery, table games, and Limited Video Lottery fund one of the nation's most recognized programs for problem gamblers."



**Lottery Director
John Musgrave**

When gambling becomes a problem, help is available: www.1800gambler.net or 1-800-GAMBLER

The West Virginia Lottery celebrated PSRW with a TV-themed Chili Cookoff and some lunchtime games. Each Lottery section chose a TV theme to characterize. Several M*A*S*H units, Hee Haw, and The Great Pumpkin were represented.



Events were held in the parking lot of the MacCorkle Avenue offices. Though you can't read their sign in the picture, the Hee Haw gang wants everyone to know that no State employees were harmed in the characterization process.

Thanks to Kristi Cook and other Lottery staff for providing the photographs.



Concord U. President Gets Down to Nitty Gritty

Contributed by Anita Moody of Concord University.

The racquetball court and weight room in the Carter Center received a makeover during the summer, courtesy of Concord University's new president, Dr. Gregory Aloia, and two volunteers, Director of Physical Plant, Jeff Shumaker, and Assistant Director of Plant Maintenance, Jimmy Owens.

"I told them to show me the things that needed to be fixed because if I'm going to be president, I want to know what needs improvement," Aloia said. "When I saw the racquetball court, I told them that the first day I was president, I would repaint it."

And that's exactly what he did! The project was a fun undertaking, according to Aloia, yet he believes fixing the facility is also a symbol.

"I want everyone to enjoy the college experience, and by putting this facility to good use, I believe they can enjoy it more," he said.

The weight rooms were also renovated. Lights were installed and old equipment was thrown out. Now, a list is being made of what weight sets are needed. The purpose, according to Shumaker is to make a safe place for students to exercise.

"These rooms were in a dreary state, and now, I'm happy to say, they are quite impressive," Shumaker said.

Aloia said that these improvements are a beginning, but pointed out that most of the buildings on campus are older and that renovations and improvements or "deferred maintenance" issues are a constant concern. A committee is in place to evaluate the physical plant, and recommendations will be included in the University's master plan.

"For this project, providing commitment and a new set of eyes made it all possible," Shumaker says. "Now we have something nice for everyone to use."



Concord University President Dr. Gregory Aloia puts his words into action as he helps with painting and cleaning the school's racquetball facility.

State Government Offices Are On the Move

A number of State offices have relocated. Please make note of the new addresses below (phone/fax numbers remain the same for all):

The Division of Banking has moved to:

Suite 300
One Players Club Drive
Charleston, WV 25311

The Public Employees Insurance Agency has moved to:

601 57th Street, SE
Charleston, WV 25304

The Public Defender Services Office has moved to:

Suite 301
One Players Club Drive
Charleston, WV 25311



The Parking Section of the Real Estate Division has moved to:

103 Michigan Avenue
Charleston, WV 25311

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of the same name, including a cheerleader's megaphone and uniform, license plates from West Virginia and North Carolina, and a Boone's Restaurant menu, among others. In addition, the *Dehue ... A Special Place* examines aspects of coal camp life including business and social life; *The Ron Moxley Collection: Native American Artifacts* includes a nutting stone found in Chief Logan State Park; and *Black Diamonds*, takes a look at coal mining throughout West Virginia, with an emphasis on the southern part of the state, and showcases artifacts of tools, photographs and historical dialogue.

Other displays include two quilts made by the late Katie Barnette of Logan and award winners from the 2007 West Virginia Juried Exhibition are also on exhibit.

For more information about the *Riding the Rails: Railroads Connecting West Virginia* exhibit or Museum in the Park, contact Elizabeth Williams, site manager, at the Museum in the Park, at (304) 792-7229.

The Museum in the Park is a regional cultural center showcasing the best in West Virginia history and the arts. It features changing exhibits and displays of artwork and historical items from the collections of the West Virginia State Museum and the State Archives. One area of the museum is dedicated to local and regional history. It is operated and maintained by the West Virginia Division of Culture and History and is located four miles north of Logan on West Virginia Route 10 at Chief Logan State Park. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 A.M.-6 P.M. and Sunday from 1-6 P.M.

The Revolutionary Start of American English

If you've ever read any text that originated from the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, or many other foreign, English-speaking countries, you've no doubt noticed the differences in spelling. Credit for this goes to Noah Webster, best-known as the author of the first American dictionary.

As the newly-formed American colonies were shaping up, Webster, the country's first lexicographer, began to advocate American English, promoting it in his 1783 *American Spelling Book* (later called *Webster's Elementary Spelling Book*). He reasoned that Americans who came from different locations and lived in different areas spoke different dialects, which indicated to him that the country would not be fully united. He stated, in fact, that a national language is "a band of national union."

To Webster, English was difficult for students to learn and speak. Making changes would allow easier learning and uniform pronunciation, and decreasing the amount of letters would lessen the number of pages in a writing – he estimated that a 180-page book could be reduced by 10 pages.

Webster made such changes as deleting silent letters from words (colour to color, republick to republic, etc.). He also orchestrated reversing the letters 're' in certain words, i.e., theatre to theater and centre to center, and swapped the letter 'c' for 's' in words like defense and expense.

Several of Webster's changes weren't adopted. He wanted to eliminate all silent letters, so that 'thread' would be spelled 'thred' or 'speak' as 'speek.' Your 'head' would be your 'hed' but your 'tongue' would have become your 'tung.'

Yes, it's true that the English language is still a bit difficult; however, 'the next time you reed a book or thum throo a magazeen, think about how the words on the pages mite be spelt if it had not been for Noah Webster's dramattick improvements.'

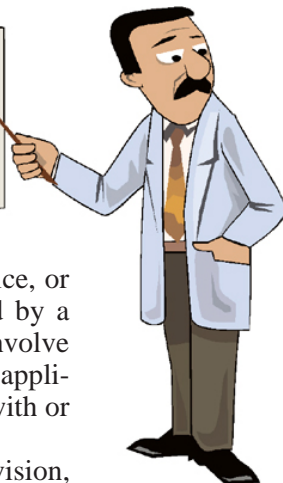
October 16 marked the 250th anniversary of Noah Webster's birth

DMV Sets Sights on Vision Screening

Beginning in January, 2009, the West Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will join over 40 other U.S. states in requiring that ALL individuals applying to get or renew a driver's license pass a vision screening test.

Applicants have the option of undergoing vision screening at their local DMV office, or providing a completed vision report form signed by a licensed optometrist. The DMV screening will involve reading lines of letters and/or numbers. To pass, applicants must have 20/40 eyesight in their best eye, with or without corrective lenses.

If you have any doubts whatsoever about your vision, you should be seen by your eye care professional prior to making your application with the DMV. Doing so could help you avoid delays in processing and, for renewal customers, reduce the chance of your license expiring before it can be renewed.



Pencil In ...



Use your converter box coupon right now. If you have an older television and use an antenna, your set will go dark in February unless you install a converter box. The government's \$1.5 million coupon program can help. Each household can receive two coupons worth \$40 toward the purchase of a converter box. To get them, call **1-888-DTV-2009**. About 8.5 million people have requested coupons. They expire in 90 days, so it's important to use them immediately. Only 42 percent of those coupons that recently expired were redeemed.



INSPIRATION STATION

Thanksgiving Day comes, by statute, once a year; to the honest man it comes as frequently as the heart of gratitude will allow.

Edward Sandford Martin



Joyful Night at the State Capitol is set for December 1, 2008. Check your local media for details.

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