

Inaugural Address Outlines Plans for West Virginia

“My fellow West Virginians, sacred to every West Virginian is the concept of ‘home’ and the ‘homeplace.’ No matter how far we travel; whether we live far away or right here; West Virginia is always home. And so it is that an inaugural

State’s PROMISE scholarship program.

He called for full implementation of the Children’s Health Insurance Program, the health insurance program for children from low- and moderate-income families.

He pledged to both keep and expand good-paying jobs by protecting the traditional coal, steel, chemical, and timber industries and also, by bringing in “new economy” jobs to the State.

“I am absolutely committed to the propo-

sition that good jobs and a good environment can exist in harmony,” Wise said. “The jobs we will seek to

create will require a good environment.”

Wise ended his first official speech as Governor of West Virginia by saying, “I take this oath today with faith in God, our people and our way of life. I pledge not only to do my best, but also to bring out the best our State has to offer.

“And I pledge to work as hard as I know how, for the working men and women of West Virginia, our parents, our children and our shared future.

“And so let us go forth, and begin to build that foundation for our progress and prosperity, always looking ahead, moving forward and embracing our shared future.

“Thank you. God Bless you. And God Bless West Virginia.”



“I am absolutely committed to the proposition that good jobs and a good environment can exist in harmony.”

Governor Bob Wise

ceremony is a coming home. Coming home to honor our democracy, renew our purpose, celebrate who we are and embrace our future.”

So began the Inaugural Address of West Virginia’s 33rd Governor, Bob Wise.

In the early afternoon on January 15, Governor Wise spoke to approximately 4,000 people on the South Lawn of the State Capitol. The former Congressman took the ceremonial oath of office with his wife Sandy and children, Robert and Alexandra, by his side. The official swearing in had already taken place shortly after midnight Monday at the Governor’s Mansion. The mild weather was a welcome feature of the 15-minute speech that focused on common themes from his campaign.

Calling education “the passport to prosperity,” Wise said he is committed supporting and funding the

Wise Appoints Cabinet Heads, Chief Technology Officer

One of the most important duties for the Governor of West Virginia is appointing individuals to run the various Departments of State government. Since taking office on January 15, 2001, Governor Bob Wise has announced several key appointments. Briefly, and in alphabetical order are:



Alisa Bailey

Bureau Chief for the Bureau of Commerce and Director of Tourism duties are the responsibility of **Alisa Bailey**. She has served as the Public Information Director for the Division of Tourism and is a member of the State’s White Water Rafting Commission and the Charleston Renaissance Gateway Committee. Bailey is the Chairperson of the Travel Association of America’s Education Committee and was

APPOINTMENTS – Continued from Page 1

recently re-elected to the National Council of State Tourism Directors, where she serves on the Executive Board as Secretary-Treasurer.



Gregory A. Burton

Gregory A. Burton will serve as the Department of Administration Cabinet Secretary. Burton, a former member and chairman of the State Health Care Authority, has previous investment banking experience and has been employed as the Charleston City Manager since 1998.

Keith Comstock is the State's new Technology Officer. He served as President of Fenwick Technologies, a company dedicated to bringing new technical jobs to central West Virginia, and also has over 14 years senior management experience with Micah Systems.

Appointed to the position of Secretary of Tax and Revenue is **Michael S. Garrison**. He is an attorney with experience in employment and business litigation, licensed in both West Virginia and Washington, D.C. He also teaches pre-law classes at the University of Charleston.



Michael S. Garrison

The new Education and the Arts Cabinet Secretary is **Kay H. Goodwin** (not pictured). She brings extensive experience in the education field, having served as a Chairperson of the University System Board of Trustees, a member of the Board of Directors of West Virginia University Hospitals and the United

Health System, a former instructor at West Virginia University, West Virginia State College, and the Department of Defense Information School.

Appointed to the position of Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Resources is **Paul Nusbaum**. He has extensive experience in the health field, including experience as an original employee of the West Virginia



Robert J. Smith

Health Systems Agency, owner of a health care consulting practice, development of nursing homes, and a variety of State boards.

Taking the reigns as Bureau of Employment Programs Commissioner is **Robert J. Smith**. He has served as Chief Administrative Law Judge for the Workers Compensation Office of Judges since 1991 and has also been a member of the Department of Employment Security's Board of Review.

Filling a dual role as Secretary of Transportation and Commissioner of Highways is **Fred VanKirk, P.E.** VanKirk returns after beginning his career with Highways in 1963 and retiring from this same position a few years ago.



Keith Comstock



Paul Nusbaum

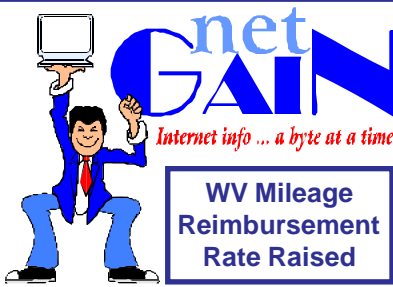


Fred VanKirk

Also named to posts but not in time for inclusion in this article were **Ann Stottlemeyer** and **Joe Martin**. Stottlemeyer was appointed to head the Bureau for Senior Services and Martin has accepted the Secretary of Military Affairs and Public Safety position. They will be featured in next month's *Stateline*.

Our thanks to the following for providing photos of the new agency heads:

PICTURE OF	PROVIDED BY
Alisa Bailey	Barry Wooldridge Div. of Tourism
Gregory A. Burton	Diane Holley Dept. of Admin.
Keith Comstock	Liza Cordeiro Technology Office
Michael S. Garrison	Tax & Revenue Internet Website
Paul Nusbaum	Shawna Phares Dept. of Health & Human Resources
Robert J. Smith	John Womack Bur. of Emp. Progs.
Fred VanKirk	Phyllis Holmes Dept. of Transportation



Gnet GAIN
Internet info ... a byte at a time

WV Mileage Reimbursement Rate Raised

Effective January 1, 2001, West Virginia State government increased its mileage rate from 32.5¢ per mile to 34.5¢ per mile, matching the rate allowed by the Internal Revenue Service. For more information on this and other State travel regulations, visit the Travel Management website at:

<http://www.state.wv.us/admin/purchase/travel>

State DMV Implements GDL Procedure for Teens

West Virginia teenagers who applied for drivers licenses after December 31, 2000 found things somewhat different than before. Effective January 1, 2001, teens who want the privilege of driving must undergo a 3-level process to obtain a full driver's license. The system, called Graduated Driver's Licensing (GDL), was instituted to help young drivers gain much-needed driving experience, and hopefully, reduced both the number of accidents and the correlating injuries and fatalities.

A study of driving and accident records found that young drivers account for 7% of the total number of drivers, yet they are responsible for 14% of the traffic fatalities. Many of these accidents can be attributed to inexperience.

Basically, under the GDL system, teenagers at least 15 years old can apply for and receive an Instruction Permit (Level 1). At age 16, and after at least 6 months of infraction-free driving at Level 1, the teen can take the road skills test, and if passed, receive an Intermediate License. Once the teen reaches age 17 and has 12 months of infraction-free driving, he or she can obtain a full license. But, it's still not as simple as all that – there are mandates and restrictions (see the chart below).

Applicants for an Instruction Permit should prepare for the written test by studying the *West Virginia Driver Licensing Handbook*, available from the Division of Motor Vehicles. Once the Instruction Permit is issued, the teen should obtain a copy of *Safe Driving for Life*, a workbook that supplements the handbook.

Many of the states in the U.S. have gone to the graduated system, and the results have been positive in all cases.

INSTRUCTION PERMIT

Level 1: Eligible at Age 15

Cost: \$5.00

Valid: For 14 months. Permit is non-renewable and 2 convictions will result in cancellation of the Instruction Permit.

- ⊗ Written permission from parent or legal guardian.
- ⊗ Must pass written and vision tests.
- ⊗ May only drive WITH a licensed driver who is age 21 or older.
- ⊗ May only drive between the hours of 5:00 A.M. and 11:00 P.M.
- ⊗ Only 2 additional passengers permitted in addition to the supervising driver.

INTERMEDIATE LICENSE

Level 2: Eligible at Age 16

Cost: \$5.00

Valid: Until issuance of Full License (Level 3) or age 18. Two convictions will result in revocation until age 18.

- ⊗ Must have a minimum of 6 months infraction-free driving at Level 1.

- ⊗ Must pass a road skills test.
- ⊗ Must have verification from a parent or legal guardian of 30 hours behind the wheel OR complete a driving course approved by the Department of Education.
- ⊗ May drive without supervising driver between the hours of 5:00 A.M. and 11:00 P.M.
- ⊗ May drive between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 5:00 A.M. WITH a supervising adult driver, or without a supervising driver as listed in Additional Information column.
- ⊗ Only 3 additional passengers under age 19 permitted in the vehicle at any one time.

FULL LICENSE

Level 3: Eligible at Age 17

Cost: \$2.50 each year until age 21.

Valid: Until age 21. Drivers who possess Full Licenses are subject to the regular State of West Virginia point system.

- ⊗ Must have a minimum of 12 months infraction-free driving.
- ⊗ May drive at any hour.
- ⊗ No restrictions on number of passengers.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- ⊗ No person under age 21 may operate a motor vehicle with ANY measurable alcohol.
- ⊗ All occupants of a motor vehicle operated by a GDL driver must adhere to safety belt laws.
- ⊗ Failure to maintain school enrollment will result in immediate license suspension.
- ⊗ Level 2 drivers are permitted to drive without a licensed supervising driver between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 5:00 A.M. when going to or from the following events: lawful employment, a school-sanctioned activity, a religious activity, or an emergency situation that requires the individual to prevent bodily injury or death of another.
- ⊗ The GDL law applies only to persons under the age of 18. All licensees who reach the age of 18, unless otherwise disqualified, suspended, or revoked, will become eligible for a Level 3 Full Driver's License without further testing.

WV Lottery Celebrates 15 Years; Nearly \$3 Billion in Sales

Contributed by The West Virginia Lottery.

The West Virginia Lottery expects to celebrate its 15th anniversary with sales approaching \$3 billion, a figure that has exceeded the most optimistic expectations, according to Lottery Director John Musgrave.



He said lottery players, retailers, and employees alike have every reason to be proud of generating approximately \$2.8 billion in sales and \$868 million in profits returned to the State since the first ticket was sold on January 9, 1986. This is substantially more than the \$8 million a year profit margin predicted by lottery proponents in 1985.

"It is an honor and a privilege to be a part of that accomplishment," Musgrave said, noting the agency has met or exceeded its commitments to the State's budget for each of the last 12 years.

Originally directed to the General Revenue Fund, lottery profits were dedicated by the Legislature in 1989 to benefit education, senior citizen, and tourism programs. Since that directive, Musgrave said nearly \$195 million has been appropriated by lawmakers for higher education and a nationally-recognized remedial basic skills program that has placed more than 45,000 personal computers in elementary and secondary schools statewide.

Additionally, the School Building Authority has benefitted from approximately \$121 million toward bond debt service. Musgrave said programs for West Virginia's senior citizens have received in excess of \$157 million. Natural resources, commerce, and tourism promotion programs have benefitted from more than \$154 million and nearly \$46 million has been applied to the State's Building Commission debt service fund.

Along with generating \$2.8 billion in sales, Musgrave noted that the West Virginia Lottery has returned more than \$986 million to players in prizes, and nearly \$742 million in commissions to lottery retailers, including racetracks with video lottery.

Pencil In ...



The Public Employees Credit Union (PECU) has expanded its alliance for fee-free automated teller machines (ATM). If you hold an ATM card from the PECU, you can discover the location of **fee-free ATMs** on the net at: www.atmallianceone.org.

2001: A Geospatial Odyssey, the West Virginia GIS Forum and Exhibition, a conference promoting Geographic Information Systems technology and computer mapping, will be held at the Lakeview Scanticon Resort and Conference Center in Morgantown on March 26-29. For information, see the internet website (www.wvgs.wvnet.edu/www/gisforum2001/gisforum.htm) or contact Craig Neidig (304/558-4218 or by email at: cneidig@gis.state.wv.us).




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

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