

Manchin Announces Construction Along WV 9, Corridor H; Appoints DOH Deputy Commissioner

From a press release issued by the Governor's Office.

Governor Joe Manchin has announced the West Virginia Division of Highways will bid new construction projects along WV 9 in Jefferson County and Appalachian Corridor H in Hardy County in late July/early August.

"The WV 9 upgrading, which will ultimately reduce congestion and provide safer travel for Eastern Panhandle motorists, was delayed last year when the original contractor ceased business," the governor said. "The Corridor H projects will continue progress on the completion of this major highway through the South Branch Valley region."

To be bid July 26, the WV 9 contract calls for construction of 1.19 miles of the route from south of WV 115 to south of Jefferson County 20. Work to grade and drain the route involves 438,000 cubic yards of excavation and includes relocating sewer lines and constructing a single-span fabricated steel girder bridge using nearly 206 tons of structural steel to carry Currie Road (County 9/1) over the WV 9 mainline.

The Corridor H contract, also set for bid July 26, calls for grading and draining approximately 0.86 mile of the route from east of Hardy County 220/8 to the proposed bridge over the South Branch of the Potomac River. Work includes connections to Fishpond Road, a trailer park, and other local property access.

A second Corridor H contract, to be bid August 9, calls for grading,

draining and paving on .47 mile of the route from the proposed South Branch Bridge to east of Dumpling Run. Work includes construction of two bridges, a single-span fabricated steel girder using over 182 tons of structural steel to carry the route over Dumpling Run and South Branch Valley rail lines and a three-span fabricated steel girder using over 983 tons of structural steel to carry the route over US 220.

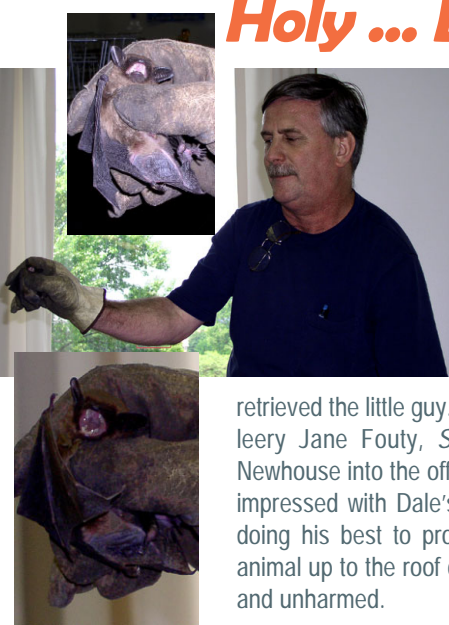
In related news, Governor Manchin recently announced the appointment of Cabell County resident and business leader Paul Turman II to serve as Deputy

Commissioner of the West Virginia Division of Highways (DOH). He replaces longtime DOH Deputy Commissioner Norm H. Roush, who retired earlier this year.

"Paul Turman will play an integral role in the supervision and management of the entire Division of Highways organization, with a strong emphasis on the state's highway maintenance and construction efforts," the Governor said. "He is an individual with a strong reputation in West Virginia's contractors'

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Holy ... Bat?, Batman!



June 6 was an interesting day for the Division of Personnel's Classification and Compensation Section. A brown bat somehow made its way into the office in Building 6 at the Capitol Complex. The staff quickly vacated the area and locked the bat in the office suite before calling General Services. Pictured is General Services' employee Dale Newhouse, who calmly retrieved the little guy. How'd we get photos, you ask? A slightly leery Jane Fouty, *Stateline* Assistant Editor, accompanied Newhouse into the office suite for the capture. "I was extremely impressed with Dale's ability. He caught the bat quickly while doing his best to protect it," said Fouty. Newhouse took the animal up to the roof of Building 6, where he released it, happy and unharmed.

Calhoun Native Receives 2005 Vandalia Award

Contributed by Division of Culture and History employees Ginny Painter (article) and Michael Keller (photograph).

The Vandalia Award, West Virginia's highest folklife honor, was presented to musician and singer Lester McCumbers of Nicut this evening as part of the 29th annual Vandalia Gathering. The award was given to McCumbers during a ceremony and concert in the Normal L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater in the Cultural Center.

The West Virginia Division of Culture and History presents the Vandalia Award annually to a West Virginian who has made outstanding contributions to the continuation of the state's folk heritage. The award recognizes lifetime achievement in the performance, creation or perpetuation of West Virginia traditional arts. The Vandalia Gathering, an annual three-day festival of traditional arts and folk heritage, is celebrated Memorial Day weekend at the Cultural Center and State Capitol grounds in Charleston. More than 40,000 people attend the three-day festival each year.

McCumbers was born in 1921 in southern Calhoun County. He carries on a rich tradition of fiddling, singing, and guitar playing that has thrived in his family for generations. He's performed widely for 60+ years with old-time/bluegrass music groups, appearing at concerts, contests, festivals, square dances, and on radio shows throughout West Virginia and elsewhere.

He's maintained music as an important part of his life, developing a personal style of playing and singing marked by sincerity, drive and emotion.

"I just don't feel right if I don't play a tune or two every day," he is quoted as saying in an article in the spring 2004 issue of Goldenseal magazine. "Music just gives me a lot of satisfaction in my heart. I've always tried to play the fiddle or sing a song to suit myself and the way I feel it."

McCumbers continues to pass on his musical heritage to others, including family members, apprentices and countless workshop participants. He has been a regular performer at the Vandalia Gathering, the West Virginia State Folk Festival in Glenville and the Appalachian String Band Music Festival in Clifftop.



2005 Vandalia Award Winner
Lester McCumbers

He and his wife and performing partner Linda have known each other since childhood. They were married in 1937 and raised nine children as they performed with a variety of bands. For four years in the mid-1960s, they hosted a weekly radio show on WSPZ in Spencer. The couple's first CD recording, "Old Timey," was released in 2002 and features 26 of their old-time fiddle tunes and songs.

McCumbers is the 25th recipient of the Vandalia Award. For more information about the Vandalia Award or the Vandalia Gathering, visit www.wvculture.org/vandalia/index.html on the internet.

Need a government number? Let your fingers do the walking ... On your keyboard!



The Department of Administration (DOA) is proud to announce that the ENTIRE 2005 State Government Directory is now available online.

For many years, anyone with an internet connection could look up the number of an employee or link to an agency's webpage, but now the whole shebang is accessible!

According to DOA Information Officer Diane Holley, the new directory won't be printed for distribution, but it can be printed from the internet if an agency desires hard copies. Holley also noted two important improvements: the directory can be updated more frequently, which means the most current information, and the State will realize a big cost savings.

What exactly does the whole shebang encompass? Along with the standard individual employee and agency website information, you'll now find easier access to general State information; a State agency directory including key staff; a Capitol Complex map; listings for higher education institutions; and information for State/federal lawmakers.

Type www.wv.gov into your web browser. Click on 'Find the State Government Directory' on the left of the page. You'll find additional links again on the left side and by scrolling to the bottom. Bookmark it for future use!

CONGRATULATIONS Nurse Marsha!

Charleston Newspapers Reporter Sandy Wells recently profiled Capitol Nurse Marsha Francis in her *Sandy on Sunday* column. To read the article online, visit www.wvgazette.com/section/Columns/2005070217.

A First-Hand Look at Jury Duty

Last month, we discussed the importance of serving on jury duty. Mike Gray of the Division of Personnel recently finished a stint as a juror, and this month, we bring you his first-hand account of his experience.

I found my first experience of jury duty a positive experience. I was selected to serve on a civil trial held in Circuit Court. Our judge spoke to us before jury selection process began.

He explained it best this way: serving on a jury may seem like a difficult, thankless job, but it's one of the most important things that you can do. Simply trade places with the person in the court room. If you were bringing a case before the court, you would want someone who can be open, objective, and able to determine the facts from evidence presented to arrive at a fair and honest decision that allows justice to be served.

As tax-paying citizens, this is an important task that no one else can do but you.

After the selection process was completed, I immediately felt we had a good group of jurors who really cared about listening and understanding the testimony. We took our job very seriously. The trial itself lasted almost a week. I think the most difficult part of the process is to listen to hours of testimony each day and keep the facts straight in your mind. Some judges allow you to take notes; our judge did not.

We were treated by the judge and all the court staff with a great deal of respect and professionalism. Once we left the courtroom, we had to wear a sticker with 'Juror' printed on it. No one, including the plaintiff or defendants, witnesses, or attorneys was allowed to talk to us. The juror sticker identified us as members of the jury and the judge gave specific instructions that we were not to be approached.

We had a juror's lounge that was secured by an electronic card. This room was for our protection and safety, and to insure privacy to make certain we didn't come across anything that might compromise the trial. We could not look at any local newspapers or newscasts, or talk to anyone about the case, including the other jurors.

I was asked to be the foreperson for deliberation. Once we began deliberating, the bailiff was posted outside our door. If we had questions about the evidence or a part of the case, the question had to be written on a legal pad and signed the foreperson (in this case, me) and given to the bailiff, who presented it to the judge. The jury would return to the courtroom and the judge would go over what information he could while still being impartial to the case. We were able to have all of the items submitted as evidence in the case to review in the deliberation room to help us arrive at our decision.

The deliberation process wasn't as difficult as I expected. We had many personal opinions, but when we summarized everything, we were all in agreement. The one area that we all took into consideration was to make a fair settlement award; not an excessive award, and we walked away feeling good about our decision. I know I felt that justice was served by a good group of citizens, and it was a very positive learning experience for all of us.



Mike Gray enjoyed his first experience as a juror.

DHHR Unit Boasts Success in Medicaid Fraud Recoveries

The West Virginia Medicaid Fraud Control Unit generates an average of \$4.18 for every dollar it spends, according to information provided by The Office of Inspector General for the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The fraud unit's annual budget is \$982,688.

West Virginia's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit recovered \$7,121,245 last year in restitution or civil fines paid by Medicaid providers found guilty of Medicaid fraud. These providers include physicians, hospitals, dentists, nursing homes, ambulance companies, pharmacies, therapists and clinics. West Virginia's total Medicaid budget is slightly over \$3 billion. A total of 75% of the budget comes from federal funds. The remainder comes from State funds.

The history of a people is found in its songs.

George Jellinek

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community and I am so proud that he's agreed to be part of our efforts to move West Virginia forward."

Turman is a registered professional engineer and surveyor. He earned his degree in Civil Engineering from West Virginia University and began his professional career with Barboursville-based Turman Construction Co. In 1990, Paul purchased the family-owned business from his grandfather, serving as its President until the sale of the business earlier this year. He has also served on the boards of the Tri-State Area Boy Scout Council, First Sentry Bank, and the West Virginia Constructors Labor Council.

Ireland Pleased With Early Voter Turnout

Contributed by Ben Beakes of the Secretary of State's Office.

The early voting period for the June 25 Special Election was held from Friday, June 3 through Wednesday, June 22. Secretary of State Betty Ireland is very pleased with the turnout. "This is the first time in the State's history we've had early voting for a special election. I am glad to see that so many people opted to vote early instead of putting all their eggs in one basket on Saturday."

Below are unofficial numbers of early voters at the close of the early voting period.

Barbour	149	Kanawha	2,679	Preston	298
Berkeley	818	Lewis	152	Putnam	818
Boone	230	Lincoln	105	Raleigh	721
Braxton	215	Logan	097	Randolph	496
Brooke	145	Marion	638	Ritchie	156
Cabell	769	Marshall	304	Roane	395
Calhoun	090	Mason	355	Summers	243
Clay	227	McDowell	131	Taylor	172
Doddridge	133	Mercer	528	Tucker	99
Fayette	457	Mineral	252	Tyler	176
Gilmer	94	Mingo	166	Upshur	641
Grant	109	Monogalia	640	Wayne	180
Greenbrier	367	Monroe	153	Webster	158
Hampshire	215	Morgan	181	Wetzel	283
Hancock	185	Nicholas	353	Wirt	55
Hardy	85	Ohio	497	Wood	710
Harrison	494	Pendleton	99	Wyoming	212
Jackson	474	Pleasants	131		
Jefferson	484	Pocahontas	107	TOTAL	19,121



Notice of Annual Membership Meeting

The Annual Meeting for State Credit Union members is set for Thursday, July 28, 2005, at 5 P.M. Topics include routine matters along with the election of a director.

CASH PRIZE DRAWINGS
will be held for eligible members in attendance

The meeting will be held at the State Capitol in Building 7, Conference Room C

Come out to support
YOUR Credit Union — and a chance to win some CASH !!!

ARE YOU AT RISK FOR DIABETES?

It's a sadly known fact that West Virginia has a high incidence of diabetes, and that many with the disease are unaware they have it. Are you at risk? Take this simple online test from the American Diabetes Association. If you score high, you can review information, tips on lowering your risk ... and consult with your medical practitioner.

take the test: www.diabetes.org/risk-test.jsp

Pencil In ...



Kanawha Valley Senior Services will hold its **Annual Senior Picnic** on July 13 at Shawnee Park, from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. The event is free for seniors and offers food, entertainment, and games – downright fun! For information, call KVSS at 348-0707.



Fire up the grill and bring on the fixin's – July 23 is **National Hot Dog Day**.



Want to make a diamond sparkle? Mix three parts water with one part ammonia, and immerse the piece in it for between 30-60 seconds. Remove the piece and scrub with an old toothbrush, paying attention to the prong areas. Rinse well under running water and dry with a soft towel.
NOTE: Use only on diamonds set in gold or platinum, and DO NOT use for other gems such as opals, pearls, sapphires, or emeralds. Never use soap on a diamond - it leaves a residue.



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

Joe Manchin III, Governor
Robert W. Ferguson, Jr., Cabinet Secretary
Max Farley, Acting Director of Personnel

Tari McClintock Crouse, Editor
Jane S. Fouty, Assistant Editor

State Capitol Complex, Building 6, Room 416
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0139
Telephone: 304/558-3950, ext. 206
E-Mail: jfouty@wvadmin.gov

www.state.wv.us/admin/personnel/empcom/