

DEP Employee of the Year

Montali tackling Bay issues

By Tom Aluise

You could say 2010 Employee of the Year Dave Montali has been protecting West Virginia's waters for 29 years.

A technical analyst with the Division of Water and Waste Management, Montali joined the DNR's Water Resources Division in 1981. He's been playing in the water ever since.

These days, Montali is the Department of Environmental Protection's TMDL program manager and oversees the state's 303 (d) List of impaired streams. Much of his time the past year has been spent developing West Virginia's part to the EPA's planned 2010 Chesapeake Bay TMDL (total maximum daily load) for nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment.

Montali's tireless work with the Bay TMDL program earned the Western Pennsylvania native and Penn State grad the DEP honor. Montali was announced by Cabinet Secretary Randy Huffman as the agency's Employee of the Year during the Sept. 22 Employee Recognition event at Little Creek Park in South Charleston. He had no idea the accolades were coming.

"I had lost track that they gave



Dave Montali, left, receives his Employee of the Year Award from Cabinet Secretary Randy Huffman at September's Employee Recognition event at Little Creek Park.

out the Employee of the Year award at the picnic," Montali said, adding that he appreciated the honor.

"But there are a lot of deserving people in the agency," he said. "And my staff's hard work on West Virginia TMDLs and the 303(d) List allowed me to devote the time needed for Bay issues."

In early September, Montali and other DWWM staff submitted

to the EPA the first phase of the state's Watershed Implementation Plan for the Eastern Panhandle region, which is part of the Bay watershed. A component of the plan required reasonable assurance that cap loads would be met for nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment.

"The last four to six months

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General counsel likes new challenge

By Tom Aluise

Included in Kristin Boggs' legal experience is a short stint at a small plaintiff's firm that handled a good bit of car accident cases.

"You learned insurance law and you pretty much got it," Boggs said.

Boy, are those days over for the Department of Environmental Protection's new general counsel.

Boggs, who's been with the DEP since No-



Kristin Boggs knew at an early age she wanted to be an attorney.

ember of 2008, was elevated from associate general counsel to her current position by Cabinet Secretary Randy

Huffman just a few weeks ago. She replaced Ray Franks.

Boggs has been and will continue to be chal-

lenged by the enormous scope of environmental law as she works with DEP directors, the cabinet secretary and the deputy cabinet secretary to craft the agency's policies. You might say her nose will be stuck in more than one book.

"In this job, it's the Division of Air Quality; it's the Division of Mining; it's Water and Waste Management; it's Oil and Gas," said the 36-year-

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Employee Recognition Event

Employees of the Department of Environmental Protection gathered for an afternoon of sun and fun on Sept. 22. Festivities were held at Little Creek Park in South Charleston. Close to 260 DEP workers took advantage of the chance to get out of the office, visit with fellow employees and play games.

Frances Browning, from the Logan office, won \$50 for first place in the recycled-art contest and Dave Montali, from the Charleston office, was honored as 2010 Employee of the Year. He received \$1,500.

Next year’s event is in the infancy planning stages, so suggestions are welcome. Please send any suggestions or comments to:

Colleen.M.Oneill@wv.gov.



Dewayne Harless takes part in some cornhole competition.



From left, June Casto, Dan Arnold, Jim Calvert and Danny Haught hang out in the bleachers.



Left, Nick Schaer spent much of the day running after daughter Robin.



Right, Sissy Mullins holds Bella Grigg, the great niece of Mavis Layton.



Left, Frances Browning won first place and \$50 in the “Trash for Treasures” contest. Entries had to be made from recyclable materials and Browning crafted her creation from milk cartons.



Center, Brooke Chambers won the second-place prize of \$25 for bowls made from old paper products and third-place finisher Bethany Belding won \$15 for her tent made from recyclables.



Honoring years of service

DEP staffers photographed during Employee Recognition Event with Cabinet Secretary Randy Huffman. Complete list on page 4.



40 years: John Benedict.



20 years: Nick Schaer, Barbara Miles, Joel Maddy, John Perkins.



35 years: Frances Browning, David Cunningham, Mike Johnson.



15 years: Margie Skeens, Kathy Emery-Fultineer, Renee Chapman, Pam Ford, Robert Keatley, Dan Arnold, Yvonne Anderson, Doug Brown, Terri Lucas, John Legg, Carrie McCumbers.



30 years: Sudhir Patel, Mavis Layton, Lewis Halstead, Joe Hager, Suzi Adkins, Charlie Sturey, Mike Zeto.



10 years: Danny Wandling, Linda Keller, Patrick Burch, Carol Leffew, David Kersey, Debbie Pickens, Keith Stuart, Kay Rogers, Michael Whitman.



25 years: Jay Waugh, Fran Ryan, Craig Hatcher, Jim Ebert, Cheryl Lewis, Jim Laine, John Morgan.



5 years: Nancy Frazier, Scott Bartram, Kenna DeRaimo, Alana Hartman.

Mailroom has new face

■ *Chris Orcutt getting back to his roots in state government work*

By Colleen O'Neill

The new face in the mailroom is not new to state government.

"I was interested in the position because it is very similar to the duties I performed with the Division of Tourism, which I really enjoyed," said Chris Orcutt, the new inventory coordinator for the Department of Environmental Protection.

Orcutt comes to the DEP after a stint as a Kanawha County deputy. Before his law enforcement duties, he worked for Tourism in its Research and Development Unit.

"I wanted a new job that would allow me an opportunity to do what I enjoy, with an opportunity to advance my career, and also have more



Chris Orcutt, the DEP's new inventory coordinator, was a Kanawha County deputy after a 15-year stint in state government.

time with my wife and daughter," Orcutt said.

In 15 years at Tourism, Orcutt had a variety of duties. He supervised 30 employees and maintained the 1-800-CALL-WVA tourism line.

"I was responsible for the maintenance of the Tourism database and Web site, and research reporting," he said.

"Also, I assisted in the fulfillment center and

mailroom on an as-needed basis."

He also assisted with various conferences and travel shows, conducted presentations, and helped the IT coordinator with maintaining and documenting all fixed assets and vehicles owned by the agency.

At the DEP, Orcutt will conduct a physical inventory at all offices once a year. If a piece of

equipment needs to go to surplus, or gets transferred to a different employee, the inventory coordinator for that section will submit the paperwork to him, and he will update the information in the Financial Information Management System.

Orcutt said the most challenging aspect of his job will be getting familiar with the different processes of documenting the inventory.

"Inventory constantly changes via new, transferred to a different employee, retired, or e-recycled."

Orcutt's other responsibilities will include maintaining documentation of all assets more than \$1,000 owned by DEP, and its location; and to serve as a liaison to Surplus Property and to oversee the disposal of equipment, approve paperwork, and schedule

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Years of Service recognition

Five years

Scott Bartram, DMR; Bob Betterton, DAQ; Jason Chambers, DWWM; Kenna DeRaimo, administration; Jonathan Frame, administration; Nancy Frazier, administration; Thomas Gribben, DAQ; Megan Grose, DWWM; Alana Hartman, DWWM; Billie Hatfield, OOG; Justin Haymond, AML; Jonathan Holbert, DWWM; Sandra Horton, DMR; Jennifer Hughes, administration; April O'Dell, administration; Mark Parsons, DMR; Fenway Pollack, administration; Barry Stollings, OOG; Justin Walters, DMR.

10 years

Thomas Adkins, DMR; Charles Arthur, AML; Rich Boehm, DAQ; Mark Bolling, DWWM; Patrick Burch, DWWM; Natalya Chertkovsky-Veselov, DAQ; Allen Green, DAQ; Doug Kee, DWWM; Linda Keller, DWWM; David Kersey, administration; Joseph Kreger, DAQ; Carol Leffew, admini-

stration; George Mitchell, DLR; Jeanne Noll, DWWM; Debbie Pickens, administration; Pasupathy Ramanan, DLR; Kay Rogers, administration; William Rothwell, DAQ; Jerry Scarles, DLR; Sharon Seevers, DAQ; Keith Stuart, DLR; Matt Sweeney, DWWM; Jeanne Wagner, DAQ; Danny Wandling, DWWM; Michael Whitman, DWWM; Laurence Williams, DLR.

15 years

Pat Adkins, DAQ; Donna Ammons, DWWM; Yvonne Anderson, DMR; Dan Arnold, DWWM; Doug Brown, ITO; Juddie Burgess, DMR; Donald Burns, DLR; Neil Chakrabarty, ITO; Renee Chapman, DMR; Mark Drake, DAQ; Kathy Emery-Fultineer, DWWM; Pam Ford, AML; Helen Hardman, OOG; David Hight, DLR; Rebecca Johnson, DAQ; Robert Keatley, DAQ; John Legg, DAQ; Terri Lucas, DMR; Robin Mallett, administration; David McCoy, DLR;

Carrie McCumbers, DAQ; Michal Ong, DWWM; David Simmons, DWWM; Margie Skeens, DWWM; Katherine Thacker, DMR; G.D. Turner, DWWM; Teresa Weaver, administration.

20 years

Betty Hall, DMR; Sam Hampton, AML; William Hauer, DMR; Russ Hunter, DMR; Charles Joseph, DWWM; John Loughry, DLR; Joel Maddy, DAQ; Barbara Miles, administration; Paul Benedum, DLR; Pat Campbell, DWWM; Mark Cline, administration; Gene Coccaro, DAQ; Paul Dixon, DMR; Keith Evans, DMR; Larry Evans, ITO; Karen Everett, DLR; George Ford, DMR; John Perkins, DWWM; Nick Schaer, DMR; Dee Smith, DAQ; Sue Smith, DMR.

25 years

Daniel Bays, DMR; James Ebert, DAQ; Craig Hatcher, administration; Joe Hickman, DWWM; James Laine, DWWM; Cheryl Lewis, AML; John Morgan,

DWWM; Fran Ryan, DMR; Gene Smith, OOG; John Waugh, DWWM.

30 years

Suzi Adkins, DWWM; Jim Baczuk, AML; Phil Brannon, AML; Joe Hager, DMR; Lewis Halstead, DMR; Mavis Lynn Layton, DWWM; Cindy Musser, DWWM; Sudhir Patel, DWWM; David Porter, DAQ; James Rose, DMR; Terrie Sangid, DWWM; Charlie Sturey, DMR; Brent Wiles, DMR; Mike Zeto, DWWM.

35 years

David Broschart, AML; Frances Browning, DMR; David Cunningham, DLR; Jerry Cutright, AML; Mark Foley, DMR; Sandy Humphreys, DMR; Mike Johnson, DWWM; Terri McCormick, DWWM; Dian Mitchell, DMR; Michael Park, DLR; Matt Thompson, administration.

40 years

John Benedict, DAQ.



EPA Administrator Shawn Garvin, right, congratulates WVU President James Clements after WVU signed on with the EPA's Sustainability Partnership Program in Morgantown. In the background is DEP Sustainability Officer Greg Adolfson.

Sign of the times

■ *Marshall, WVU pledge to further pursue sustainability, with help from DEP, EPA*

By Tom Aluise

The Environmental Protection Agency's Shawn Garvin thinks colleges and universities are good venues to push the idea of sustainability.

"I think it is an important place for us to be partnering with because they have the environmental stewardship of their students and there are a lot of great opportunities at colleges and universities to be more sustainable and to help our environment," said Garvin, the EPA's Mid-Atlantic regional administrator.

On back-to-back days in September, West Virginia's two largest universities took steps toward becoming more sustainable when they signed on with the EPA's Sustainability Partnership Program (SPP). Marshall University held a signing ceremony on Sept. 20, while West Virginia University came on board the following day.



Garvin was also on hand with Marshall President Stephen Kopp when MU signed the SPP in Huntington.

Garvin attended both ceremonies on the schools' respective campuses. Marshall President Stephen Kopp and WVU President James Clements signed the agreement for their universities. DEP Sustainability Officer Greg Adolfson represented the agency at both sites.

The SPP was developed by the EPA's Mid-Atlantic Region

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OEA office expands by two DEP staffers

By Colleen O'Neill

Perusing the internal Department of Environmental Protection postings can prove beneficial, as it did in the case of the two hires who are now members of the Office of the Environmental Advocate.

Dennis Stottlemeyer and John King joined the citizen outreach office on Sept. 1.

"I was looking at the internal postings that Kim Akers sends out," King said. "I saw the posting, it looked interesting and I thought it was something I could do. My time in the Youth Environmental Program developed my ability to identify my audience and to communicate on their level of understanding. My experience as an environmental inspector taught me about the different regulations that DEP has and how to address water and waste issues pertaining to DEP."

Stottlemeyer also saw the posting on a DEP-wide e-mail. His past experience involves being an environmental consultant and working in the DEP's Division of Mining and Reclamation with its stream mitigation program as the mitigation coordinator. It was his experiences in consulting, however, that has equipped and will greatly aid Stottlemeyer in his new position.

"As an environmental consultant, I was often the conduit or interpreter of state and federal environmental regulations for my clients," Stottlemeyer said. "That experience really helped me to understand the way the DEP functions and how challenging it can be for the regulated community to navigate through some of our

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King



Stottlemeyer



Girl Scouts pick up trash along Magic Island in Charleston during the 21st annual Great Kanawha River Cleanup.

Volunteers turn out to clean up Kanawha River

By Colleen O'Neill

Area residents made the Kanawha River shine on Sept. 11. In three West Virginia counties, volunteers worked together to remove trash and debris from one of the state's major waterways.

Volunteers removed 117 tires and 6.75 tons of debris, up from last year's collection of six tons of trash and 70 tires.

"This year, we had more volunteers who removed more trash and tires," said Travis Cooper, West Virginia Make-It-Shine coordinator and member of REAP

(Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan). "It's very encouraging to see how citizens want to do what they can and pitch in to clean up the environment. We had all facets of the community, from Girl Scouts, to college students, to retired folks, helping out."

Cooper said 135 volunteers worked 540 man hours.

The cleanup followed the Kanawha River and targeted five sites in Kanawha, Putnam and Fayette counties.

REAP supplied the bags, gloves and trash grabbers. It also arranged for the trash and tire haul-away and disposal.



REAP Chief Danny Haught, left, helps the Great Kanawha River Navy and Lou Wendell Marine clean up the river.

FACE

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deliveries of property being retired by DEP. He will determine if the items being disposed of need to be e-cycled or disposed of in another manner other than being sent to Surplus Property. He also conducts the Annual Physical Inventory each year.

"My position also manages the mail operations for the DEP, looking for cost-effective ways to provide this service to the agency," Orcutt said. "I am also very fortunate to have the opportunity to supervise two great employees. They have helped me tremendously in learning about their operation and what they do."

Born and raised on Charleston's Westside, Orcutt still resides there with his wife and daughter.

"In my spare time, I love spending all the quality time possible with my wife and daughter," Orcutt said. "I also enjoy weightlifting, riding my mountain bike, and playing basketball."

BAY

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there's been a lot of struggle trying to reduce pollutant loads in West Virginia to meet what the Chesapeake Bay folks are saying West Virginia has to meet," Montali said.

Huffman praised Montali and the WIP team's ability to meet the Bay TMDL program's stringent deadlines in developing the state's WIP.

"This has involved analysis of potential allocation strategies, evaluation of model outputs and consideration of the impacts to the various sources," he said. "This is a challenging undertaking with political and economic nuances, in addition to being time consuming and on a tight schedule above our normal standard TMDL development processes.

"This is a huge accomplishment and goes back to Dave's ability to work with people to meet a goal. Dave is a pleasure to work with and always makes the time to provide needed feedback on issues and problems the Bay program delivers with little warning or turn-around time."

That, in fact, is an aspect of the job Montali really enjoys. There is nothing cookie-cutter about it, he said.

"There are always different issues to figure out. That's what I like to do," he said.

DEP retirements

Jana Reppy

Division of Mining and Reclamation

Last day: Sept. 24, 2010

Years of service: 28

Joe Altieri

Division of Mining and Reclamation

Last day: Aug. 31, 2010

Years of service: 18

Altieri says: I appreciated my time with the DEP, enjoyed working there and enjoyed all my fellow co-workers.

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Brownfields conference continues to get bigger

By Tom Aluise

The growth of the annual West Virginia Brownfields Conference goes hand-in-hand with George Carico's take on the views of developers looking to build on or reuse potentially contaminated property.

"There is a whole lot more interest in brownfields," said Carico, project coordinator for the West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Center at Marshall University. "We're finally getting communities rolling up their sleeves and saying, 'Hey, we can do something here.'"

The brownfields assistance centers at Marshall and West Virginia University, in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Protection, State Development Office and the Air and Waste Management Association, sponsored the fifth annual West Virginia Brownfields Conference in September at the Charleston Marriott. Both centers at Marshall and WVU have been in existence for five years.

The two-day conference attracted close to 220 participants who were treated to guest speakers, educational programs, exhibits and many networking opportunities for communities, developers and service providers.

The first state Brownfields Conference, held in Charleston in 2006, attracted 130 partici-



The fifth annual West Virginia Brownfields Conference attracted close to 220 participants to the Charleston Marriott. It was the event's largest turnout ever.

pants.

"It's been five years since brownfields assistance centers were put in at Marshall and WVU and that's significant," West Virginia Sen. Brooks McCabe said during a keynote address. "I think we're now seeing throughout the state the positive effects from your work."

Carico said the assistance centers aren't doing it alone.

"The DEP's Division of Land Restoration staff makes it quite easy to get current information on specific sites where potential redevelopment opportunities occur, or are being considered," he said. "(DLR Director) Ken Ellison and his staff are also always willing to meet with the people we interact with, helping them to understand that DEP is there to assist them, along with our brownfields centers, in the process of redeveloping brownfield properties. It's a great partnership."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency defines a brown-

field as "real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant."

McCabe, who has 30 years of experience in commercial and investment real estate and a keen interest in restoring historic properties, said the best way to save money is to clean up and redevelop brownfields in urban areas, where infrastructure such as sewer systems and roads is already in place.

McCabe also urged developers and conservationists to work together to find common ground.

"If we're going to focus on brownfields redevelopment, we have to be conscious of environmental stewardship," McCabe said. "If we can get the environmental community to start working with the development community, it will create a win-win situation."

Craddock will still have streams on his mind

By Colleen O'Neill

After spending more than a decade as the West Virginia Save Our Streams coordinator, Tim Craddock is taking on the challenge of a new position. He still will, however, be involved with WV SOS and the state's rivers and streams.

"I do have a love for teaching people about



Craddock

restoration and protection of our waters."

His new position is the Division of Water and Waste Management's Nonpoint Source

our rivers and streams,"

Craddock said. "This position is a chance to do more toward the

restoration and protection of our waters."

His new position is the Division of Water and Waste Management's Nonpoint Source

program coordinator.

A statewide position, Craddock will manage grant money that comes from the Clean Water Act's 319 Program, and will help organizations throughout the state develop and implement projects to restore waterways impaired by non-point source pollution problems. Once organizations receive grants, they must produce re-

sults.

"I track the progress of these projects and funds," Craddock said. "I use various databases set up by EPA to track these funds and the grants progress. I provide technical assistance for project development and will periodically visit project locations to oversee progress, when nec-

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Impact Forum touches on other non-coal effects to bats

By Tom Aluise

The forum was titled “Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines” and that topic undoubtedly dominated September’s four-day event that was presented by the Department of Environmental Protection and the federal Office of Surface Mining.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service’s Christy Johnson-Hughes, however, provided a different twist to the threatened and endangered bat issue during her presentation on the forum’s final day at the Ramada Inn in South Charleston.

Instead of focusing on mining’s impact on bats, Johnson-Hughes highlighted how other energy sources, and the methods of delivering that energy, are affecting different species of bats.

“There are other energy sources that impact bat species that don’t have as many tried and true methods of mitigating those impacts,” Johnson-Hughes said.

Included in that group is wind energy.

“West Virginia has a very high rate of bat mortality on wind farms,” Johnson-Hughes said. “Wind farms kill 60 to 100 migrating birds a season and bats are a much higher number — probably in the thou-



The first day of the bat forum included a field trip to pre-law mining sites in the New River Gorge where bat friendly gated closures have been installed in several mine portals.



sands.” Bats and birds mistake the towering wind turbines as trees and are subsequently susceptible to the turbines’ lethal spinning blades.

Large wind farms also adversely affect bat habitats.

“This will have a huge impact on bat species

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At left, the field trip included a stop at Grandview to view a bat condo. Right, DMR biologist Bob Fala, one of the forum’s organizers, speaks during a stop at a Pritchard Mining surface mine near Kanawha State Forest. There is a known Indiana Bat colony in the vicinity and the property contains several bat boxes.

STREAMS

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essary.”

Craddock’s time as the WV SOS coordinator helped prepare him for his new position.

“The WV SOS major impetus is education, but in some cases I’ve encouraged and participated in restoration projects, especially the monitoring of those projects” he said. “WV SOS has provided me with the technical knowhow to be able to step into the nonpoint coordinator

role, but there is still much to learn.”

Having spent 12 years as the sole coordinator for the WV SOS program, Craddock has greatly enhanced the program and helped make it a valid tool for communities to use in safeguarding their creeks and streams. He credits the overall success of the program to the citizens.

“I’ve been the WV SOS coordinator for a long time and I’m proud of how the program’s changed and grown,” Craddock said. “We now

have a much better educated public. I took a program that was once somewhat simple and developed it into a much more progressive and scientifically valid tool for volunteers to monitor their streams.

“Now, the program is well known across the country and has been a model for the development of similar programs in surrounding states, and as far away as Japan.

“We developed one of the first online databases for volunteer surveys and it still is the

only source of online water quality data from the Department of Environmental Protection.

“But the accomplishment I am most proud of is the citizens. It is the volunteer organizations, teachers, students, and other involved citizen scientists, who have grown the program into something much more meaningful.”

Craddock is charged with finding, hiring, and training his replacement for WV SOS.

His last day as WV SOS coordinator is Oct. 14.

FORUM

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and a very large landscape impact as wind farms expand,” Johnson-Hughes said. “There is a lot of potential for energy source development.”

With that development is the need to find ways to transfer that energy. More transmission lines will further fragment bat habitats, Johnson-Hughes said.

“With increased wind we’ll have transmission lines where we didn’t have them before,” she said. “Those lines are different from what we have now. It’s a totally different look on the landscape.”

Johnson-Hughes said because wind farms are often on private land, it’s difficult for federal agencies to mitigate their impact on endangered and threatened bat species.

“You pay the landowner, get a lease and you’re good to go,” Johnson-Hughes said. “There is no federal oversight if it’s on private land.

“I don’t have the authority to say no. But if we work together, maybe we can coordinate together so we don’t whack as many bats when these turbines start spinning.”

Johnson-Hughes said the USFWS encourages the use of best available science and management practices, as well as voluntary coordination among energy producers and federal and state agencies, to minimize the impact of wind farms on threatened bats.

She said early coordination and timely review produce the greatest conservation benefit and cost effectiveness.

Human Resources corner



Changes in ERIS Time and Activity will mean less paperwork for all

Upcoming improvements to ERIS Time and Activity will cut down on the amount of paperwork required by employees and supervisors.

Coming soon is a new function that will allow employees to accrue holiday time by simply putting the hours worked on their ERIS timesheet and submitting it to their supervisor for approval. There will be no more paper forms to follow up with.

And Melinda Campbell, DEP Administrative Services manager, said that won’t be the end of the improvements to ERIS Time and Activity.

“As soon as this new function is implemented, we’ll be moving onto accruing compensatory time and overtime straight from the time submittal in ERIS,” she said. “The goal is to have employees complete their timesheet and have everything from that timesheet role up to HR/Payroll so employees and supervisors don’t have to complete extra paperwork.”

The changes will help the payroll staff because it currently has to compare paper overtime and comp time sheets to the ERIS Time and Activity submissions, follow up with employees when the two don’t match, and then scan the forms into the employee payroll file. That can be time-consuming and ties up the payroll staff when it could be helping employees with other issues.

At some point in the near future, employees will enter time into ERIS, submit it for approval and do nothing else to take care of their time, overtime, comp time, and holiday accruals.

Watch for the news from HR about the implementation of these changes.


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Shooting range

Built on a reclaimed surface coal mine site which later became the Chief Logan Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Logan County, a new Shooting Range was dedicated on Sept. 8. The new DNR range includes eight shooting benches with a covered shelter. Target frames are located at 25, 50 and 100 yards. The Coalfields Archery Club also constructed a 3-D bow range off the access road leading to the shooting range. Logan County’s first ever WMA was acquired as a State Coal Program compensatory stream mitigation project negotiated with Arch Coal and Massey Energy.

SIGN

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to assist organizations in their efforts to reduce the amount of energy, water and natural resources they use.

Staff from the EPA will assist with formulating plans to help organizations accomplish their “green” goals.

Both Marshall and WVU have already embarked on environmentally friendly initiatives such as recycling programs, energy-efficient lighting, “green” vegetated roofing and bike loan programs to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

By 2016, WVU will have spent \$50 million on energy-saving renovations across campus, Clements said.

Marshall Sustainability Manager Margie Phillips said the school’s partnership with the EPA will help it identify additional sustainable goals.

“The EPA will assist in developing a comprehensive ‘green plan’ for the university,” she said.



Taking part in a “green” roof tour at WVU’s Brooks Hall were (from left) Randy Crowe, professional technologist with the Department of Geology and Geography at WVU; Joe Fisher, associate vice president for WVU Facilities; Shawn Garvin, regional administrator for the EPA; Clement Solomon, director of sustainability at WVU; Peter Piergiovanni, environmental engineer with EPA; Jessica Greathouse, state and congressional liaison with EPA; Greg Adolfson, DEP sustainability officer; and Steven Kite, chairperson with the Department of Geology and Geography at WVU.

“The overall goal is to minimize the use of energy, resources and waste generation.

“Future plans include performing a sustainability assessment, implementing composting, developing and maintaining a rain garden and other green initiatives.

“This signing will benefit not only Marshall, but reaches out

to current and future students by teaching them the importance of sustainable living.”

Like Garvin, WVU Director of Sustainability Clement Solomon said a college campus is the perfect setting for sustainable ideals.

“Universities and colleges are ideal settings and incubators to develop systemic strategies, innovative

technological solutions and new behaviors that have consequences in a real world context,” Solomon said.

“The sustainability partnership between WVU and the EPA is an alliance that is sure to yield a positive outcome both on campus and the community at large.”

The DEP is helping to promote the SPP throughout the state.

“Marshall University’s and West Virginia University’s commitment to sustainability, in concert and in partnership with the EPA Region 3 and the DEP, lays the foundation for networking, sharing ideas and resources, and contributing to growing sustainable schools in West Virginia,” the DEP’s Adolfson said.

“Marshall and WVU have special roles to play. As a place of learning, Marshall and WVU can help students understand our impact on the planet; and become places where sustainable living, working and playing are demonstrated to younger generations and the community.”

In memory

Debbie Bowman, a 14-year employee in the Department of Environmental Protection’s Fiscal



Services, died on Sept. 17 at home.

She was 55. She is survived by her husband, Jim; daughter, Jami Saul and her husband, Joe; sister

Susan Saucy; brother Ken Nolan and his wife, Debbie; and two grandchildren, Tanner and Maddy Saul.

She was born April 10, 1955 in Florida and was a daughter of the late Al and Jean McHone Nolan.

Debbie enjoyed gardening, antique collecting and spending time with her grandchildren.



Children’s Water Festival

Toni Miller (top, left) and Trisha Sizemore (right) spend time with area fourth- and fifth-graders during the 11th annual Children’s Water Festival on Sept. 17 at the Marshall Grad College in South Charleston. Close to 275 kids attended.



OEA

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processes. My experiences in consulting dealt with investigations and cleanups at Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and Superfund sites, UST investigations and removals, landfill permitting and construction, PCB cleanups, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System industrial permitting and construction, and stormwater permitting and construction.

“On almost every project, I had to coordinate and manage client needs with regulatory requirements and community impacts.”

Both men are involved with environmental endeavors outside of work and are outdoor enthusiasts. It only seems fitting that they take care of the environment.

Stottlemeyer hikes, bikes and runs along Davis Creek, and King hunts and fishes across West Virginia’s adventurous terrain.

Both men are members of watershed associations. Stottlemeyer belongs to the Davis Creek and Coal River groups, while King is a member of the Morris Creek Watershed Association.

“In 1999, Morris Creek was full of solid waste and practically dead from acid mine drainage,” King said.

“To make a long story short, we stumbled across two Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation/DEP employees, Sheila Vukovich and Lindsey Abraham, and asked them what we could do to fix our stream.

“They replied, ‘Call Jennifer Pauer and ask her to help you form a watershed association.’

“Today, Morris Creek is clean, clear and supporting three species of trout.

“It’s amazing what can happen when holistic watershed resource management is used by a group of concerned citizens.”

Stottlemeyer’s love for the environment has been transferred to his children.

“Both of my kids were lucky enough to go to Outdoor Classroom with their third-grade teacher Kim Shomo,” he said. “They also attended the Youth Conservation Camp this summer and really enjoyed it. I think they will be environmentalists by default!”

It has been about a month since Stottlemeyer and King began their new positions.

Both men agree it’s been busy.

“I’m encouraged about the number of people who care about environmental issues, and want to be part of the solution,” King said.

“I hope that the Office of Environmental Advocate can continue to expand upon the tradition of assisting citizens and citizen groups,” Stottlemeyer said.

“It’s important that the citizens and citizen

groups understand the DEP’s mission and procedures, and that the excellent staff at DEP are fully understanding of the citizens’ concerns.”

Since the creation of the DEP in 1992, the office has always been one advocate and one assistant.

The addition of two advocates will greatly increase the DEP’s reach and ability to serve the citizens of West Virginia.

“It is really great having John and Dennis join the Office of the Environmental Advocate,” said Pam Nixon, who has served as DEP’s Environmental Advocate since November 1998.

“Both individuals have worked in other sections of the DEP and they bring their unique qualities and abilities to the office.

“With a larger staff, it allows us to be more accessible to the public and to place more attention on regional issues that affect the state as a whole.”

Officials tour reclamation sites

Two high-level officials from the U.S. Department of the Interior spent three days touring southern West Virginia to get a closer look at post-mining land use implementation.

Sylvia Baca, deputy assistant secretary for Land and Minerals Management, and Joe Pizarchik, director of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, traveled through Clay, Logan and Mingo counties recently where they visited several reclamation sites.

“We wanted the Department of the Interior folks to see first-hand some of the post-mining land use potential there is in this state,” said the DEP’s Benny Campbell, an assistant director with the DMR out of Logan and one of the tour guides.

“It was more of an informational, boots-on-the-ground tour,” Campbell said. “Director Pizarchik has flown in a helicopter

over these sites before, but he wanted to come back with Sylvia to see it from the ground. And, he wanted to spend time with the people of West Virginia, talking to citizens, industry folks and stakeholders.”

Among the group’s stops were Fola Coal in Clay County to look at stream restoration and reforestation; King Coal Highway and Mingo County High School site construction on former mining lands; and Coal-Mac Mining to look at slurry impoundments and pipeline and valley fill minimization.

White Flame Energy’s Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative forestry success on the Logan-Mingo county line also was included in the interagency site visit.

Additional tours from Washington D.C. might occur in the future, Campbell said.



Top, Joe Pizarchik, Tom Clarke, Sylvia Baca and Roger Calhoun, head of the OSM Charleston field office, tour a construction site on the King Coal Highway. Right, the group looks at reclamation work at Coal-Mac Mining on the Mingo-Logan county line.



COUNSEL

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old Boggs, a 2005 West Virginia University law school grad. "There are so many broad issues. I've said this is the longest time I've ever felt dumb in a job. I'm still surprised at the things that encompass environmental protection."

Somewhat surprisingly, environmental law wasn't even on Boggs' radar screen while she was attending law school in Morgantown.

"I didn't take environmental law in school and I didn't take coal, oil and gas," she said. "It was my last year, and I didn't want to work that hard."

"I really thought I would be doing civil defense litigation. But this is sort of the direction that my career has gone and I've found that I like the 'counselor' aspects of it as opposed to the 'hired gun' part of being a trial lawyer."

"I like appellate work better than I like actual litigation. So, I'm finding

that while I thought my career was going to go one way, I'm really kind of happy about the direction it has gone."

A self-proclaimed "work nerd" Boggs said she rarely dislikes a job. After earning her undergraduate degree in political science/pre-law from Ohio University in 1998, Boggs worked as a paralegal before entering law school in 2002. She was an attorney at Goodwin & Goodwin in Charleston prior to joining the DEP and practiced a good mix of law there, including corporate defense and some complex plaintiff's cases, including medical malpractice and the litigation that arose from the Sago Mine disaster.

"That's one of the neat things about being a lawyer," Boggs said. "You learn a little bit about all kinds of different businesses and activities, but you never have to really master the nuts and bolts of any of it. I really do know just enough about

a wide range of things to be quite dangerous. It's been fun."

Boggs does, however, draw the line at one type of law. "The only thing I would never do is domestic law," she said. "There's just no way — it's too emotionally draining. I've said if the only option left for me was to be a family lawyer, I would be a Walmart greeter instead, and hand out carts."

Boggs moved from Montgomery to Gallipolis, Ohio, when she was 10. By the time she reached the ninth grade, she knew she wanted to be an attorney.

"My freshman year of high school, I was between becoming a journalist and going to law school," Boggs said. "Then I signed up for the school's mock trial team and that did it. I wanted to be a lawyer from then on."

Now, she's got a full plate of everything, from human resources and other administrative issues to legislative duties

and a major internal review of the DEP's Office of Oil and Gas. Just this spring, Boggs helped develop the DEP's guidance document for enforcing the state's narrative water quality standards.

She also works closely with the DEP's Office of Legal Services, which defends the agency's policies.

"This is a great place to work and a great atmosphere," Boggs said.

On top of that, Boggs has developed quite the keen eye for environmental compliance issues.

"Now, I can't drive down the street without seeing environmental violations," she said. "So, I can't imagine having worked here 20 years. Those guys must not be able to go anywhere, because if I can look at something and say, 'That's an erosion and sediment control problem,' then it has to drive those folks who really know what they're doing nuts."

Youth Environmental Conference Oct. 15-17

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection will sponsor its 35th annual Youth Environmental Conference Oct. 15-17 at Cacapon Resort State Park in Berkeley Springs.

Members of the WVDEP's Youth Environmental Program, ages 13 to 18, are eligible for the conference, which is filled with environmental activities and workshops on topics such as geocaching, quality deer management and recycling. Tours are scheduled to the USDA National Science Center, Yankauer Nature Preserve and Whiting's Neck karst cave. For more information on the conference, contact Diana Haid at 304-926-0499, Ext. 1114.

New Additions Recent DEP hires

- ▶ Michael Jackson, DLR
- ▶ John Poindexter, DWWM
- ▶ Robert Price, DMR



About 60 people took part in a canoe trip focusing on a dye-trace study of sink holes located near Opequon Creek.

Karst conference a success

Close to 200 participants attended the seventh annual Growing Communities on Karst 2010 Great Valley Water Resources Science Forum Sept. 15-17 at the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service National Conservation Training Center near Shepherdstown.

Among the topics the three-day event focused on were water quality and land-use issues on environmentally sensitive lands; Marcellus Shale drilling and related water issues; and remediation regulations.

Regional and local officials from the U.S. Geological Survey, GeoConcepts, Earth Vector Systems, the Mahfood Group and the West Virginia DEP helped organize the conference.