

County News

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"The wisdom to know and the courage to defend the public interest"

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Inside this issue ...



Facing steep hikes in energy prices, counties turn innovative in getting a good deal for their taxpayers. See page 8.



How many votes can your county cast in NACO's race for second vice president at the 2006 Annual Conference in Chicago? See pages 12-17.



Photos courtesy of Corson County, S.D. Sheriff Keith Gall

A county employee has been charged with arson in connection with a midnight fire April 10 that gutted the 96-year-old Corson County, S.D. courthouse. (See page 5 for the complete story.)

Senate approves immigration bill

Includes funding stream for local health, education costs

By MARILINA SANZ
ASSOCIATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

The Senate approved the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2006, S. 2611, which includes several provisions of importance to counties.

The first is an amendment that establishes a new funding stream for state and local governments to pay for the health and education costs associated with immigration. The amendment was offered by Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas). The formula program would be paid for by an additional legalization fee.

States would have to pass through no less than 30 percent of the funds to local governments within 180 days of receiving the funds. The state allocation formula would be

based 80 percent on the non-citizen resident population of the state and 20 percent on growth rate of the non-citizen population. There would also be a minimum state allocation of \$5 million. The local government funds would be distributed by the states based on need and function.

The amendment also has language that ensures that these funds cannot be used by Congress for any other purpose. If the Cornyn amendment raises an estimated \$7 billion in fees, local governments would receive at least \$2.1 billion over the course of the program. Additionally, it is possible that some of the state funds will trickle down to counties and cities.

The Senate also considered

■ See IMMIGRATION on page 7

Ag spending bill posts small increase for RCAP

By JOE DUNN AND
MARILINA SANZ
ASSOCIATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORS

The House's FY07 agriculture appropriations bill cuts discretionary funding by \$96 million from FY06 spending levels but represents an increase of \$564 million over the administration's request. The total package of \$93.6 billion includes a discretionary spending level set at \$18.4 billion. The remainder funds mandatory programs such as food stamps and commodity payments.

Under the Rural Development title, the Rural Community Advancement Program (RCAP) would receive a modest increase of \$5 million, to \$700 million. RCAP is the umbrella program for rural utilities,

business programs and community facilities grants and loans.

The legislation, passed May 23, was approved after a series of votes that removed authorizing language from the bill. Specifically, House Agriculture Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.) raised two points of order against provisions that would have extended the Milk Income Loss Contract program and the peanut program.

The House also defeated an amendment by Rep. Ron Paul (R-Texas) that would have prohibited USDA from implementing a new animal identification program. Paul and others raised concerns

■ See AGRICULTURE on page 3

House passes forest restoration bill

Would speed recovery efforts after catastrophes

By PAUL BEDDOE
ASSOCIATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

The House passed H.R. 4200, the Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act of 2005 (FER-RA), with bipartisan support on a vote of 243-182. FERRA was supported by NACO and authored by Reps. Greg Walden (R-Ore.), Brian Baird (D-Wash.) and Stephanie Herseth (D-S.D.).

Forty-one Democrats joined most Republicans in voting for the bill, May 17, while 26 Republicans crossed the aisle to vote with the minority against it.

"The Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act would permit the professionals who manage our forests on a daily basis to use their practical experience, and research-

based knowledge, to make the timely and responsible decisions necessary to improve the health, vitality and safety of our national forests," said Wallowa County, Ore. Commissioner Ben Boswell.

This bill was designed to supplement the Healthy Forests Restoration

Act by addressing forest rehabilitation following catastrophic events—such as hurricanes, fires, tornados, windstorms or insect epidemics—as recommended by the scientific community.

The core principle at the heart of

■ See FORESTS on page 3

County News

Quik Takes

2005 Top Five Beaches in the U.S.

- 1 Fort Desoto Park – North Beach, St. Petersburg • Pinellas County, Fla.
- 2 Ocracoke Island – Outer Banks • Hyde County, N.C.
- 3 Hanalei Bay • Kauai County, Hawaii
- 4 Caladesi Island State Park – Clearwater • Pinellas County, Fla.
- 5 Fleming Beach • Maui County, Hawaii

Source: Stephen Leatherman, Florida International University researcher. Based on 50 criteria and review of more than 650 public beaches.

House Interior Appropriations bill includes PILT boost

By JULIE UFFNER
ASSOCIATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

The FY07 Interior Appropriations bill, H.R. 5386 passed the House by a vote of 293-128. The \$25.9-billion bill funds the Interior Department, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Forest Service, American Indian services, and cultural/arts programs through the Smithsonian Institution and the National Endowment for the Arts and Humanities. This was the first FY07 bill to successfully pass the House this year.

An uncontroversial amendment was approved by voice vote to increase the funding level for PILT to a record high level of \$244 million from the \$228 million proposed by the Appropriations Committee.

The amendment was offered on the floor by Rep. Chris Cannon (R-Utah), Chairman of the Western Caucus; Rep. Mark Udall (D-Colo.);

Rep. Rob Bishop (R-Utah); Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.), ranking minority member on the Resources Committee; Rep. Jim Gibbons (R-Nev.); and Rep. John Salazar (D-Colo.).

The increase was offset by a 15-percent reduction to the Department of the Interior administration and salaries line item — a budget which has more than doubled over the past five years. The acceptance by voice vote indicates the broad support the program enjoys — due in large part to the sustained effort of NACo and WIR members to explain the importance of the program to their representatives in Congress.

The bill's principal sponsor, Rep. Charles Taylor (R-N.C.), chairman of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, accepted the amendment, but noted that he was not entirely confident that the enhanced level could be sustained

all the way through conference with the Senate.

But the bill was not without its controversies. Within its parameters were several contentious amendments that inflamed members leading to fiery debates on the House floor, namely in the energy and environmental realm.

An amendment by Rep. Adam Putnam (R-Fla.) removed language allowing offshore natural gas drilling by a vote of 217-203. The moratoriums that are in place under current law disallow most offshore oil and gas drilling, except for some sections of the Gulf of Mexico and off the Alaskan coast.

Chairman Don Young (R-Alaska) successfully led a parliamentary challenge to remove from the bill non-binding "Sense of Congress" language stating that humans and their actions have caused global warming. Young asked that the

language be struck because he felt policy language did not belong in a spending bill. The Democrats did not fight the challenge and the provision was successfully removed.

The Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF) was cut significantly in the bill, from \$887 million to \$688 million, a \$200 million dollar cut from FY06 levels. Rep. David Obey (D-Wis.) attempted to offer an amendment that would have increased the CWSRF through tax increases, however, that amendment failed. The George W. Bush administration has consistently cut funding for CWSRF since FY04 when it was at a record funding level of \$1.35 billion. According to the administration, the program is already adequately funded and no additional money is needed.

One of the amendments that NACo opposed was offered by Reps. James Oberstar (D-Minn.), John Dingell (D-Mich.) and Jim Leach (R-Idaho). It passed by a vote of 222-198. Essentially, this amendment would stop the EPA from using funds to implement a three-year-old policy directive that limits Clean Water Act (CWA) protections for some streams, wetlands and other bodies of water such as man-made ditches.

Failing to limit some of the Clean Water Act protections, this fiscally affects counties in construction and transportation projects. This amendment would make the man-made ditches "jurisdictional," meaning wetland permits would be required for any construction, transportation or maintenance project a county does that affects ditches.

Ditches are pervasive in counties all across the nation, and, at least until recently, were never considered to be jurisdictional by the Corps of Engineers. However, in the past few years some district Corps offices have started to classify ditches as jurisdictional. When ditches are declared jurisdictional, permits are required. In some cases, permit delays through the Corps have caused needless delays and unexpected expenditure of additional funds.

NACo's policy calls on Congress

and the administration to clarify that municipal streets and gutters and man-made ditches are excluded from the definition of "waters of the United States," and that such waters should be regulated at the local level and not be subject to federal regulation.

The amendment offered by Reps. Steve Chabot (R-Ohio) and Robert Andrews (D-N.J.) to ban federal funding for building logging roads in the Tongass National Forest passed by a vote of 237-181. NACo opposed the amendment.

An amendment offered by Reps. Frank Pallone Jr. (D-N.J.) and Hilda L. Solis (D-Calif.) bars the EPA from relaxing reporting requirements for the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI). It passed by a 231-187 vote.

Last fall, the EPA proposed raising the threshold for detailed reporting from 500 pounds to 5,000 pounds per chemical handled by a facility annually. The agency is also considering a change to require companies to report emissions every other year, rather than annually. The amendment prevents the EPA from using any funds in the bill to finalize this change.

The Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) is a publicly available EPA database that contains information on toxic chemical releases and other waste management activities reported annually by certain covered industry groups as well as federal facilities. This inventory was established under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA) and expanded by the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990.

The TRI program came about in 1986 after a chemical plant in Bhopal, India exploded, killing 2,000 people. Shortly thereafter, there was a serious chemical release at another plant in West Virginia. These events highlighted the need for a federal community right-to-know policy.

More than 23,000 facilities in a variety of industries must now make annual detailed reports about the amount of some 650 chemicals their plants release. For more information, go to www.epa.gov/tri/.

From the President's PDA



Congress finally reauthorized the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant earlier this year as part of the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA), after about a dozen short-term extensions of the program. While the NACo Board of Directors selected TANF reauthorization as one of NACo's legislative priorities for 2006, NACo opposed the version that was included in the DRA. NACo's objections centered on several issues.

First, the bill changed the way that participation rates are measured. As a result, most states will have to increase the number of families that participate in the program without receiving additional training funds. The way the participation rates will be calculated is so strict that most states will not be able to meet them. States that don't meet the new requirements could face penalties of up to 5 percent of their TANF grant.

Second, the bill doesn't provide enough money for child care. It provides \$200 million more a year, but many more families will need to be served because of the changes in the program. The new money represents about \$69 a month for each new fam-



Bill Hansell
NACo President

ily that must be served under the program.

Third, the secretary of Health and Human Services was given wide discretion to determine how states define allowable work activities and who must participate. This notion is contrary to one of the original intents of the TANF law, which was to give states great flexibility in designing their programs.

Having said that, we must make the best of a bad situation. Counties want as much flexibility as possible, particularly with respect to work activities.

At the very least, we want no reduction in the types of activities that count toward participation, such as vocational education and job search.

Additionally, NACo believes that the secretary has been given enough discretion to also allow states and counties to count mental health and substance abuse treatment as allowable activities.

Individuals with mental health and substance abuse problems are a growing percentage of the TANF population, and the regulations need

to acknowledge this fact. This is an expansion that NACo sought in reauthorization. It was part of both the House and Senate bills, but had to be dropped because of the rules governing the budget reconciliation process under which the program was reauthorized.

HHS must submit regulations by the end of June. States and counties need to be given ample time to implement the new regulations, preferably until FY08.

There also needs to be flexibility in the penalty process. This would include a process that allows for corrective compliance. Additionally, partial credit should be given for individuals who are making progress but may be working fewer hours.

NACo will be closely monitoring the regulations and implementation. The Human Services and Education Steering Committee plans to invite HHS representatives to its meeting at the Annual Conference in Cook County to discuss implementation. The National Association of County Human Services Administrators is also planning several activities on implementation at its December meeting in Pinellas County, Fla.

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Locals' testimony sharpens focus on telecom franchising

By JEFF ARNOLD

DEPUTY LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

Local governments made a strong case for local video franchising at a hearing before the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation on S. 2686, as introduced by Chairman Ted Stevens (R-Alaska).

Dearborn, Mich. Mayor Michael A. Guido testified, May 18, on behalf of a number of local government associations, including NACo, the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National League of Cities.

Senators seemed to have reviewed the local government's testimony carefully because most of the senators' opening statements raised concerns about how local governments

were treated in the legislation and voiced concerns about the move away from local franchising.

In response, Stevens made clear that his version of the legislation was a "draft" and that staff would be directed to work with NACo and the other local government groups to address many of the concerns raised by the testimony. The next day, NACo and the other local groups met with Commerce Committee staff on both sides of the aisle. Here are the problems with S. 2686 as local governments see them:

- First, while the bill ostensibly preserves local franchising authority, the net effect is that it strips local authority and hands it, instead, to the FCC to determine virtually all

franchise terms by rulemaking. The bill further requires that a franchise be granted by federal law within 30 days of a broadband-video provider's filing an application. It also places an unreasonable, and what most cities and counties believe will be, unattainable mandate that localities must act within 15 days.

The consequence for not acting within 30 days of application is that the bill "federalizes" local video franchising and eliminates the 1-percent fee for public, educational and government (PEG) access channels used to carry local programming and appropriate institutional network (I-Net) obligations for government and emergency communications. (See chart, page 6.)

- Second, as crafted, the bill would send all rights-of-way disputes to the FCC, not the courts, which is the current practice. Communities, large and small, would be placed in the difficult position of reaffirming their rights-of-way management and practices by satisfying a set of hurdles, at least six in the current draft, before the FCC. Furthermore, if the provider wins, the local community would be required to pay the costs and attorneys fees of the broadband-video provider.

The bottom line is that the FCC is granted the authority to oversee and second-guess not only the general police powers of the community, but also the policies and engineering practices of public works depart-

ments nationwide—a federal agency that has never had the authority to regulate local public rights of way and has no expertise concerning local streets, sidewalks, public safety and traffic patterns.

- Third, this bill abandons commitments to keep localities financially whole in the rewrite of the video franchising process by excluding advertising and other non-subscriber revenues from the current 5-percent franchise fee. In addition, many communities have made the decision in their local franchises to obtain more than 1-percent worth of PEG and I-Net support for needs such as fire, police, and other governmental communications and, in those communities, local programming and emergency communications would be diminished as a result of this bill. The pledge to keep localities financially whole would be further marginalized by preemption language that does not allow localities to conduct franchise fee audits.

- Fourth, while the draft ostensibly prohibits economic redlining through the use of the current Cable Act, it allows providers of the broadband-video services to use the public rights of way in a community, but pick and choose which neighborhoods they wish to serve while bypassing all others completely, and

- Fifth, it appears that the bill fails to protect locally imposed telecom-

munications taxes as well as any state-imposed telecommunications taxes that are not imposed in lieu of rights-of-way compensation.

While not specifically an issue for local governments, the legislation (and its House counterpart H.R. 5252) is tangled up with concerns over "net neutrality." House Judiciary Chairman James Sensenbrenner (R-Wis.) has introduced additional legislation to protect consumers and other Internet users from possible anti-competitive and discriminatory conduct by broadband providers. Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.) has stated an interest in similar legislation.

Opponents of their measures argue that market forces, not regulation, should be the way the Internet works. Proponents of net neutrality say the Internet has been free of interference from network providers and should remain so. Sensenbrenner has said his committee will mark up his legislation and is prepared to offer it as an amendment to the House bill. Energy and Commerce Chair Joe Barton (R-Texas) vehemently opposes such a move. In the Senate, Stevens has net neutrality language in his bill, but it is weak. Stevens said he will mark up his bill in mid-June, and Dorgan may try to amend Stevens' bill at that time.

(For more information, contact Jeff Arnold, deputy legislative director at 202/942-4286 or jamold@naco.org.)

Pre-approved practices could begin within 60 days of catastrophe

■ FORESTS from page 1

FERRA is preparing for catastrophes in advance to reduce response time. For instance, FERRA authorizes "pre-approved practices" or treatments demonstrated to be successful under certain circumstances.

These pre-approved practices are subject to independent, third-party peer review, and public notice and comment procedures. After a catastrophe these practices could be implemented within 60 days.

When federal managers do not have a pre-approved practice for an area affected by a catastrophic event, FERRA expedites environmental review of the proposed action and no-action alternatives, shortening the process to 120 days.

"Our common sense, bipartisan legislation came to the House floor after nine committee hearings across

the country, more than 50 different drafts, and overwhelming support by both the House Resources and House Agriculture committees," Rep. Walden, who chairs the Resources Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health, said in a statement. "Thousands upon thousands of foresters, scientists, firefighters, local government officials and private landowners agree: federal forestland managers need the authorities provided by the Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act for the future of America's national forests."

FERRA is intended to give federal land managers tools to quickly start restoration efforts in America's national forests and on private land that are damaged by catastrophic events, without waiving environmental laws, if quick action is found to be beneficial to the long-term health and recovery of the forest.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program funds stay high

■ AGRICULTURE from page 1

about the program's impact on small farmers and ranchers and privacy issues. However, an overwhelming majority of members disagreed and stated that the program was necessary to ensure a safe food supply for U.S. consumers and foreign trading partners. When fully operational, the animal identification or tracking system will allow animal tracing to be completed within 48 hours of a disease detection, ensuring rapid containment of the disease.

At the subcommittee level, the House rejected the president's

proposal to eliminate the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and funded it at \$118 million, one of the highest levels ever. The mandatory child nutrition programs were funded at \$13.3 billion, \$685 million more than for FY06. The subcommittee estimates that the Food Stamp program will need \$37.9 billion.

In FY06, the program had \$2.8 billion more, partly because of the higher number of participants after last year's hurricane season. The Women, Infants and Children's Supplemental Feeding Program received \$5.2 billion, a slight increase over current funding.

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Geospatial Data Solutions is offering **special discount pricing** of Digital Globe QuickBird imagery to local government users. QuickBird provides the highest spatial resolution (60 cm, or about 2 feet, per pixel) commercially available from an imaging satellite. These images are a cost-effective alternative to traditional aerial photos.

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PROFILES

In Service...



John Maynard

Supervisor
Santa Cruz County, Ariz.
Rural Action Caucus
Steering Committee

Number of years active in NACo: 6

Years in Public Service: 10 years as a staff person, 6 years as an elected official (2 years left in my second term)

Occupation: County supervisor

Education: Bachelor of arts from Hobart College, 1975; MLA, Cal Poly, School of Environmental Design, 1980

The hardest thing I've ever done: Went through a divorce.

Three people (living or dead) I'd invite to dinner: Grandfather (deceased), father (deceased) and son for an oyster roast.

A dream I have is to: Build a cabin on a lake.

You'd be surprised to learn that I: Worked as a landscape architect.

The most adventurous thing I've ever done is: Climbed Popocatepetl, 17,929 ft. dormant volcano in Mexico.

My favorite way to relax is: Powder skiing in Utah.

I'm most proud of: My son, for completing college.

Every morning I read: E-mail and the local newspaper.

My favorite meal is: Fresh seafood.

My pet peeve is: Roadside litter.

My motto is: Listen before you act.

The last book I read was: *A View from Bald Hill*, by Carl E. Bock.

My favorite movie is: *Out of Africa*.

My favorite music is: Contemporary jazz.

My favorite president is: George Washington.



County News invites Letters to the Editor

If you have a compliment, complaint or different point of view, let us know.

Please include a phone number with your letter. Mail, fax or e-mail to: County News, NACo, 440 First St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001-2080; 202/393-2630; cnews@naco.org.

Locals face homeland security cuts as FY07 spending debates begin

By DALEN A. HARRIS
 ASSOCIATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

Prior to adjourning for the Memorial Day recess, the House began debate on the FY07 spending bill for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The bill proposes a total of \$32 billion for operations and activities that DHS manages in FY07. This is a slight increase compared to FY06 enacted levels, and is \$1.065 billion more than the president's FY07 budget request.

The bill proposes significant reductions for many programs important to state and county governments and continues Congress' gradual trend of reducing funding for these vital programs.

Specifically, the bill proposes:

- \$545 million for DHS State Homeland Security Grant Program (a decrease of \$540 million);
- \$750 million for Urban Area Security Initiative Grant Program (a decrease of \$135 million);
- \$500 million for Fire Grants (a decrease of \$215 million); and
- \$306 million for First Responder Training and Exercises (an increase of around \$88 million).

Additional programs important to state and local governments include: \$400 million for DHS' Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Grant Program; \$186 million for Emergency Management Performance Grant Programs; \$1.66 billion for FEMA's Disaster Relief Account; \$198 million for FEMA's Flood Map Modernization Fund; and \$150 million for FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program.

Prior to departure, the House approved an amendment that would increase funding for the nation's firefighters. Sponsored by Rep. Martin Sabo (D-Minn.), the amendment would increase DHS' Fire Grants program by \$41 million, raising the total to \$541 million. While this is a substantial increase from the president's budget request (\$293 million), this figure is still far less than the \$655 million Congress enacted for the program in FY06.

On June 6, the House of Representatives will resume debate on the FY07 DHS appropriation bill. County officials and local public safety officials should be advised that members of Congress will propose additional amendments to increase funding for several programs important to state and local governments. However, Congress will likely only provide slight increases to these programs if they enact any at all.

Department Of Homeland Security Budget *

Preparedness Directorate

Key State and Local Programs	FY05 Enacted	FY06 Enacted	FY07 President's Budget Requested	FY07 House Suggested
State Homeland Security Grant Program	\$1,085	\$550	\$633	\$545
Urban Area Security Initiative	\$885	\$765	\$838	\$750
Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Grant	\$386	\$440	\$0	\$400
Fire Grants	\$715	\$655	\$293	\$500
Emergency Management Performance Grant	\$174	\$185	\$170	\$186
State and Local Training Programs	\$446	\$346	\$211	\$306
Citizen Corp	\$15	\$20	\$35	\$0
Metropolitan Medical Response System	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$33
Subtotal	\$3,736	\$2,991	\$2,210	\$2,720

FEMA Programs

Key State and Local Programs	FY05 Enacted	FY06 Conference Report (Final)	FY07 President's Budget Request	FY07 House Suggested
Disaster Relief Fund	\$2,042	\$1,700	\$1,941	\$1,662
Flood Map Modernization Fund	\$200	\$200	\$199	\$198
National Predisaster Mitigation Fund	\$100	\$50	\$150	\$100
Emergency Food and Shelter	\$153	\$151	\$151	\$151
Subtotal	\$2,495	\$2,101	\$2,441	\$2,111
Total	\$6,231	\$5,092	\$4,651	\$4,831

* Figures are in millions

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Fire destroys Corson County, S.D. courthouse

By Allison Mall
Editorial Assistant

If the Corson County, S.D. commissioners learned anything from the fire that destroyed the county's 96-year-old courthouse in April, it is the importance of fire-proof vaults, which the building had. That, and sprinklers, which it did not.

A little after midnight on Sunday, April 10, a neighbor smelled smoke and saw the white, two-story wood

courthouse blazing. Although three fire engines fought the blaze, the courthouse was quickly engulfed in flames and burned to the ground.

On May 30, a county employee was charged with two counts of arson, one for the courthouse fire and one for a December fire which destroyed an old highway shop being used for storage.

Most county records were up-to-date and stored in the courthouse's

four fire-proof vaults, and are fine, although a bit damp and sooty. The vault also contained the county's newly purchased electronic voting machines, which appear to be undamaged but will need to be tested before they are used in the June primary election.

The only records that did not survive the blaze were those from the assessor's office, which were kept in standard filing cabinets. Corson

County Commissioner Mike Mickelson said it will take years to replace the original card files and photos from that office, however, all of the files were backed up on tape and the assessor always took a current copy home, so the records are intact.

County business was not completely halted after the fire, since the Sheriff's Department is housed separately from the courthouse. Within 72 hours, most county services

were relocated to the sheriff's office, fire hall and 4-H building and were available on a limited basis.

County officials have formed a building committee to begin the process of replacing the courthouse, and hope that construction can start this year and be completed in 2007.

The new building will be on the same block as the old site and will be upgraded, with a sprinkler and fire-suppression system, in addition to a multipurpose media and technology room.

Mickelson said, "Of course, money is a concern because even with replacement-cost insurance coverage, that alone will not finance the total cost of a new courthouse. Upgrades to meet the new building codes, architect and expenses are all uncovered losses."

However, he also added that "the best thing to witness after a tragedy like this is the loyalty, commitment and wonderful attitudes of the employees and officials working together to make the best of a bad situation."

"We have a long way to go yet, but I'm hoping that the building process can be an enjoyable experience. With input and ideas from all our employees I'm sure we can build a new courthouse that is not only extremely functional but also the type of structure that our taxpayers will be proud of."

The courthouse was the last two-story wood frame courthouse still in use in South Dakota.

Line-up set for annual conference opening ceremony

2006 NACo Annual Conference visitors won't want to miss the conference's Opening General Session, scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 6 at 10 a.m. at McCormick Place's Arie Crown Theater in Chicago.

The event will include performances by the Shannon Rovers, the Barrett Sisters and Wayne Messmer

singing the national anthem. The Presentation of Colors will be undertaken by the Cook County Sheriff's Department.

Wayne Messmer is well known to sports fans across the country, as the voice of the Chicago Cubs baseball team as both an announcer and singer of the National Anthem. He has also

lent his voice to the World Champ Chicago White Sox, the Chicago Blackhawks hockey team, the Chicago Wolves hockey franchise and the Chicago Bulls.

Film buffs may remember the Barrett Sisters from the 1981 documentary film "Say Amen, Somebody." But sisters Delois, Billie and Rodessa Barrett began singing together long before that, as children in the 1940s in Chicago. The great gospel singer Mahalia Jackson offered high praise for Delois' voice, saying it "opens up like a rose." Lee Hildebrand of the *Chicago Reader* has described the group's vocal work as "heavenly harmonizing." The Barrett Sisters have been a fixture at gospel festivals across the nation since the 1960s, and continue to be one of the most popular and revered gospel ensembles in the United States.

Singers will share the stage Aug. 6 with one of the most popular "pipe" ensembles in the nation. The bagpipes are beloved for their stirring, powerful sounds, and there is no better group to play the pipes than the Shannon Rovers. For more than 75 years, this world-renowned bagpipe band has dazzled people at venues that range from parades to public concerts. They've played for presidents and popes, and are revered for both their musicianship and their stunning showmanship as a marching band.

For more information about the 2006 NACo Annual Conference and Exposition, go to the NACo Web site, www.naco.org, or go directly to Cook County's NACo Web site, at www.cookcountygov.com/naco. See you this August!



Photo by Tom Goodman

NACo President Bill Hansell reviews one of the exhibits at the Botanical Treasures of Lewis and Clark, which opened this month at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. The exhibition features more than 60 works of art based on observations of flora identified by Lewis and Clark during their two-year journey in search of the elusive Northwest Passage. NA Co, as well as nine state associations of counties (Idaho, Iowa, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota and Washington) are among the exhibition's sponsors. The show opened May 18 and runs through July 19.



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MINNESOTA Franchise Area	Current PEG Annual Funding (excluding franchise fees)	PEG Annual Funding under H.R. 5252 and S. 2686 (1% of gross revenues)	PEG Annual Funding Loss under H.R. 5252 and S. 2686
St. Paul	\$1,437,000 (\$761,000 for operations, \$676,000 for equipment)	\$361,000	\$1,076,000 (75%)
Arden Hills, Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Little Canada, Mounds View, New Brighton, North Oaks, Roseville, Shoreview, St. Anthony	\$1,046,023 (\$951,629 operating grant, \$94,394 equipment grant)	\$218,022	\$828,001 (79%)
Birchwood, Dellwood, Grant, Lake Elmo, Mahtomedi, Maplewood, North Saint Paul, Oakdale, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake, White Bear Township, Willernie	\$811,000 (\$771,000 for operations, \$40,000 for equipment)	\$222,000	\$589,000 (73%)
Blaine, Centerville, Circle Pines, Ham Lake, Lexington, Lino Lakes, Spring Lake Park	\$591,190 (for operations and equipment)	\$139,188	\$452,002 (76%)
Eagan, Burnsville	\$647,982 (for operations and equipment)	\$225,237	\$422,745 (65%)
Andover, Anoka, Champlin, Ramsey	\$357,000 (\$311,000 for operations, \$46,000 for equipment)	\$125,506	\$231,494 (65%)
Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Golden Valley, Maple Grove, New Hope, Osseo, Plymouth, Robbinsdale	\$716,266 (for operations and equipment)	\$500,000	\$216,266 (30%)
Inver Grove Heights, Lilydale, Mendota, Mendota Heights, South St. Paul, Sunfish Lake, West St. Paul	\$293,000 (\$235,000 for operations, \$58,000 for equipment)	\$135,000	\$158,000 (54%)
Cities of Stillwater, Oak Park Heights, Bayport, and the Townships of Baytown and Stillwater	\$109,000 (for operations and equipment)	\$38,300	\$70,700 (65%)
WASHINGTON, D.C. Franchise Area			
Washington, D.C.	\$2,160,000	\$1,080,000	\$1,080,000 (50%)
ARIZONA Franchise Area			
Tucson	\$1,500,000 (\$1.35 per subscriber per month)	\$700,000	\$800,000 (53%)
CALIFORNIA Franchise Area			
Santa Maria & Lompoc	\$464,000 (\$395,000 in 2005; plus allocation of \$69,000/year, from \$828,000 initial grant)	\$142,200	\$321,800 (69%)
Glendale	\$613,333 (\$600,000 in 2005; plus allocation of \$13,333/year, from \$200,000 initial grant)	\$300,000	\$313,333 (51%)
Ventura	\$350,292 (\$263,625 in 2005; plus allocation of \$86,667/year from \$1,040,000 in yrs. 1-3 grants)	\$146,050	\$204,242 (58%)
Gilroy, Hollister, San Juan Bautista	\$259,471 (\$189,471 in 2005; plus allocation of \$70,000/year, from \$700,000 initial grant)	\$63,157	\$196,314 (76%)
Monterey	\$231,622 (\$151,622 in 2005; plus allocation of \$80,000/year, from \$800,000 initial grant)	\$68,571	\$163,051 (70%)
Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Atherton	\$304,295 (\$0.88 per subscriber per month)	\$163,902	\$140,393 (46%)
Humboldt County, Eureka, Arcata, Fortuna, Ferndale, Blue Lake, Rio Dell	\$293,750 (\$200,000/year; plus allocation of \$93,750/year, from \$750,000 in yrs. 1-2 grants)	\$180,000	\$113,750 (39%)
Oceanside	\$487,333 (\$214,000 in 2005; plus allocation of \$273,333/year from \$4,100,000 in yrs. 1-3 grants)	\$389,538	\$97,795 (20%)
Santa Rosa	\$316,667 (\$150,000/year; plus allocation of \$166,667/year, from \$2,500,000 in other grants during franchise term)	\$260,000	\$56,667 (18%)
Monrovia	\$83,000 (\$46,000 plus 1% of gross revenues)	\$37,000	\$46,000 (55%)
Lawndale	\$60,000 (2% of gross revenues)	\$30,000	\$30,000 (50%)
OREGON Franchise Area			
Portland	\$3,000,000 (3% of gross revenues)	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000 (67%)
Multnomah County	\$561,000 (3% of gross revenues)	\$187,000	\$374,000 (67%)
Salem	\$400,000 (1.5% of gross revenues)	\$265,000	\$135,000 (34%)
McMinnville	\$73,297 (\$1.00 per subscriber per month)	\$43,215	\$30,082 (41%)
VIRGINIA Franchise Area			
Fairfax County	\$4,500,000 (3% of gross revenues)	\$1,500,000	\$3,000,000 (67%)
Arlington County	\$1,439,000 (\$855,000/year; plus \$584,000 in 2005 – 1% of gross revenues)	\$591,500	\$847,500 (59%)
OHIO Franchise Area			
Cincinnati	\$756,000 (\$0.96 per subscriber per month)	\$497,956	\$258,044 (34%)
Forest Park, Greenhills, Springfield Township	\$161,665 (\$1.06 per subscriber per month)	\$118,682	\$42,983 (27%)
KANSAS Franchise Area			
Salina	\$135,000 (\$0.70 per subscriber per month)	\$95,549	\$39,451 (29%)
ILLINOIS Franchise Area			
Urbana	\$162,536 (2% of gross revenues)	\$81,268	\$81,268 (50%)

Table compiled by Randy Van Dalsen and Sue Buske, cable consultants.

DeKalb County, Ga. protects senior citizens from victimization

By ALLISON MALL
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Senior citizens are the fastest growing segment of American society. They are also some of the most at-risk for scams that take advantage of their lack of knowledge and lower incomes.

The DeKalb County, Ga. sheriff's office is doing what it can to protect its senior population with a cooperative agreement called the TRIAD/S.A.L.T. Council, which is aimed at educating seniors and providing programs that reduce their chances of becoming crime victims.

The county held the signing ceremony for the 2006 program in early May. In addition to all of the involved county agencies that

participated in the ceremony, more than 150 senior citizens and every chief from the DeKalb Chief Association were on hand for the kickoff celebration.

Clarence Mosley, executive director for DeKalb County's TRIAD Senior Advisory Board, calls the chiefs' turnout "a great show of support from all segments of law enforcement in our community."

TRIAD represents a three-way commitment among the AARP and other senior support organizations, the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. The TRIAD and the county's S.A.L.T. (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) councils work together to

reduce the criminal victimization of seniors and to address seniors' fear of crime.

The S.A.L.T. Council consists of representatives from each of the agencies in the TRIAD, as well as senior volunteers from the community. The council holds classes, lectures and speeches for seniors, where they teach citizens about different types of scams and crimes that are targeted to their age group. Information is also distributed at places where seniors tend to gather, such as community centers and churches.

DeKalb County started its program in 1997 after learning about it from the National Sheriffs' Association and deciding it was in the county's best interest to discourage

scammers from taking advantage of seniors by way of identity theft, telemarketing fraud and predatory lending.

Mosley spoke about how, in 2002, predatory lending was getting to be such a problem in the county that the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) secretary traveled to Georgia and placed a moratorium on these types of scams, to stop banks from supporting them.

At the time, DeKalb County had the highest rate of home foreclosures in the state, due to predatory lending, which is the practice of imposing unfair and abusive loan terms on borrowers, often through aggressive sales tactics and taking advantage of borrowers' lack of understanding of

extremely complicated transactions.

After attending these S.A.L.T. sessions, seniors have been better able to recognize signs of people attempting to scam them. Mosley said that when a senior citizen calls them with the phone numbers and information of people whom they suspect of criminal activity, all the S.A.L.T. Council has to do is call the suspects and inform them that they are being watched. "Since we've got the sheriff behind us, it scares them right off — works every time," he said proudly.

(For information on that National Association of Triads, Inc. and how to start a TRIAD/S.A.L.T. in your county, go to www.nationaltriad.org.)

House bill would penalize counties not enforcing civil immigration laws

■ IMMIGRATION from page 1

and defeated a similar amendment offered by Sens. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.), Barack Obama (D-Ill.), Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) and Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.).

The Clinton amendment would have provided reimbursement for health and education, and additional funds for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program out of the fees that would be charged for legalization.

The states would have had to pass-through 70 percent of the funds to state and local governments within 180 days. Other than the pass-through percentages, the distribution formulas were the same.

NACo had been working with both offices trying to craft a compromise between them and supported the Clinton amendment because it had a better local pass-through. When that amendment failed, NACo also supported the Cornyn amendment and will be working to make sure it survives the Senate and House conference committee deliberations.

The SCAAP Expansion bill also expands the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP). It adds a new title, authorized at \$400 million a year, to reimburse state and local governments for the costs of processing criminal aliens through the justice system. It should be noted, however, that the House bill (H.R. 4437) authorizes \$1 billion a year for the basic SCAAP program, and S. 2611 provides \$750 million in FY08, \$850 million in FY09 and \$950 million a year in FY10-FY12. The bill also has a provision to reimburse state and local governments for the cost of transporting criminal aliens, which is authorized at \$850 million a year beginning in FY07.

The bill would also reimburse

state and local governments for the training and purchase of equipment related to implementing memoranda of understanding with the Department of Homeland Security for the enforcement of federal immigration laws.

The only other floor amendment with any implications to counties was one offered by Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.). The provision would have amended the Help America Vote Act to require all voters to show a federally mandated photo identification in compliance with the REAL ID Act and would have also amended the REAL ID law to include proof of citizenship in the identification card.

Most voters would have been required to get a new driver's license within the next two years. Presumably, those voters who have passports would be able to use that document, but the majority of Americans do not have passports.

While counties do not issue drivers' licenses, county clerks would be inundated with requests for birth certificates. NACo opposed the amendment. When a motion to table the McConnell amendment failed, however, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.) called for an immediate vote and the amendment failed to pass. Despite the setback, McConnell is expected to bring it up again.

Two provisions that are included in the House bill but not in the Senate bill also have an impact on counties. The first is a provision that would deny SCAAP funds to counties that do not enforce civil immigration law.

The second is a provision that criminalizes unlawful presence and would indirectly deputize state and local law enforcement to help enforce federal immigration violations. The second provision is expected to be especially contentious in conference.

In one of the most heated debates,

the Senate adopted competing amendments on English as the official language.

First, it adopted an amendment offered by Sen. James Inhofe (R-Okla.) that would declare English the national language and require that individuals who apply for permanent residence prove that they have learned English rather than show that they are taking English classes as is written in the underlying bill.

The national language provision was a change from his original amendment that would have made English the official language. Immediately after that amendment was adopted, the

Senate voted for one offered by Sen. Ken Salazar (D-Colo.) declaring English the common and unifying language instead of the national language and making no other changes to the bill. The Salazar amendment did not substitute the Inhofe amendment, so both will have to be sorted out in conference. The House bill does not include a language amendment.

Most of the amendments that would have watered down the temporary worker and three-tiered legalization provisions in the bill were defeated.

Conference with the House is going to be extremely contentious because of the wide differences between the two

versions, particularly the legalization provisions. NACo supports both a temporary worker program and a path to legalization.

The success of the Senate version may depend on how much influence the White House is able to exert in conference. The president was very supportive of the Senate compromise. If the Senate provisions prevail as passed, an estimated 9.5 million individuals, including one million agricultural workers, would be able to become legalized. While Frist wants a quick conference, there is still wide speculation that the conference agreement may not be finalized until after the November elections.

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Yolo County, Calif. holds conference on jail diversion of mentally ill

JUSTIN CARMODY
COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSISTANT

Every year, NACo, with funding from Eli Lilly and Company, awards a \$5,000 seed grant to five counties to develop or expand a program to divert people with mental health needs from county jails to treatment services. This year one of the counties selected was Yolo County, Calif. The Yolo County Department of Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services partnered with the Yolo County Sheriff's Department to use the grant to put on a Mental Illness and Criminal Justice Conference, on May 5, to increase the community's awareness of the need for an effective alternative to incarceration for non-violent mentally ill offenders.

Yolo County, like many other counties across the country, has seen a high number of mentally-ill

being processed through its jail and criminal justice system individuals — few of whom are receiving the proper mental health services. To address this issue, Yolo County came up with the idea of holding a conference in which local law enforcement, mental health professionals, district attorneys, judges, families, consumers and a number of others in the community could learn and discuss more about diverting individuals with mental illness from county jails to community-based mental health treatment.

Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Helen Thompson, who has been very active as the chair of the county's Strategy Committee that focuses on alternatives to incarceration for people who suffer from mental illness said of the conference, said, "[The conference] gave me a renewed infusion of energy to

continue our work on behalf of the mentally ill. It was very encouraging to see such interest and enthusiasm as well as an earnest desire to not criminalize our mentally-ill community members."

To learn more about the conference and what Yolo County's next steps are, NACo spoke with Martha Flammer, a member of the Yolo County Mental Health Board. Flammer answered some questions on Yolo County's experience in developing a jail diversion program.

Q: Can you give us an introduction to Yolo County, Calif. and describe the current state of criminal justice and mental health services throughout the county?

A: Yolo County, located in Northern California just northwest

of Sacramento, is home to about 190,000 residents. The county has seen considerable population growth in recent years, predominantly in the county's three major cities: Woodland, West Sacramento and Davis. We have become one of the fastest growing counties in the state. This surge in population has put a lot more pressure on mental health and criminal justice services with more and more bookings in the Monroe Detention Center, Yolo County's only jail.

Yolo County's mental health services work well for people who know how to navigate the system, but currently are not properly serving the homeless and individuals with co-occurring disorders. The law enforcement community has shown an interest and is increasingly involved in finding better ways to divert mentally ill individuals away from county jails into treatment.

Q: How did the idea of holding a conference to address alternatives to incarceration for non-violent mentally ill individuals come about?

A: Yolo County is a recipient of a \$400,000 grant provided by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to implement post-booking jail diversion program for mentally ill offenders. As a result, Yolo County's Department of Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health wanted to use NACo's grant to further strengthen their relationship with local law enforcement agencies.

They partnered with the Yolo County Sheriff's Department to bring together law enforcement personnel, others who work in the criminal justice system, individuals who receive mental health services and their family members to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and develop an action plan to improve collaboration and community understanding.

Therefore, the best approach to educate and establish a collaborative alliance with judges, police departments, probation and the Sheriff's Department was by using Los Angeles County's model of a conference-setting to appeal to the entire law enforcement community.

A unique aspect of Yolo County is that the Yolo County Sheriff's Department does not cover the entire county, so we saw this conference as an excellent opportunity to reach out to the cities, like Los Angeles County has done, and inform and train their law enforcement folks on recognizing mental illness and crisis stabilization.

Q: How was the conference? What kind of progress did you make, and what kind of feedback did you receive?

A: The conference was held on May 5 and was very well attended, with almost 300 people participating. There seemed to be significant interest from the law enforcement community, as they were very well represented along with other folks that work in the criminal justice system. During lunch, we broke into groups based on geographic region and held breakout sessions to discuss local issues, and to foster better collaboration and develop action plans with local agencies.

The law enforcement community expressed concerns with the limited resources to appropriately intervene with mentally ill individuals. They expressed interest in a diversion location such as an emergency triage or detox center that is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Other attendees of the conference felt that local agencies need to improve coordination within the criminal justice system, Yolo County Department of Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health and the Department of Health Services.

Evaluations were collected at the conference and a majority of attendees found the conference to be very effective in strengthening collaboration between local criminal justice and mental health personnel as well as increasing community understanding of mental illness. Attendees also indicated that they felt they had increased knowledge of best practices for psychiatric crisis intervention, with the goal of developing Psychiatric Emergency Response Teams (PERT) or Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT).

Q: What are the next steps for Yolo County?

A: We were encouraged by conference participants to hold future meetings within the geographic regions. This may include law enforcement training, consensus building, and planning to establish mental health intervention for mentally ill offenders among the stakeholders identified in the conference. Another big next step for Yolo County will be to seek federal funding to establish a court program to divert non-violent mentally ill individuals from county jails and refer them to services to reduce recidivism.

(For more information on NACo's Criminal Justice program contact Lesley Buchan at lbuchan@naco.org or 202/942-4261)

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Congress works on competing proposals to enhance FEMA

By DALEN A. HARRIS
ASSOCIATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

Since Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf Coast last summer, federal, state and local officials have worked to strengthen the nation's preparedness and response to future hazards. Members of Congress, meanwhile, have focused their attention on enhancing the agency most associated with the federal government's widely criticized response during Hurricane Katrina — the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Recently, two congressional committees have introduced competing bills to overhaul FEMA; however, it may be a while before either measure is signed by the president, given the significant divide between the two approaches, and a simmering jurisdictional fight.

Sponsored by the House Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Science and Technology Chairman

Dave Reichert (R-Wash.) and 34 cosponsors, H.R. 5351, the National Emergency Management Reform and Enhancement Act of 2006 would strengthen FEMA.

The legislation seeks to enhance the performance of FEMA within DHS, and proposes the reconfiguration of DHS' preparedness and response functions back into one division — a new Directorate on Emergency Management.

Additionally, the legislation proposes to elevate the FEMA director to undersecretary for emergency management, and mandates that he or she report directly to the president in a time of crisis.

Sponsored by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Don Young (R-Alaska) and 74 cosponsors, H.R. 5316, the RESPOND Act of 2006 also proposes to strengthen FEMA, but restores the agency

to an independent, Cabinet-level agency outside of DHS. Similar to H.R. 5351, the FEMA director would also report directly to the president in a time of crisis.

Supporters of the Transportation Committee's approach believe FEMA has been steadily dismantled and eroded within DHS since the agency was created in 2002. They point to FEMA's historical performance during past natural disasters as evidence it functions better as an independent agency. Furthermore, they point to the Transportation Committee's long jurisdictional oversight of FEMA. "We are the committee of primary jurisdiction, so it should be our bill (H.R. 5316, the RESPOND Act) that moves forward," said Rep. Bill Shuster (R-Pa.), who chairs the Transportation Committee's Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.

However, supporters of the Homeland Security Committee's approach stress that it makes more sense to fix FEMA within DHS. This sentiment is shared by the Senate Homeland Security Committee leadership, who plan to introduce legislation in the near future that would closely support the House Homeland Security Committee approach. Adding to the list of supporters for keeping FEMA within DHS are the president and Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff.

Both bills have already been approved unanimously by their respective committees, and recently the House Government Reform Committee approved the RESPOND Act by voice vote. This presents another challenge in congressional efforts to enact legislation to revise FEMA.

Both bills (H.R. 5316 and H.R. 5351) were referred to the other competing committee, in addition

to the House Government Reform Committee. While the House Transportation and Infrastructure, and House Government Reform committees have unanimously passed the RESPOND Act, the House Homeland Security Committee has yet to act on this legislation.

In turn, the House Transportation and Infrastructure, and House Government Reform committees have yet to act on H.R. 5351. House leadership has not indicated a preference for either bill, but there remains strong support for each proposal.

All in all, both proposals would enhance FEMA, and give the agency control of the disaster preparedness and response functions that were separated last year. Also, each proposal would require that any future director of FEMA have experience in emergency management and homeland security, and report directly to the president during times of crisis.

LUCC regional meeting provides learning opportunity

By GREGG GOSLIN
CHAIR, LARGE URBAN COUNTY CAUCUS
COOK COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Community revitalization and the sustained growth of metropolitan counties were the focus for this year's Large Urban County Caucus (LUCC) regional meeting, hosted by Georgia's DeKalb and Fulton counties.

It was an impressive event. DeKalb County Presiding Officer Burrell Ellis and Fulton County Commissioner Nancy Boxill put together a substantive program that offered interesting ideas that benefit all counties. The topics were selected by the LUCC Steering Committee as an important priority during the September 2005 LUCC retreat.

The regional meeting kicked off with a pre-conference event hosted by LUCC Vice Chair Burrell Ellis. The event, entitled The Memorial Drive Community Development Summit showcased DeKalb County's effort to revitalize a once thriving thoroughfare that has become increasingly blighted over the last decade. Offering a message of hope to county officials and DeKalb County residents, former Housing and Urban Development Secretary Henry Cisneros was the keynote speaker.

Throughout the regional meeting, experts on eminent domain, workforce housing, sustainable communities and tax allocation districts shared exciting new approaches that are improving present and future lives of many people. A



Photo by Terri Graham, DeKalb County, Ga.

Participants at the LUCC Regional Meeting in DeKalb and Fulton counties, Ga. finish up their tour of the Georgia Resource Center with a group portrait. Among those pictured are: LUCC Chairman Gregg Goslin, Cook County, Ill. commissioner (5th from right); LUCC Vice Chair Burrell Ellis, presiding officer, DeKalb County, Ga. Commission and the meeting's host (4th from right); and NACo First Vice President Eric Coleman, commissioner, Oakland County, Mich. (3rd from right). While on their tour of the facility, the group heard speakers from Georgia Power and Gateway Development Services who discussed ongoing development projects at universities around the country.

wide variety of viewpoints, as well as encouragement to look at services in a different way, provided relevant information and generated useful discussions.

Often, municipal officials and community residents misunderstand or express deep concerns when they hear the term "affordable housing." Yet the lack of affordable housing has profound consequences for

everyone: more traffic, more pollution, loss of parks and green space. Plus, as the Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership's CEO Hattie B. Dorsey put it, it causes "a general economic drain, since excessive housing and transportation costs leave little disposable income for other purposes."

Participants in this regional meeting discussed the need for "workforce

housing," a term that appropriately describes its mission. Workforce housing — which also allows teachers, police officers, firefighters and medical professionals to live in the communities they serve, builds a personal stake in the future of that community.

The CEO of the Atlanta Housing Authority, Renee Glover, reviewed the guiding principles behind

changes to the low-income housing model. "Often times we begin the work before we share the vision," she acknowledged. "But working together, we can remove obstacles that are locking people out of opportunity." Today, mixed-income communities are thriving where once there was hopelessness.

A focus on the public good as the ultimate benefit was the thread that ran through each presentation.

"Eminent domain is a good example of why LUCC and NACo are so important to counties — this is going to be a national issue and a critical focus of our local agenda," panelist and NACo Past President Michael Hightower reminded attendees.

Site tours provided an up-close look at several successful holistic approaches to sustainable communities as Atlanta's leadership works to make it a "live, work, play community." Other topics included establishing effective private/public partnerships, spurring redevelopment and providing information about the campaign to stop the exploitation of children.

LUCC is composed of the 100 largest counties in America. The regional meetings offer members an intense opportunity to learn about best practices and successful strategies at work in other metropolitan counties. The caucus is sponsoring a number of special events at NACo's Annual Conference in Cook County, including a workshop on "Creative Approaches to Balancing Budgets" and a membership reception.

Rising energy costs spur county innovation

By DAN MILLER
STAFF WRITER

Over the past decade energy costs have soared. Unleaded regular gasoline averaged \$1.27 per gallon in 1996. Now, it's \$2.88 per gallon. Home heating oil jumped from \$1.04 per gallon in 1996 to \$2.41 today. The price of natural gas for commercial customers skipped from \$5 per thousand cubic feet in December 1995 to \$14.31 in December 2005

"Anyone in county government throughout the U.S. should be able to read the tea leaves," said Allan O'Shea, Manistee County, Mich. chairman. "People are experiencing huge cost overruns on fuel that have caused a great deal of pain for all the taxpayers."

In response to these soaring energy costs, counties have been getting creative in devising ways to cut energy costs in their buildings and vehicles. Below is a sampling of these programs, from Arizona to Oklahoma to Maryland.

Green buildings

Mohave County received Arizona's 2005 Governor's Award of Merit for Energy Efficiency for the energy and natural resource savings made through its planning in the construction of its new administrative building. Energy efficient glass,

lighting fixtures and air conditioning in the building, resulted in a utility savings of \$21,000 per year, according to Opus West Corporation, the building's contractor.

Opus West subcontracted to the Quest Energy Group, who used computer modeling to measure the

effectiveness of various techniques.

According to Quest, occupancy sensors alone saved \$5,530 in energy costs. Additionally, extra insulation beyond code and recycled water saved the county nearly \$14,000 per year.

"It's a matter of efficiency to design for a wise conservation of energy," said Ron Walker, Mohave County manager. "These investments pay off year after year. Conservation design is just a smart way to do business."

Plug-In Partners campaign

Oklahoma County, Okla., Saratoga County, Fla. and Travis County, Texas are all members of Plug-In Partners, a national grass-roots initiative designed to show automakers that a market for flexible-fuel Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEV).

The campaign aims to demonstrate this viability through three main ways: gathering endorsements by municipalities across the country, procuring "soft" fleet orders

(promises by members to strongly consider purchasing flexible fuel plug-in hybrids when the vehicles are affordable) and developing rebates and incentives for participating members who choose to purchase the vehicles.

Other partners in the Plug-In Partner campaign include other state and local governments as well as utility groups and various nonprofits. So far, 28 city governments have signed on.

Visit the Plug-In Partners Website at www.pluginpartners.org.

Alternative fuel fleets

King County, Wash. and the city and county of San Francisco have stepped forward as leaders in the use of alternative fuels, promoting clean air and encouraging the use of renewable energy.

King County's fleet division currently operates 140 hybrid vehicles, with another 35 to be added before the end of the year. The division's goal, however, is to convert 50 percent of all county vehicles to green vehicles by 2012 and 75 percent by 2016. Additionally, the fleet's goal is to increase fuel efficiency by 10 percent by 2016 and 25 percent by 2020. The fleet aims to use a 20-percent mix of bio-diesel fuel in all heavy-duty equipment by this year.

On a more immediate note, Windell Mitchell, fleet administration director, is encouraging county employees to reduce idling time and use battery power. Such practices, he says, can reduce fuel consumption 5 percent to 10 percent.

"By encouraging employees to use strategies such as planning their trip to avoid congestion, carpooling and staying on top of maintenance, we can all be part of the daily mantra of becoming more environmentally conscious—even while we're working," he said.

San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom recently issued an executive directive intended to increase the pace of the municipal use of biodiesel fuel. The directive states that department fleet managers must identify the equipment and vehicles that can be most quickly transitioned to biodiesel and modify them appropriately.

Additionally, all diesel-using departments must draft reports listing all applicable machinery and begin using a B20 biodiesel blend as soon as practicable. The project should be completed by the end of 2007.

"This makes San Francisco the largest U.S. city ever to institute such broad bio-diesel use," said Joe Jobe, CEO of the National Biodiesel

Find hidden energy savings with NACo program

Counties can also turn to a recently launched NACo service — the Cost Recovery and Reduction Services Program — provided through Cost Control Associates (CCA) for help in reducing their energy costs. The contingency fee-based program focuses on obtaining refunds and identifying savings opportunities on electric and gas bills, as well as cellular, local and long distance phone bills.

Counties that use CCA pay nothing if their review is unsuccessful, but the company's record of finding refunds or cost savings in the local government market exceeds 90 percent. CCA offers its cost-savings program to any local government and has experience in reviewing bills with nearly all major telecom and utility providers.

For more information on this program, contact Jim Sawyer with NACo's Financial Services Center at 202/661-8868 or at jsawyer@naco.org.

Calhoun County earns ENERGY STAR labels

By KELLY ZONDERWYK
COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSOCIATE

(This article begins the first in a series of reports on the progress of NACo's Energy Star Courthouse Campaign.)

Calhoun County, Ala. residents can rest assured their local officials are doing all they can to conserve energy and save taxpayer dollars from rising utility costs. The Calhoun County Commissioners are celebrating the designation of the first two public buildings in Alabama as energy-efficient by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR® program.

The two facilities to earn this distinction are the Calhoun County Courthouse and the Calhoun County Administration Building. The ENERGY STAR plaques were unveiled during a countywide event and luncheon celebration on May 11.

Calhoun was the first county in the nation to join NACo's ENERGY STAR Courthouse Campaign more than two years ago. The Courthouse Campaign facilitates county involvement in the ENERGY STAR program and assists counties in achieving their commitment to energy efficiency and environmental leadership.

Achieving the ENERGY STAR label means that these facilities perform in the top 25 percent of courthouses and office buildings in the country. On a scale of 1 to 100, a building earning a rating of 75 or



Photo courtesy of Calhoun County, Ala.

Calhoun County, Ala. Commissioner Robert Downing, left, and Calhoun County Project Manager Jeff Clendenning display the ENERGY STAR cake that was made for the county's celebration.

higher through the national energy rating system is eligible to apply for the ENERGY STAR label.

"Calhoun County is honored to have this distinction from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy. We're also very proud to have been a founding member of the ENERGY STAR Courthouse

Campaign through the National Association of Counties," said Calhoun County Commissioner Robert Downing. "As county commissioners we have an obligation to both be good stewards of taxpayer dollars and be good stewards of our environment. This program is a great way for us to accomplish both tasks."

Both county buildings are

highly efficient energy performers. The county courthouse covers more than 60,000 square feet and received a rating of 90, and the county administration building, covering more than 50,000 square feet, earned a rating of 88. All computer monitors in the buildings are ENERGY STAR qualified and the county ensures all computers have power-saver features.

The county is now seeing rewards for investments it made several years ago for its courthouse. The county contracted to replace the building's old windows with insulated tinted glass pane windows, to replace its old boiler system with gas-fired roof top heat pumps and electric heat pumps, and to install insulation for the roofs and attics. Now, the county sees an annual cost savings on utility bills of around \$20,000.

More than 2,500 buildings across the nation have earned the ENERGY STAR label. The buildings, representing 482 million square feet, are saving an estimated \$349 million annually in lower energy bills while meeting industry standards for comfort and indoor air quality. The buildings are preventing 1.8 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions, equivalent to emissions from 540,000 vehicles.

(For more information on the NACo ENERGY STAR Courthouse Campaign contact Kelly Zonderwyk at 202/942-4224 or kzonderwyk@naco.org)

■ See ENERGY on page 11

Home audits, growth plans, auctions among county energy-saving strategies

■ ENERGY from page 10

Board. "The mayor's leadership in taking his city diesel fleet to B20 is a demonstration of true commitments to the environment and to weaning ourselves from foreign oil."

Household energy audits

Some counties are reaching beyond their own need to reduce energy costs to help their citizens. Boulder County, Colo., for example, has partnered with the Center for Resource Conservation (CRC) for the Energy Audit Pilot Program. The program helps county homeowners understand their energy consumption patterns and be aware of opportunities for cost-effective conservation measures.

To participate in the program homeowners must call the CRC to schedule a home visit. Looking at the residents' past 12 months' utility bills and touring the house, the program manager will do a preliminary analysis and decide on the simple options for increasing energy efficiency. After that, a professional energy auditor undertakes a technical audit. The technical audit includes a building envelope/shell audit, an insulation assessment, blower door test, heating and cooling system/hot water assessment as well as an appliance audit.

The audits cost between \$100 and \$250 for the homeowner, depending on the size of the house.

Energy plan for large growth

Kane County, Ill.'s expected growth is staggering. According to Illinois' Community Energy Cooperative, the county's population is expected to increase by 70 percent over the next 25 years.

As a result, the county was the subject of a state and federally funded project to identify energy efficiency measures. Launched in 2004, the Kane County project stemmed from Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich's Opportunity Returns economic development program to create jobs and promote economic growth.

County leaders wanted to put the issue of energy on par with other development issues in the county. By conducting the study, officials hoped that citizens would be less impacted by new infrastructure, such as power lines and substations.

The plan, completed last October, proposed a set of strategies to reduce the growth rate of electricity use by 30 percent. It claims to lower energy costs for residents, businesses and government, reduce the need for infrastructure and improve the environment through a variety of steps.

For instance, the plan recommends that the county and its utilities jointly set energy reduction goals and make a commission to implement and monitor its strategies. Additionally, the county should lead by example and go beyond minimum building codes and receive Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

Online energy auctions

Montgomery County, Md., along with 17 other county-based organizations, is poised to realize major savings in energy thanks to a series of online energy auctions using the World Energy Exchange. The goal of the auctions was to provide the 18-member aggregation group with the least expensive electricity supply for their respective buildings.

Over the course of two days, March 21 and 22, 68 individual auctions took place to determine the best available combination of purchasing options, including 12-, 24- and 36-month contract terms and various electrical load options for accounts of varying sizes. In all, 292 bids were placed with suppliers bidding progressively lower prices.

The savings accrued by the consortium ranged from 15 percent to 25 percent off current standard offer load pricing.

"By pooling our collective purchasing power and through utilization of the online bidding process, we have been able to achieve some \$25 million in savings over the life of the contracts," said Steve Nash,

chief of the engineering and management services section of Montgomery County's division of operations. "The combination of knowing when to go to market, the auction's ability to squeeze prices to the bare minimum and the supplier relationships provided over the exchange greatly exceeded our expectations."

The electricity purchased over the exchange will power more than 2,400 accounts, including more than 616 buildings and other facilities within the county's Division of Operations, Public Schools, Montgomery College and National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Included in the procurement process was purchase of supply for streetlights and traffic signals.

For more information on the World Energy Exchange, go to www.worldenergy.com/government.

Energy Fair

Manistee County, Mich. has undertaken a statewide effort to bring energy awareness, efficiency and conservation applications into the public consciousness.

The county teamed up with a non-profit organization called the Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association to plan an energy fair to be held June 16-18 on the county fairgrounds. The county also enlisted help from surrounding counties, a state grant and corporate sponsors.

The fair will feature workshops on topics like green building, solar architecture, small wind systems, energy efficiency upgrades and alternative fuel vehicles, as well as providing food and entertainment for guests. Keynote speakers include Grand Rapids Mayor George Heartwell and Dr. Daniel D. Chiras, an author and expert on

green technologies, who will discuss America's addiction to fossil fuels.

Allan O'Shea, county commission chairman, wants the event to be a casual environment where citizens can gain knowledge about the cost of energy.

"There are many, many symposiums and expos throughout the U.S. for the folks in-the-know — people involved in government or in the energy business," O'Shea said. "But there are very few of them that bring together these folks with the average resident that is struggling to keep their heads above water with these costs."

O'Shea expects more than 5,000 people to attend the fair in its first year.

"We plan on this event lasting many years to come," O'Shea said.

To learn more about the event, visit www.glrea.org.

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NACo Member County Vote Allocations

NACo member counties vote on NACo policy positions, by-laws changes and elect officers at the Annual Meeting. Following are the number of votes for each NACo member county, parish or borough. This list is current as of June 1, 2006.

As prescribed by NACo Bylaws, a county must be a member of NACo, current with NACo dues and have at least one paid registration to the NACo Annual Conference in order to vote.

Questions can be directed to Emily Landsman, membership coordinator, at elandsman@naco.org or 202/942-4242.

■ Alabama

Autauga County	2
Baldwin County	5
Barbour County	2
Bibb County	1
Blount County	2
Bullock County	1
Butler County	1
Calhoun County	5
Chambers County	2
Chilton County	2
Choctaw County	1
Clarke County	2
Clay County	1
Cleburne County	1
Coffee County	2
Colbert County	3
Conecuh County	1
Coosa County	1
Covington County	2
Crenshaw County	1
Cullman County	3
Dale County	3
Dallas County	3
DeKalb County	3
Elmore County	3
Escambia County	2
Etowah County	5
Fayette County	1
Franklin County	2
Geneva County	2
Greene County	1
Hale County	1
Henry County	1
Houston County	4
Jackson County	3
Jefferson County	28
Lamar County	1
Lauderdale County	4
Lawrence County	2
Lee County	4
Limestone County	3
Lowndes County	1
Macon County	2
Madison County	11
Marengo County	1
Marion County	2
Marshall County	4
Mobile County	17

Monroe County	2
Montgomery County	9
Morgan County	5
Perry County	1
Pickens County	1
Pike County	2
Randolph County	1
Russell County	3
Shelby County	5
St. Clair County	3
Sumter County	1
Talladega County	4
Tallapoosa County	2
Tuscaloosa County	7
Walker County	3
Washington County	1
Wilcox County	1

State Total 206

■ Alaska

Aleutians East Borough	1
Anchorage Borough	10
City & Borough of Juneau	2
City & Borough of Sitka	1
City & Borough of Yakutat	1
Denali Borough	1
Fairbanks North Star Borough	4
Haines Borough	1
Kenai Peninsula Borough	2
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	1
Kodiak Island Borough	1
Lake And Peninsula Borough	1
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	2
North Slope Borough	1
Northwest Arctic Borough	1

State Total 30

■ Arizona

Apache County	3
Cochise County	5
Coconino County	5
Gila County	2
Graham County	2
Greenlee County	1
La Paz County	1
Maricopa County	88
Mohave County	4
Navajo County	4
Pima County	29
Pinal County	5
Santa Cruz County	2
Yavapai County	5
Yuma County	5

State Total 161

■ Arkansas

Arkansas County	1
Baxter County	2
Benton County	5
Boone County	2
Carroll County	1
Chicot County	1
Clay County	1
Cleburne County	1
Craighead County	3

Crawford County	2
Cross County	1
Franklin County	1
Garland County	4
Grant County	1
Independence County	2
Izard County	1
Jackson County	1
Jefferson County	4
Johnson County	1
Lincoln County	1
Little River County	1
Lonoke County	2
Miller County	2
Mississippi County	3
Montgomery County	1
Newton County	1
Perry County	1
Phillips County	2
Polk County	1
Pulaski County	15
Randolph County	1
Sebastian County	5
Sharp County	1
Union County	2
Washington County	5
Woodruff County	1
Yell County	1

State Total 81

■ California

Alameda County	55
Alpine County	1
Amador County	2
Butte County	8
Calaveras County	2
Colusa County	1
Contra Costa County	35
Del Norte County	2
El Dorado County	6
Fresno County	29
Glenn County	2
Humboldt County	6
Imperial County	5
Inyo County	1
Kern County	24
Kings County	5
Lake County	3
Lassen County	2
Los Angeles County	88
Madera County	4
Marin County	10
Mariposa County	1
Mendocino County	4
Merced County	8
Modoc County	1
Mono County	1
Monterey County	16
Napa County	5
Nevada County	4
Orange County	88
Placer County	8
Plumas County	1
Riverside County	51
Sacramento County	45
San Benito County	2

San Bernardino County	61
San Diego County	88
San Francisco City & County	31
San Joaquin County	21
San Luis Obispo County	10
San Mateo County	28
Santa Barbara County	16
Santa Clara County	65
Santa Cruz County	10
Shasta County	7
Sierra County	1
Siskiyou County	2
Solano County	15
Sonoma County	17
Stanislaus County	16
Sutter County	3
Trinity County	1
Tulare County	14
Tuolumne County	3
Ventura County	29
Yolo County	7
Yuba County	3

State Total 974

■ Colorado

Alamosa County	1
Arapahoe County	17
Archuleta County	1
Baca County	1
Bent County	1
Boulder County	10
Broomfield City and County	2
Chaffee County	1
Clear Creek County	1
Conejos County	8
Costilla County	1
Crowley County	1
Custer County	1
Delta County	1
Denver City and County	20
Douglas County	3
Eagle County	1
El Paso County	17
Garfield County	2
Gilpin County	1
Grand County	1
Gunnison County	1
Hinsdale County	1
Huerfano County	1
Jackson County	1
Jefferson County	19
Kit Carson County	1
La Plata County	2
Larimer County	8
Las Animas County	1
Logan County	1
Mesa County	4
Moffat County	1
Montezuma County	1
Montrose County	2
Morgan County	1
Otero County	1
Ouray County	1
Park County	1
Phillips County	1
Pitkin County	1

Prowers County	1
Pueblo County	6
Rio Blanco County	1
Rio Grande County	1
Routt County	1
Saguache County	1
San Miguel County	1
Summit County	1
Teller County	1
Washington County	1
Weld County	6
Yuma County	1

State Total 157

■ Delaware

Kent County	5
New Castle County	19
Sussex County	5

State Total 29

■ Florida

Alachua County	8
Baker County	1
Bay County	6
Bradford County	1
Brevard County	18
Broward County	54
Charlotte County	5
Citrus County	4
Clay County	5
Collier County	7
Columbia County	2
DeSoto County	2
Dixie County	1
Escambia County	12
Flagler County	2
Franklin County	1
Gadsden County	2
Gilchrist County	1
Gulf County	1
Hamilton County	1
Hendry County	2
Hernando County	5
Highlands County	3
Hillsborough County	36
Holmes County	1
Indian River County	4
Jefferson County	1
Lafayette County	1
Lake County	7
Lee County	15
Leon County	9
Levy County	2
Liberty County	1
Madison County	1
Manatee County	10
Martin County	5
Miami-Dade County	83
Monroe County	4
Nassau County	2
Okaloosa County	7
Okeechobee County	2
Orange County	29
Osceola County	5

■ See 2006 VOTES on page 13



NACo Member County Vote Allocations

■ **2006 VOTES** from page 12

Palm Beach County	37
Pasco County	13
Pinellas County	37
Polk County	18
Putnam County	3
Santa Rosa County	4
Sarasota County	12
Seminole County	13
St. Johns County	4
St. Lucie County	7
Sumter County	2
Volusia County	16
Wakulla County	1
Walton County	2
Washington County	1
State Total	539

■ **Georgia**

Appling County	1
Athens-Clarke County	4
Augusta-Richmond County	9
Baldwin County	2
Banks County	1
Barrow County	2
Bartow County	3
Ben Hill County	1
Berrien County	1
Bibb County	7
Bleckley County	1
Brantley County	1
Brooks County	1
Bryan County	1
Bulloch County	2
Burke County	1
Butts County	1
Candler County	1
Charlton County	1
Chatham County	10
Clayton County	8
Clinch County	1
Cobb County	20
Coffee County	2
Columbia County	3
Cook County	1
Coweta County	3
Crisp County	1
Cusseta-Chattahoochee County	1
Dawson County	1
Decatur County	2
DeKalb County	24
Dooly County	1
Dougherty County	5
Douglas County	4
Early County	1
Effingham County	2
Elbert County	1
Evans County	1
Fannin County	1
Fayette County	3
Floyd County	4
Forsyth County	2
Fulton County	28
Gilmer County	1
Glynn County	3

Gordon County	2
Greene County	1
Gwinnett County	16
Habersham County	2
Hall County	5
Hancock County	1
Henry County	3
Houston County	4
Jackson County	2
Jasper County	1
Jeff Davis County	1
Jefferson County	1
Jones County	1
Lamar County	1
Lanier County	1
Laurens County	2
Lee County	1
Lincoln County	1
Lowndes County	4
Lumpkin County	1
Madison County	1
McDuffie County	1
Mitchell County	1
Monroe County	1
Morgan County	1
Oconee County	1
Peach County	1
Pierce County	1
Polk County	2
Pulaski County	1
Quitman County	1
Rabun County	1
Rockdale County	3
Screven County	1
Spalding County	3
Stephens County	1
Stewart County	1
Sumter County	2
Talbot County	1
Taylor County	1
Toombs County	2
Troup County	3
Twiggs County	1
Union County	1
Walker County	3
Ware County	2
Warren County	1
Wayne County	1
Webster County	1
Wheeler County	1
White County	1
Whitfield County	4
Wilkinson County	1
Worth County	1
State Total	275

■ **Hawaii**

Hawaii County	6
Honolulu City and County	36
Kauai County	3
Maui County	5
State Total	50

■ **Idaho**

Ada County	9
Adams County	1

Bannock County	3
Bear Lake County	1
Benewah County	1
Bingham County	2
Blaine County	1
Boise County	1
Bonner County	2
Bonneville County	4
Boundary County	1
Butte County	1
Camas County	1
Canyon County	4
Caribou County	1
Cassia County	1
Clark County	1
Clearwater County	1
Custer County	1
Elmore County	1
Franklin County	1
Fremont County	1
Gem County	1
Gooding County	1
Idaho County	1
Jefferson County	1
Jerome County	1
Kootenai County	3
Latah County	2
Lemhi County	1
Lewis County	1
Madison County	2
Minidoka County	1
Nez Perce County	2
Oneyida County	1
Owyhee County	1
Payette County	1
Power County	1
Shoshone County	1
Teton County	1
Twin Falls County	3
Valley County	1
Washington County	1
State Total	68

■ **Illinois**

Adams County	3
Alexander County	1
Boone County	2
Bureau County	2
Carroll County	1
Champaign County	8
Cook County	88
De Witt County	1
DeKalb County	4
DuPage County	34
Fayette County	1
Gallatin County	1
Grundy County	2
Jo Daviess County	1
Kane County	14
Kankakee County	5
Kendall County	2
Lake County	23
LaSalle County	5
Madison County	11
McHenry County	8
McLean County	6

Montgomery County	2
Peoria County	8
Piatt County	1
St. Clair County	12
Stephenson County	3
Tazewell County	6
Union County	1
Vermilion County	4
Will County	16
Winnebago County	11
State Total	287

■ **Indiana**

Benton County	1
Blackford County	1
Clinton County	2
Dearborn County	2
Delaware County	6
Dubois County	2
Elkhart County	7
Hamilton County	5
Hendricks County	4
Knox County	2
Kosciusko County	3
La Porte County	5
Lake County	21
Madison County	6
Marshall County	2
Monroe County	5
Montgomery County	2
Newton County	1
Owen County	1
Parke County	1
Pike County	1
Rush County	1
Sullivan County	1
Vanderburgh County	8
Wayne County	4
Wells County	2
State Total	96

■ **Iowa**

Allamakee County	1
Appanoose County	1
Benton County	1
Black Hawk County	6
Boone County	2
Bremner County	1
Buchanan County	1
Buena Vista County	1
Butler County	1
Calhoun County	1
Cass County	1
Cerro Gordo County	2
Cherokee County	1
Chickasaw County	1
Clarke County	1
Clay County	1
Clayton County	1
Davis County	1
Decatur County	1
Des Moines County	2
Dickinson County	1
Dubuque County	4
Emmet County	1
Franklin County	1

Fremont County	1
Greene County	1
Grundy County	1
Hamilton County	1
Hancock County	1
Hardin County	1
Harrison County	1
Henry County	1
Howard County	1
Humboldt County	1
Jackson County	1
Jasper County	2
Jefferson County	1
Johnson County	5
Jones County	1
Kossuth County	1
Lee County	2
Linn County	8
Louisa County	1
Lucas County	1
Lyon County	1
Marion County	2
Marshall County	2
Mills County	1
Mitchell County	1
Monona County	1
Muscatine County	2
Palo Alto County	1
Plymouth County	2
Pocahontas County	1
Polk County	14
Pottawattamie County	4
Poweshiek County	1
Sac County	1
Scott County	7
Sioux County	2
Story County	4
Tama County	1
Union County	1
Wapello County	2
Warren County	2
Washington County	1
Wayne County	1
Webster County	2
Winnebago County	1
Winneshiak County	1
Woodbury County	5
Worth County	1
Wright County	1
State Total	134

■ **Kansas**

Allen County	1
Anderson County	1
Atchison County	1
Barber County	1
Bourbon County	1
Butler County	3
Cherokee County	1
Clay County	1
Coffey County	1
Cowley County	2
Crawford County	2
Dickinson County	1

■ See 2006 VOTES on page 14



NACo Member County Vote Allocations

■ **2006 VOTES** from page 13

Douglas County	4
Finney County	2
Ford County	2
Franklin County	1
Geary County	2
Grant County	1
Gray County	1
Greeley County	1
Greenwood County	1
Hamilton County	1
Harper County	1
Harvey County	2
Haskell County	1
Jackson County	1
Jefferson County	1
Jewell County	1
Johnson County	16
Labette County	2
Lane County	1
Linn County	1
Lyon County	2
Marion County	1
Marshall County	1
McPherson County	2
Meade County	1
Miami County	2
Mitchell County	1
Morton County	1
Neosho County	1
Norton County	1
Osage County	1
Osborne County	1
Phillips County	1
Pottawatomie County	1
Pratt County	1
Reno County	3
Republic County	1
Riley County	1
Rooks County	1
Saline County	3
Scott County	1
Seward County	1
Shawnee County	7
Sherman County	1
Smith County	1
Thomas County	1
Trego County	1
Unified Govt. of Wyandotte	7
Woodson County	1
State Total	109

■ **Kentucky**

Ballard County	1
Boone County	3
Bourbon County	1
Boyle County	2
Breckinridge County	1
Bullitt County	3
Campbell County	4
Clark County	2
Elliott County	1
Franklin County	2
Grant County	1
Hardin County	4

Harlan County	2
Harrison County	1
Henderson County	2
Hopkins County	2
Kenton County	7
LaRue County	1
Lawrence County	1
Lincoln County	1
Livingston County	1
Louisville Jefferson County Metro	29
Madison County	3
Marshall County	2
Mason County	1
McLean County	1
Montgomery County	1
Pendleton County	1
Powell County	1
Scott County	2
Spencer County	1
Warren County	4
Webster County	1
State Total	90

■ **Louisiana**

Acadia Parish	3
Allen Parish	1
Ascension Parish	3
Assumption Parish	1
Avoynes Parish	2
Beauregard Parish	2
Bienville Parish	1
Bossier Parish	4
Caddo Parish	11
Calcasieu Parish	8
Caldwell Parish	1
Cameron Parish	1
Claiborne Parish	1
DeSoto Parish	2
East Baton Rouge Parish	17
East Carroll Parish	1
Evangeline Parish	2
Franklin Parish	1
Iberia Parish	3
Iberville Parish	2
Jackson Parish	1
Jefferson Parish	20
Lafayette Consolidated Government	8
LaSalle Parish	1
Lincoln Parish	2
Livingston Parish	4
Madison Parish	1
Natchitoches Parish	2
Orleans Parish	22
Plaquemines Parish	2
Pointe Coupee Parish	1
Rapides Parish	6
Sabine Parish	1
St. Bernard Parish	3
St. Charles Parish	2
St. Helena Parish	1
St. James Parish	1
St. John The Baptist Parish	2
St. Landry Parish	4
St. Martin Parish	2
St. Mary Parish	3

St. Tammany Parish	7
Tangipahoa Parish	4
Tensas Parish	1
Terrebonne Parish	5
Vermilion Parish	3
Vernon Parish	3
Washington Parish	2
Webster Parish	2
West Baton Rouge Parish	1
West Feliciana Parish	1
Winn Parish	1
State Total	186

■ **Maine**

Androscoggin County	5
Cumberland County	11
Franklin County	2
Knox County	2
Lincoln County	2
Oxford County	3
Penobscot County	7
State Total	32

■ **Maryland**

Allegany County	4
Anne Arundel County	19
Baltimore City	32
Baltimore County	30
Calvert County	3
Caroline County	2
Carroll County	6
Cecil County	4
Charles County	5
Dorchester County	2
Frederick County	7
Garrett County	2
Harford County	8
Howard County	9
Kent County	1
Montgomery County	33
Prince George's County	32
Queen Anne's County	2
Somerset County	2
Talbot County	2
Washington County	6
Wicomico County	4
Worcester County	2
State Total	217

■ **Massachusetts**

Barnstable County	1
Bristol County	1
Norfolk County	1
Plymouth County	4

■ **Michigan**

Alcona County	1
Allegan County	4
Antrim County	1
Branch County	2
Charlevoix County	1
Cheboygan County	1
Chippewa County	2
Clare County	2

Clinton County	3
Crawford County	1
Delta County	2
Eaton County	2
Emmet County	4
Genesee County	19
Grand Traverse County	3
Hillsdale County	2
Houghton County	1
Huron County	2
Ingham County	13
Iron County	1
Isabella County	3
Jackson County	7
Kalamazoo County	10
Kent County	22
Lake County	1
Lapeer County	4
Leelanau County	1
Lenawee County	4
Livingston County	5
Mackinac County	1
Macomb County	31
Manistee County	1
Nemominee County	2
Midland County	4
Monroe County	6
Montcalm County	3
Montmorency County	1
Muskegon County	7
Newaygo County	2
Oakland County	47
Oceana County	1
Ontonagon County	1
Osceola County	1
Oscoda County	1
Ottawa County	9
Roscommon County	1
Saginaw County	10
Schoolcraft County	1
Shiawassee County	3
St. Clair County	7
St. Joseph County	3
Tuscola County	3
Washtenaw County	13
Wayne County	88
State Total	372

■ **Minnesota**

Aitkin County	1
Anoka County	11
Becker County	2
Beltrami County	2
Benton County	2
Big Stone County	1
Blue Earth County	3
Brown County	2
Carlton County	2
Carver County	3
Cass County	1
Chippewa County	1
Chisago County	2
Clay County	3
Clearwater County	1
Cook County	1
Cottonwood County	1

Crow Wing County	2
Dakota County	12
Dodge County	1
Douglas County	2
Faribault County	1
Fillmore County	1
Freeborn County	2
Goodhue County	2
Grant County	1
Hennepin County	45
Houston County	1
Hubbard County	1
Isanti County	2
Itasca County	2
Jackson County	1
Kanabec County	1
Kandiyohi County	2
Kittling County	1
Koochiching County	1
Lac Qui Parle County	1
Lake County	1
Lake Of The Woods County	1
Le Sueur County	1
Lincoln County	1
Lyon County	2
Mahnomen County	1
Marshall County	1
Martin County	1
McLeod County	2
Meeker County	1
Mille Lacs County	1
Morrison County	2
Mower County	2
Murray County	1
Nicollet County	2
Nobles County	1
Norman County	1
Olmsted County	5
Otter Tail County	3
Pennington County	1
Pine County	1
Pipestone County	1
Polk County	2
Pope County	1
Ramsey County	21
Red Lake County	1
Redwood County	1
Renville County	1
Rice County	3
Rock County	1
Roseau County	1
Scott County	3
Sherburne County	2
Sibley County	1
St. Louis County	9
Stearns County	6
Steele County	2
Stevens County	1
Swift County	1
Todd County	2
Traverse County	1
Wabasha County	1
Wadena County	1
Waseca County	1
Washington County	7

■ See 2006 VOTES on page 15



NACo Member County Vote Allocations

■ 2006 VOTES from page 14

Watsonwan County	1
Wilkin County	1
Winona County	3
Wright County	3
Yellow Medicine County	1

State Total 233

■ Mississippi

Adams County	2
Alcorn County	2
Attala County	1
Bolivar County	2
Calhoun County	1
Carroll County	1
Claiborne County	1
Clarke County	1
Coahoma County	2
Covington County	1
DeSoto County	3
Forrest County	3
George County	1
Greene County	1
Grenada County	1
Hancock County	2
Harrison County	8
Hinds County	11
Humphreys County	1
Issaquena County	1
Jackson County	5
Jasper County	1
Jefferson Davis County	1
Jones County	3
Kemper County	1
Lafayette County	2
Lamar County	2
Lauderdale County	4
Lee County	3
Leflore County	2
Lowndes County	3
Madison County	3
Marion County	2
Monroe County	2
Montgomery County	1
Neshoba County	2
Newton County	1
Noxubee County	1
Oktibbeha County	2
Panola County	2
Pearl River County	2
Perry County	1
Pike County	2
Rankin County	4
Scott County	2
Smith County	1
Stone County	1
Sunflower County	2
Tallahatchie County	1
Tate County	1
Tishomingo County	1
Tunica County	1
Union County	1
Walthall County	1
Warren County	3
Washington County	3

Wayne County	1
Webster County	1
Wilkinson County	1
Winston County	1
Yalobusha County	1
Yazoo County	2

State Total 123

■ Missouri

Andrew County	1
Atchison County	1
Audrain County	2
Barton County	1
Bates County	1
Benton County	1
Bollinger County	1
Boone County	5
Buchanan County	4
Caldwell County	1
Camden County	2
Cape Girardeau County	3
Carroll County	1
Carter County	1
Cass County	3
Chariton County	1
Christian County	2
Clay County	7
Clinton County	1
Cole County	3
Cooper County	1
DeKalb County	1
Douglas County	1
Franklin County	4
Gasconade County	1
Gentry County	1
Greene County	9
Harrison County	1
Henry County	1
Hickory County	1
Holt County	1
Howard County	1
Iron County	1
Jackson County	28
Jasper County	4
Jefferson County	8
Johnson County	2
Knox County	1
Laclede County	2
Lafayette County	2
Lincoln County	2
Linn County	1
Livingston County	1
Macon County	1
Madison County	1
Marion County	2
Mississippi County	1
Moniteau County	1
Monroe County	1
Morgan County	1
New Madrid County	1
Nodaway County	1
Oregon County	1
Ozark County	1
Pemiscot County	1
Perry County	1
Phelps County	2

Platte County	3
Polk County	1
Randolph County	2
Ray County	1
Reynolds County	1
Scott County	2
Shannon County	1
St. Clair County	1
St. Francois County	3
St. Louis County	43
Stone County	1
Sullivan County	1
Taney County	2
Texas County	1
Warren County	1
Washington County	1
Wayne County	1
Wright County	1

State Total 200

■ Montana

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County	1
Beaverhead County	1
Big Horn County	1
Blaine County	1
Broadwater County	2
Butte-Silver Bow County	2
Carbon County	1
Carter County	1
Cascade County	4
Chouteau County	1
Custer County	1
Daniels County	1
Dawson County	1
Fallon County	1
Fergus County	1
Flathead County	3
Gallatin County	3
Garfield County	1
Glacier County	1
Golden Valley County	1
Granite County	1
Hill County	1
Jefferson County	1
Judith Basin County	1
Lake County	1
Lewis And Clark County	3
Liberty County	1
Lincoln County	1
Madison County	1
McCone County	1
Meagher County	1
Mineral County	1
Missoula County	4
Musselshell County	1
Park County	1
Petroleum County	1
Phillips County	1
Pondera County	1
Powder River County	1
Powell County	1
Prairie County	1
Ravalli County	2
Richland County	1
Roosevelt County	1
Rosebud County	1

Sanders County	1
Sheridan County	1
Stillwater County	1
Sweet Grass County	1
Teton County	1
Toole County	1
Treasure County	1
Valley County	1
Wheatland County	1
Wibaux County	1
Yellowstone County	5

State Total 74

■ Nebraska

Adams County	2
Antelope County	1
Banner County	1
Boone County	1
Buffalo County	2
Burt County	1
Butler County	1
Cass County	1
Chase County	1
Cherry County	1
Cheyenne County	1
Clay County	1
Cuming County	1
Custer County	1
Dawes County	1
Dawson County	1
Deuel County	1
Dixon County	1
Douglas County	18
Fillmore County	1
Frontier County	1
Gage County	1
Garden County	1
Hall County	3
Hamilton County	1
Harlan County	1
Hayes County	1
Holt County	1
Howard County	1
Jefferson County	1
Keith County	1
Lancaster County	10
Lincoln County	2
Merrick County	1
Morrill County	1
Nemaha County	1
Pawnee County	1
Perkins County	1
Phelps County	1
Richardson County	1
Saline County	1
Saunders County	1
Seward County	1
Sherman County	1
Sioux County	1
Stanton County	1
Thayer County	1
Thomas County	1
Washington County	1
Wayne County	1
York County	1

State Total 82

Nevada

Carson City	2
Churchill County	1
Clark County	32
Douglas County	2
Elko County	2
Esmeralda County	1
Eureka County	1
Humboldt County	1
Lander County	1
Lincoln County	1
Lyon County	1
Mineral County	1
Nye County	1
Pershing County	1
Storey County	1
Washoe County	11
White Pine County	1

State Total 61

■ New Hampshire

Belknap County	2
Carroll County	2
Cheshire County	2
Coos County	2
Grafton County	2
Hillsborough County	2
Merrimack County	2
Rockingham County	2
Strafford County	2
Sullivan County	2

State Total 20

■ New Jersey

Atlantic County	10
Cape May County	5
Cumberland County	6
Gloucester County	10
Hudson County	24
Middlesex County	29
Monmouth County	24
Ocean County	19
Somerset County	11
Union County	22

State Total 160

■ New Mexico

Bernalillo County	21
Catron County	1
Chaves County	3
Cibola County	2
Colfax County	1
Curry County	2
De Baca County	1
Dona Ana County	6
Eddy County	3
Grant County	2
Guadalupe County	1
Harding County	1
Hidalgo County	1
Lea County	3
Lincoln County	1
Los Alamos County	1

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NACo Member County Vote Allocations

■ **2006 VOTES** from page 15

Luna County	1
McKinley County	3
Mora County	1
Otero County	3
Quay County	1
Rio Arriba County	2
Roosevelt County	1
San Juan County	4
San Miguel County	2
Sandoval County	3
Santa Fe County	5
Sierra County	1
Socorro County	1
Taos County	1
Torrance County	1
Union County	1
Valencia County	2
State Total	83

■ **New York**

Broome County	10
Cattaraugus County	4
Cayuga County	4
Chemung County	5
Clinton County	4
Cortland County	3
Dutchess County	12
Essex County	2
Greene County	2
Hamilton County	1
Jefferson County	5
Madison County	3
Oneida County	11
Onondaga County	21
Orange County	14
Rensselaer County	7
Rockland County	12
Seneca County	2
Steuben County	5
Sullivan County	3
Westchester County	38
State Total	168

■ **North Carolina**

Alamance County	5
Alexander County	2
Alleghany County	1
Anson County	2
Ashe County	1
Avery County	1
Beaufort County	2
Bertie County	1
Bladen County	2
Brunswick County	3
Buncombe County	8
Burke County	4
Cabarrus County	5
Caldwell County	4
Camden County	1
Carteret County	3
Caswell County	1
Catawba County	6
Chatham County	2
Cherokee County	1

Chowan County	1
City of Charlotte & Mecklenburg	22
Clay County	1
Cleveland County	1
Columbus County	3
Craven County	4
Cumberland County	12
Currituck County	1
Dare County	1
Davidson County	6
Davie County	2
Duplin County	2
Durham County	8
Edgecombe County	3
Forsyth County	12
Franklin County	2
Gaston County	8
Gates County	1
Graham County	1
Granville County	2
Greene County	1
Guilford County	15
Halifax County	3
Harnett County	3
Haywood County	3
Henderson County	3
Hertford County	1
Hoke County	1
Hyde County	1
Iredell County	4
Jackson County	2
Johnston County	4
Jones County	1
Lee County	2
Lenoir County	3
Lincoln County	3
Macon County	2
Madison County	1
Martin County	2
McDowell County	2
Mitchell County	1
Montgomery County	1
Moore County	3
Nash County	4
New Hanover County	6
Northampton County	1
Onslow County	7
Orange County	5
Pamlico County	1
Pasquotank County	2
Pender County	2
Perquimans County	1
Person County	2
Pitt County	5
Polk County	1
Randolph County	5
Richmond County	2
Robeson County	5
Rockingham County	4
Rowan County	5
Rutherford County	3
Sampson County	3
Scotland County	2
Stanly County	3
Stokes County	2
Surry County	3

Swain County	1
Transylvania County	2
Tyrrell County	1
Union County	4
Vance County	2
Wake County	19
Warren County	1
Washington County	1
Watauga County	2
Wayne County	5
Wilkes County	3
Wilson County	3
Yadkin County	2
Yancey County	1
State Total	334

■ **North Dakota**

Adams County	1
Barnes County	1
Benson County	1
Billings County	1
Bottineau County	1
Bowman County	1
Burke County	1
Burleigh County	3
Cass County	5
Cavalier County	1
Dickey County	1
Divide County	1
Dunn County	1
Eddy County	1
Emmons County	1
Foster County	1
Golden Valley County	1
Grand Forks County	4
Grant County	1
Griggs County	1
Hettinger County	1
Kidder County	1
LaMoure County	1
Logan County	1
McHenry County	1
McIntosh County	1
McKenzie County	1
McLean County	1
Mercer County	1
Morton County	2
Nelson County	1
Oliver County	1
Pembina County	1
Pierce County	1
Ramsey County	1
Ransom County	1
Renville County	1
Richland County	1
Rolette County	1
Sargent County	1
Sheridan County	1
Sioux County	1
Slope County	1
Stark County	1
Steele County	1
Stutsman County	1
Towner County	1
Traill County	1
Walsh County	1

Ward County	3
Wells County	1
Williams County	1
State Total	64

■ **Ohio**

Adams County	2
Ashland County	3
Athens County	3
Auglaize County	2
Belmont County	4
Butler County	13
Clark County	7
Clermont County	7
Clinton County	2
Cuyahoga County	61
Defiance County	2
Delaware County	2
Erie County	4
Fayette County	2
Franklin County	42
Gallia County	2
Greene County	6
Hamilton County	38
Hardin County	2
Henry County	2
Highland County	2
Hocking County	2
Holmes County	2
Jefferson County	4
Knox County	3
Lake County	10
Licking County	6
Logan County	2
Lorain County	12
Lucas County	20
Madison County	2
Marion County	3
Montgomery County	25
Morrow County	2
Muskingum County	4
Ottawa County	2
Pike County	2
Portage County	7
Preble County	2
Ross County	3
Scioto County	4
Summit County	23
Union County	2
Van Wert County	2
Warren County	5
Wyandot County	1
State Total	359

■ **Oklahoma**

Beckham County	1
Blaine County	1
Bryan County	2
Canadian County	4
Cimarron County	1
Cleveland County	8
Coal County	1
Cotton County	1
Custer County	2
Grady County	2
Hughes County	1

Johnston County	1
Kiowa County	1
Logan County	2
Major County	1
Mayes County	2
Oklahoma County	26
Osage County	2
Pawnee County	1
Payne County	3
Sequoyah County	2
Stephens County	2
Texas County	1
Tulsa County	22
Washington County	3
Washita County	1
State Total	94

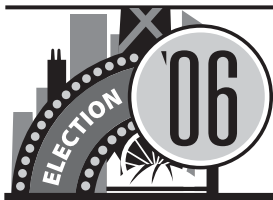
■ **Oregon**

Baker County	1
Benton County	4
Clackamas County	12
Clatsop County	2
Columbia County	2
Coos County	3
Crook County	1
Curry County	1
Deschutes County	4
Douglas County	5
Gilliam County	1
Grant County	1
Harney County	1
Hood River County	1
Jackson County	7
Jefferson County	1
Josephine County	3
Klamath County	3
Lake County	1
Lane County	13
Lincoln County	2
Linn County	4
Malheur County	2
Marion County	10
Morrow County	1
Multnomah County	25
Polk County	3
Sherman County	1
Tillamook County	1
Umatilla County	3
Union County	2
Wallowa County	1
Wasco County	1
Washington County	14
Wheeler County	1
Yamhill County	3
State Total	141

■ **Pennsylvania**

Adams County	4
Allegheny County	58
Armstrong County	4
Beaver County	8
Berks County	15
Bradford County	3
Butler County	7

■ See 2006 VOTES on page 17



NACo Member County Vote Allocations

■ 2006 VOTES from page 16

Carbon County	3
Centre County	6
Chester County	17
Clarion County	2
Clinton County	2
Columbia County	3
Dauphin County	11
Delaware County	24
Elk County	2
Erie County	12
Forest County	1
Franklin County	6
Greene County	2
Jefferson County	2
Juniata County	1
Lackawanna County	10
Lancaster County	19
Lehigh County	13
Luzerne County	15
Lycoming County	6
Mercer County	6
Monroe County	5
Montour County	1
Northampton County	11
Northumberland County	5
Perry County	2
Philadelphia County	68
Pike County	2
Potter County	1
Schuylkill County	7
Snyder County	2
Somerset County	4
Tioga County	2
Union County	2
Venango County	3
Wyoming County	2
State Total	379

■ South Carolina

Abbeville County	2
Allendale County	1
Anderson County	7
Bamberg County	1
Barnwell County	1
Beaufort County	4
Berkeley County	6
Calhoun County	1
Charleston County	13
Cherokee County	2
Chesterfield County	2
Clarendon County	2
Colleton County	2
Darlington County	3
Dillon County	2
Dorchester County	4
Fairfield County	1
Florence County	5
Georgetown County	2
Greenville County	14
Greenwood County	3
Hampton County	1
Horry County	7
Jasper County	1
Kershaw County	2

Laurens County	3
Lee County	1
Lexington County	8
Marion County	2
Marlboro County	2
McCormick County	1
Newberry County	2
Oconee County	3
Orangeburg County	4
Richland County	13
Saluda County	1
Spartanburg County	10
Sumter County	5
Union County	2
Williamsburg County	2
York County	6
State Total	154

■ South Dakota

Aurora County	1
Beadle County	1
Bennett County	1
Bon Homme County	1
Brookings County	2
Brown County	2
Brule County	1
Buffalo County	1
Butte County	1
Campbell County	1
Charles Mix County	1
Clark County	1
Clay County	1
Codington County	1
Corson County	1
Custer County	1
Davison County	1
Deuel County	1
Douglas County	1
Edmunds County	1
Fall River County	1
Grant County	1
Gregory County	1
Haakon County	1
Hand County	1
Hanson County	1
Harding County	1
Hughes County	1
Hutchinson County	1
Jackson County	1
Jerauld County	1
Lake County	1
Lawrence County	1
Lincoln County	1
Lyman County	1
Marshall County	1
McCook County	1
McPherson County	1
Meade County	1
Miner County	1
Minnehaha County	6
Pennington County	4
Perkins County	1
Potter County	1
Sanborn County	1
Stanley County	1
Sully County	1

Tripp County	1
Turner County	1
Union County	1
Walworth County	1
Yankton County	1
Ziebach County	1
State Total	63

■ Tennessee

Anderson County	3
Bradley County	4
Carter County	3
Crockett County	1
Davidson County	22
Dyer County	2
Franklin County	2
Gibson County	2
Grainger County	1
Hamilton County	13
Haywood County	1
Hickman County	1
Jefferson County	2
Johnson County	1
Knox County	15
Lauderdale County	2
Lincoln County	2
Loudon County	2
Marion County	2
Marshall County	1
McMinn County	2
Montgomery County	5
Morgan County	1
Obion County	2
Scott County	1
Sevier County	3
Shelby County	36
Stewart County	1
Sullivan County	7
Sumner County	5
Tipton County	2
Washington County	4
Weakley County	2
White County	1
Williamson County	4
State Total	158

■ Texas

Andrews County	1
Aransas County	1
Archer County	1
Austin County	1
Bandera County	1
Bastrop County	2
Bee County	2
Bell County	9
Bexar County	51
Bosque County	1
Brazoria County	9
Brewster County	1
Brooks County	1
Calhoun County	1
Carson County	1
Chambers County	1
Cochran County	1
Collin County	12
Comal County	3

Concho County	1
Cooke County	2
Culberson County	1
Dallas County	80
Denton County	12
DeWitt County	1
Duval County	1
Eastland County	1
Edwards County	1
El Paso County	26
Ellis County	4
Falls County	1
Fayette County	1
Fort Bend County	10
Franklin County	1
Gaines County	1
Galveston County	10
Garza County	1
Gonzales County	1
Gray County	2
Grayson County	5
Gregg County	5
Guadalupe County	3
Hall County	1
Hays County	3
Hemphill County	1
Hopkins County	2
Houston County	1
Hutchinson County	2
Irion County	1
Jack County	1
Jackson County	1
Jefferson County	11
Jim Hogg County	1
Jim Wells County	2
Karnes County	1
Kaufman County	3
Kenedy County	1
Sullivan County	1
Kimble County	1
Kleberg County	2
Lampasas County	1
Lavaca County	1
Lee County	1
Leon County	1
Limestone County	1
Lipscomb County	1
Live Oak County	1
Loving County	1
Madison County	1
Marion County	1
Martin County	1
Mason County	1
McCulloch County	1
McMullen County	1
Medina County	2
Moore County	2
Morris County	1
Navarro County	2
Newton County	1
Nueces County	13
Palo Pinto County	2
Panola County	1
Parmer County	1
Polk County	2
Presidio County	1
Rains County	1
Refugio County	1

Robertson County	1
San Augustine County	1
San Jacinto County	1
San Patricio County	3
Scurry County	1
Shackelford County	1
Shelby County	1
Stephens County	1
Tarrant County	51
Terrell County	1
Terry County	1
Trinity County	1
Tyler County	1
Upton County	1
Washington County	2
Wilbarger County	1
Willacy County	1
Williamson County	6
Wilson County	1
Wise County	2
Yoakum County	1
State Total	429

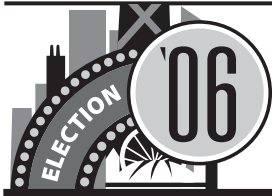
■ Utah

Beaver County	1
Box Elder County	2
Cache County	4
Carbon County	1
Daggett County	1
Davis County	9
Duchesne County	1
Emery County	1
Garfield County	1
Grand County	1
Iron County	1
Juab County	1
Kane County	1
Millard County	1
Morgan County	1
Piute County	1
Rich County	1
Salt Lake County	32
San Juan County	1
Sanpete County	1
Sevier County	1
Summit County	1
Tooele County	2
Uintah County	1
Utah County	12
Wasatch County	1
Washington County	3
Wayne County	1
Weber County	7
State Total	92

■ Virginia

Accomack County	2
Albemarle County	3
Alleghany County	1
Amherst County	2
Appomattox County	1
Arlington County	8
Augusta County	3
Bath County	1

■ See 2006 VOTES on page 18



NACo Member County Vote Allocations

■ **2006 VOTES** from page 17

Bedford County	2
Bland County	1
Botetourt County	2
Brunswick County	1
Buchanan County	2
Buckingham County	1
Campbell County	3
Caroline County	1
Carroll County	2
Charles City County	1
Charlotte County	1
Chesterfield County	9
City Of Richmond	9
Clarke County	1
Craig County	1
Culpeper County	2
Cumberland County	1
Dickenson County	1
Essex County	1
Fairfax County	35
Fauquier County	3
Floyd County	1
Fluvanna County	1
Franklin County	2
Frederick County	2
Gloucester County	2
Goochland County	1
Grayson County	1
Greene County	1
Greensville County	1
Halifax County	2
Hanover County	3
Henrico County	10
Henry County	3
Highland County	1
Isle Of Wight County	2
James City County	2
King And Queen County	1
King George County	1
King William County	1
Lancaster County	1
Loudoun County	4
Louisa County	1
Lunenburg County	1
Madison County	1
Mathews County	1
Mecklenburg County	2
Middlesex County	1
Montgomery County	4
Nelson County	1
New Kent County	1
Northampton County	1
Nottoway County	1
Orange County	1
Page County	1
Patrick County	1
Pittsylvania County	3
Powhatan County	1
Prince Edward County	1
Prince George County	2
Prince William County	10
Pulaski County	2
Rappahannock County	1
Richmond County	1
Roanoke County	4

Rockbridge County	1
Rockingham County	3
Russell County	2
Scott County	1
Shenandoah County	2
Southampton County	1
Stafford County	3
Surry County	1
Sussex County	1
Tazewell County	2
Warren County	2
Washington County	2
Westmoreland County	1
Wise County	2
Wythe County	2
York County	2

State Total 215

■ **Washington**

Asotin County	1
Benton County	5
Chelan County	3
Clallam County	3
Clark County	11
Columbia County	1
Cowlitz County	4
Douglas County	2
Ferry County	1
Franklin County	2
Garfield County	1
Grant County	3
Grays Harbor County	3
Island County	3
Jefferson County	1
King County	65
Kitsap County	9
Kittitas County	2
Klickitat County	1
Lewis County	3
Lincoln County	1
Mason County	2
Okanogan County	2
Pacific County	1
Pend Oreille County	1
Pierce County	26
San Juan County	1
Skagit County	4
Skamania County	1
Snohomish County	20
Spokane County	16
Stevens County	2
Thurston County	7
Wahkiakum County	1
Walla Walla County	3
Whatcom County	6
Whitman County	2
Yakima County	9

State Total 229

■ **West Virginia**

Barbour County	1
Berkeley County	3
Boone County	2
Brooke County	2
Cabell County	5
Calhoun County	1

Clay County	1
Gilmer County	1
Grant County	1
Greenbrier County	2
Hancock County	2
Hardy County	1
Harrison County	3
Jefferson County	2
Kanawha County	9
Lewis County	1
Lincoln County	1
Logan County	2
Marion County	2
Marshall County	2
Mercer County	3
Mineral County	2
Monongalia County	4
Ohio County	3
Pendleton County	1
Pleasants County	1
Pocahontas County	1
Putnam County	2
Raleigh County	4
Randolph County	2
Ritchie County	1
Summers County	1
Tucker County	1
Tyler County	1
Upshur County	1
Wayne County	2
Webster County	1
Wetzel County	1
Wirt County	1
Wood County	4
Wyoming County	2

State Total 84

■ **Wisconsin**

Adams County	1
Ashland County	1
Barron County	2
Bayfield County	1
Burnett County	1
Calumet County	2
Chippewa County	3
Clark County	2
Columbia County	2
Dane County	16
Dodge County	4
Douglas County	2
Dunn County	2
Eau Claire County	4
Forest County	1
Green County	2
Jackson County	1
Juneau County	1
Kenosha County	6
Kewaunee County	1
La Crosse County	5
Marathon County	5
Marquette County	2
Milwaukee County	41
Oconto County	2
Outagamie County	7
Ozaukee County	4

Pierce County	2
Portage County	3
Price County	1
Racine County	8
Richland County	1
Rock County	6
Sauk County	3
Shawano County	2
Sheboygan County	5
St. Croix County	3
Taylor County	1
Trempealeau County	2
Vernon County	2
Vilas County	1
Walworth County	4
Washburn County	1
Washington County	5
Waukesha County	14
Waushara County	1
Winnebago County	6

State Total 194

■ **Wyoming**

Albany County	2
Big Horn County	1
Campbell County	2
Carbon County	1
Converse County	1

Crook County	1
Fremont County	2
Goshen County	1
Hot Springs County	1
Johnson County	1
Laramie County	4
Lincoln County	1
Natrona County	3
Niobrara County	1
Park County	1
Platte County	1
Sheridan County	2
Sublette County	1
Sweetwater County	2
Teton County	1
Uinta County	1
Washakie County	1
Weston County	1

State Total 33

Vote Total 8,323

Word Search Edible Counties

T	L	G	P	Z	V	V	X	S	Y	O	B	P	L	C	G	A	P	R	B	B	Y
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O	S	K	Q	R	X	E	D	B	X	F	R	I	N	X	V	C	S	H	F	R	E
N	U	Q	G	T	Q	L	Q	G	D	Y	B	J	B	V	X	V	X	Z	P	O	S
Z	M	U	M	K	J	C	O	F	F	E	E	F	R	V	K	K	N	N	A	W	K
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| ALFALFA | CHERRY | HICKORY | PEACH |
| BACON | CITRUS | LAMB | PIKE |
| BOURBON | COFFEE | MCDONALD | RICE |
| BUFFALO | COKE | MUSSELL | SHASTA |
| CARIBOU | CURRY | ORANGE | SWEETWATER |

FOCUS ON ACHIEVEMENT

Baltimore County turns inmates into 'Winning Fathers'

By CHARLES TAYLOR
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

When 27-year-old Karl got out of jail, it wasn't a question of "if" but rather, "when" he would resume paying child support for his young daughter. "It's 100 percent important," the Anne Arundel County, Md. resident said by phone recently.

One of the lucky ex-offenders, he had a job waiting for him but needed transportation to get to it. That's where Baltimore County's Winning Fathers program helped. A joint effort of the county's Department of Social Services and Department of Corrections, the program provided Karl free bus tokens — one of the many services it offers. Able to get to work and with his income restored, he caught up on support payments to his ex-wife for their 2-year-old daughter, making a \$5,500 payment a few months ago.

Perhaps much more important than bus fare, Winning Fathers helps inmates find jobs while still incarcerated and provides them up to three months of support services after their release to help them stay employed and support their children.

The program expanded on an existing relationship between the county's Social Services and

Corrections departments. For more than 10 years, they had worked together to help Baltimore County Detention Center inmates transition back into the community. The departments collaborated on workshops in pre-release planning, anger management, parenting from afar and job readiness.

Winning Fathers began in 2003, adding employment development and case management services — with the goal of increasing fathers' roles in their children's lives and encouraging non-custodial dads to pay their child support. It was funded with a \$91,200 state grant from the Maryland Department of Human Resources.

"What we know is that when men leave the detention center, employment is a very important piece to them being successful," said Marci Van De Mark, assistant director of Social Services. "The idea was, if we could try and identify employers who would hire men while they're still incarcerated, that would give them a leg up in terms of being employed when they leave the detention center."

Through April 2006, the program had reached more than 900 men, helped 90 find jobs and funneled



Photo courtesy of Baltimore County, Md.

Baltimore County Councilman T. Bryan McIntire (left) and County Executive Jim Smith (far right) pose with Winning Fathers program staff after presenting them certificates of recognition for the successful collaboration between the departments of Social Services and Corrections.

about \$150,000 in child support payments to former inmates' children, according to Van De Mark. "We have 93 children who were not being supported by their dads — because their dads were unemployed or they were incarcerated — who are now being supported by their fathers." The program has been so successful that the state of Maryland plans to replicate it in its other 23 counties.

Winning Fathers is open to offenders with sentences of up to 18 months who are incarcerated for non-felony convictions. Their offenses range from assault, robbery and substance abuse to DWI and domestic violence. While a job developer aggressively recruits participants, the inmates "self select" for the voluntary program, Van De Mark said.

Preparing for life after jail

Inmates participate in an eight-hour, four-session job readiness workshop — offered monthly — designed to remove barriers to employment by providing job placement assistance, and educational and vocational training referrals. Program staff coach inmates on interviewing techniques and help them with resumes. On the behavioral side, the inmates also take an active parenting workshop, which covers topics such as role-modeling, consistency and leisure activities with children.

Earl Corso, an employment specialist with Social Services,

works with employers and inmates. He recruits employers at job fairs, tracks new businesses coming into the area and tries to convince them of the advantages of hiring ex-offenders, which include state and federal tax benefits.

Another benefit, Corso explained, is getting a dependable employee. "If you have someone in work release, it's guaranteed that he'll be there." The program has identified more than 50 employers who hire inmates and ex-offenders.

Corso provides the inmates with job leads, arranges for employers to interview inmates at the detention center, and even helps them find work clothes and tools, if necessary.

A key component of the program's success is finding employers who are willing to pay a living wage, sufficient for ex-offenders to pay child support, Corso added. From August 2003 through January 2005, the average hourly wage was \$11.56, with the highest wage rate of nearly \$19 per hour. Since then, the highest-paying job a program participant has found — as a plumber — paid \$30 an hour.

Corso's formula for success is simple: establishing good relationships with the detention center and employers, marketing successfully to employers and forming a good relationship with the inmates. "Empowering them, more than anything," he said, "I think that's been the key to success."

Post-release support is key

"They say that if a person is successfully employed for 21 days ... that you're likely to have a good employee," Van De Mark stated. So continuing to monitor and provide services to ex-offenders is important to their success. Winning Fathers works with the men for 90 days, "because these guys have many challenges, many issues in their lives," she added.

After an inmate's release, Winning Fathers provides incentive stipends, in the form of gift cards, to reward the ex-offender for paying his child support. If he remains employed and paying child support for 30 days, he receives \$100 worth of gift cards to spend on his children; after 90 days, \$150 in cards are awarded. "It's been a motivator," Corso said.

Locking the revolving door

The Winning Fathers program has another focus — lowering recidivism: "Men need to think differently when they leave," Van De Mark explained, "because if they continue to think the same way they did prior to entering the detention center, they're going to be right back." Historically, about 50 percent of inmates in Baltimore County wind up back in jail, officials said. Lowering the rate of reoffenders can affect the county's bottom line, said Sharon Tyler, a program manager with the Department of Corrections.

"If you're looking at a recidivism rate where half the people who are released come back again, if you can affect 10 percent, you're affecting your population and resources." The program will need to be in place longer to identify any meaningful trends in recidivism rates, she said.

Tyler believes the program sends a positive message to all inmates — "that we are actually trying to correct things and not just warehouse inmates, that we want to make a difference — that we're trying to return these people to the community as real citizens, paying child support, paying taxes and taking care of their families."

Karl, who returned to work as a car salesman after serving six months in the county Detention Center for resisting arrest, agrees.

"The program provided me the ability to provide for my family and children, and, in the end, being able to see them."

NACo ON THE MOVE

■ In the News

• **The Commercial Appeal** mentioned NACo in a May 24 article entitled "Cities pinched; Local governments' budgets feel the heat from ballooning fuel costs." Jacqueline Byers, research director, mentioned that counties have been affected by high fuel costs, including cuts in public safety budgets.

■ NACo Officers and County Officials

• **President Bill Hansell** didn't have to travel far to participate in one state association's annual meeting this month — the Association of Oregon Counties' spring conference was held in his hometown of Umatilla County (Pendleton) May 23–26.

■ NACo Staff

• **Larry Naake**, executive director, **Ed Ferguson**, CSD director, and **Sandra Clark**, manager of educational services, attended the County Leadership Institute May 31–June 3 in New York City. The institute is a partnership with New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

■ Up and Coming

• **Andrew Goldschmidt**, membership and marketing director, will exhibit on behalf of NACo membership recruitment and retention at the Mississippi Association of Supervisors Annual Conference in Tunica County (Robinsonville) June 12–15.

(On the Move is compiled by Dan Miller, staff writer, and Allison Mall, editorial assistant.)

NEWS FROM THE NATION'S COUNTIES



ALASKA

The Alaska Supreme Court recently upheld **FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH'S** five-percent tax on beer, wine and liquor.

The Interior Cabaret, Hotel, Restaurant and Retailers Association had sued the borough to prevent the tax from going on the ballot. The move failed and voters approved the tax.

The case was argued before the court in June 2005, according to the *Fairbanks Daily News-Miner*. At the heart of the case was whether state law allowed the borough to single out alcohol and to only tax bars and liquor stores outside the cities of Fairbanks and North Pole.

ARKANSAS

Only a month after officers in **SALINE COUNTY** formed a **drug task force**, the team has made a bust that resulted in nine accused meth manufacturers being arrested.

The Multi-Agency Drug Enforcement (MADE) team received a tip that an 18-year-old man was buying the ingredients to make meth from a local Wal-Mart, according to KFVS-TV. After the bust, the officers uncovered nearly \$250,000 worth of meth and meth-making ingredients, including a 10-gallon drum of anhydrous ammonia and about 12,000 Sudafed tablets.

"I felt the citizens of Saline County would be better served by using our men, who we're paying a salary for, to work full-time in Saline County on this very serious problem," County Sheriff Ed Miller told KFVS.

ARIZONA

Thanks to a solid economy and a growing housing market, **MARI-COPA COUNTY** has found itself in a good place financially and is launching several new **spending initiatives** for the coming year.

According to *The Arizona Republic*, supervisors have given preliminary approval of a budget that increases spending 12 percent, from \$1.9 billion to \$2.1 billion.

The county's spending initiatives include a \$60-million package of salary increases for county employees, investment in new or expanded law enforcement programs, and 13 new staff members to help fight sexually transmitted diseases and tuberculosis.

Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox

told the *Republic* that the spending is an attempt to avoid higher costs down the road. Keeping a teenager off meth, for instance, would mean less jail spending later on.

FLORIDA

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY'S Head Start/Early Head Start program has been designated a "Quality Initiative Program of Excellence" by the National Head Start Association.

The Quality Initiative began in 1995 and provides a vehicle for recognizing the achievements of **Head Start** programs. The application process consists of an intensive review in several key areas, from the quality of preschool education services offered to young children to the positive impact the program has on entire communities.

Hillsborough County HS/EHS is one of only a few programs nationwide to have received this honor.

INDIANA

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has awarded federal grants for **historic preservation** to 18 Indiana communities, including seven counties. The counties are **CRAWFORD, HAMILTON, HANCOCK, POSEY, STUBEN, TIPPECANOE and WASHINGTON**.

In total, the grants are worth \$505,000, and will be matched by local and state funds for a total of \$935,000. Each grant is worth between \$10,000 and \$35,000.

Most of the grants will be used to take surveys of historical sites and structures around the counties.

IOWA

A new 1-percent sales tax in **LOUISA COUNTY** would help finance a new county jail.

Sheriff Curt Braby said that all the cities in the county, as well as the unincorporated rural areas would be asked to vote on the proposal, which would raise about \$537,000 each year.

If the communities agree to the proposal, according to the Associated Press, the referendum will be on the ballot this fall. The groundbreaking for the jail would be next spring.

KENTUCKY

Gov. Ernie Fletcher presented a \$1 million check to **HOPKINS COUNTY** Judge Executive Patricia Hawkins, Hanson Mayor Charles Young and other county officials. The check represents CDBG funds allocated to city of Hanson for Hanson's **sewer improvement project**.

According to Hawkins the Hopkins Fiscal Court has allocated funding in the amount of \$1.27 million in single-county coal severance funds to assist the city with the sewer project.

NEW MEXICO

Citing dry conditions in southern New Mexico, the **DONA ANA COUNTY** Commission approved a 30-day **ban**, effective through late June, on **fireworks** that can fly or be thrown in the air.

County Fire Marshal Paul Chavez proposed the ban, the *Las Cruces Sun-News* reported. He said, "If you look at the index put out by the National Weather Service, we're right there under extreme drought conditions, which is expected to last the entire summer. That's definitely a concern, and that's why we're going this route."

The prohibition applies to missiles, aerial spinners, stick-type rockets and firecrackers. If dry conditions persist, Chavez said he'll ask the commission on June 13 to extend the ban.

NEW YORK

One hundred-sixteen **SULLIVAN COUNTY** jobs will go unfilled and contracts with 15 outside agencies have been canceled in an effort to cut \$4.7 million from the **county's budget**, according to the *Times Herald-Record*. The county was hoping to raise \$3.5 to \$4.5 million to balance its budget from an increase in its sales and hotel occupancy taxes. However, the State Assembly did not approve the measure. Among agencies whose funding will be cut are Head Start, the Sullivan County Visitors Association and Cornell Cooperative Extension.

NORTH DAKOTA

GRANT COUNTY residents will vote June 13 on whether to stick with Mountain time or move their clocks ahead one hour and switch to **Central time**, as several neighboring counties have done.

Six years ago, the county rejected the change while neighboring Morton and Sioux counties approved it, the Associated Press reported. But county officials say things are different now. "Now we have schools interacting with other schools on Central time," Diehl told AP.

If residents favor Central time, county officials will ask the U.S. Department of Transportation, which is responsible for time zones, to make the change.

PENNSYLVANIA

BEAVER COUNTY is appealing a judge's order to remove all county **judges' names** from the

county assessor's public records. Concerned about the judges' safety, Judge Robert Kunselman recently ordered judges' names to be removed from the assessor's Web site property search, public-access terminals and a monthly listing of properties on compact disc, according to the Associated Press.

County solicitor Myron Sainovich said he could find no law giving Kunselman the authority for the order. Last year, Allegheny County complied with a federal judge's request to remove the names of all federal, state and county judges from a real estate Web site there.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The **OCONEE COUNTY** Council has reversed itself and decided to keep **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** as a paid county holiday, *The State* newspaper reported. In a move to cut costs, the council had voted to drop King Day and eight other holidays, trimming the number from 14 to five.

Council members recently voted unanimously to recognize the same 12 holidays recognized by the state of South Carolina.

■ See NEWS FROM on page 21

web watch

■ Gwinnett County Web Site Has New Unclaimed Refunds Section



Gwinnett County, Ga. Tax Commissioner Katherine Sherrington's Web site now provides taxpayers with an option to find information that

will help determine if they are owed a refund. The Unclaimed Refunds section can be found at the tax commissioner's Web site www.gwinnetttaxcommissioner.com. The site provides a current listing of outstanding unclaimed refunds and overpayments. Anyone who finds his or her name on the list can contact the tax commissioner.

■ Isle of Wight County Web Site Offers GIS Data



As a new service to its constituents, the Isle of Wight County, Va. Web site now features geographic information systems (GIS) data on its Web site. Users can search the county by street address or tax map number to find out about information such as zoning, development districts, topography or town boundaries. To visit the site, go to www.co.isle-of-wight.va.us and click on "Online Maps."

■ Seneca County Connects Kids to Online Resources



The Seneca County Family & Children First Council, which aims to promote healthy children and strong families in Seneca County, Ohio, launched a Web site called **PLAY** (Positive Lifestyle Awareness for Youth) to "connect the youth of Seneca County with resources and tools to make positive choices which affect their future." The site lists various positive activities that youths can become involved in such as Boy and Girl scouts, political organizations and church-based activities. Visit the site at www.senecacountyfjfc.org/PLAY.

(Web Watch is compiled by Dan Miller, staff writer. If you have a Web site you would like mentioned, please e-mail it to him at dmiller@naco.org.)

RESEARCH NEWS

Local police mine popular MySpace Web site for clues

On Monday, May 8, 18-year-old Michael Kennedy opened fire in a Fairfax County, Va. police station parking lot, killing one officer at the scene, while another died a week later from injuries suffered during the shooting. Kennedy was also killed in the shootout. The obvious first question for investigators was "Why?" Why would a young man commit such a heinous act? What would drive him to do this? The questions led them to the Internet, where they found glimpses of Kennedy's mind-set on his MySpace page.

MySpace, according to the Web site, is an online community where friends can catch-up, chat, blog, post pictures, watch videos and network. There are more than 80 million registered accounts, and it is the fourth most popular Web site in the world, according to *Alexa.com*, which tracks Web traffic.

When investigators found Kennedy's page on MySpace, they found evidence of a mentally troubled young man, who had changed his profile name from "Kennedy" to "Herr Azriel," the angel of destruc-

tion. He also posted an apology "to all the people I hurt." The investigation further confirmed their suspicions, as they found he had voluntarily admitted himself into a behavioral health center, only to escape later that same evening. He was eventually arrested for carjacking.

The Fairfax police shooting is only one of many incidents where county police and detectives are turning to the Internet to learn more about their suspects. As the Kennedy example shows, Web sites like MySpace are being used by their registered users as a release, like a diary, where users sometimes post their innermost and most intimate thoughts. Law enforcement agencies are beginning to take advantage.

In Montgomery County, Md., a MySpace search helped to track down teen arsonists, who had posted photos of a fire they set on their MySpace pages. Another photo on MySpace led to the arrest of a high school student in Placer County, Calif. The investigation of the student began after photos of him engaged in drug use appeared on MySpace.



The Sheriff's Department questioned the teen and searched his backpack, car and bedroom, where they found not only drugs and drug paraphernalia, but also bomb-making materials.

MySpace also led to the arrest of teenagers in Kansas where officials claim they had plotted to carry out a school shooting based on messages they had posted on the Web site. Police in Anne Arundel County, Md. also used the Web site to track down assailants in a school beating.

Police are also wary of the site because young teenagers post information on their Web pages, and these pages are easily accessible to sexual predators. Even the generic information posted by users, such as name of their school and extracurricular activities (the site does not allow last names to be used) can be used to stalk, harass or commit a sex crime. Media reports in Newark, N.J. link a 14-year-old's death to activity on MySpace.

Activities such as these have led to schools trying to crack down on MySpace usage by their students or otherwise closely monitor their Web pages. A school district in Lake County, Ill. is forcing students to sign a pledge, whereby any inappropriate comments posted on the Internet can be grounds for disciplinary action. Other districts are educating parents on MySpace and the Internet in general, so the parents can also monitor their usage.

Students in California were recently suspended from school for posting vulgar comments about a teacher on their accounts. This has led to a First Amendment argument from the students. This type of defamation was also evident

in the case of a Green Bay, Wis. school district, where officials were trying to find out who posted false MySpace accounts for a teacher and staff person.

While MySpace has become an important investigative tool for local law enforcement, it has also found its way into local politics.

Candidates for governor of California have opened up MySpace pages; one candidate had help from his teenage daughter. While these pages could be helpful to candidates, by making them seem more accessible, especially to the youth population, and allowing them a cheap forum to send their message, MySpace has also had a negative effect on politicians. The 23-year-old mayor of Torrington, Conn. had to take down his MySpace profile after unidentified hackers altered his site. A columnist in Hillsborough County, Fla. resigned after posting derisive comments on a fake MySpace page about a county commissioner.

The emergence of sites like MySpace have played an important role for local law enforcement and schools in policing the public. The site's impact will continue to expand and grow, whether in a positive or negative way remains to be seen.

(Research News was written by Joseph Hansen, research associate.)

King County, Wash. switches to mail-only voting system

NEWS FROM from page 20

WASHINGTON

Starting next year, all voters in KING COUNTY will get a chance to do what two-thirds of voters there have already been doing – vote by mail. The county council recently approved a vote-by-mail system that will begin next year, making King County the largest jurisdiction in the nation to convert to mail-only voting, according to the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*.

"I think it's time we catch up with where the voters are on this one," said Council Chairman Larry Phillips, who supported the measure. Councilwoman Kathy Lambert, an opponent, warned that mail-in voting "opens a lot more avenues where things could go wrong."

The new system will do away with 520 polling places and create 10 or more regional polling centers for those who still wish to vote in person. Thirty-four of Washington's other 38 counties have decided on mail-only voting since 2005, when the state legislature gave them the option.

WEST VIRGINIA

BERKELEY COUNTY is trying to create more affordable housing, the Associated Press reported.

County commissioners are involved in several initiatives, including attempts to create low-interest loans for housing, and joining a consortium of county and city governments to help get funding for housing.

In 2000, the average price of a new home in the area was \$145,000. Now, the average is \$245,000, according to local real estate experts. Berkeley is the state's fastest growing county and attracts new residents from the Baltimore-Washington, D.C. area.

Donald Fox, president of Berkeley County's Planning Commission, suggested vacant structures could be renovated and used as housing and said the county needs more apartments and mobile homes.

(News From the Nation's Counties is compiled by Charles Taylor, senior staff writer, and Dan Miller, staff writer. If you have an item for News From, please e-mail ctaylor@naco.org or dmiller@naco.org.)

What's In a Seal?

Sullivan County, N.H.

As a result of a 1988 contest to create a new county seal, the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners chose an entry submitted by Alfred Vaine Jr., a student from Stevens High School.

His description of the seal provided the most accurate representation of the symbols on the seal: "The seal is divided into four equal sections, each of which has different symbolic meaning: The **trout** represents the county's will to survive; the **mountain** represents the land and scenery which many of the Sullivan County residents use for summer and winter recreation; the **maple trees** represent an old fashioned view of Sullivan County industry; and the **deer** represents the country's freedom.

"The shield that surrounds all of these elements represents the protection of the national government."

Visit the Sullivan County Web site, www.sullivancountynh.gov, for



further county history, information on the executive and legislative branches of the county, current county data on departments and job postings, minutes from the latest commissioners' and delegation meetings, as well as links to the surrounding 13 towns and one city.

(If you would like your county's seal featured, please contact Allison Mall at amall@naco.org or 202/942-4256.)

THE H.R. DOCTOR IS IN

Firing Yourself

After more than three decades leading HR in public agencies, it is time for the HR Doctor to share a basic "secret" with colleagues about dealing with the times when an employee is to be fired. This is less an article about the techniques of giving "the word" to employees in a safe and respectful manner than it is about a basic philosophy that works very well no matter what the circumstances may be.

That philosophy is that an organization should never fire anyone.

All managers, supervisors, directors, lawyers and whoever else may be involved in an employee termination need to approach this difficult circumstance by asking whether the employee really fired himself or herself.

Can the organization say this person's behavior or performance was clearly contrary to job requirements, policies, mutually understood and clear expectations. Can it be demonstrated that the person knew of the performance deficiencies or the improper behavior, was also given an opportunity to improve and correct the failings, and still the soon-to-be-former employee remained in a persistent vegetative state? In this

case, the person could have prevented his (yes, usually, they are males) own termination but he failed in a duty to act.

In the HR Doctor's experience, it is unusual that a person is fired for a technical or physical inability to do the job. Overwhelmingly, terminations result when an employee has an attitude of arrogance, or unwillingness to "work and play well with others" or serve the public with respect.

Whatever the issues are, the manager would be very well served professionally, ethically and legally to be in a position to show that the employee knew the rules, was clear in the organization's expectation of appropriate performance or behavior, but despite that, violated the rules in ways which harmed the agency.

It is important to establish the presence of "harm" to the organization. Harm may be the worst of all kinds of harm—workplace violence, harassment or unlawful discrimination. It may be harm in the form of the commission of a crime such as embezzlement of public funds. It may be misuse of the organization's property, including misuse of the telephone or computer systems. It may

be a relatively low level of harm in the great scheme of the universe, such as persistent tardiness resulting in other people having to cover that front counter reception duty. Projects may be late or not well completed because of an employee's inattention. Unnecessary overtime may be required by virtue of the unscheduled repeated absences of a person.

Whatever it is, being able to show the employee that these behavior or performance failures created harm can be quite important. It may also not be just a matter of showing the employee the harm, but of showing the employee's mother, lawyer, helpful television reporter, even more helpful EEOC investigator, or others that the agency acted in a job-related manner, in a timely manner, and in an effective and respectful manner.

The HR Doctor has used the phrase, "performance or behavior" several times already in this article. That is very deliberate. Performance and behavior are the only issues that a manager should be concerned about when it comes to making human resources decisions, including any disciplinary action, as well as promotion, selection or reward. Every one of these actions should always

and only be anchored to job-related performance or behavior.

Using anything else as the basis for an HR decision puts the manager and the organization at unnecessary risk. The risk may not be real, but the outcome may be the same if the basis is only perceived not to be job-related. Something that is not job-related is a quicksand pit waiting to swallow up the stumbling, bumbling manager who steps into it.

So, dear colleagues, if you remember the basic notions of anchoring all termination decisions to job-related performance and behavior; are prompt and effective in pointing out failures in these areas; give employees demonstrated opportunities to correct and improve; and document all these positive actions by the agency, you are being an effective HR professional.

When the employee wakes up and takes positive actions to show improvement or awareness, the outcome will be that the employee may never reach the point of being terminated in the first place. However, if that most significant of all disciplinary actions, firing—or, if you prefer, organizational capital punishment—must occur, the agency and the manager will have done the right things at the right time and in the right way.

This powerful package in the prior paragraph, mixed with specific techniques of how to present the termination news to the troubled employee in a safe and respectful manner, will result in a defensible separation of a person who perhaps should never have been hired in the first place.

Disciplinary action or corrective action is a necessary part of a business relationship. It is necessary at

different times with different people when all of the other steps described in this article have not resulted in effective performance or appropriate behavior.

A final note: there are some performance or behavior failures that are so egregious that offering repeated opportunities for an employee to improve is just not the right thing to do. It may be the substance-abusing employee whose drunk driving of the school bus causes serious injury. It may be the police officer who fires a warning shot into a person's head in a display of excessive force. It may be workplace violence. The point is that despite everything else mentioned in this article, the greater the consequences of the poor behavior or performance, the more important it is for the organization to act in a strong and decisive manner. While the basic rules and best practices described above still apply, the point is that the organization has a duty to understand and reduce its own liabilities.

In my decades (actually, I'm not that old!) of leading HR organizations and advising colleagues, clients and friends all over the country on difficult HR matters, the HR Doctor can safely say he's never fired anyone. However, he can also say that a significant number of employees are now former employees because they apparently could not wait to fire themselves.

When it comes to your career, get fired up—but not fired!



Phil Rosenberg
The HR Doctor
www.hrd.net

FINANCIAL SERVICES NEWS

Are Indigent Defense Costs Destroying Your Budget?

Spending for indigent defense services is growing at an alarming rate and counties are looking for ways to gain additional control over this portion of their budget. Because of the time constraints imposed by law and the level of staffing required to address this issue, counties have few options for validating a defendant's statement of indigence and his ability to pay for all or a portion of his legal defense. The inability to accurately assess an individual's eligibility for funding often results in the county unnecessarily shouldering the financial burden.

In an effort to assist counties to control these costs, NACO worked with Dallas County, Texas to find ways that give counties better information to determine whether a defendant qualifies for court-appointed attorneys. Under a nationally bid contract, awarded by Dallas County, the D-MED Corporation offers an automated

indigent screening system that gives counties an opportunity to significantly reduce spending in any county program that uses an individual's ability to pay as the primary criteria for eligibility.

The system uses proprietary software to capture relevant financial data and perform a credit history assessment to determine a defendant's debt-to-income ratio and financial position relative to Federal Poverty Guidelines. Using this information, the county can then determine the defendant's eligibility for the court-appointed attorney program or other programs that use an individual's indigent status as an eligibility factor.

To assist counties in establishing the potential savings available through the use of this service, D-MED can, at no cost, perform a "proof of concept" study using live data from the county's files. Existing

data is tested in the automated system to determine each defendant's eligibility for a court-appointed attorney. The county can then compare the system's results with the results of its own process to see the actual cost savings it would have achieved through the use of the automated system.

The publicly solicited contract by Dallas County meets the competitive bid requirements for local governments because most local governments have the ability to use a publicly solicited contract issued by a lead public agency. To learn more about the automated indigent screening program, contact Jim Sawyer with NACO's Financial Services Center at 202/661-8868 or by e-mail at jsawyer@naco.org.

(Financial Services News was written by Jim Sawyer, director of management services.)

NOTICES

■ Awards

• Keep America Beautiful, Inc. is sponsoring the **Graffiti Hurts National Award**, with cash and prizes worth up to \$6,000 to communities that have taken on anti-graffiti projects from 2005–2006.

Local governments, police departments, youth groups, downtown associations, crime prevention organizations and other groups dedicated to eradicating graffiti vandalism are encouraged to enter. The entry deadline is Sept. 15. To download an entry form or get more information about the award program, go to www.graffitihurts.org.

■ Publications

• To help promote safety awareness during June's **National Safety Month**, the U.S. Government Printing Office is offering for sale a number of publications that focus on safety risk and injury prevention applicable to the workplace, public transportation, home and community. To order publications, go to <http://bookstore.gpo.gov> or call toll free 866/512-1800.

(If you have an event or publication or conference that you would like to be featured in Notices, please e-mail it to amall@naco.org.)

JOB MARKET / CLASSIFIEDS

■ AIRPORT MANAGER — CLINTON COUNTY, N.Y.

Salary: \$54,177–\$74,000. DOQ.
Airport Manager, Plattsburgh International Airport, Clinton County, N.Y. Salary: \$54,177–\$74,000. Closes July 1, 2006. Go to www.clintoncountyny.gov for details. Call 518/565-4676, e-mail gibsona@co.clinton.ny.us.

■ ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER — WASHOE COUNTY, NEV.

Salary: \$113,360 – \$147,139
With approximately 2,800 employees and a \$700 million budget, Washoe County (population 396,844) has all the complexities of a major corporation coupled with the unique challenges of being a public sector organization. Position reports to the County Manager and provides organizational leadership, direction and supervision to an assigned group of departments. The ideal candidate will thrive in a dynamic and changing organization, and will be a catalyst for positive change. Requires a relevant BA/BS and five years of significant management/supervisory experience in the public sector.

For more information, or to apply online, go to www.allianceresourceconsulting.com by June 30.

■ CITY MANAGER — CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLO.

Salary: DOQ.
The City of Northglenn (population: 36,854) is located in Adams County within an easy 15-minute drive to downtown Denver and only 30 minutes from Denver International Airport. Northglenn was incorporated in 1969 and covers 7.5 square miles. It has evolved into an ideally located, well-balanced suburban community which is a highly attractive and reasonably priced place to live, work and conduct business.

The city operates under a progressive council-manager form of government. The City Council consists of nine members and includes a mayor and eight city council members. The Mayor is elected at-large to a four-year term and may serve two consecutive terms. Two council members are elected from each of the city's four districts. Council members serve four-year staggered terms and may serve two full consecutive terms. The Mayor Pro Tem is selected by the Council to act as mayor when necessary. Responsibility for city operations is vested in the City Manager. The city is organized into an innovative "service center"-based structure headed by service center managers. With the exception of fire, which is provided by a special district, Northglenn is a full service, home-rule municipality which provides police, municipal courts, public works, water and wastewater utilities, parks and recreation, engineering, inspections, code enforcement, and planning and zoning services plus a full complement of internal support services. The city currently has 215 full-time employees. None are unionized. The city's total budget for FY06 is \$47,949,715, of which \$21,911,405 constitutes the General Fund.

Requirements include education and experience equivalent to a bachelor's degree in public or business administration (MPA preferred) combined with significant experience as a local government manager or assistant manager in a complex community comparable to Northglenn. Ideal experience base would include economic development and redevelopment gained in a suburban, inner-ring suburb with limited growth potential; transit-oriented development and outcome-based organizational performance measurement. Must understand the elements of economic sustainability in a commercial rather than property tax-supported city. The successful candidate must clearly possess and apply superior communication, organizational management and staff leadership skills and abilities. He or she will be expected to partner with the City Council, provide equal and consistent treatment to all nine council members, inspire the best performance from staff, establish and maintain productive community and intergovernmental relationships and envision and apply innovative ideas and solutions. Please visit the city's Web site at www.northglenn.org. To apply, please send your resume by July 10 to Robert E. Slavin, President, Slavin Management Consultants, 3040 Holcomb Bridge Road, Suite B-1, Norcross, GA 30071. 770/449-4656, slavin@bellsouth.net, 770/416-0848 (fax). All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, age or disability.

■ COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR — MANATEE COUNTY, FLA.

Salary: \$135,000 – \$165,000, DOQ.
Manatee County, population 338,715, is seeking a highly motivated and experienced leader for the position of county administrator. The county, located on the South West Coast of Florida, enjoys year-round sunshine, a warm tropical climate, and water temperatures averaging 80 degrees on its 150 miles of pristine shoreline and 27 miles of beaches.

The county administrator, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of a seven-member Board of County Commissioners, is responsible for carrying out the policies and directives of the commission. The county employs approximately 1,900 full- and part-time personnel and has a total operating budget of approximately \$522 million. The county administrator is also responsible for the supervision and management of 16 department directors and for ensuring that all agreements, leases and other contractual obligations of the commission are properly performed. From time to time, the Board of County Commissioners also directs the county administrator and his or her staff to undertake and complete special projects and assignments that do not fall within the established responsibilities of county departments.

Requirements include a master's of public/business administration (M.P.A. or M.B.A.) and at least two years recent appropriate senior management local

or regional government experience, or a master's degree in public/business administration or related field with a minimum of three years recent appropriate senior management local or regional government experience and/or comparable business experience, or a bachelor's degree and seven years related experience. Must have demonstrated experience with budget preparation/control, strategic planning, and a thorough knowledge of public administration principles and practices. The successful applicant will be responsible for the implementation and management of countywide policies.

Send resume to: Manatee County Human Resources, P.O. Box 1000, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite #863, Bradenton, FL 34206-1000 or fax to 941/749-3035. AA/EOE/M/F/H/Vet. Pref/Drug Free Workplace.

■ DIVISION DIRECTOR, HEALTH AND FINANCIAL SERVICES — HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLA.

Salary: \$74,214 – \$111,342 DOQ; exceptional benefits.

Hillsborough County (Tampa) is seeking a qualified professional to provide key leadership and management of daily operations for its nationally recognized \$100-million Hillsborough HealthCare Program and \$12-million Ryan White Grant program. Position reports to the Director, Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), and is also responsible for the financial operations, analyses and reports of all DHSS divisions/sections. DHSS uses a holistic, team approach to assist individuals reach their full potential and a team approach toward problem solving. Position is a key part of DHSS' team and works closely with other DHSS divisions/sections (social services, transportation for the disadvantaged and veterans' affairs). Position meets with Advisory Board members, internal department and other county staff, and provides regarding HealthCare Program issues; interacts with providers and program members to provide information, resolve problems, answer questions and discuss new approaches to complex health care; prepares and reviews agenda items, staff and status reports, short and long range plans and briefings on health and financial operations. Position requires a bachelor's degree in business or public administration or an appropriate field and seven years of experience including two years supervisory experience. Contract management experience required. Salary range is \$74,214 – \$111,342 depending on qualifications; exceptional benefits. Interested applicants, forward a letter of interest, resume and five work references to: Human Resources Executive Recruitment P.O. Box 1110 Tampa, FL 33601. E-mail dahmad@hillsboroughco.fl.us or fax 813/276-2197. EOE/drug free workplace.

■ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR — ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

Salary: \$80,000. DOQ.
Minimum qualifications: 5 years

progressively responsible management experience, 3 years of supervisory and budgeting experience; B.A. public or business administration or related field; knowledge of local, state and federal government. Lobbying and association management experience desirable. Salary range at \$80,000+ DOQ. E-mail letter of interest, resume and writing sample by 6/21/06 to AML Search Committee, kevin@akml.org. Note: applicant names will not be released — references will not be called unless applicant authorizes. A job description is available at www.akml.org. AML is an EOE employer.

■ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR — PORT OF ANACORTES, WASH.

Salary: DOQ.
With 3,000 acres of community forestlands and spectacular mountain vistas, Anacortes was recently named one of the top 20 most livable small towns in America. Incorporated in 1891, and home to over 15,000 residents, the Port of Anacortes seeks an Executive Director who derives a genuine pleasure from being an active community member. The Executive Director is responsible for communications and counsel to the port's Board of Commissioners for the purpose of implementing and managing port policies and resolutions, and for the comprehensive leadership and management toward the economic development of all port-related operations. The Executive Director is also responsible for working closely with customers, industry, the general public and community leaders. In this position, the Executive Director also supervises the port's departmental directors, coordinating efforts in areas of promoting and maintaining favorable community relations. The Executive Director should have an established management track record as a leader on decisions and/or recommendations that are crucial for the overall effective operation and profitability of an organization comparable to the Port of Anacortes. Undergraduate degree or equivalent in business administration, engineering, economics or related area is required. Experience required should include the equivalent of 10 years of broad, top-level management experience involving multiple aspects of the port industry such as marine terminals, industrial development, engineering, marketing, sales and finance. The Port of Anacortes is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified candidates are encouraged to apply. Please contact Waldron & Company to request an application packet. Completed packets are due as soon as possible to: Waldron and Company; 101 Stewart, Suite 1200; Seattle, WA 98101; 206/441-4144, 206/441-5213 (fax); info@waldronhr.com.

■ HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR — MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO

Salary: DOQ.
Master's degree in public administration, human resources and/or labor relations or related field and a

minimum of five years experience in human resources administration or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience; experience in public sector employment and labor contact negotiation and administrative preferred. Apply to: 21 W. Boardman Street, Admin. Bldg. 2nd floor or call 330/740-2130, ext. 7101. Deadline June 30 at 4:30 p.m.

■ PORT DIRECTOR — CITY OF PENSACOLA, FLA.

Salary: \$90,000 – \$110,000, DOQ.
The Port of Pensacola is located in Pensacola on the Gulf of Mexico just 11 miles from the sea buoy. The port can trace its history back to the mid-1700s. It has evolved into northwest Florida's leading deep-water port. The port features include eight berths ranging in depth from 16 to 33 feet including 2,360 linear feet of primary deepwater berths, 1,000 linear feet of secondary shallow draft berths and 1,000 linear feet of shallow draft moorage. The deepwater berths are supported by 1,200 linear feet of rail trackage. The port also offers more than 400,000 square feet of covered storage; covered railcar loading and unloading; four acres of open, outside storage (lay down) area and on-dock rail service provided by CSX Transportation, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad and Rail America (Alabama and Gulf Coast Railway). The port operates as an enterprise under the general direction of Pensacola's City Manager and in accordance with general policies approved by the City Council. A deepwater port master plan embraces long-term and short-term goals for the port's growth, as does a recently completed Port Business Strategic Analysis.

The Port Director is appointed by the City Manager of Pensacola and is responsible to organize, direct, coordinate and manage the activities of the port. The director has direct supervision over 10 full-time employees and manages a \$3.5-million enterprise fund. The position requires a bachelor's degree in a related field and 7 years of maritime and/or port-of-entry experience with at least six years of related management experience.

The anticipated hiring salary range is \$90,000 to \$110,000 with the beginning salary negotiable, DOQs. The city of Pensacola offers an excellent benefits package.

To apply: The city is anxious to complete this search. The position will remain open until filled. Please send your resume immediately to: Robert E. Slavin, Slavin Management Consultants, 3040 Holcomb Bridge Road, Suite B-1, Norcross, GA 30071. 770/449-4656, slavin@bellsouth.net, 770/416-0848 (fax). An equal opportunity employer and recruiter.

(If you would like information about advertising your job openings in County News and County News Online, please contact Allison Mall at 202/942-4256 or amall@naco.org.)

Free Web Conference ... June 22

NACo's Prescription Drug Discount Card Program

Sign up today at www.naco.org/drugcard

NACo will hold a Web conference to explain and answer questions about its popular Prescription Discount Card Program.

The Web conference will be held June 22 at 2 p.m. EDT.

There will be no charge for participating in the Web conference, and it will be **open to all member and nonmember counties** (NACo membership is required to participate in the drug discount card program).

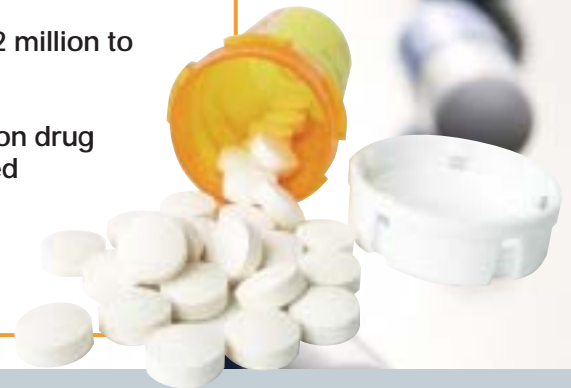
To participate, county officials only need a telephone connection and Internet access.

Participants will hear the discussion of the program by conference call and see images and information through the Internet connection.

Among the featured speakers will be representatives from counties participating in the program.

The discount card has saved consumers across the country \$7.2 million to date on more than 640,000 filled prescriptions.

Consumers are saving an average of 20.4 percent per prescription drug purchase. The overall average savings percentage has increased steadily and is at its highest amount since the program's inception. Three hundred and forty-four NACo member counties are participating in the program, with another 450 counties considering it.



To sign up for the conference and for directions on accessing the webcast, go to www.naco.org/drugcard.

For more information, contact Andrew Goldschmidt at 202/942-4221 or agoldschmidt@naco.org.