

Special Events

Labor Meeting to Focus on New Fiscal Restraints

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—NACo's Fifth Annual Labor Relations Conference will be held at the St. Francis Hotel here April 29 to May 1. The conference which is cosponsored by NACo's County Employee/Labor Relations Service (CELRS) and the County Supervisors Association of California is designed for top-level county government officials, both elected and appointed, who are involved in directing county labor and employee relations programs.

According to John Franke (Johnson County, Kan.), chairman of NACo's Labor Management Relations Steering Committee, the general theme for this year's conference is "Labor Relations and the New Fiscal Restraint."

"With spiraling inflation, spending limitations and the President's wage and price guidelines placing increased demands on already financially hard-pressed local governments, we think this theme is particularly appropriate," Franke noted.

General sessions have been scheduled on topics such as:

- The President's Wage and Price Guidelines: What they Mean for Local Government Employers;
- Bargaining in the Proposition 13 Era;

• Current Legal and Legislative Developments in Public Sector Labor Relations: Practical Implications for Counties;

- Public Employee Pensions and Benefits: Out of Control? Prospects for Reform.

The conference will also feature nuts and bolts workshops which are organized in a two-track format. Track One, entitled "What to Do Before (And Even After) The Union Arrives," will feature workshop sessions on topics such as labor and employee relations in a union-free environment, facing a union election, and planning and negotiating a first collective bargaining agreement.

Track Two, entitled "Dealing With The Union Environment," includes workshops on contract negotiations, the basics of contract administration and grievance handling, strike contingency planning, proper conduct after the contract expires and the use of joint labor/management committees.

Last year's conference, held in Tampa, Fla., attracted several hundred elected and appointed county and other local government officials as well as top-level federal government spokesmen, union leaders and labor relations experts.

Conference registration and hotel reservation information will be published in *County News* during the next few weeks. For more information on the conference, contact Chuck Lovelless of the NACo staff 202/785-9577.

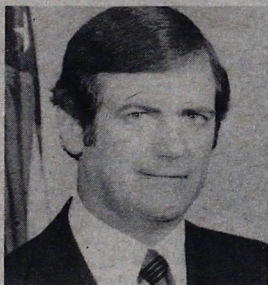
NACE Will Hear FHWA Chief on Agency's Future

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Karl S. Bowers, Federal Highway administrator, will give the keynote address at the 19th annual management and research conference of the National Association of County Engineers (NACE).

Bowers will discuss the Department of Transportation's proposal to merge the Federal Highway Administration and the Urban Mass Transportation Administration to create a Surface Transportation Administration within DOT. His address, "Implementing and Managing Change," will take place Wednesday, March 28, the second day of the four-day conference in El Paso County (Colorado Springs), Colo.

The annual national county engineers conference will highlight implementation of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978. Sessions Thursday, March 29, will cover the Small Urban and Rural Public Transportation Program, the Safer Off-System Roads Program and other off-federal-aid highway system safety programs, as well as the Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program.

This expanded federal bridge program is of utmost interest to counties because funding is made available for the repair and replacement of bridges off the federal-aid highway systems. Many of these off-system



Bowers

bridges are under county jurisdiction. A session on "Innovations in Bridge Technology," Friday, March 30, will complement discussion on implementation of the bridge program.

Red tape reduction will be featured during a Thursday session on "Effecting Change with your State Highway Agency."

Other conference sessions cover maintenance management, a systems approach to highway maintenance, and the use of various types of asphalt, including cutbacks and emulsions.

For more information on the NACE meeting, including registration and hotel reservation forms, contact Marlene Glassman at NACo.



COUNTY ENERGY VIEWS GIVEN—Los Angeles County Supervisor James Hayes, center, and Dade County Commissioner Harvey Ruvin are seen discussing the local government advisory committee with William Peacock, director of intergovernmental relations for the Department of Energy.

DOE Forms Advisory Panel

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Fulfilling a promise made to local officials over 18 months ago, the Department of Energy (DOE) announced the formation of a local government energy policy advisory committee. The committee will be composed of approximately 20 local officials and will report directly to the Secretary of Energy.

The committee is charged with advising and making recommendations to the Secretary to assure that national energy policies, programs and legislation reflect the needs of local government and that DOE is coordinating its activities with local governments.

The committee grew out of a meeting between Secretary of Energy Schlesinger and local officials during

the height of the debate over the National Energy Act. At that time James Hayes, supervisor, Los Angeles County, Calif., said, "Local governments will do the final implementation of any energy program. At the county and city level we make decisions about master plans, building codes, zoning, transportation systems and the other elements which are at the very heart of a national energy conservation program. We want to participate in the decision-making at the national level because we want the final program to work."

At the end of the meeting Schlesinger committed the department to establishing a formal means for consultation with local governments. Specific arrangements were left to DOE's

Office of Intergovernmental Relations, headed by William Peacock.

While the charter of the committee does not allow for a NACo representative, NACo has been asked to provide a list of nominees for the Secretary's consideration. Members will serve for one year with the possibility of being appointed for an additional year. The life of the committee is expected to be two years. Meetings will be held at least four times a year and the department will cover per diem and travel expenses.

It is expected that over the next two years this committee could greatly enhance the department's relationship with counties.

—Mark Croke

SHERIFFS AND OFFICIALS

A Corrections Partnership

BOULDER, Colo.—The National Institute for Corrections (NIC), with the assistance of NACo, has completed the first of three County and Corrections Management Training programs at NIC's National Jail Center here.

The training program brought together an elected county board member and the sheriff and/or jail administrator as a team for a week of intense training in the field of corrections. The program is funded under a NIC grant.

One important outcome of the week's training was that commissioners became aware of a sheriff's twofold responsibility: to protect society and to protect the constitutional rights of inmates in the county jail.

Howard Mankins, supervisor, San Luis Obispo, Calif., found that the NIC program brought him closer to the sheriff and his problems. "Being

a supervisor for eight years, I probably could have been there eight more years and not gotten as close to the sheriff and his day to day problems as this week of training provided. I appreciate the program and what it did for San Luis Obispo County."

The sheriffs were also exposed to the wide range of responsibilities placed upon commissioners, corrections being only one facet of their government activities.

The program aims to bridge the communications gap between the sheriff and commissioner by helping them understand their respective roles and to build a partnership for change.

While the program includes instruction in preparing and presenting a zero-based budget to county board members, the trainers emphasized that budget time should not be the only contact the sheriffs

have with their board members. Rather they should build a permanent rapport.

County teams were also informed of the tremendous amount of untapped correctional resources that are available from other counties, such as an alcohol and drug diversion program in Alachua County, Fla. and medical and health-related services in Jackson County, Mo.

The training session also tackled the issue of "What is a jail for?" Through group discussions and analysis the teams concluded that the loss of one's freedom is punishment enough. Therefore, one objective of the jail should not be to punish but to serve as a deterrent from crime for those incarcerated.

County team members were asked to identify a specific corrections problem which they were currently facing back home and develop a plan for a solution. This process was

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COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR THE MENTALLY ILL, RETARDED—At left, Ann McCuan of the planning staff of the National Institutes of Mental Health discusses services for the mentally ill and mentally retarded with NACo's new task force. Seen from left are Judith Turner, chief, NIMH community support program, Rosemary Ahmann, commissioner, Olmsted County, Minn.; Frank Raflo, supervisor, Loudoun County, Va. and Lynn Cutler, supervisor, Black Hawk County, Iowa. Raflo and Cutler are co-chairmen of the Mental Health/Retardation Task Force.

Community Care for Mentally Ill, Retarded Focus of New Panel

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The county role in providing services to the mentally ill and mentally retarded was emphasized at the first meeting of NACo's new Mental Health/Mental Retardation Task Force.

Meeting at NACo headquarters Jan. 18, the task force heard Jack Noble, Planning and Evaluation Office, Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW), discuss recommendations of HEW's Task Force on Deinstitutionalization. The report encourages state and local governments to bring the mentally ill back into the community.

Task force members expressed concern over how counties can continue to provide quality services to

these people as the demand increases for community care.

Ann McCuan and Judith Turner of the National Institutes of Mental Health reviewed existing and pending mental health legislation. They discussed a proposed Administration bill that will implement goals of the President's Commission on Mental Health, recently chaired by Rosalynn Carter. Strong emphasis will be placed on community mental health services, including the prospect of some additional funding directly to local mental health departments. They also stressed the significance of county government input at this time.

The task force was briefed on ac-

tivities and goals of the NACoR project to study the impact of deinstitutionalization on counties. An advisory committee to the project, the task force asks that all questions and comments regarding institutionalization be sent to Tony McCann, Director, Health Resources Program, NACo.

The Mental Health/Mental Retardation Task Force was appointed by NACo President Charlotte Williams early this year to follow up on interest expressed by county officials at the Annual Conference. Membership is drawn from both the Health and Education and Welfare and Social Services Steering Committees. The next meeting will be held during NACo's Legislative Conference March 11-13.

Hearings Held on Antitrust Damage

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Initial hearings were held late in January on the Antitrust Enforcement Act of 1979. The bill, S. 300, would amend the Clayton Act to establish the right of those injured by illegal price-fixing to recover damages in antitrust suits whether or not they had dealt directly with the violator. Since counties normally purchase goods from a middleman, they cannot recover damages at present and are forced to absorb any overcharges.

According to Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), who sponsored the legislation, the loss in uncompensated overcharges to units of government is almost \$1 billion annually. County government purchase of materials and supplies is estimated to reach \$45 billion in 1979.

The Supreme Court's 1977 *Illinois Brick* decision interpreted the nation's antitrust laws to restrict the right to recover damages only to direct purchasers.

Therefore, if counties are not accorded the right to act against the price fixer, they are the ones who must ultimately absorb any overcharges, resulting in a highly unjust situation. The middleman does not have any incentive to engage in litigation against the violator because he is not harmed by the illegal overcharge. He can pass on these costs to his own customers.

Sen. Kennedy also emphasized the positive impact the bill would have in combating inflation. By discouraging antitrust violations it will hold down price increases. Additional hearings will be scheduled soon, with the bill expected to be marked up and reported out of committee early in the session.

The legislation, which NACo sup-

ports, has been endorsed by the Administration. The Department of Justice, the special assistant to the President on inflation, and advisor to the President on inflation, Alfred Kahn, have made strong statements supporting the bill.

Rep. Peter Rodino (D-N.J.), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, will introduce companion legislation in the House.

—Elliott Alman



Davis

Pa. Official Named to State Post

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Westmoreland County Commissioner William R. Davis has been appointed Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) by Pennsylvania Gov. Richard L. Thornburgh. Elected to the county board in 1975, second youngest commissioner ever elected in Pennsylvania, Davis has dedicated himself to strengthening county government and improving services to the citizens of Westmoreland County.

Along with his duties as commissioner he has also been actively involved in a number of community and civic organizations and in 1977 was named one of the Outstanding Young Men of America by the U.S. Jaycees.

The department which Davis will head is the governor's advocate for local government before the legislature and the state. The office encompasses such bureaus as human resources, energy conservation, recreation and conservation for municipalities, and housing and development. In dealing with issues of housing and housing authorities the office has gained a respected reputation with local governments in Pennsylvania. DCA is also a technical assistance link between state and local government.

James Allen, executive director of the Pennsylvania State Association of County Commissioners views Davis' appointment as a commitment by Gov. Thornburgh to continue an open door policy the department has established. "We have somebody to head the department that understands county government. This should have a positive impact on the governor's policies," Allen stated.

Davis said, "I am privileged and deeply honored to be appointed to this position. I think Gov. Thornburgh has indicated his sensitivity to the problems and needs of local governments by appointing a local elected official to this position."

"I hope I can live up to the confidence he has placed in me. In the modern, complex era a good relationship between state and local government is vital to the overall effectiveness of government. Creating and sustaining that relationship will be my most important challenge."

—Nancy A. Dawson
NACoR

Report Deals with Energy and Growth

Despite the considerable attention paid to the onshore impacts of outer continental shelf and western energy development, little study has been devoted to the effects of energy development in the east.

Recognizing that new energy supplies and the impacts of resulting energy development will occur in all regions, NACoR has recently conducted a study of the effects of expanding energy-related development in five Appalachian counties.

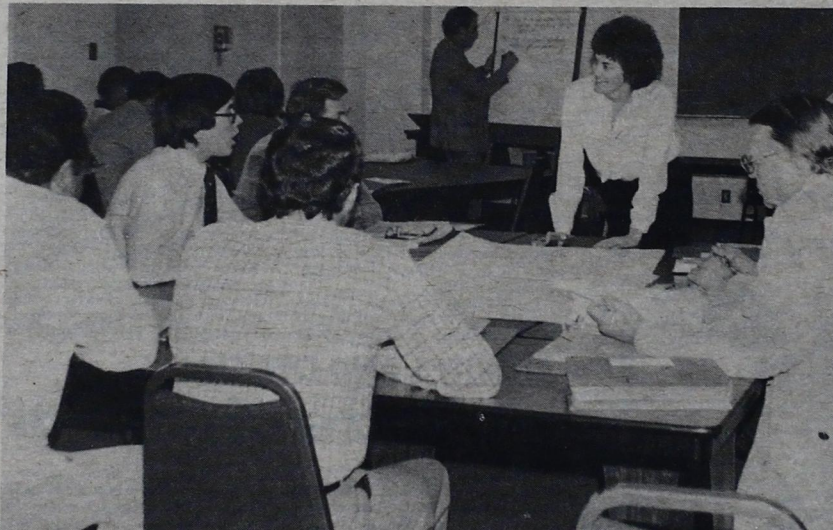
This report, entitled *Coping with Growth*, chronicles the efforts of counties in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Virginia to manage the often explosive population growth which often accompanies new energy development.

Copies of the report are now available. If you would like to receive a copy contact the NACoR Energy Project.

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NEWS MANAGER: Christine Groscek
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ASSISTANT EDITOR: Joan Amico
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INTENSIVE WORKSHOPS—Working with NIC trainer Marie Mactavish are (seated clockwise) George Whiting, sheriff, San Luis Obispo County, Calif.; Pat O'Rourke, commissioner and Ray Montes, sheriff, El Paso County, Texas; William Paxton, legislator and Thomas Higgins, undersheriff, Erie County, N.Y.

Corrections Training Available

Continued from page 1
referred to as an action agenda. Each team group agreed to give serious attention to the action agenda they developed during their week's training.

"The training was outstanding. The opportunity to bring sheriffs, commissioners and corrections administrators together for a week was really tremendous. I think NACo and NIC are to be congratulated for their efforts to upgrade and improve the

jails in this nation," said Don Caban, director of the Alachua County (Fla.) Department of Corrections.

Similar comments were echoed by Commissioner Pat O'Rourke of El Paso County, Texas. "I was very happy to find an intense training program that addressed our needs in the jail area and helped us focus on a timely solution," he said.

The second session of the County and Corrections Management Training program will be conducted

on April 29-May 4, at the NIC Jail Center in Boulder. Deadline for applications is March 2. The final session will be held Aug. 12-17. The deadline for the final session is June 22. Counties with a population of 100,000 or more, jail staff of 20 or more and an inmate capacity of 80 or over are eligible to participate. For further information, contact Nancy Dawson at NACo, 202/785-9577.

—Nancy A. Dawson
NACoR

Counties and the Arts

New County Times Special Report

Many facets of art

by Johnnie Smith, Councilman,
Greenville County, S.C., NACo Chairman for the Arts

Atlanta's Mayor Maynard Jackson once said, "Try to imagine your community with no music, no dance, no poetry, no theater—no sculpture or painting. You have to imagine, eventually, industry and jobs gone, too. And, after that, the people."

I can think of no better way to begin. But there is more. Try to imagine your county with no school bands or civic orchestras, school children without music, the elderly and handicapped without craft workshops, buildings lacking architectural design, no puppet theaters in your parks or hospitals, no zoo, no recognition of historic places, no movies or dance.

Art has many facets. So many, that elected officials often don't realize that art programming is happening within their county. And many don't realize that art can bring a new awakening to a dying downtown. It can be an enrichment to citizens' lives, providing new incentives for them to stay. It broadens the tax base and provides jobs.

Many do not realize that nine out of every 10 Americans believe art is an essential element in their lives. In this sense, art cannot be perceived as a luxury or a fringe benefit. It is the total understanding of who we are, both as individuals and as a community. It is a tool by which we communicate, teach and respond.

A new awakening and understanding of what art actually encompasses has caused an incredible growth in both public and private art organizations. Federal support has

increased with the demands. In fiscal '66, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) received a total appropriation of \$2.5 million. By fiscal '77, this had swelled to \$85 million.

President Carter has recognized the arts "as a vital fabric of American life," one that "deserves strong support from the federal government." His Administration recognizes the need to develop a national policy and believes "despite



Johnnie Smith at White House

the strength and variety of our artistic resources, we have failed as a nation to measure up to the standards for government support and encouragement of the arts set by



many other developed nations."

But in addition to a strong federal commitment, we in local government must seek ways to assure that art growth within our community is a coordinated policy. We can help this growth with policies that understand and foster it. Dollar support is not enough and is only a small part of the total picture.

Greenville programs

In my own county with a population of 266,000, we have strengthened community support for the arts through cooperation among art representatives from local, state and national levels. An arts conference, jointly sponsored by BONT (Beginning of a New Thing) Cultural Council (a nonprofit community organization), the Greenville County School District, and the city of Greenville, brought together a cross-section of educators, community leaders and artists to exchange ideas on the arts as cultural keys to education. Two hundred fifty people heard representatives from the National Endowment for the Arts, the South Carolina Arts Commission, the Southern Arts Federation, city and county councils, and leaders from various art and cultural groups within the county. Both our governor and the director of the Kennedy Galleries in New York spoke. The conference was an overwhelming success.

Both BONT and the county school district have been recognized for their commitment to the arts. The county school district's educational program was nominated by

the state arts commission for the 'South Carolina Arts in Education Award.' Its Fine Arts Center, which served as the conference site, provides a diversified, advanced level of arts instruction for gifted students from 15 county high schools.

The BONT Cultural Council's programming appeals to all. BONT emphasizes work with children, youth and senior adults, using the arts to develop self-esteem, awareness, confidence, respect and perception. The BONT Youth Theater and the Rockin' Chair Theatre are products of these efforts. Their productions equal or surpass those of any professional group.

The county also has one of the finest and nationally recognized county museums in the country. We have been successful in developing a strong liaison between our schools and the museum and have made that museum not only a repository for county art, but a living organism where our schoolteachers are trained, and our students develop an appreciation and understanding of the history of their county.

It is clear that our county's concern for the arts has extended beyond the realms of the established art councils and commissions. Interest is growing where it counts most: among the residents of the communities, rich and poor alike. What is happening in Greenville County is also happening across the nation. And where it is not, we must see that it does. We must inventory our resources and develop policies which provide citizens the opportunity to experience beauty in life.

County approaches to the arts are varied

by Linda A. Church, Arts Project Director, NACoRF

In the months that NACo has been compiling information on county government involvement with the arts, one thing has become clear: the county approach to art is as varied as its government structure. Some counties have established art commissions; others use existing agencies such as the parks and recreation department. Some have built successful working relationships with one or more private organizations; others have developed multicounty agencies to perform this function. Activities vary. Some are grant-making agencies, while others serve as coordinators and/or advisors to elected policy-makers.

Each choice is based on what will work given the confines of the government structure, existing resources, the types and functions of local groups both public and private, and the community as a whole. Contrary to a widely held opinion, art is not limited to urban areas. Many rural counties have developed successful and impressive programs.

We have discovered many outstanding and successful examples of the county approaches to art. In the months ahead, we hope to learn more. To provide county officials with an understanding of what has been done, we have selected Dade County, Fla.; King County, Wash.; and Nassau County, N.Y., as examples.

Dade County, Fla.

The growing interest in art in this urban county brought

about the development of the Dade County Council of Arts and Sciences in January 1977. This public council serves as a central office to help cultural organizations with planning, coordination, publicity and programming. The 15-member council is appointed by the county commission. The council is staffed by four county

Building an art network

This special supplement was prepared in cooperation with NACo's Arts Task Force and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Through it we hope counties gain a better understanding of what art is and what it really means to their communities.

Ultimately, NACo intends to build a national network of county art specialists to act as resources to county governments in developing programs. The Arts Task Force calls upon counties to share their art experiences with us. If your county has developed art programs and/or has named an official agency, be it public or private, we ask that you send that information to Linda Church, director, Arts Project, NACoRF, 1735 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

employees and 41 CETA employees (3 staff members and 38 who participate in various programs).

The total budget for the council is \$575,000—\$500,000 of which is provided through the CETA program. The remainder is made up of \$20,000 from the Fine Arts Council of Florida, \$10,000 from the Junior League, and \$45,000 from the county's general fund. These dollars serve not only as operating funds, but are used to provide grants to community organizations and to sponsor programs and seminars as well.

The council acts as an advisory board to the county commission for long-range planning, serves as coordinator for local art organizations, and provides grants for art activities within the community.

In 1977 the county art council published a 70-page Cultural Arts Survey of Dade County. It identified more than 75 cultural organizations and institutions and found, after doing an economic impact assessment, that these groups had an annual economic impact of \$32 million—\$8 million more than the Miami Dolphins football team.

Working with the community

As a grant-making agency, the arts council provides \$175,000 on a matching basis to sponsor and assist activities of local art organizations and institutions. Also 20 percent of the revenues from a new motel/hotel tax, \$875,000, is earmarked for arts grant use. Organizations receiving these new funds must be nonprofit and meet

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Arts success in a rural county

by Donald Hall, director of parks and recreation, Accomack County, Va.

Accomack County, located on Virginia's Eastern Shore, is part of an isolated peninsula, separated from metropolitan and rural Virginia by the Chesapeake Bay. This makes it difficult for the 29,000 residents to participate actively in regional, recreational or cultural activities outside the county area. Composed of 476 square miles, the county's main industries are truck farming and fishing.

The last census reports show a 15 percent population loss since 1950. Construction of the Bay Bridge/Tunnel has focused attention on the area, but the bridge's toll deters commuter travel. Income level remains far below the state and national average.

In 1974 the Accomack County Board of Supervisors, at the urging of its citizens, formed the Accomack County Parks and Recreation Commission. The board, cognizant of the lack of recreational opportunities, challenged the newly formed commission to study county needs and develop a program to:

- Improve the physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual life of the people;
- Develop talent, balance growth and promote citizenship;
- Provide learning situations, creative direction, and competition.

A survey of many civic and public groups found a great desire for cultural activities as well as a desire for organized recreational and athletic programs. The commission established goals and set out to find suitable ways of providing for residents' needs.

To start, the Virginia Commission of the Arts and Humanities helped formulate a long-range plan. It based its recommendations on the interests of the local people, using plans and activities which had been successful in other small rural counties.

The music program

The county's first project was in music. A group of parents and interested citizens requested the local parks and recreation office to sponsor a countywide marching and concert band, since none of the five county high schools had enough music students to form a marching band. Based on community support, the parks and recreation commission applied to the Virginia Commission of the Arts and Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and received a 50-50 matching grant of \$2,000 to help start the project. Drawing from all the schools, a band of 125 was created.

The following year an additional \$1,500 matching grant was approved to form a flag corps. Through donations from civic clubs, individuals, and the Accomack County Board of Supervisors, the flags of every state and territory of the United States were acquired. This had a great impact, not



only on the residents of the county, but throughout the state, since this was the only one of its kind.

The corps was selected as a performing unit in the Virginia Bicentennial Band, and represented the commonwealth in national observances throughout the rural area, as well as in Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia.

This musical activity did much to improve the cultural opportunities for the county's residents. More importantly, it brought a renewed sense of community life to the county.

Hundreds of citizens volunteered to direct and manage the affairs of the band. From a small investment, the project has raised thousands of dollars for music expenses, trips, uniforms, instruments, and related materials. It also has generated revenue for local businesses during performances. The economic pattern has been excellent, and the program has won the respect and approval of all businesses.

The drama program

Following the success of the music program, another group of citizens requested a drama program. Accomack County had been the scene of the first dramatic

performance in the New World in the summer of 1665. After an absence of 300-plus years, we had an opportunity to bring back drama and provide live entertainment for county residents.

Again, the Virginia Commission of the Arts and Humanities and NEA responded with a matching grant of \$1,000. Both adult drama and children's theater (operated through summer playgrounds and the schools) benefit thousands of citizens during the year. A grant of \$18,000 was received from the Commission of Virginia's Urban Assistance Incentive Fund to establish mobile units to transport these programs to the outlying areas.

The arts program

The Virginia Commission of the Arts and NEA then gave a matching grant of \$2,000 for a pilot project to provide art programs for summer youth, vocational and senior citizens' centers. A well-known local artist agreed to conduct a three-month program for both children and adults.

This was so successful that a 'Festival in the Park' was coordinated among all the art groups on the Eastern Shore and those along the Eastern Seaboard. More than 70 artists and wood-carvers, summer art students, 4-H Clubs, and senior citizens participated. Due to the success, the county plans to make this an annual event.

Effects on the community

These programs have enriched the lives of the county's many citizens and have had a great impact on the youth of the shore, giving them opportunities never before available. Delinquent acts among juveniles dropped 50 percent the first year and there has been continual reduction in the past two years.

Other side effects are coming to light all the time. The Accomack County Band stimulated enough interest that two additional music instructors have been hired. Three of the small high schools now have their own bands. Drama groups have become a part of every high school curriculum. Art classes have been requested at the year-round recreational sites, the vocational center and the Senior Citizens' Center.

From a small investment (\$5,000 for music, \$1,000 for drama, and \$2,000 for art) the outlook of thousands of people has been changed. The programs have stimulated economic benefits which far surpass the initial investment.

Simply put, these cultural art activities have repaid the time, interest, and investments many times over.

CETA spurs arts innovation

by Steve Boochever, Research Assistant, NACoR

The Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) is playing an important role in promoting arts and humanities programs in communities around the country. Through a revival of the concept behind the Work Progress Administration's Federal Arts Program of the 1930s, CETA is making it possible for thousands of unemployed artists to display or perform their work in schools, prisons, nursing homes, community centers, and many other public places. In fact this past year roughly \$75 million was spent on expanding the partnership between CETA and the arts.

Counties, serving as CETA prime sponsors, have not only provided artists with transitional employment and greatly expanded the exposure of local residents to the arts, but have also equipped these creative men and women with marketable skills, increasing their prospects of obtaining unsubsidized employment.

Four CETA titles have been used to employ artists and arts-related workers. Of these, Title VI (public service employment) has played the largest role. Examples of creative efforts linking CETA and the arts range from symphonic orchestras to puppet companies that give free performances.

A CETA symphony

Alameda County in California has developed a unique program for unemployed musicians, a CETA symphony. Last year, the symphony hired 74 unemployed musicians to be trained and organized into a symphony orchestra. The orchestra has attracted top-quality musicians and has been well received by county residents. Symphony members receive \$150 per month for this part-time work. Concerts have been played in jails, parks, schools, hospitals, shopping centers, and other public places.

A "special" arts fair

Another example can be found in Rockford, Ill. For the past few summers developmentally disabled youth have been hired to produce and participate in "A Very Special

Arts Fair," a one-day art exhibit and musical affair, presented free of charge to the community. Young people between the ages of 14 and 19 worked 25 hours per week for seven weeks in preparation for the fair. Daily activities included training in: pantomime, dance, dramatic improvisation, batik, line drawing, painting, wire sculpting, weaving and rehearsals for a 90-minute musical/dance production.

The fair scheduled a musical production in the morning. In the afternoon, community members could participate in workshops staffed by program participants in areas such as movement, drawing, pantomime, sculpture and group weaving. As a part of the career awareness part of the program, each participant identified five local businesses or agencies involved in the arts as potential employers. The last week of the program was devoted to follow-up activities and efforts at job placement.

An arts program

The City and County of San Francisco, the first prime sponsor to establish an arts program using CETA funds, has hired several artists to work with neighborhood arts programs. This program is a city-funded unit that seeks to foster public involvement in the arts by establishing neighborhood arts centers, offering inexpensive art classes, and setting up exhibits. Since the program began in 1974, muralists, visual artists, performing artists, photographers, architects, poets, set designers, have been hired into public service jobs under Title VI of CETA.

Through programs such as these thousands of out-of-work artists, both advanced and beginners, in every branch of the arts have been given the opportunity to teach, learn, perform and bring their talents to public attention. Under CETA, the opportunity for designing arts activities, consistent with local arts resources and public service demands, is great. CETA support for the arts in addition to attacking unemployment among artists, exposes the arts to places and people. Such exposure provides a greater opportunity for rich and poor alike to share and enjoy the spirit of art.

NACo arts policy

In February 1978, the NACo Board of Directors approved the formation of a special Task Force on the Arts and charged it with the responsibility "to raise the awareness of county officials to the social and economic benefits of the cultural arts." This task force is composed of nearly 20 county officials from around the country.

With the assistance of a small grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, the task force has sponsored three workshops at NACo conferences and has developed a library of information for county governments interested in developing or coordinating art programming. The exhibit by the Handshake Gallery at NACo's annual meeting in Fulton County (Atlanta), Ga. last year was spearheaded by the arts task force and NACo.

In addition, task force chairman Johnnie Smith of Greenville County, S.C. introduced a five-point resolution on the arts which was approved by the membership at NACo's annual meeting in July 1978:

- BE IT RESOLVED,
- That counties recognize the arts as an essential service, equal in importance to other essential services, and help to make the arts available to all their citizens;
 - That every county be encouraged to establish a public agency specifically concerned with the arts;
 - That the physical appearance of the county, its architectural heritage and its amenities, be acknowledged as a resource to be nurtured;
 - That counties be encouraged to set aside a percentage of the total costs of every county construction budget for the purchase or commission of works of art;
 - That counties, working together with the public at large, shall help to effect a new national goal: "That no American shall be deprived of the opportunity to experience the beauty in life by barrier of circumstance, income, background, remoteness or race."

Creating a community arts agency

by Patricia Prime, executive director, Metropolitan Arts Congress of Tidewater, (Va.) Inc.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The late Patricia Prime worked closely with NACO's Task Force on the Arts. Her expertise has been an invaluable resource to us. Shortly before her death, Miss Prime submitted this article. The task force appreciates the efforts of this gifted woman and recognizes the untimely loss of a friend.

Today there are more than 1,800 community art agencies (CAAs) in the United States. Approximately 300 are public commissions, the remainder are private nonprofit groups. The bulk of this growth has occurred within the past five years.

For the past two years, there has been a growing recognition of the viability of community art agencies by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). After a year of study, NEA has announced the formation of a Task Force on Community Program Policy to study and make recommendations on NEA policy toward community arts agencies.

Much of the recent discussion has addressed the issue of delivering arts programs and services to minorities and special constituencies. Many believe that only on the local level can hard decisions of deserving programs be made.

To induce coordination and communication among existing art groups, and to promote arts programming where it already exists, the states are forcing communities to form CAAs, either public or private, to be grant recipient agencies for local arts services and support. They have developed a new type of grant program called a Local Government Challenge Grant.

Using the model developed by NEA, to challenge the large arts organizations and institutions in the country to increase their community support, the states are saying to local government, "We will give you so many dollars for every dollar you put in your budget for the arts."

The states are aware that NEA will never be able to provide enough money to meet the needs of the states and that most state legislatures, particularly in this era of Proposition 13, cannot increase substantial appropriations from their legislatures. The next resource must be local government. Since many county boards or city councils do not want to be involved with arts grants because of their lack of expertise, the states suggest creating either a public commission, or contracting with a private, nonprofit arts council as the conduit of grants to local arts groups. In some cases, local governments choose to use the parks and recreation department as the local arts agency.

Some advantages to be considered in creating a public commission are:

- Access to other federal grant programs to expand art activities;
- Access to the expertise of grant people in public agencies;
- The appointment of commissioners for broad based political support.

There are also disadvantages:

- The maze of bureaucratic red tape to get a program started, or to receive an immediate response.
- The necessity of creating additional positions for staff, plus the administrative overhead required by a governmental body.

For some, contracting with a private agency can be the most beneficial to a community. The private arts agency:

- Has access to community fund-raising;
- Can respond quickly to the needs and ideas that arise;
- Can, in many cases, take the political heat out of the grant-making process;
- Is not suspect for its motives among arts and neighborhood people.

County examples

Many counties have elected to work with community art agencies either by building a liaison with their own public art commission, or by naming a community art agency to act as the county's art council.

Black Hawk County, Iowa has named the private Cedar Arts Forum as the official county art agency. Its major role is to bring the performing and visual arts to the people who otherwise may not have access to them.

Onondaga County, N.Y. uses the Cultural Resources Council of the Civic Center as its cultural planning body. This private, nonprofit council also serves the city of Syracuse, the school district, community college, Syracuse Ballet, Syracuse Area Landmark Theatre, the Model Cities program and others.

No matter the choice, the growth of community art organizations has introduced a force within the art world that cannot be ignored.

It seems inevitable that local governments will need to find the best vehicle for their communities. For it appears certain that if a community art agency is not in place in the near future, local governments will lose out on arts dollars for programs that are important to their citizens.



Promoting economic growth

by Louise W. Wiener, special assistant to the secretary of commerce for cultural resources

The tremendous growth of public interest in the arts has made a real impact in the profit-making sector and suggests new opportunities for economic development. Today we understand that the growth of popular interest in the arts has generated a cultural industry with economic interdependencies and advantages, an industry which provides significant support to auxiliary businesses and local tax structures.

In January 1978, the Department of Commerce submitted a paper entitled, "Perspectives on the Economic Development Potential of Cultural Resources," to the White House Conference on Balanced Growth and Economic Development. It points out that cultural resources are:

- "People magnets,"
- Labor-intensive and able to absorb the full range of skill levels.
- Businesses themselves (regardless of tax status), which are significant purchasers of goods and services.
- Ecologically and environmentally sound as potential economic growth areas.

A magnet for business

The first line of defense for any city is to hold and attract people—residents, workers, other consumers and tourists—and to provide them with jobs and education, recreation, and cultural facilities which make the city an enviable site for locating and relocating business and, therefore, people.

Industries are increasingly footloose. Advances in transportation, communication and technology have made most locations equally accessible. The final decision may be influenced by the presence of those facilities which were formerly considered amenities, but are now necessities.

The process of economic development through the arts relies on identifying and effectively making use of the distinctive heritage of the locale. What may make cultural resources a successful key to economic development is their ability to capture the character of the community.

Cultural activities provide a focus for large numbers of people. They improve the climate not only for tourism, but also for expanded housing, offices, and small businesses. An example of this phenomenon is Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City. The site, formerly an economically modest neighborhood, is now considered prime property.

New construction in the Lincoln Center area exceeded \$1 billion between 1956 and 1973. The resulting new and renovated apartment and office buildings, restaurants and small shops have netted the city a 400 percent increase in tax revenues since the 1962 opening (a jump from \$10 million annually to \$40 million annually, based on tax figures from 1962 to 1973).

NEA: a guide to programs

Traditionally, the arts have been federally supported through the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). This agency provides both financial and technical assistance through a host of programs directed to artists, community groups and public agencies. NEA publishes a "Guide to Programs," which provides information on program availability and eligibility criteria and the application process. Copies can be obtained by writing Publications, NEA, 2401 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506. Recently, NEA has created a new office of intergovernmental programs to be directly responsible for state and local art projects.

In addition, each state has a designated state arts commission which also provides technical and financial support. Many of the national funds flow through these state commissions. Counties have found state commissions to be an invaluable resource in their cultural program planning and implementation.

A source of revenue

Successful implementation of economic development through cultural resources has occurred in both rural and urban areas. The \$1 million expansion of the Ashland (Ore.) Shakespeare Festival in 1969 stimulated an additional 64,000 theater-goers the first season, 59,000 of whom came from outside the Rogue River Valley. They accounted conservatively for \$667,000 new tourist dollars. By 1977, the festival was attracting almost 250,000 theater-goers, feeding new trade to hotels, motels, restaurants, and transportation facilities.

The phenomenal impact of the Ozark Folk Cultural Center in Mountain View, Ark. is demonstrated by the fact that in 1977 the center and related developments accounted for 402,595 overnight visitors to Stone County, who spent over \$18.11 million.

The Industrial Research and Extension Center of the University of Arkansas has indicated that one-fifth (\$3.98 million) was returned to the county's economy. For the residents of Stone County, most of whom live below the poverty level, according to the 1970 census, this means that 15.2 percent of their personal income comes from an arts-related activity.

The full range of cultural activities—arts, humanities, and historic preservation—stimulates tourism, helps attract new businesses, and generates increased demand for supply materials; this represents new opportunities for small local businesses.

The process of economic development through the arts represents an opportunity for both metropolitan and rural areas to enhance their sense of unique character and identity. Although the secondary effects of cultural activities do not alleviate the need for subsidy, they may suggest that the subsidy is not lost, but is returned through the economic by-products that arts-related activities bring to the community.

Economics of the arts

Art has been traditionally recognized as essential to the quality of life. But the value of art in promoting a balanced economic growth has only been recently recognized. Art is now recognized as a major industry. It provides jobs, indirectly benefits businesses such as suppliers and restaurants, and is a factor considered in business relocation.

Historic preservation projects have brought renewed life to declining neighborhoods and downtown areas. The Economic Development Administration, for example, has shown that historic preservation projects are 75 percent labor-intensive, while new construction projects are only 50 percent so.

A paper published by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, "Taxpayers Revolt and the Arts," claims that, "For every dollar spent on the arts, three to four dollars are generated for the city. Studies have proven that cultural activity is a thriving business which not only means jobs, but also channels more money to the local economy through business support and incentives for business relocation." Using examples from previous studies, the report highlights a number of findings:

- Cultural activities in Chicago have an annual economic impact totaling \$470 million. Direct expenditures were estimated at \$156 million, including \$80 million spent to attend events.
- Nine striking New York Broadway theaters caused revenue loss to taxi owners of \$117,000 per week, loss to parking lot operators of \$50,000 per week, and to restaurant owners of \$510,000 per week.
- Historic preservation and neighborhood redevelopment projects in Philadelphia's Society Hill increased tax revenue 444 percent. In Savannah, Ga., restoration of an 18th century square generated a 350 percent tax increase.

County programs

Continued from page 3

criteria for support. No match will be required. Grant dollars have enabled opera companies to subsidize tickets for students and senior citizens, and have supported a broad range of organizations serving minorities and the underprivileged.

The council's main function is to act as a resource to all cultural organizations. It publishes a calendar of events, assists organizations with long- and short-range planning, prepares publicity packages, searches out potential funding, and reviews proposals for national and state assistance.

It has recently sponsored training seminars for art organization's personnel. "Organizing Your Volunteers" brought more than 40 organizations together and more than 50 organizations attended a session with members of the press, TV and radio on "Know Your Media."

Cultural center

Dade County is in the process of building a Cultural Complex to be completed in 1981. The cost will be \$11 million, funded by general revenue dollars. The complex, designed by architect Philip Johnson, will house an art institute, the main branch of the county library, and a historical museum. The art institute will be used for traveling exhibits, and is certain to boost tourism. The historical museum will house a large collection of exhibits tracing Dade County's history from the Seminole Indians to the space age.

Percentage for art

In 1973 Dade County instituted a "percentage for art" program. By county ordinance, 1.5 percent of all county building project costs must be spent on art. Since then, 81 commissions have been awarded, ranging from paintings and sculptures to photographs, ceramics, graphics and weaving. More than half are works of artists within the state, and every effort has been made to reflect the ethnic diversity of the county.

King County, Wash.

When the King County Arts Commission was established in 1966, the county had no home rule charter. Consequently, the 12-member arts commission was purely advisory. After the adoption of a charter three years later, the commission was directed to "stimulate interest in and awareness of the visual and performing arts." It was given a first budget of \$40,000, funds which had been appropriated to the parks department for performing art activities.

In 1972 the first paid staff was hired to administer funds primarily for programs of touring performances, artists in institutions and artist workshops.

Today, the King County Arts Commission is composed of 18 members appointed to three-year terms by the county executive and confirmed by the county council. The commission has three major tasks: policy development, program development and financial support, and grant making to local artists and organizations.

The staff consists of an executive secretary, a program coordinator, a visual arts coordinator, a secretary, and a part-time visual arts assistant to manage the percentage for art funding program.

Under the direction of the commission, King County was first in the West to adopt a percentage for art funding program. By county ordinance, 1 percent of county construction project funds are earmarked for the commission of art works for public places. More than \$600,000 has been generated and the commission has involved communities in the selection process. Through this program, the county has commissioned 88 works.

Programs using CETA

Programs offered by the county arts commission are varied. In 1975, three major CETA projects for artists were initiated: two for commissioned art for public places and one in which the commission hired the entire First Chamber Dance Company for a six-month residency in communities throughout the county.

Since then, the commission has employed CETA artists as well as 11 CETA workers to conduct an inventory of historic sites. Twenty CETA artists were hired to do a year's artist-in-residency program. More than 50 jobs have been created by these projects.

In 1979, CETA artists will assist in a new program, an Earthworks Sculpture Symposium, using art in land reclamation. CETA staff also will conduct an inventory of cultural facilities in the county as a planning tool for future development.

Working with the community

Through a community arts program funds go to organizations to improve the quality of art experiences in the community and support arts professionals.

Organizations must be nonprofit, and funded programs must be open to the general public.

The Special Cooperative Arts program funds new programs designed to contribute significantly to cultural life. Proposals must be jointly sponsored by three or more community organizations, which may include art groups, historical societies, senior citizens and youth oriented organizations. The maximum amount to any group is \$5,000.

The Performing Visual Arts program provides funds and assistance to nonprofit groups. Funded programs must be sponsored throughout the year.

The Arts in Institutions program provides funds for artists' services to people with emotional, physical or mental handicaps, both in and out of institutions. Public or nonprofit agencies that serve a countywide clientele may apply for artist fees. The commission pays only professional fees, all other costs are borne by the agency.

The commission publishes a free monthly newsletter entitled "The Arts" which lists coming events in the King County area, articles of interest to the art community, announcement of county art commissions' programs, contacts and deadline information, as well as the minutes from the arts commission meetings.

Also published is a "Guide to Programs" which serves as a mini-catalogue of commission-sponsored projects. The guide includes program availability, eligibility criteria, application procedure, and deadlines. It is available free from the King County Arts Commission, 300 County Administration Building, Seattle, Wash. 98104.

Earthworks symposium

This year the county is inaugurating a new program which will address earthwork sculpture as a land reclamation tool. The symposium will include completed earthworks, proposals for future work and public forums on land reclamation and environmental sculpture, and will reclaim an abandoned county gravel pit.

The two-fold project will involve a well known artist who will create a permanent large-scale earthwork on a 3.69 acre site south of Seattle. Additionally it will employ four to six artists for other sites, such as gravel pits, rock quarries and landfill areas.

Nassau County, N.Y.

Nassau County, population 1.5 million, established a County Office of Cultural Development in 1971. The decision to create such an office stemmed from a growing demand among county residents for an alternative to commuting to nearby New York City to attend cultural events.

The responsibilities of the office, staffed by 10 full-time employees with a fiscal '78 budget of \$663,000, is to provide and administer programs, sponsor and work with community organization programs, and assist in implementation of policies established by the cultural board.

In addition to this office, the county has created the Nassau County Fine Arts Advisory Council, and a county cultural board. The 50-member advisory council assists in seeking grants and raising funds in the community. The cultural board, a policy-making body, is composed of nine members: four appointed by the county executive, and five by the county board of supervisors.

Cultural center

To provide a central site for county-sponsored art activities, Nassau purchased a 173-acre estate for \$3.5 million. The center is open seven days a week and includes a Museum of Fine Art, housed in the mansion house, a nature preserve and an education center.

The county has allocated \$500,000 to restore the mansion. When completed, the mansion will house works of well-known artists on the first floor and works of local artists on the second. In addition to the museum, the mansion provides space for small indoor chamber music concerts, poetry readings and lectures.

In maintaining the cultural center, the Cultural Development Office works closely with other county departments and agencies. The general services and public works departments maintain the grounds. CETA employees are used as security guards on the grounds, as well as within the museum.

Art education

The Cultural Development Office regularly offers a multitude of programs throughout the year. The education center on the estate provides art classes at a modest tuition, ranging from ceramics to landscape painting, and lectures on art history. Special credit classes are provided to teachers to update their skills and to learn ways of using art in their daily class instruction.

With CETA funding, the office hired art professionals to work with handicapped and emotionally disturbed individuals, with a special emphasis on making these individuals self-supporting.

In addition to classes, the Cultural Development Office offers an annual Summer Series at the center which schedules nationally known and local art companies, such as the New York Philharmonic, and Nassau County Opera Company.

The office also sponsors an annual June Festival at the center which attracts 10,000 citizens. The festival includes symphony, concert bands, dance, folk art, a special theater in the woods, and a children's theater.

Special programs

The Cultural Development Office has also introduced new programs to the community. An Environmental Arts Project was begun with federal assistance that will include programs in solar greenhouse experiments, and identification and cataloging of tree life in the nature preserve. The county provides mini-buses to transport both handicapped and seniors around the 173 acres of the estate.

In 1978, the center's sprawling woodland provided a natural setting for an outdoor sculpture show entitled, "Monuments and Monoliths. A Metamorphosis." Seventeen works of well known artists were exhibited for two months in the fall.

In addition, an artist-in-residence program brings artists' homes for entertainment and training, and a children to learn how to play musical instruments and perform with jazz.

The office also sponsors programs in town-private organizations in an effort to build liaisons and decentralize county arts programming. A triannual free newsletter carries information on both regularly and specially planned programs at the center and around the county.



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Teeing Off over a Drainage Ditch

OAKLAND COUNTY, Mich.—That phenomenon known to golfers as "hitting it in the ditch" takes on another dimension at a golf course in southeastern Michigan, opened last spring by the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Beneath the fairways and sandtraps of the nine-hole golf course lies one of the biggest ditches in the county—a 62-million-gallon reservoir that is part of the Red Run Drain system. During periods of excess rain, it stores the overflow storm water and sewage from 14 communities.

The story of the Red Oaks Golf Course is one of political diplomacy, determination and imaginative land

use planning. Once a community eyesore, the drain site underwent a dramatic conversion that required the cooperation of local, state and federal officials, as well as homeowners and businesses with adjacent property.

At opening day ceremonies in June, Wally Gabler, Jr., chairman of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, called the new \$857,000 golf course "one of the finest examples of integrated cooperation ever to take place in the county."

WHEN THE STORAGE reservoir was constructed in the early 1970s, designers were not concerned about locating a park on the site. Their

task was to plan a sophisticated underground system for storm water and sewage when the normal system was at capacity. Overflow from the system had been causing pollution in Red Run and the Clinton River, which flows into Lake St. Clair.

"You could think of the reservoir as a huge bathtub," explained an engineer for the Oakland County Drain Commission. "It fills up, but the water drains out when you pull the plug."

About the time the wastewater storage facility was completed, the Parks and Recreation Commission began looking at the possibility of providing recreation in the Red Run area, one of the most populous sections of the county.

The land over the Red Run Drain was considered, but there were numerous physical problems: the site was narrow; there were high voltage lines to contend with; there was no useful vegetation; topsoil was unsuitable for planting. In addition, the site was bisected by a pedestrian walkway that connects a school with a subdivision on the other side.

Of greater concern were the potential political roadblocks. Approval of a park plan would be needed from local, state and federal officials. Support from adjoining property owners, concerned with noise, traffic and their privacy, would have to be enlisted.

A 1974 REPORT by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources found that Red Run was not suitable for a state or regional park. However, state planners said the site had "considerable" potential for a local park, and they recommended that the county take on the project.

Before any more progress could be made, however, approval was needed from the Red Run Inter-County Drain-

age Board, which operates and maintains the drain, as well as from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which must approve all plans that involve drainage patterns and water flow.

Oakland County Drain Commissioner George Kuhn, a member of the Parks Commission, insisted on written assurances of cooperation from all communities in the drainage district.

"There was no point in developing specific use plans without these assurances," Kuhn said. "There were enough problems to overcome without facing opposition from local governments, as well. This had to be a group effort."

Following public hearings, the parks commission committed itself in June 1975 to building the course. It was to be the first of the seven county-owned recreational facilities to be located in the southeastern portion of Oakland County.

BECAUSE OF its newness, Red Oaks is not yet up to the standards of two other county-operated golf courses. Michael Thibodeau, chief of Golf Courses, notes that the vegeta-

tion will mature within a few years, bringing the facility up to county standards.

Although it opened only last summer, Red Oaks averaged 200 golfers per day. Many visitors were juniors and senior citizens, for whom special rates are available. Thibodeau predicts that Red Oaks will eventually outdraw the other two county golf courses.

Development of the site hasn't stopped with the opening of the course. A 25-station driving range is under construction across the street from the golf course. Development of remaining county-owned land over Red Run Drain is also being considered.

Parks Commission Manager Eric Reickel summarized the Red Oaks success story in a succinct statement: "Through the efforts of a large number of dedicated people, we've converted unused land into a golf course that is an asset to the neighborhood as well as a fine recreational facility for the county. In spite of initial skepticism and difficulties, we've succeeded in making a silk purse out of a sow's ear."

Interior, National Trust to Award Maritime Grants

WASHINGTON, D.C.—An unprecedented \$5 million grants program for maritime heritage preservation was announced recently by Secretary of the Interior Cecil D. Andrus and James Biddle, president, National Trust for Historic Preservation.

This unique partnership between the federal government, the states as represented by the State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs) and the National Trust for Historic Preservation (a private, nonprofit organization) will result in a matching grants program extending throughout the United States and its territories.

"Many of this nation's invaluable historic maritime resources have already been lost," said Chris T. Delaporte, director of Interior's

Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service which administers the grants program. "Of those surviving resources, many are currently endangered. Our mandate to preserve this disappearing heritage is, therefore, clear."

Among other things, grants will be available for the preservation and restoration of all types of ships and other watercraft; preservation of shoreline facilities; and underwater archaeology.

Eligible applicants may seek funding from the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service through their State Historic Preservation Officers or from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Grants must be matched dollar for dollar. All applications must be postmarked by May 31.

Job Opportunities

Transportation Director, Somerset County, N.J. Salary \$15,593 to \$24,000. Responsibilities include state and federal financial reporting, staffing, training, vehicle acquisition and administrative practices. Individual must possess a valid N.J. driver's license and will direct countywide special transportation programs. Degree in business administration or public administration plus five years supervisory experience. Resume to: Personnel Manager, Somerset County Personnel Office, County Administration Building, Somerville, N.J. 08876. Closing date: Feb. 21.

Executive Director, Office on Aging, Somerset County, N.J. Salary \$13,643 to \$21,000. Responsibilities include administration and development of a department budget, interaction with public and private social service agencies and development of programs for the aged. Familiarity with state and federal regulations and policies regarding funding programs. Degree in gerontology, public administration or business administration plus five years supervisory experience. Resume to: Personnel Manager, Somerset County Personnel Office, County Administration Building, Somerville, N.J. 08876. Closing date: Feb. 21.

Personnel Director, Racine County, Wis. Salary \$24,969 to \$26,733. Will develop a comprehensive personnel management and training program. Prefer degree in personnel or business or at least five years experience. Resume to: Racine County Executive, Racine County Courthouse, 730 Wisconsin Ave., Racine, Wis. 53403. Closing date: March 12.

Executive Director, West Central Illinois Valley Regional Planning Commission. Salary \$18,000 and up. Prefer individual with planning and administrative background in rural areas. Six-county commission with HUD, Manpower, Economic Development, and A-95 programs. Degree in planning or in related field with four years increasingly responsible experience. Resume to: Bill Williamson, West Central Illinois Valley Regional Planning Commission, 209A North East Street, Carlinville, Ill. 62626. Closing date: Feb. 25.

County Engineer, New Hanover County, N.C. Salary \$23,254-\$29,619. Seeks an engineer to direct all functions of the engineering department, including general engineering services, building and electrical inspection, and building maintenance. Supervises staff of professional engineers and technicians, participates in the selection of private consulting engineers, reviews and approves all plans for public works projects, and provides technical engineering advice to other county departments. Applicant should have a degree in civil engineering and seven years experience with a municipal organization involved in public works and engineering activities, and be registered as a professional engineer by the State of North Carolina. Submit resume by Feb. 21 to: New Hanover County Personnel Office, 320 Chestnut Street, Wilmington, N.C. 28401.

Management Interns, Miami, Fla. Salary \$13,000. Four positions available. Recent recipient of MPA or MA in related field. One-year rotational intern work program beginning Aug. 1, 1979. Applicant should submit a complete personal resume, which should include extracurricular activities and honors received; a transcript of all scholastic records; three letters of reference—one of which should be the applicant's academic advisor; a copy of some written work product, e.g., term paper or special report on a subject of concern to local government (do not submit thesis). Application deadline April 1. Contact: Gary Dellapa, 1401 Courthouse, 73 W. Flagler Street, Miami, Fla. 33130, 305/579-5143.

Manager, Local Government Services Division, Northern Kentucky Area Development District. Salary \$16,900 to \$19,240. Eight-county regional agency has opening for an individual to manage its technical and management assistance activities to 68 units of local government. Division is involved in grantsmanship, public administration, public safety and community development. Bachelor's degree in public or business administration or related field is required, and preference will be given to individuals with management experience in a council of governments or similar agency. Send resumes by Feb. 23 to: Gene Archibald, Northern Kentucky Area Development District, 7605 Sussex Drive, Florence, Ky., 41042.

Matter and Measure



FINAL RULE ON SOS PROGRAM

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has issued a final rule, effective Feb. 5, on the safer off-system roads program (SOS). The rule was published in the Feb. 1 *Federal Register* to provide guidance and establish procedures for administering the program in accordance with the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978.

This new legislation does not substantially change the SOS program, but requires that at least 50 percent of the funds obligated by a state in any fiscal year be obligated for highway safety improvement projects.

FHWA regulations previously in effect required that states give special consideration to low-cost safety projects.

FHWA has revised its regulations to read: "Each state highway agency shall make funds apportioned under this program available throughout the state on a fair and equitable basis. Not less than 50 percent of the funds obligated by the state in any fiscal year for this program shall be obligated for highway safety improvement projects."

To date, the states collectively are obligating almost 55 percent of SOS funds for safety.

For additional information contact: James Rummel, Office of Highway Safety, Federal Highway Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590, 202/426-2131.

TRANSPORTATION BROKERAGE SEMINARS

The U.S. Department of Transportation is sponsoring regional seminars on transportation brokerage, a technique to bring together transportation suppliers and the people who need transportation.

The technique is designed to supplement existing public transportation operations to meet the needs of those who cannot be efficiently served by conventional fixed-route, fixed-schedule transportation.

Seminars will be held in Atlanta on Feb. 15 and Fort Worth, Texas on March 8. Additional seminars are planned for other sections of the country later this year. For more information contact the Georgia Department of Transportation's Division of Planning and Programming in Atlanta, 404/656-5412, and the Urban Mass Transportation Administration regional office in Fort Worth, 817/334-3787.

HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION COSTS INCREASE

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, the cost of highway construction during the third quarter of 1978 increased 14.7 percent above the previous quarter, the second highest on record.

It follows a record 17.6 percent increase in the previous quarter. The quarterly increase is 296.1 percent of the 1967 average.

The composite price index for the third quarter is 37.1 percent higher than a year ago; it is the largest yearly increase since the second quarter of 1974 when it hit a record 38 percent following the oil embargo.

Because there has been a significant shift to reconstruction and rehabilitation of existing roads, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) believes that not all the price increases are due to inflation. Rehabilitation and reconstruction are more expensive because of lower volumes per mile of road, the need to work under traffic and restricted work areas or hours of work.

FHWA examines the following components in the price index: bituminous concrete surfacing, portland cement concrete surfacing, excavation, structural concrete, structural reinforcement, structural steel. All components rose in price during the quarter, except bituminous concrete surfacing.

Trends in highway construction costs are measured by an index of average contract prices compiled from reports of state highway contracts for federal-aid highway projects.

If price trends are measured on a three-quarter basis, all six index components registered significant quarterly and annual increases. DOT says, "A comparison with the index components of a year ago indicates that the upward thrust in prices has lost none of its momentum."

22 YEARS OF COUNTY ENGINEERING

L.D. Green of Utah County has retired from county engineering after 22 years. In a letter written to William Harrington, NACE secretary-treasurer, Vern extended his thanks to Bill and NACE and said, "It has been my good fortune to be personally acquainted with most of the officers. I would hope that in some way they might receive my thanks for this great opportunity."

NACE extends best wishes to Vern on his retirement.

OAKLAND COUNTY GOLFER—Once a community eyesore, a drain site in Oakland County, Mich., was transformed into a new \$857,000 golf course.



Conference Covers Range of Issues

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegates to NACo's Legislative Conference March 11-13 at the Washington Hilton will find a broad range of activities in addition to the information presented by keynote speakers from Congress. Affiliates and steering committees will be meeting and there will be workshop sessions on legislation in the 96th Congress as it affects the policies and programs of counties.

Addressing the opening general session on Monday morning, March 12 are Reps. Jack Brooks (D-Tex.) and Al Ullman (D-Ore.). House Republican leader John J. Rhodes (Ariz.) will speak at the Tuesday morning session and Sen. Daniel

Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.) at Tuesday's luncheon.

The theme of the conference is Inflation and the 96th Congress, and this will be one of the issues addressed by these speakers. Other issues to be covered are welfare reform and general revenue sharing.

NACo is mobilizing to ensure that general revenue sharing is extended beyond its expiration date of September 1980 and that states are not excluded from participation as partners in the program. The outlook for revenue sharing will be discussed at a Monday morning workshop.

Also slated for Monday is a session on welfare reform. Although the Ad-

ministration is again proposing a welfare reform plan, it is not expected to go into effect until 1981 and there is no provision for interim fiscal relief.

There will be two sessions on another human services program administered by counties—health care. The prospects for national health insurance will be featured on Monday morning and public health planning and funding on Tuesday.

Conference workshops crosscut interests of all counties, urban and rural, large and small. Officials from rural counties will want to attend sessions on rural development legislation and the retention of agricultural land.

Urban officials will be interested in the future of economic development legislation and an update on community development programs.

Other sessions will deal with CETA funding, CETA legislation in the new Congress and implementation of CETA programs.

On Wednesday, delegates will arrange to meet with their congressional representatives to discuss the needs of counties and to make them aware of NACo's policies.

Meetings of the Black Elected Officials and organizations of Democratic and Republican officials are being arranged.

A mini-agenda for the conference follows.

Sunday morning, March 11
NACo Board of Directors
NACo Rural Affairs Committee
NACTFO Board of Directors
NACETA DOL/Prime Sponsor

Relationships
NACo/CIC Board of Directors
NACA Board of Directors
NACo Science and Technology Task Force

NACo Aging Advisory Committee
Proposed Aging Affiliate
NACo State Association Execs
NACPRO

Sunday afternoon/evening

All NACo policy steering committees will meet from 1-5 p.m., with the exception of the Environment and Energy committee which begins at noon. On Sunday evening, the Women Officials in NACo will meet, as well as the NACETA Issues Committee and the NACo Committee of Committees.

Monday morning, March 12

WIR Board Meeting
NACETA Minority Caucus Meeting
Program Sessions on:

- Welfare Reform in the 96th Congress
- Energy Impact Assistance
- Airport Legislation for 1979
- Streamlining Grant Management
- Rural Development Legislation
- General Revenue Sharing

Monday afternoon

Program sessions on:

- State and Local Energy Management
- Counties and the Social Security System
- National Health Insurance
- CETA Funding
- Reauthorization for Local Clean Air Planning
- Liability Crisis in County Government
- Grant Management for County Administrators and Elected Officials
- EDA Reauthorization and Reorganization
- 701 and the Future
- Employment Legislation in the 96th Congress
- Building Energy Performance Standards
- Criminal Justice Programs
- NACETA Board of Directors and DOL-ETA Regional Administrators
- NACo Urban Affairs Committee

Tuesday morning, March 13

National Council of Elected County Executives

NACETA Balance of State and Rural Counties

- Program sessions on:
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Management
 - Implementing the 1978 Surface Transportation Act
 - Collective Bargaining Legislation
 - Agricultural Land Retention Legislation
 - CETA Implementation
 - Counties and the Arts
 - Public Health Planning/Funding
 - Grant Programs for Energy Audits
 - Federal Government and Public Employee Retirement Systems
 - Community Development Update

Tuesday afternoon

NACETA Training and Technical Assistance Committee

NACWD
NACHO
Arts Task Force
NACCCD
NACCA
NACo Board of Directors

Wednesday morning, March 14
NACWD and APWA Joint Meeting
NACo Indian Affairs Task Force
NACETA Intergovernmental Committee
NACETA Board of Directors
NACRC
NACPD
NACHFA

NACo's 1979 Legislative Conference

Inflation and the 96th Congress

NACo's Annual Legislative Conference will focus this year on anti-inflation activities.

- Congressional and Administration speakers will emphasize the county role in the fight against inflation and the effect of inflationary pressures on legislation in the 96th Congress.

- Workshops will review upcoming legislation.

- All steering committees will meet Sunday, March 11, 1-5 p.m.

- Affiliates will meet in the morning on Sunday, March 11 and Wednesday, March 14.

Delegates to NACo's 1979 Annual Legislative Conference can both preregister for the conference and reserve hotel space by completing these forms and returning them to NACo, 1735 New York Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Conference Registration:

Conference registration fees must accompany this form before hotel reservations will be processed. Enclose check, official county purchase order or equivalent. No conference registration will be made by phone.

Refunds of the registration fee will be made if cancellation is necessary provided that written notice is postmarked no later than Feb. 23.

Conference registration fees:

\$95 member, \$125 nonmember, \$50 spouse (Make payable to NACo.)
Please print:

Name _____
(Last) (First) (Initial)

County _____

Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Telephone () _____

Name of Registered Spouse _____

For Office Use Only

Check Number _____

Check Amount _____

Date Received _____ Date Postmarked _____

Hotel Reservations (Washington Hilton Hotel)

Special conference rates will be guaranteed to all delegates whose reservations are postmarked by Feb. 9. After that date, available housing will be assigned on a first come basis.

Indicate preference by circling the type of room (lowest rate possible will be reserved unless otherwise requested):

SINGLE **DOUBLE**
\$40-\$56 \$54-\$70

Note: Suite information from Conference Registration Center 703/471-6180.

Name of Individual _____

Co-occupant if Double _____

*Arrival Date/Time _____ Departure Date/Time _____

Special Hotel Requests _____

Credit Card Name _____

Credit Card Number _____

() Check here if you have a housing related disability.

*Hotel reservations are only held until 6 p.m. on the arrival day. If you anticipate arriving near or after that time, list a credit card name and number below to guarantee your first night reservation.

For further housing information call NACo Conference Registration Center: 703/471-6180.

