

# County News

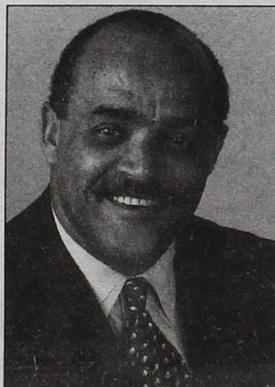
NACo - Celebrating 60 years of service to counties!

National Association of Counties • Washington, D.C.

Vol. 27, No. 8 • April 25, 1995

## One Hundred Days: the Contract with America *What does it mean for counties?*

By Reggie Todd  
legislative director



Reggie Todd

Taking only 94 of the promised 100 days, the House Republicans have turned Washington on its heels and are moving forward a legislative agenda that has initially made the Clinton administration a mere bystander in the great debate of how and to what degree the role of the federal government will be reduced, or eliminated. The final outcome of this landmark debate has significant implications for county governments. On the one hand, counties have consistently called for less federal intrusion in local decision making. Counties want the flexibility to respond to local problems affecting the environment, education, transportation, housing and community development, and other areas of public policy. However, flexibility has often been cast aside in favor of national objectives and uniform standards in

an effort to balance state and local inequalities in resources and services. Overarching this tension between local flexibility and national standards is the federal budget deficit. The deficit has dramatically diminished federal capacity to address national needs. This, ultimately, could lead to

a decentralization of power and significantly fewer resources to respond to legitimate national domestic interests.

Counties are most concerned that this devolution of responsibilities will shift costs to local government which will be forced to make up federal funds with property tax dollars.

The Contract with America goes to the heart of this debate about the role of government, by calling for a fundamental reordering of the federal budget to achieve a balanced budget by 2002, and a sweeping reconfiguration of 60 years of an activist and dominant federal role in domestic public policy.

Several elements of the Contract with America legislative package directly affect counties. (See table, page 11.)

And while not a specific element of the Contract with America, both the House and the Senate used the appropriations rescissions process to ac-

See 100 DAYS, page 10

## FY95 cuts to be decided next month

By Ralph Tabor  
public policy director

The final amounts to be cut or rescinded in already appropriated funds for FY95 will be decided in early May after the congressional recess.

The House passed an emergency supplemental appropriations bill (H.R. 1158) on March 16 and the Senate passed its version on April 6. The House bill

contains \$17.4 billion in rescissions of previously appropriated FY95 funds.

The Senate version rescinds \$16.1 billion, but with a different mix of program cuts, which restores funding fully or partially for all of the rescissions targeted by NACo.

At issue between the two bills is approximately \$5 billion in cuts targeted at different programs.

See RESCISSIONS, page 9



Photo by Jill Conley

(l-r) Domitila Tavera, a volunteer "promotora" for an innovative Washington County (Ore.) Department of Aging Services program, accompanies Sipriano Guzman to county offices where she helps him complete a form that will enable him to purchase bus passes at a special rate for seniors. Guzman, 75, began coming to the United States from Mexico to perform seasonal farm work in 1944 during the early days of "Bracero programs" — U.S.-sponsored programs that actively recruited Mexican nationals for agricultural work. (See story on page 5.)

## Telecommunications bill begins to move

By Robert J. Fogel  
associate legislative director

Congress is working on a telecommunications reform measure this year after failing to enact legislation during the 103rd Congress. Both Congress and the administration want to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to spur the creation of the information superhighway.

If enacted, such legislation could be aimed at allowing phone, cable, long-distance com-

panies and others to compete against one another by eliminating the regulatory barriers to entry into the different telecommunications services, most of which currently operate as monopolies.

Because many of these new entrants will have to build new systems or significantly upgrade existing systems, NACo has maintained that any legislation must protect counties' ability to manage and receive compensation from telecommunications providers wanting to use public rights-of-way.

Like the cable companies that pay a franchise fee for use of the right-of-way, NACo has called for similar payments, some call it rent, from telecommunications companies for using counties' 1.7 million miles of roads to install their systems.

### Action on the Senate bill

On March 23, the Senate Commerce Committee approved the Telecommunications Competition and Deregulation Act, S. 652,

See TELECOMMUNICATIONS, page 9

Counties went all out in celebrating National County Government Week, April 2-8.



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Writers dispute Neal Peirce column on Contra Costa County, Calif. gun control efforts.

page 2

With Social Security immune from deficit-reduction efforts, Congress sets its sights on Medicaid. And what they find may surprise you.



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Two candidates are vying for NACo third vp slot, Westchester County (N.Y.) Legislator Kay Carsky and Wake County (N.C.) Commissioner Betty Lou Ward. Learn more about them in "Candidate Profile."

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News from the nation's counties

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Neal Peirce

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Job market

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# Counties across America celebrate National County Government Week

By Tom Goodman  
public affairs director

More than 1,000 counties held some type of activity in honor of National County Government Week (NCGW), April 2-8. Many county officials participated in the national video teleconference on children's issues that originated from Washington, D.C. and was sponsored by NACo. And others held special programs locally.

Here is a sample of NCGW activities gathered from information sent to NACo by county officials:

## San Mateo County, Calif.

The county dubbed 1995 as the "Year of the Child," so the NCGW theme, "It takes a whole village to raise a child," fit perfectly with the county's programs.

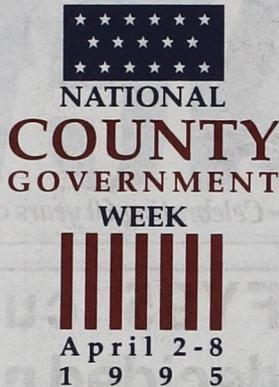
On April 4, the county made a presentation to the first recipient of the 1995 Year of the Child Award for contributions that benefit youth in the county. A County Youth in Government Day was held with students "shadowing" county officials.

Other events included Junior State County Government Day, a public health well-child care clinic and numerous volunteer recruitment opportunities. There was lead testing for children, breast cancer screening for women, and a clinic for the Women, Infant and Children Food Supplement and Nutrition Program.

On April 2, the county held "Bicycle Sunday," a program in which a section of a county road was open only to non-motorized activities, including bicycling, hiking, roller-skating, walking, jogging and rollerblading.

## Jackson County, Ky.

The county held a community



awareness "blitz" on children and family programs with more than 50 activities, two television programs, 32 billboard advertisements, 25 bus signs and 400 radio spots. NACo's satellite teleconference on children's issues was part of the activities.

## Middlesex County, N.J.

In addition to issuing a proclamation, students from the county's five vocational-technical schools spent time with specific county employees in employment areas related to the students' studies.

## Guilford County, N.C.

Twenty-eight junior and senior high school students "shadowed" county department heads. Then they had dinner with the county commissioners, attended the commission meeting, and talked about their experiences that day.

## Chesterfield County, Va.

A Model County Government Program was held that includes "shadowing" public officials, observing the board of supervisors and school board meetings, partici-

pating in a mock board meeting, and holding discussions with a juvenile court judge. Seventy students and 70 officials and staff participated.

## Palo Alto County, Iowa

An open house at the courthouse was held throughout the week. Schools and college in the county toured courthouse offices on April 6 and 7.

## Yellowstone County, Mont.

The county passed an NCGW proclamation and hosted local high schools at a board of county commissioners meeting, providing information on what the county government does.

## Sierra County, Calif.

An open house at county buildings was held throughout the week, encouraging the public to meet their supervisors, department managers and county employees. Citizens were encour-

aged to ask questions, learn about budgets, and gather information on county responsibilities.

## Prince William County, Va.

A proclamation was issued and children of county employees were invited to participate in an art exhibit. Also, the county's weekly cable television program aired a special program featuring the work of county government.

## Jackson County, N.C.

High school students attended a board of commissioners meeting, visited the new jail facilities, viewed the District Court in session, and toured county offices. County employees were treated to a catered lunch on April 7 and enjoyed an afternoon of fun and games.

## Mercer County, Pa.

The county hosted 30 high school students on April 6 for "Mercer County Government

Day." They toured county offices and participated in the board commissioners meeting.

## Howard County, Md.

A county expo with displays, exhibits and demonstrations was held at a local mall on April 6.

## Sargent County, N.D.

Schools were invited to visit the courthouse during a regular board of county commissioners session. County employees talked with the students about duties and responsibilities in each department. Students toured the county museum.

## Alachua County, Fla.

County commissioners spoke at the University of Florida during the week and a proclamation was issued.

See **COUNTIES CELEBRATE**, p. 2

## Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

I must protest the inclusion of the article "Grappling with guns: how to start" (By Neal R. Peirce, *County News*, March 13, 1995). It is nothing more than biased, unsubstantiated propaganda put out by those in favor of ever-increasing government controls and regulations.

He details a way to harass licensed part-time gun dealers out of business; a crusade much appreciated by the chain sporting goods stores as a way to eliminate competition and increase their profit margins.

He first states that most of the guns used illegally are either stolen or sold illegally. He then proceeds on the unsubstantiated tangent that they must all be sold illegally by small gun dealers. I am aware of no study or hint of proof that any substantial percentage of licensed gun dealers are guilty of illegal sales.

The writer also asserts that California had no instant check on gun buyers, etc., at the time the problem started. However, he conveniently forgets to relate that California now has a seven-day waiting period and a required background check for all handgun purchases, as well as a myriad of other restrictions on the types of gun

law-abiding citizens may own. (Criminals are of course permitted to own any type of gun they desire.)

I also note a glaring lack of any statistical indication that those communities that have reduced the number of legal gun dealers have seen any significant reduction in firearms-related violence. Perhaps because there was no reduction. You mean all these requirements presently in place didn't solve the problem, but even more restrictive laws will? I think not.

I note no coverage in the article that the reason for so many gun-related deaths might in some way be connected with the scale and use of illegal drugs — how could such a thing happen in California of all places. I see no attempt to address the root cause of the gun-related deaths, i.e. reduce the drug usage.

I see no mention of attempts to levy mandatory increased sentences on criminals for use of a firearm in the commission of a crime. If you can't (or won't) attack the criminal, it is much easier to make symbolic attacks on guns. It is easier to address a symptom of the problem and outlaw guns in the hands of law-abiding citizens, who are now no longer able to

defend their homes against those out seeking funds for another drug purchase.

I think the *County News* would do well to stick with reporting the news that affects Counties, and eliminate the inclusion of clearly biased articles unless you plan to provide equal opportunity for the opposing viewpoint to respond. I look forward to seeing the response from the NRA in the next issue.

Sincerely,

Andrew B. Wyatt  
Prowers County (Colo.) assessor

James L. Hamilton  
Prowers County sheriff

Jim Sidebottom  
Prowers County administrator

(Neal Peirce is a syndicated columnist who writes about state and local government. The column at issue highlighted programs put in place by Contra Costa County, Calif. to prevent violence. The opinions expressed by Mr. Peirce in his column, do not necessarily reflect the opinions of County News or the National Association of Counties. County News invites and encourages comment on articles or columns which appear on its pages.)

## CORRECTION— CONFERENCE FEES

Due to a production error, two of the conference fees listed on the Annual Conference Registration Form in the last issue of *County News* (April 10, 1995, page 20) were incorrect.

The fee for a member-county attendee at the early-bird rate is \$275.

The fee for registration after June 6 and on-site is \$325.

Registrations received based on the incorrectly published fees will be billed the difference.

*County News* regrets the error.

### 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 or fax to: County News, NACo, 440 First St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001-2080, 202/393-2630.

# Congress turns to Medicaid budget for savings

By Thomas L. Joseph III  
associate legislative director

As the first 100 days of the 104th Congress ended, the fuse on an issue that is potentially more explosive than anything in the Contract with America is starting to spark.

Congress will now turn to the 1996 budget resolution to establish a long-term blueprint. Its goal this year is to create a budget which will project a zero federal deficit by the year 2002.

Social Security will be protected from the cuts, leaving the next biggest entitlements — Medicare and Medicaid — very vulnerable to large budget reductions. Those reductions could potentially harm counties which are responsible for serving the aged and disabled.

Republican congressional leadership have been meeting with a handful of Republican governors and staff over the past few months to fashion a new approach to Medicaid. The federal government is contributing nearly \$90 billion to this program which is growing at 10 percent annually.

In essence, the negotiations revolve around giving the states a predetermined amount of money each year in return for loosening or eliminating the strings attached to the program. The numbers adopted by the congressional budget committees will give the states the options the authorizing committees face later in the year to restructure Medicaid to achieve the necessary savings.

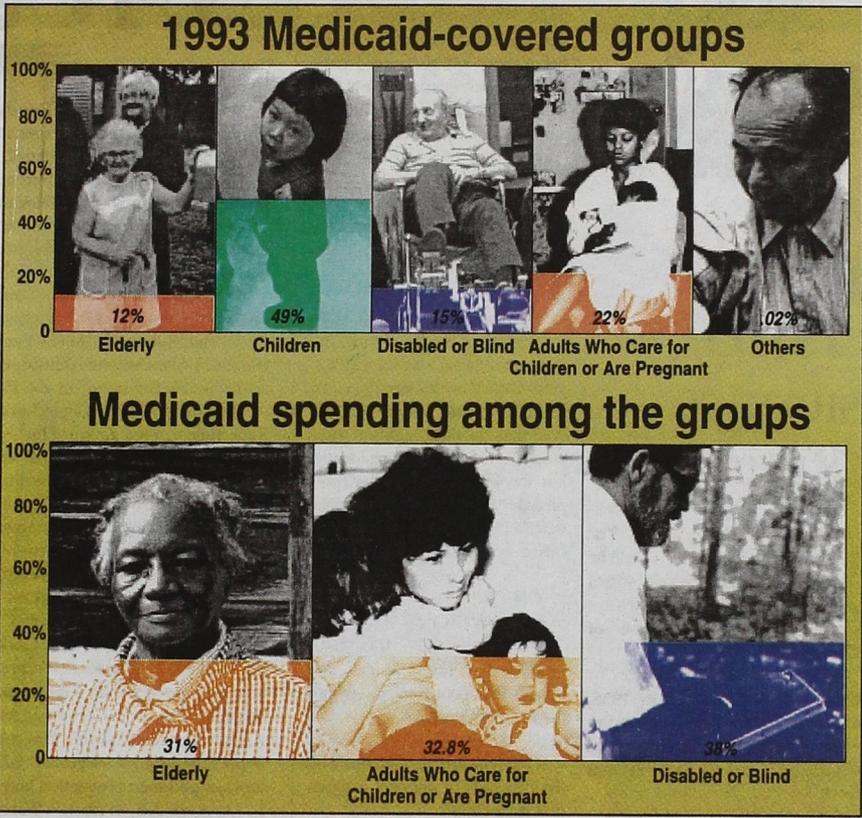
Under the most conservative assumption that the program would be cut by 6.4 percent, federal savings would be \$75 billion over five years. The reduction compounds with each passing year, resulting in a cut of 18 percent in an average state's receipt of federal Medicaid funds by the year 2000. Cuts would be even greater under a draft proposal cutting spending by \$220 billion over seven years.

For those counties with responsibility for providing or purchasing health care for the uninsured, the cuts would mean that counties will face the choice of increasing taxes or cutting services to serve those no longer eligible for Medicaid.

These alternatives assume states will not find enough savings in the program nor increase their own revenues to continue covering all those on the program currently.

Dramatic policy changes will need to be made to achieve the savings envisioned. The program is commonly thought to be a health program for welfare families. As a result, decision-makers are assuming significant savings could be achieved by placing more families in managed care plans.

They also assume that the program is making special payments to hospitals serving disproportionate numbers of the uninsured — the so-called "DSH" program — would be further targeted, due to



the innovative DSH financing approaches some states have used to finance their overall Medicaid program.

### Medicaid, not just welfare program

A look at the populations served reveals that Medicaid covers more than welfare families, however. The program now covers more than one in 10 Americans. While children and the adult caretakers comprise 73 percent of the Medicaid recipients, they

only consume one-third of the spending. More than half of the children come from working families. But it is persons who are disabled or elderly who, by far, are the most costly.

The disabled comprise only 15 percent of enrollees, respectively, but they account for 38 percent of spending. The 3.9 million elderly enrollees comprise 12 percent of the Medicaid population, but spend 31 percent of the dollars. In fact, two of every three days in a long-term care facility is paid by Medicaid.

### Fight brewing between nursing home, child advocates

These striking statistics may foreshadow upcoming policy fights between the nursing home industry and children's advocates. Each population covered by the program will want to receive federal protections through strings attached to the state block grants.

While some savings may be realized through increased use of managed care, the Congressional Budget Office has testified that it does not

have enough empirical evidence to make cost savings estimates with any great degree of reliability.

There is also some evidence that such savings are one-time-only savings which do not continue once a managed care program is fully running.

The potential changes also run the risk of what has been termed by some on Capitol Hill as the "mother of all formula fights."

The Medicaid Program is essentially a conglomeration of 50 different state programs, each with different eligibility levels, benefits, emphases on acute vs. long-term care, federal/state/county financial matches, and degree of managed care use or disproportionate share payments. Depending on the policy assumptions, different caps on the program will hurt some states much more than others.

For instance, in a state which has successfully placed a large number of Medicaid families into managed care, any future federal budget savings assumed because of managed care will adversely affect a state which has already achieved savings through those arrangements.

So too with the wide variations in states' use of the disproportionate share program. Depending on how it is structured, some states would be "rewarded" for their financing schemes or, alternatively, punished for them if the policy is written to eliminate them altogether.

Congress will grapple with these issues throughout the spring and summer, with an anticipated budget reconciliation bill being the vehicle for the Medicaid policy changes, along with other entitlement reforms.

In the meantime, NACo is visiting as many budget and authorizing committee staff to inform them of the potential effects these changes may have on counties.

# EPA extends deadline for landfill financial assurance

By Diane S. Shea  
associate legislative director

The EPA has delayed for two years the date by which counties are required to comply with financial assurance requirements for landfills. The EPA issued a final rule on March 31 that extends to April 9, 1997, the date to comply with the requirements.

Without the delay, counties would have been required to as-

### The local government test will allow a county to demonstrate that it has sufficient financial strength within its own budget.

sure by April 9 that funds for corrective action, closure and post-closure care of landfills were readily available when needed. Financial assurance under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Subtitle D

can be currently demonstrated only by means of a trust fund, surety bond, letter of credit or other state-approved mechanism.

During the next several months, EPA is continuing to develop a "local government test"

that will serve as an alternative to current financial assurance mechanisms.

The local government test will allow a county to demonstrate that it has sufficient financial strength within its own budget or its ability to issue debt to meet the regulatory obligations for corrective action, closure and post-closure. In process since December 1993, the local government test is expected to be promulgated before the end of this year.

# NACo Diversity Award applications now available

NACo is pleased to announce the second annual Multicultural Diversity Award. Jointly sponsored by the National Association of Black County Officials (NOBCO), the National Association of Hispanic County Officials (NAHCO) and Women of NACo (WON), the award will honor county governments for

their effort to promote cultural awareness.

"The Multicultural Diversity Award brings long overdue visibility to these programs, provides a showcase and reference from which other counties can benefit, and encourages continuing emphasis on this most important issue," com-

mented NOBCO President Donald Aytch, commissioner, Caddo Parish, La.

Eligible programs recognize and highlight the dynamics of the nation's diverse society, such as programs that offer staff training to foster cultural awareness, ethnic festivals which bring communities together,

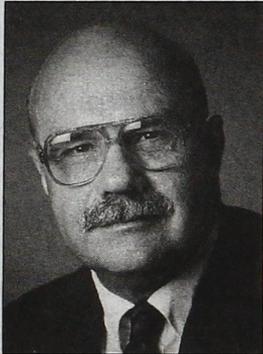
museum or gallery exhibits of ethnic artistry, or celebrations of contributions made by racial or ethnic minorities.

The deadline for nominations is June 2. For applications or questions, contact Cynthia Shultz, NACo staff, at 202/942-4277, or fax your request to 202/737-0480.

NACo - Celebrating 60 years of service to counties!

# 60th

## Anniversary PAST PRESIDENTS: TERMS IN REVIEW



**Philip Elfstrom**  
NACo Executive Committee  
(1980-1985)  
NACo President  
(1984-1985)

County News continues its celebration of NACo's 60th Anniversary year by featuring the fourth in a series of interviews

with former NACo presidents. The interviews, and other items, will be featured throughout the year, with a special 60th Anniversary supplement planned for the July 17 issue of County News.

The National Association of Counties was founded in 1935, and remains the only association representing the interests of county government on a national level.

CN: When and why did you first become involved with NACo?

Elfstrom: I first became involved with NACo in 1972, shortly after becoming the chairman of the Kane County, (Ill.) Board. It seemed the natural progression if one was going to search for better ways to run county government.

CN: What led you to run for NACo office?

Elfstrom: I had served as chairman of the Corrections Subcommittee and then the Criminal Justice Steering Committee for a number of terms, and also served as the Illinois representative on the NACo Board of Directors, starting in 1975. As they say, one thing leads to another.

CN: During your term, what was the greatest challenge facing NACo ... and the nation's counties?

Elfstrom: The greatest challenge facing NACo during my time at the helm was staying solvent. We had made many improvements since Bill Murphy discovered that we were bankrupt three weeks into his new presidency, but the job had yet to be completed. I feel we were out of the woods by the time I gave up the office.

CN: What's your favorite memory of NACo?

Elfstrom: The 1984 inauguration of President Reagan, and all the wonderful parties.

CN: What helped you cope with the demands of national association leadership?

Elfstrom: An ample supply of gin; a great NACo staff, some of whom helped me drink the gin; and hundreds of county officials I could call on as friends.

CN: What would you like to tell today's County News readers?

Elfstrom: Support the association. You will gain from it even more than you give to it.

# NACo

on the move

◆ Third Vice President **Randy Johnson** addressed the Third Annual Conference on Solid Waste, sponsored by NACo and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, on waste flow control, March 29.

Also speaking at the conference was Associate Legislative Director **Diane Shea**, who updated delegates on flow control legislation.

On April 13, Johnson was in Park City, Utah, where he spoke before the Utah Association of Counties conference. Research Associate **Peter** was also there to promote NACo's Volunteerism Project.

◆ Earlier this month, Shea met with the staff of several congresses on the flow control issue, including those from the offices of Representatives **Brian Bilbray** (R-Calif.), **Paul Gillmor** (R-Ohio) and **Sherrod Brown** (D-Ohio). She also discussed Superfund legislation with the minority staff of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

On April 6, Shea presented an overview of legislative issues related to Superfund to a delegation of local government and business officials from Tippecanoe County, Ind., who were in Washington, D.C.

◆ At a meeting of the Coalition for Juvenile Justice, April 3, President **Randy Franke** talked about the need for a more collaborative approach in addressing juvenile justice problems.

◆ A delegation of county officials, including **Randy Hart**, Hamilton County, Ohio, and vice president of NACo's Solid and Hazardous Waste Subcommittee, and **Ross**, assistant director, Association County Commissioners of Georgia, attended a meeting at the EPA laboratory at Research Triangle Park on April 11. The delegation represented county interests in the development of a new decision-support tool aimed at assessing the life cycle and environmental effects of alternative solid waste management options.

◆ Research Associate **Naomi Friedman** addressed a plenary session of the Environment Virginia Conference in Lexington, Va., April 7, on the topic of pollution prevention and local government.

On April 3-5, in Austin, Texas, Friedman participated in the Government Work Group of the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable.

◆ At the Western Job Training Partnership Annual Conference in Santa Barbara, Calif., March 23, **Neil Bomberg**, director of national training and employment programs, talked about the future of the national job training system for the economically disadvantaged.

On April 11, Bomberg met with an aide to Representative **Bill Zeigler** (N.H.) on the congressman's proposal to turn over job training programs to the states as a block grant.

◆ **Antonio Sanchez** is the newest NACo staff member. He will be working with the National Training and Employment Programs Division as a research associate.

## NACo Annual Conference Fulton County (Atlanta), Ga. • July 21-25, 1995 Preliminary Schedule

<b>Friday, July 21</b>		<b>Taxation and Finance</b>	
Affiliate Meetings	All Day	Steering Committee	2-5 p.m.
Subcommittee Meetings	All Day	Employment Steering Committee	2-5 p.m.
<b>Saturday, July 22</b>		<b>Sunday, July 23</b>	
Affiliate Meetings	All Day	Opening General Session	9-10:45 a.m.
WIR Board of Directors	9 a.m.-Noon	Workshops	11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Agriculture and Rural Affairs Steering Committee	9 a.m.-Noon	NACo Board of Directors	1:30-3 p.m.
Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee	9 a.m.-Noon	Workshops	1:45-3:15 p.m.
Transportation and Telecommunications Steering Committee	9 a.m.-Noon	Workshops	3:30-5 p.m.
Labor and Employee Benefits Steering Committee	10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Conference-Wide Event	6:30 p.m.
Human Services and Education Steering Committee	1-4 p.m.	<b>Monday, July 24</b>	
Environment, Energy and Land Use Steering Committee	1-5 p.m.	Second General Session	9 a.m.-Noon
Community and Economic Development Steering Committee	2-5 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Luncheon	12:15-1:30 p.m.
Health Steering Committee	2-5 p.m.	Workshops	1:45-3:15 p.m.
Intergovernmental Affairs Steering Committee	2-5 p.m.	NACo Board of Directors	2-5 p.m.
Public Lands Steering Committee	2-5 p.m.	Workshops	3:30-5 p.m.
		Caucus Receptions	Evening
		<b>Tuesday, July 25</b>	
		Third General Session	9-10:30 a.m.
		Workshops	10:45 a.m.-Noon
		Annual Business Meeting	1:45 p.m.
		Inaugural Ceremony and Gala	6:30 p.m.

# County News

"THE WISDOM TO KNOW AND THE COURAGE TO DEFEND THE PUBLIC INTEREST"

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# COUNTY INNOVATORS

## Washington County, Ore. reaches out to minority seniors

By Jill Conley  
senior staff writer

On several occasions, en route between the bus stop and her job, Celia Elizarraraz noticed an older gentleman sitting in a chair in the front yard of a small house. She could tell by the pallor of his complexion and the fix of his gaze that he was in ill health. "He looked very sad," she says.

Soon after Celia stopped to investigate.

She introduced herself as a "promotora," a volunteer (trained by the Washington County (Ore.) Department of Aging Services to link older Hispanic farmworkers with social services. After chatting with him for a few minutes, she invited him to a social event that was being held the following weekend. "You'll have to ask my wife," said Jose Rocha suspiciously.

The Rochas didn't attend. They said they had to work. But that didn't stop Celia from dropping by again. And again. And again.

Over the course of several visits, Celia learned that Jose, 64, a lifelong farmworker and Washington County resident of more than 20 years, had been suffering for months with "a headache that wouldn't go away." He was also experiencing chronic back and knee pain, but could not afford to cut back his hours at the nursery where he'd worked for more than eight years. He had no health insurance.

Celia, who successfully completed eight months of training in accessing aging services for low-income seniors, tried to convince Jose to come to the department's offices to apply for a medical card so he could get the attention he needed. "No, no," said Jose. "I don't want welfare."

Eventually, she convinced him that there was a relationship between the taxes he had paid over his more than 40 years of working in the United States and some of the services available to assist him in his old age.

Celia walked Jose, who speaks little English, through the bureaucracy of obtaining a medical card. A medical examination revealed hypertension, a blocked artery and kidney stones. His vision was also deteriorating and Celia managed to find out an eye clinic where he could purchase eyeglasses on a sliding-scale basis.

"The first time we went with her, we didn't know where she was taking us," says Jose's wife Maria who, a year ago, feared her husband was nearing death. But now he's doing better. "We're very grateful for this angel who came from the stars to



(Left) Farmworkers are often employed for short periods of time by many different employers. According to a 1991 report by the General Accounting Office, many are excluded from the benefits of the Social Security retirement system because of employers' failure to report taxable wages.

(Below) "Promotora" Celia Elizarraraz (standing), a volunteer for the Washington County (Ore.) Department of Aging Services, stops by the home of Jose and Maria Rocha to see how they're faring.

help us," says Maria.

Celia continues to visit the Rochas to check up on how they are doing. She reaches out to other needy seniors as well, who she finds at church, in laundromats, or just about anywhere else in her community. Even front yards.

Officially, Celia's volunteer position is a 20-hour-per-month job. But the nature of the work often demands a much larger commitment of time. "The work of a promotora is to really get involved in people's lives," she says.

Through a program called La Fuente de la Amistad, she and three other Washington County ambassadors are not only getting involved, but are making a difference in the lives of a senior population that aging services professionals say is very difficult to reach. The program was given its name by the promotoras and their clients. Translated, it means "Fountain of Friendship," and is symbolic of fountains commonly found in the plazas of Mexico's towns and cities where it is traditional for elders to gather and make observations and pass on their wisdom.

"The mandate of the Older Americans Act is to serve elders who are in the greatest need," says Project Director Gloria Musquiz. Senior farmworkers are an extremely vulnerable population, she explains, because they have spent a lifetime living in substandard housing and working under hazardous conditions for very low wages — roughly \$3,000 per year in 1985, according to the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs. The life expectancy for this population is 57, compared to the national average of 75.

They are also a difficult group to serve because they face barriers of culture, isolation, language, literacy, fear of institutions, and an historical lack of access to health care as well as other barriers commonly associated with poverty. Many are unaware that they are eligible for any services at all.

Because farmworkers generally move from farm to farm, harvest to harvest, by the time they reach their senior years, is not uncommon for them to have worked for more than 300 different employers, some of whom may not have appropriately filed employment taxes. This can add up to nightmarish bureaucracy for seniors seeking to draw on the Social Security payments they have made over the course of many years.

According to Washington County Administrator Charlie Cameron, La Fuente's focus on removing obstacles to minority access to services is compatible with the county's overall management philosophy. In fact, the county's strategic plan emphasizes innovation and risk-taking.

"Typically, government will only bite off what it thinks it can handle," he says. "But, we believe that public service is about more than balancing budgets," which is why Washington County actively encourages its departments to think as creatively as possible.

"The real innovation in the Hispanic Elder Farmworker Program," says Cameron, "is that rather than round up the usual suspects, they chose to go to the far reaches of the county to serve the most inaccessible."

In 1988, when the program began, the department had only six



Spanish surnames on its client rosters. Today it serves 108. The Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center has also seen an increase in its Hispanic senior caseload of 500 percent since La Fuente's inception.

Last year, Spanish-language training videos produced by the department to assist outreach workers won the first prize in the Training Videos category of the 1994 National Owl Media Awards that was accompanied by a \$5,000 cash award to support continued outreach efforts. One of the videos also received a Silver National Mature Media Award.

The department has also received a three-year, \$300,000 grant from the Meyer Memorial Trust to take its program on the road. Aging Services staff, along with the program's partners have developed a curriculum and are currently in the process of helping eight other jurisdictions in Oregon, Washington and Idaho to replicate the project.

According to Musquiz, the key to program's success is the solidity of the interagency partnerships Aging Services has built with its five community-based partner organizations — Oregon Legal Services, the Washington County Community Action Organization, the Oregon Human Development Corporation, the Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Clinic and Centro Cultural — which all actively make cross-referrals. The department has also forged strong ties with many private service providers.

Seeing this program in action, however, is to know that its success is also directly related to public policy that embraces diversity, dedicated program staff and a team of remarkably generous volunteers.

Says Promotora Domitila Tavera, "I do it because I want to be an example to my children. And because, when God calls me, I want to go with my hands turned upward with something to offer."

## Election '95: NACo Third VP

## CANDIDATE PROFILE:

## Kay Carsky

Ask Kay Carsky to name her favorite work of fiction and the response is immediate. Charles Dickens's *A Tale of Two Cities*.

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times," the Westchester County (N.Y.) legislator says softly, then shakes her head and smiles. "In a way, I've lived my public life by those words."

She elaborates without being prompted. "During the best times, we can't become complacent," she says. "We have to remain vigilant because things can turn about in a moment. The worst is always lurking in the best. We have to anticipate that and be ready."

"And when it seems the worst of times, we have to look deep within the situation to find the seeds to turn things around — to make the worst better and, eventually, best," she continued. "At its heart, *A Tale of Two Cities* is a tale of change and how to manage it. And it's a tale of triumph over adversity. On those levels, it's a tale that those who know and care about governing can relate to."

But Kay Carsky started relating to that long before she entered the public arena. Growing up on a farm in Herman, Neb., she learned early how to manage change and the challenges it brings.

"The land and the environment are good teachers," she recalls. "Harsh teachers sometimes, but good teachers nonetheless."

As a child, Kay experienced that firsthand. "I saved up my money and eventually was able to build my own small herd of cattle," she says. "It was the profit from that herd that paid for my education at the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture."

From college to working as a national field representative for the Pet Milk Company in St. Louis, and to meeting and, in 1959, marrying her husband, Jim, life moved quickly for Kay Carsky. So did locations. First Syracuse, next Minneapolis, and finally Yonkers, located on the border of New York City, the place where Kay and Jim settled to raise their five children.

"My family was a full-time job," Kay recalls. "With five kids all at different life stages — talk about managing change!" Still Kay found the time for other, less insular pursuits: as a trustee on the Yonkers Board of Education, followed by two years as president of the Yonkers League of Women Voters, and then, in 1980, election to the Yonkers City Council.

"Yonkers is one of the largest and most culturally diverse cities in New York state," Kay points out. "It's also one of the best places to cultivate political leadership skills. And you cultivate them fast because the training ground is tough and it's uncompromising."

Kay took over as chair of the Council's Committee on Development, where, she says, she "came to appreciate the importance of public vigilance and private integrity."

"Democracy rests on the shoulders of voters who place their faith in elected officials and elected officials must be faithful to that trust," she says, adding as punctuation, "I really believe that."

The Yonkers years were turbulent ones. The city faced major crises: school and housing desegregation lawsuits that polarized it and, as Kay describes it, "municipal bankruptcy before municipal bankruptcies became fashionable."

"I helped ease Yonkers through the most traumatic social and fiscal problems a community can face," Kay notes. "Been there, done that, and determined not to go through it again. Maybe that's why I'm so big on not only managing, but anticipating it before it blows up in your face."

In 1983, in recognition of her talent and abilities, Kay was appointed to Westchester's 17-member board of legislators, replacing Andrew P. O'Rourke, who was named county executive.

"Instead of serving 190,000 people, I was serving nearly one million people," Kay remarks. "It was a pretty big jump."

She must have handled it well. Less than a year later, she won her own term in a tough election, a scenario that would be repeated four more times with successively increasing margins of victory.

One of Kay's first board assignments was chairing its Committee on Health and the Medical Center. "I suddenly was given oversight of a large public teaching hospital with regional health care responsibilities covering seven counties," she says. "And, since 25 percent of Medicaid and welfare costs in New York state have been borne by counties, keeping the costs of this hospital under control was — and still is — a struggle."



## Betty Lou Ward

Watching North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCAACC) President and NACo third vice president candidate Betty Lou Ward that Sunday morning at the Legislative Conference, you never would have known she started that morning at 6:30 a.m. She strode into the state association executive directors breakfast to introduce herself and wish them a good conference. The day didn't end until well after midnight — 15 caucuses, receptions, breakfasts, dinners later. Yet, Betty Lou was going strong — ready to talk about the Association's Home Page Project on the Internet and listening to other states describe their innovative projects.

In a flash, out would come her business card and an offer to send more information about Wake County's award-winning

Keep America Beautiful Campaign or its state-of-the-art Geographic Information System.

That's the Betty Lou Ward North Carolina commissioners and members NACo steering committees from around the country have come to know over the years — energetic, focused, precise and totally involved.

"She's a terrific communicator," said Bob Hibbitts, incoming president of NCAACC. "She has the ability to zero in on the heart of the problem and find people on finding solutions. She seeks both consensus and clarity."

Ask her fellow association members how she can bring those sometimes overly spirited board meetings to order with few words, yet at the same time effectively draw the most reticent commissioner into the discussion.

An experienced lobbyist, she knows her way around both the stated and subtle agendas of local, state, national politics and processes. She's a grassroots lobbyist who is as comfortable chatting with members of the North Carolina General Assembly and U.S. Congress as sharing Nabs (cheese crackers) and a Coke™ with the owner of the country store in Lizard Lick, N.C.

Her ease in both settings may be the result of growing up and raising a family in what was a predominately rural county that has experienced phenomenal growth in the last 20-25 years.

Wake County has a population of 500,000. Together with the counties of Orange and Durham — whose cities comprise the two other segments of what is called the Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill Research Triangle — its population soars to more than a million. The Triangle is cited as one of the fast-growing areas in the state as well as the country. While the Triangle is noted for its high tech industries in the fields of pharmaceuticals, electronics and biotechnology, Wake County is still a major agricultural county as well.

Betty Lou was born in Person County, about 50 miles northwest of Wake County. She and her three brothers and one sister moved to Wake County, home of the state capital, Raleigh, when she was a toddler.

She received a degree in nursing and did additional course work in education, which led in large part to her long-standing advocacy on children's issues — particularly youngsters with special needs.

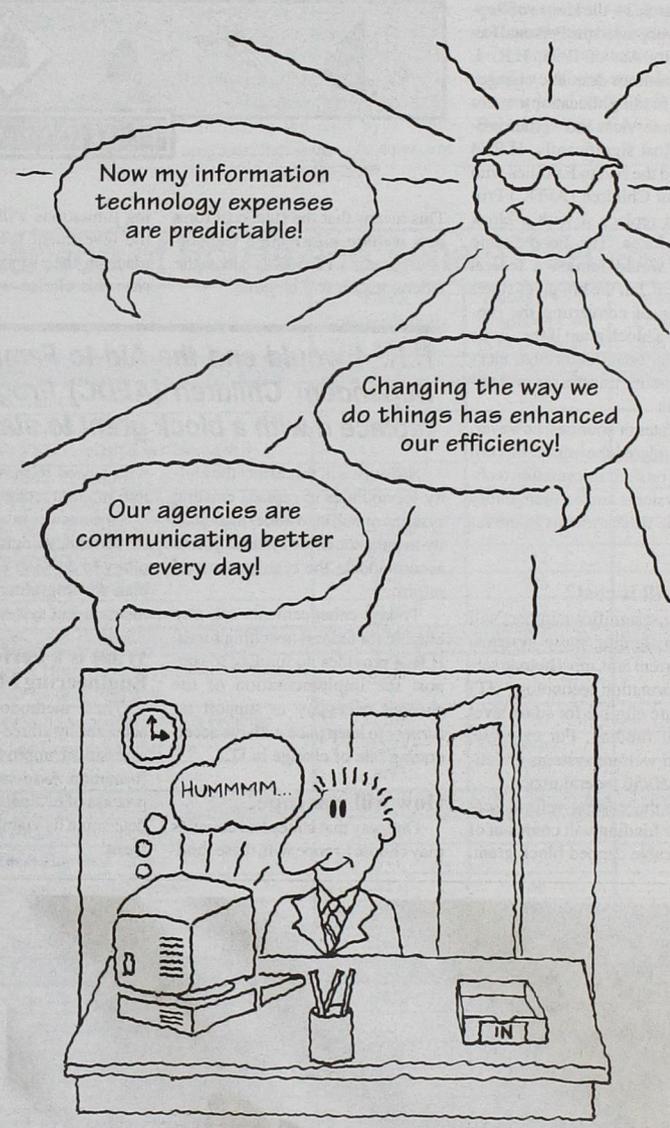
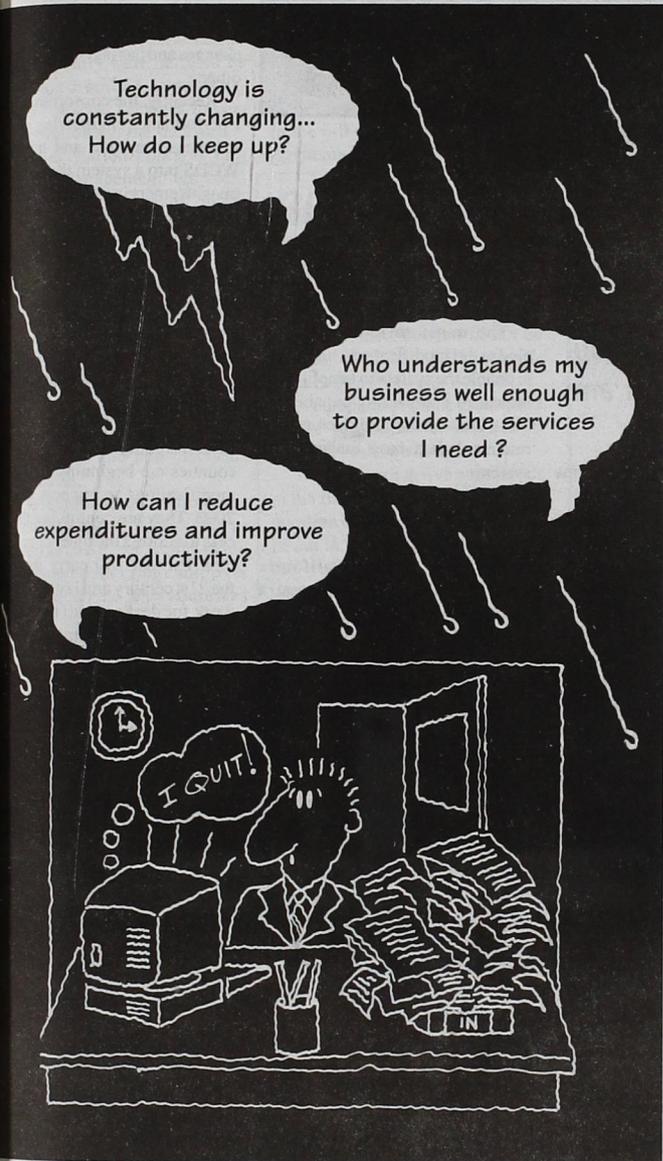
She and her husband, Bill, raised two children — Melissa and Jeff — Betty Lou found her political self evolving from managing other people's campaigns and grass-roots lobbying to actually running for county office herself.

After a stint on the City of Raleigh Planning Commission, Betty Lou ran for Wake County commissioner in 1986 and is now in her second term of office. In 1994, she became president of NCAACC after serving on numerous local, regional, state and national committees. Those include:

- NACo Health Steering Committee — vice chair
- NACo Volunteerism Task Force — chair
- NACo Federal Crime Bill Implementation Task Force — member
- NACo Science and Technology Task Force — member
- NACo Ethics Committee — member
- North Carolina State & Local Government Partnership Council — chair, appointed by North Carolina Governor James Hunt
- North Carolina Welfare Reform Task Force — member
- North Carolina Automation Policy and Planning Council — co-chair, state secretary of the Department of Human Services (the council is determining state policy and procedures to automate and coordinate delivery of health

CANDIDATE PROFILE

# DELUGED WITH TECHNOLOGY ISSUES?



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# Are you ready for welfare reform?



On March 24, the House of Representatives passed the Personal Responsibility Act of 1995, H.R. 4. The bill outlines dramatic changes in federal funding allocation to states for human services and welfare programs. Most significantly, H.R. 4 would end the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) Program and replace it with a block grant to states. The Food Stamp Program would remain a federal entitlement, but the bill gives states the option of converting the program into a block grant if they issue food stamp benefits through electronic benefits transfer on a state-wide basis.

Few states or counties, however, have considered the impact this bill will have on their information technology systems and on their ability to upgrade these systems in the future.

### What will it cost?

The most significant impact will be felt in funding these systems. Under current law, most human services information technology (IT) projects are eligible for some level of federal funding. For example, integrated welfare systems are eligible for 50/50 federal match.

Under the current reform scenario, this funding will come out of the applicable capped block grant.

This means that the state cost for a new welfare information technology system will double since the federal match will be gone.

### H.R. 4 would end the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) Program and replace it with a block grant to states.

Not only will this affect the ability for counties to replace existing systems, it will also affect their ability to enhance these systems just to accommodate the requirements of reform.

Today, enhancements are also eligible for federal matching funds. H.R. 4 provides no funding to support the implementation of the changes necessary to support reform or to keep pace with the accelerating rate of change in IT.

### How will you cope?

One way that states and counties may choose to cope with these fund-

ing limitations will be to preserve the investment they have already made in their systems. By necessity, this choice will be balanced

with a need to move their systems into modern technology.

One answer may be to employ a Performance Engineering Methodology to develop a comprehensive plan for migrating and improving their current systems.

### What is a Performance Engineering Methodology?

These methodologies are characterized by a three-phase approach: assessment, improvement and transformation. Assessment involves the process of evaluating the system to determine its viability for improvement.

The improvement phase includes performing the modifications necessary to streamline the maintenance of the existing system and make immediate performance improvements.

The transformation phase includes the modifications necessary to enable the system to benefit from improved engineering capabilities like client/server architecture and relational data base management systems.

### Who is using this methodology?

In 1968, several California counties joined to implement a welfare case management system. Today, the number of counties participating in the Welfare Case Data System (WCDS) has grown to 19 and the system has been expanded to provide support to 40 percent of California's welfare caseload.

Technology has changed dramatically since this system was originally implemented. Over the

years, the system has in many ways kept pace with some of the changes and has lagged behind others.

Recently, the consortium began a performance engineering project to assess, improve and transform WCDS into a system that can keep up with emerging technologies, increasing work loads.

The WCDS counties completed the assessment phase of identifying and prioritizing many changes to the system. These changes include a conversion to COBOL II, modifications to support the 21st century and a person-based data design among others.

To date, the conversion to COBOL II is completed and the WCDS counties are beginning the system modifications to support the 2000. They are continuing the process to address the other changes on their list that will carry them into the 21st century and lay the groundwork for dealing with the IT realities of welfare reform.

(For assistance from NACo's information technology vice, call toll-free: 800/551-2027. Any comments, questions or suggestions for future topics can be sent to: Technology News, County News, 440 First St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001, or fax 202/737-0480.)

## Look No Further.

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# TELECOMMUNICATIONS from page 1

by a 17-2 vote. The revised bill and report (S. Rep. 104-23) were released March 30. Efforts to bring the bill to a vote in the full Senate recently were derailed by opposition from the Administration and several senators to certain provisions in the measure.

The legislation contains language on management and compensation for the use of public rights-of-way that was recommended by local government groups and supported by NACo.

Put into the bill by Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-Texas), it allows local government to manage the public rights-of-way and require fair and reasonable compensation from telecommunications providers on a competitively neutral and non-discriminatory basis.

The legislation also allows local governments to collect fees in lieu of franchise fees from a video programmer delivering cable over a common carrier. This addresses telephone companies which provide cable services via video dial tone.

S. 652 does contain some language which is not in the interest of local government. It allows the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to pre-empt state and local government statutes, regulations and legal requirements which might pose a barrier to entry to telecommunications services. This could potentially allow telecommunications providers to go to the FCC if they object to public rights-of-way management and compensation requirements.

NACo is opposed to this provision and is urging that it be deleted from the bill. If a telecommunication company believes that a local government is violating the statute, it should go to court rather than have the FCC in Washington make decisions about whether local government management or compensation provisions are inconsistent with the legislation. FCC involvement is not only inappropriate, it makes the bill more regulatory and could tie up local governments for long periods of time fighting FCC action.

Additionally, while retaining the right of local governments to regulate basic cable television rates, S. 652 sharply curtails the authority of the FCC to regulate rates for the upper tiers of cable television. This could lead to higher rates for cable subscribers.

## House bill being drafted

No legislation has been introduced in the House. However, staff is drafting a proposal and the House Commerce Committee leadership is expected to release its bill at the beginning of May.

NACo has been urging members of the House Commerce

## At issue between the two bills is approximately \$5 billion in cuts targeted at different programs.

Committee to include language in the bill on allowing local governments to manage and receive

compensation for the public rights-of-way. NACo hopes that like last year's House bill, the

legislation will also require telephone companies that have video dial tone programming affiliates, or other video programmers using the phone companies' video dial tone system, to pay a fee to local governments equivalent to a franchising fee paid by a cable operator, that is up to five percent

of gross revenues.

NACo urges county officials to contact their senators and representatives concerning local government's interest in this legislation. If you would like more information on this issue, contact Bob Fogel at NACo, 202/942-4217.

# RESCISSIONS from page 1

Each bill also has a number of special programs and projects tucked into various provisions that benefit only certain states or congressional districts. It will not be easy to reconcile all of these differences between the two bills.

A comparison of the House and Senate rescissions of concern to counties is shown at right.

With fewer than five months left in the fiscal year, there is a serious question of how much will actually be cut in spending. Also, many of the rescinded moneys are unobligated, carry-over funds which probably would not have been spent this year anyway. There is a growing concern that the rescissions will be seen as only grandstanding and not as a fiscal issue.

The most immediate concern with the proposed rescissions for counties is whether the Summer Youth Jobs Program will be fully implemented this summer.

The House had rescinded summer jobs funds for both this summer and next year. The Senate restored the funds for this summer but decided to wait for the regular appropriation bill to fund the 1996 summer program.

Counties have been told by the Department of Labor that they should spend their allocated spending as if there was no pending congressional rescission. Counties are spending funds for start-up costs and are going ahead with summer hires.

The Senate has appointed the chairmen and ranking Democrats of the appropriations subcommittee as members of the conference committee.

The following Republican senators have been appointed:

Hatfield (Ore.), Stevens (Alaska), Cochran (Miss.), Specter (Pa.), Domenici (N.M.), Gramm (Texas), Bond (Mo.), McConnell (Ky.), Burns (Mont.), and Bennett (Utah).

The Democratic senators appointed include:

Byrd (W.Va.), Inouye (Hawaii), Hollings (S.C.), Johnston (La.), Leahy (Vt.), Bumpers (Ark.), Lautenberg (N.J.), Harkin (Iowa), Mikulski (Md.), Reid (Nev.), Kerrey (Neb.), Kohl (Wis.) and Murray (Wash.).

The House speaker is expected to appoint the chairmen and ranking Democrats of the appropriations subcommittees as members of the conference committee. The appointments should be made when the House reconvenes on May 1.

## Comparison of House and Senate Rescissions

	FY95 Appropriations (\$ in millions)	House FY95 Proposed Cut (\$ in millions)	Senate FY95 Proposed Cut (\$ in millions)
<b>JOB TRAINING</b>			
Adult Job Training	\$1,055	\$33	\$33
Youth Job Training	\$599	\$310*	\$472*
* includes \$200 rescission in defense bill			
Summer Youth Program	\$867	\$867	0
Summer Youth Program FY96	\$871	\$871	\$871
Displaced Worker Program	\$1,296	\$99	\$36
School-to-Work Program	\$125	\$12	\$2
Youth Fair Chance Program	\$25	\$25	\$25
One-Stop Job Training Centers	\$120	\$12	\$20
<b>HUMAN SERVICES</b>			
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program	\$1,319*	\$1,319*	0
* advanced funding for FY96			
Job Opportunities and Basic Skills Program	\$1,300	0	\$330
National and Community Service	\$577	\$416	\$105
Community Services Block Grant	\$473	\$27	\$14
<b>HEALTH</b>			
National Health Service Corps	\$125	\$12	0
Rural Health Outreach Grants	\$27	0	\$2
Rural Hospital Transition Grants	\$17	\$8	0
Healthy Start: Infant Mortality Grants	\$110	\$10	\$2
Women, Infants and Children	\$3,470	\$25	0
<b>CRIME AND DRUG CONTROL</b>			
Drug-Free and Safe Schools and Communities	\$472	\$472	0
Crime Bill prevention programs:			
- HHS Community Schools	\$26	\$26	0
- Dept. of Education Community Schools	\$11	\$11	\$11
- Drug Courts	\$29	\$28	\$17
<b>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &amp; HOUSING</b>			
Community Development Block Grant	\$4,600	\$349	0
Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS	\$186	\$186	0
Public Housing Modernization	\$3,700	\$1,157	\$615
Public Housing Operating Subsidies	\$2,900	\$404	0
Section 8 Contract Renewals	\$2,500	0	\$1,050
Incremental Rental Assistance	\$2,786	\$2,694	\$2,407
Homeless Assistance Grants	\$1,120	\$297*	0
* no cut, but delayed until Sept. 30, 1995			
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
Transit - Section 3 Discretionary	\$1,725	\$134	\$85
Grants-In-Aid for Airports	\$2,160	0	\$2,000*
* unobligated funds from previous years			
Essential Air Service	\$33	0	\$8
Local Rural Technical Assistance	\$3	\$1	0
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>			
Safe Drinking Water Loans	\$1,303	\$1,303	\$799
Local Waste Water Treatment Grants	\$780	0	\$443
Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program	\$7	\$7	\$7
Superfund	\$1,435	0	\$100
<b>EDUCATION</b>			
School-to-Work Program	\$125	\$12	\$2
Impact Aid	\$728	\$16	0
<b>RURAL DEVELOPMENT</b>			
PILT	\$105	\$5	0
Rural Housing (Section 515)	\$380	\$115	0
Technical Assistance and Planning	\$2	\$2	\$2

# Model solid waste study released by Kansas Association of Counties

By Cynthia Shultz  
research assistant

Are counties providing recycling,

composting and household hazardous waste programs? What are the county revenue sources for municipal solid waste services? Which counties still provide landfill facilities?

Are counties processing their own residential solid waste or are they shipping it out of their jurisdiction? How far are counties shipping their solid waste?

The Kansas Association of Counties and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment wanted to know the answers to these and other county solid waste questions. Their

March 1995 report, entitled "Municipal Solid Waste Management Practices in Kansas Counties: Current and Perspectives," gathered responses from 53 of the 105 Kansas counties.

Representing nearly half a million households, the study focuses on solid waste management practices during 1994 and found that those counties reporting:

- 96 percent directly deliver solid waste planning
- 49 percent operate landfill facilities
- 25 percent directly offer the residents recycling programs
- 52 percent directly offer composting programs, and
- 71 percent directly offer household hazardous waste programs.

Surprisingly enough, counties have a minor role in providing collection service to residents (only 10 percent of counties responding). Comprising 89 percent of responding cities and private contractors dominate the collection arena.

## Municipal solid waste revenue sources

Solid waste revenue totaled \$1.1 million in 1994 for the 53 responding counties. Revenues were comprised of residential assessments, landfills, transfer station fees, property taxes, contracts, parcel assessments, sales taxes, landfill surcharges, host fees, and grants. Landfill and residential assessments, comprising 31 percent of total revenue, were the largest single source of revenue for responding counties.

A distant third, transfer station fees comprised 18 percent of the solid waste revenue in 1994 for responding Kansas counties.

## Solid waste collection and cost per household

More than half (66 percent) of Kansas counties responding to the survey indicated that solid waste collection within their county was a week. The average collection for the 53 reporting counties is \$100.35 in the city, and \$164.45 in rural areas. The city collection ranged from a high of \$192 to a low of \$45. The rural range was dramatic, from \$55 to \$330.

## Landfills serving responding counties

Of the Kansas counties responding to the survey, 25 counties haul waste only to landfills within their county. Seven counties haul a portion of their waste to their own county fill and a portion of their waste to landfills in neighboring counties. Two counties export all of their solid waste, only four counties transport it farther than two counties away (none of the counties reported shipping waste out of state).

(For more information or a copy of the report, contact Paul Phillips at the Kansas Association of Counties at 913/233-2271.)

# Erie County joins Canadian peer in fighting pollution

By David George  
research assistant

Erie County, N.Y. recently made history when it signed the first-of-its-kind pollution prevention agreement with Hamilton/Wentworth, Ontario, Canada.

The agreement, signed by County Executive Dennis T. Gorski and his Canadian counterpart, Regional Municipal Chairman Terry Cooke, will assist the two communities in their fight to rid toxic waste and other pollutants from the Great Lakes Basin.

The international agreement calls for the establishment of joint pollution prevention programs and training, along with the sharing of expertise for the public and private sectors. The plan also seeks the development of a management plan for small-quantity hazardous waste generators.

Pollution prevention programs seek to reduce the generation of waste at the source as opposed to spending already limited resources to manage waste.

"The bilateral partnership offers Erie County and Hamilton/Wentworth a cost-saving mechanism for proceeding with local economic



(l-r) Terry Cooke, chairman, Hamilton/Wentworth (Ontario, Canada) Regional Municipality, and Erie County (N.Y.) Executive Dennis Gorski answer questions during news conference announcing joint anti-pollution agreement.

development plans while protecting and restoring the health of the local environment," Gorski said.

"Pollution prevention is a tool that should be used by local governments to implement industrial retention programs," added Michael Raab, deputy commissioner, Erie County Department of Environment and Planning.

Erie County began its pollution

prevention program in 1990 to provide pollution prevention and environmental compliance assistance to small and medium-sized businesses.

A recent Malcolm Pirnie survey of the county's program found that nearly 80 percent of the respondents had implemented at least one county recommendation; nearly 70 percent perceived a reduction in the amount

of waste generated, while another 43 percent of the respondents perceived a reduction in operating cost. Although adequate data that would allow for the quantification of waste and cost reductions has not yet been collected on the county's program, all early indications are good.

Even given the cost savings that these programs produce, finding resources is always difficult on the local level. This international partnership will "share the already limited resources in funding cutting-edge initiatives such as pollution prevention and sustainable planning," Gorski said.

He added that the "sharing of experiences and limited resources not only helps Hamilton/Wentworth and Erie County, but also creates opportunities for all of the smaller municipalities in western New York, southern Ontario and the Great Lakes Basin to utilize the tools the partners develop to implement strategies in their jurisdiction."

For more information on the international agreement or Erie County's pollution prevention program and its sustainable development efforts, please contact Michael Raab at 716/858-6370.

## 100 DAYS from page 1

have a major goal of making cuts in existing FY95 funding of a wide variety of federal discretionary programs.

This initial foray into relatively modest cuts of \$17.4 billion in the House and \$16.1 billion in the Senate provides a preview of the contentious battle to come over slashing some \$190.2 billion in spending over the next five years, as targeted in the House Budget Committee's proposal to balance the budget by 2002. The proposed rescissions will have an impact on county governments in the very near future, as that measure awaits final House-Senate conference action in early May.

## The next 100 days

House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) has said that the action by the House in the first 100 days of House activity is only the beginning of the battle to cut the budget and reduce the size of government. Much remains to be done between now and the next congressional recess in August.

Although the House acted on several bills identified in the contract, the president has only signed two into law: requiring Congress to comply with federal health safety and employment laws and limiting unfunded mandates on state and local governments.

The bulk of the House-passed

"contract" legislation must still be dealt with by the Senate, where it faces an uncertain future, as evidenced by the defeat of the balanced budget amendment earlier in this session. The more deliberative Senate has only approved three major contract bills—unfunded mandates, congressional reforms and the line-item veto.

The Senate demonstrated its independence by passing a different version of the line-item veto legislation and dramatically revamping the House's moratorium on regulations in favor of a congressional review process for new regulations.

The Senate has also signaled its intention of taking a different approach to the House's \$189 billion tax cut package and many of the more draconian elements of the House-passed welfare and regulatory reform measures.

In addition to a more moderate approach by the Senate the House contract legislation could face a presidential veto if the Administration determines it is too offensive to its principles of fairness and equity.

For example, the president has targeted children's and education issues for threatened vetoes, as well as proposed tax cuts for more affluent citizens earning up to \$200,000. Efforts to repeal the assault weapons ban could also force a veto by the president.

In the coming months, the most

difficult test confronting the new congressional majority will be to maintain the cohesive support which was so critical in the first 100 days, but much more difficult to hold together as they begin to propose complex, significant and politically sensitive budget cuts.

The script for the next 100 days, unlike the contract, is fraught with uncertainty and difficult choices. No longer bound by the contract agenda, many Republican members will want to deal with a number of very contentious social issues, including school prayer, abortion and repealing affirmative action programs.

Overlaying all of this is the beginning of the 1996 presidential election cycle, with several announced Republican candidates, including Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole of Kansas, and Senators Phil Gramm of Texas and Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania. The next several months will be dominated by budget and appropriations issues.

As Congress begins the FY96 budget debate in earnest, attention will focus on that one-third of the budget which includes all discretionary spending and where the 13 appropriations committees will determine funding for county programs from the Job Training Partnership Act to Community Development Block Grants. By promising to bal-

ance the budget without touching Social Security or cutting defense spending, as well as providing a middle-class tax cut, all federally funded county programs are highly vulnerable.

## Reconciliation

In order to make the deep spending reductions necessary to reduce taxes and begin to balance the budget, Congress may use a reconciliation bill to bring spending and tax policy into line with deficit-reduction objectives.

In May, Congress will prepare a budget resolution that establishes an overall cap on appropriations. It will also include reconciliation instructions that will require authorizing committees to make reductions in programs under their jurisdiction.

Because the reconciliation bill is not subject to a filibuster in the Senate, it could become the vehicle for making major changes in welfare and other social programs, such as Medicare and Medicaid. Indeed, entire agencies like Housing and Urban Development or Commerce could be eliminated in a reconciliation bill.

The president would then be confronted with the difficult decision of whether to veto an omnibus piece of legislation that includes not only reforms and programs he supports, but also significant changes and reforms he opposes.

# Counties and the Contract with America

## Contract Legislation

## NACo Position

### Anti-Crime

#### Law Enforcement Block Grant Title

The legislation creates a \$10 billion flexible Law Enforcement Block Grant with a 10 percent match. The funds may be used for all functions of the criminal justice system, including law enforcement, prevention, courts and corrections. The formula for distributing funds at the substate level targets high crime areas and population, but fails to credit counties for the expenditures they make within high crime areas. However, if a serious disparity is found between allocations to cities and counties, the bill encourages local jurisdictional negotiations. This, however, does not change the formula. The Senate legislation provides for an \$8.5 billion block grant to the states, but requires states to allocate 85 percent of the funds to units of local government. The Senate bill does not contain any formula to guide the local distribution process. Unlike the House version, the Senate block grant may only be used for law enforcement.

The Senate Judiciary Committee is expected to hold a hearing on the crime block grant in early May.

NACo strongly opposes the House block grant formula, but supports the concept of flexible block grant funding. NACo supports equity in funding between criminal justice functions and levels of government and funding incentives to promote collaboration among local units of government.

#### Violent Criminal Incarceration Act of 1995

The bill increases federal grants for state and local corrections from last year's \$7.9 billion to \$10.5 billion, but attaches more stringent conditions to the aid. Half the money would go for grants to states that can show they are increasing prison time for violent offenders; the other half would be available for states with very strong "truth-in-sentencing" policies. Persons charged with serious crimes would have to complete 85 percent of their sentence.

States could use up to 15 percent of their grants for local jail facilities if they adopt tough pre-trial detention and bail policies. States would also be required to consult and share funds with counties where there is a backup of state inmates in county jails.

While the House bill contains language that requires states to address local jail backups caused by state inmates and to share funds with counties, its focus is overwhelmingly centered on expanding physical space as opposed to better management of existing space. NACo also opposes the House intention to shift an additional \$2.6 billion from prevention and law enforcement to prisons. NACo believes that sentencing decisions should be determined by state legislators and not by Congress.

### Welfare Reform

One of the major elements of the Contract with America is welfare reform. Legislation passed by the House would: cap block grants with no individual entitlement for cash assistance, child care, child protection and some nutrition programs; create time limits; restrict the use of federal funds for children born to parents on welfare, teenage mothers and their children, legal immigrants, and disabled children; and strengthen child support enforcement.

The savings from the House bill, estimated at more than \$60 billion over five years, are used to pay for the House-passed tax cut. The implications for counties are enormous; the program caps and the restrictions would result in serious cost shifts to county governments.

The Senate is not expected to include many of the provisions of the House bill in its welfare reform package, however, there is support for a food stamp block grant — which was dropped from the House bill.

NACo believes cost shifts such as capping federal entitlement programs will increase state and local payments for programs such as Medicaid and Aid to Families with Dependent Children and Foster Care, and opposes limiting the use of federal funds for legal immigrants, teenage mothers and their children, or children born to parents on welfare.

### Unfunded Mandates and Regulatory Reform

On March 22, the president signed into law the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act of 1995, which is expected to curb the practice of imposing an unlimited number of mandates on state and local governments.

Starting Oct. 1, Congress will be required to either pay for any new mandate estimated to cost \$50 million or more annually or take a separate recorded vote to impose the cost on states and localities.

### Regulatory Freeze

The House-passed legislation imposes an indefinite freeze on all federal regulations issued since last November. The moratorium would remain in effect until Congress completes action on a number of regulatory reform measures.

The Senate passed a modified version of the bill that would give Congress veto authority to block the implementation of future regulations if they are considered contrary to congressional intent, overly costly or burdensome. Conferees are likely to settle on a compromise similar to the Senate version.

### Regulatory Reform

The House passed two bills that would require federal agencies to conduct a cost-benefit analysis and scientific risk assessment before issuing new rules to prove that the benefits to be derived from a proposed regulation outweighs the costs. Senate committee action is pending. These proposals are intended to provide more flexibility to state and local governments and reduce stringent and costly regulatory requirements.

NACo supports legislative and regulatory reforms based on objective scientific assessment of risk to health and safety, allowing flexibility in meeting regulatory requirements.

### Paperwork Reduction

The House and Senate approved final legislation on April 6 that sets a goal of 10 percent for the federal government to reduce paperwork requirements for state and local governments and the private sector in the first two years, and five percent thereafter. The president has indicated he will sign the bill.

### Balanced Budget Amendment

The House of Representatives passed the balanced budget constitutional amendment, but the Senate failed by a vote to get a two-thirds majority needed to pass the amendment. The Senate is likely to consider the amendment again in this Congress, and it is possible that it may pass.

The House leadership has stated its intention to pass budget resolutions and other necessary legislation to balance the budget by 2002 in the absence of a balanced budget amendment. The budget for FY96 would include spending cuts and changes in entitlement programs as the first step of a seven-year plan.

NACo believes that in order for a balanced budget to be equitable, all elements of the federal budget must be considered for deficit reduction, not just domestic discretionary spending. NACo opposes shifting the burden of paying for federal programs and services to local property taxes, which would occur if county governments become responsible for these programs.

# NACo satellite broadcast stirs up counties nationwide

By Lois Kampinsky  
telecommunications  
and training director

On April 6, at exactly 1 p.m. eastern time, thousands of community members around the country turned their satellite dishes and their attention to NACo's broadcast, "Mobilizing Communities for Children." All were intent on seeing examples of collaborative work and what other counties have done to turn things around for their youngest citizens.

The broadcast featured children's advocate Marian Wright Edelman and real-life examples of situations of communities that have changed life for the better for children. It was one of many efforts by NACo to bring the plight of children to the attention of local officials — leaders who are in positions to take action.

The core of the broadcast featured models from Marion County, Ore.; Chatham County/Savannah, Ga.; and Bexar County/San Antonio, Texas. In each, community representatives showed a five-minute videotape documenting local progress, explained how they worked with community stakeholders — schools, citizens, city officials, social service workers and caregivers — and took live questions from county officials and other audience members around the nation.

The moderator led off each question and answer segment by asking each representative: the steps they took to knit the community together, the types of mea-

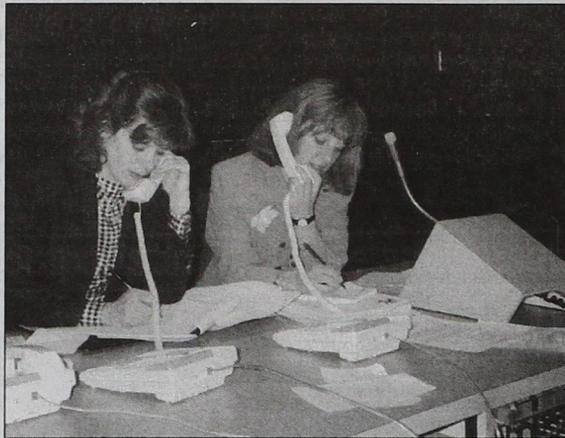


Photo by Traci Dove

(l-r) Human Services Senior Project Director Sandra Reinsel-Markwood and Telecommunications Director Lois Kampinsky take callers' questions during NACo's satellite teleconference, "Mobilizing Communities for Children."

***"We can't afford to have young mothers, many of whom are still children themselves, having children, and young men fathering children without a sense of responsibility for their future."***

Randy Franke  
NACo president

surements they used to gauge success, and the results they obtained.

NACo President Randy Franke, commissioner, Marion County, Ore., and Cathy Garland, director of the Marion County Commission on Children and Families, detailed the progress in their community. Otis Johnson,

executive director of the Youth Futures Authority, and David Saussy, commissioner, represented the efforts of Chatham County.

San Antonio Fighting Back Board Member Candy Beltram and Executive Director Beverly Watts-Davis took inquiries about their community's strides on behalf of children.

Preceding the three county models and their representatives, both sides of the political aisle put local problems into a national perspective and called for local leadership to weigh in for children. NACo President Randy Franke and Marian Wright Edelman, president and founder of the Children's Defense Fund, each outlined the dramatic problems facing our children and our nation today.

Franke has been pivotal in achieving action on children's issues as chair of Marion County's Commission on Children and Families and vice chair of his

state's commission. He assailed the poverty, crime and violence that children suffer and the waste of human resources they entail. (See "Every Day in America," at right.)

"We can't afford to have young mothers, many of whom are still children themselves, having children, and young men fathering children without a sense of responsibility for their future. We can't find enough foster families to care for all of the abused and neglected children. We can't afford to build enough jails to house all of the teenagers who are turning to crime and violence as a result of drugs and despair. And we can't build a stable national economy if parents don't have jobs and children don't acquire the skills they need to enter the work force," Franke commented.

Later, in summarizing the hour-and-a-half program, Franke called for a new style of leadership, one that forges collaborations and shares the risks of leadership. He urged officials and others to ask themselves if what they are doing has been successful and how a collaborative process within the community could improve things.

He called on them to assess what needs to be done and to use specific benchmarks that would indicate progress. He also suggested a think tank approach to bring people together to start the collaborative process.

Edelman, who is internationally recognized for her unrelenting effort on behalf of children for more than 20 years, cited neglect of children and their struggling families, repeated grim national statistics, and called on community leaders to help change them. "One-third of American children are in danger," she said. Noting that public policy has not kept up with social change, she added, "We cannot afford not to invest in quality child care and mechanisms to enable parents to work."

Edelman called for innovation in communities across the country, asking community members to audit what is available to children locally and to "build our efforts into a powerful force."

She added that communities need to celebrate the good things that children and youth are doing instead of only lamenting the bad.

## Every Day in America

- 8,441 teens become sexually active.
- 2,756 teens become pregnant.
- 1,340 babies are born to teen mothers.
- 2,754 babies are born out of wedlock.
- 638 babies are born to mothers receiving late or no prenatal care.
- 2,685 babies are born into poverty.
- 742 babies are born at low birthweight (less than 5.5 pounds).
- 107 babies die before their first birthday.
- 248 children are arrested for violent crimes.
- 176 children are arrested for drug abuse.
- 427 children are arrested for alcohol abuse or drunk driving.
- 10,988 public school students are suspended each school day.
- 2,250 students ages 12 to 24 drop out each school day.
- Two children younger than five are murdered.

She also urged religious and other institutions to focus on children's positive contributions.

One of the measures of success of the broadcast is whether communities use it as a springboard for action. According to the evaluations of the broadcast, most communities that took part in the teleconference are planning on doing just that.

### Materials on Children's Issues for Sale

The "Mobilizing Communities for Children" videotape of the teleconference is being sold for \$30, including shipping and handling.

To order, fill out and send in the form below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Quantity Ordered \_\_\_\_\_ (@ \$30 each)

You may pay by check or credit card. Make checks payable to the National Association of Counties.  
 MasterCard or Visa \_\_\_\_\_

Acct. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Send this form and payment to:  
 Satellite Broadcast Videotape  
 National Association of Counties  
 P.O. Box 79007  
 Baltimore, MD 21279-007

Or call John Bonkowski, training assistant, at 202/942-4216.

- A "Best Practices Guide" on children's issues will be published by late April. It features 20 communities that are making inroads for children. For information, call Sandy Markwood, human services senior project director, at 202/942-4235.

## Teleconference Contacts

**Marion County, Ore.**  
 Cathy Garland, director  
 Marion County Commission on  
 Children and Families  
 100 High St., NE  
 Salem, OR 97301  
 Phone: 503/588-5212

**Chatham County/  
 Savannah, Ga.**  
 Otis Johnson, Ph.D.,  
 executive director  
 Youth Futures Authority  
 316 East Bay St.  
 Savannah, GA 31401  
 Phone: 912/651-6810

**Bexar County/San  
 Antonio, Texas**  
 Beverly Watts-Davis,  
 executive director  
 San Antonio Fighting Back  
 850 E. Diexal  
 San Antonio, TX 78210  
 Phone: 210/533-6592

# Ohio commissioner recalls her welfare journey

## Correction

In the April 10 edition of County News, some text was inadvertently left out of the story entitled, "Ohio commissioner recalls her welfare journey." We are reprinting the story in its entirety, which follows.

By Commissioner Martha Dorsey  
Clermont County, Ohio



Martha Dorsey

The welfare system in the 1990s is very different from the one in place in the 1960s. I've seen both systems, and for a few years in the early 1960s, I lived within the welfare system. Job training led me out of that system. I will never forget what I learned.

In a sense, my experience is a perfect example of the difference between welfare then and now. Then, in the 1960s, it was embarrassing to be on public assistance. Now, too often, just being on welfare can be a career. More and more children grow up expecting the government to support them. This needs to change.

My family's history was of the "poor but proud" variety. When I was born in 1930, my father owned a small grocery store in Mt. Adams (a Cincinnati neighborhood). Our family lived above the store. My mother left a job as a registered nurse to raise four children.

Life was hard. By the time I was born, my mother had carried four children in five years, with two of those five arriving stillborn. (And, in those days, another mouth to feed wasn't necessarily a cause for joy.)

In 1940, my parents had moved to Bellevue, Ky. with four children, and my father bought another grocery store.

Then World War II started and life changed dramatically. My father moved our family to the country where we could be assured, at least, that we'd have enough food while he worked in a war plant in Cincinnati. I was a teenager during the war and it was an adolescence few teens would want today. Food, gas and tires were rationed. We were allowed just two pairs of shoes each year.

I graduated from high school in 1947 and worked in department stores until my marriage in 1948 to a "tall, dark and handsome" Texan construction worker. We had four children between 1949 and 1956, and the romance eventually turned to abuse, infidelity, alcoholism and an inability to hold a job and support a family. During this difficult time, I also cared for my mother at home, who was dying of cancer.

Divorced in 1961, I found myself with four children to support. I had no income and no job skills. Devastated by the failure of the marriage, I also was disgraced and embarrassed to be on welfare. Even when times were hard during the depression, my father never took

I was appointed by Governor Richard Celeste to serve on the Ohio Retirement Study Commission from 1989 to 1991 and by Governor George Voinovich to serve on the State and Local Government Commission from 1992 through 1998.

Now, in the spring of 1995, I can see the welfare system through eyes that lived in the system in the 1960s, and have seen it slowly change since then. Here are some of my observations:

- The change began in the 1960s with the Great Society's programs to help people help themselves out of poverty. The premise was good. What has developed since then is a system of entitlements.

- I see another symbolic problem. We use the word "rehabilitate" as if it's the answer to getting people off welfare. Rehabilitate means to take someone back to where they were before. You cannot rehabilitate someone who has never been "habilitated."

- You see this type of person too often in 1995. Many people in our country have only known generational welfare, and believe they are entitled to being supported by government programs. It is patently

unfair to the child and to those supporting the child — the American taxpayer. Benefits should not increase with the addition of new children after a family goes on welfare, unless there is a pregnancy in progress at that time.

- These government programs are paid for by taxes taken from the wages of working people. Working people have a right to expect their housing to be up to the same standards and their ability to purchase goods and services to be on the same level as those benefiting from welfare programs paid for by taxes taken from the workers.

- Anyone can need assistance at some time in their lives. Public assistance is properly used at these times. It is not meant to be a way of life. There are those who are incapable of making their way because of circumstances beyond their control. No one begrudges that help.

- A hand up, not a handout still rings true. No job that pays a salary should go begging for someone to fill it. Many low-paying, seasonal and temporary jobs are good training grounds for establishing good work habits. Most of us have had these jobs at some time in our lives, and perhaps

still do, to make ends meet.

- The government can work as a gap filler for those who are willing to start somewhere in the workplace, subsidizing as needed: jobs, daycare, transportation, health care, food, etc.

- The public and private sectors need to restore opportunities for people to help themselves get where they need to be. The community is the best place to start, where neighbor knows neighbor and where people are willing to help those they know. There are many local agencies and organizations well suited to this type of endeavor.

The federal government is considering sending block grant funding back to the states for disbursement and delivery of services at the local level. The state needs to involve local governments, agencies and organizations from the beginning in planning delivery of needed services.

Much has been said about people's self-esteem. The more sufficient you are, the more self-esteem you have. Our challenge is to help people attain this goal.

(Dorsey is president of the Clermont County Board of Commissioners.)

## COUNTIES CELEBRATE from page 2

### Kane County, Ill.

Students from local 4-H organizations "shadowed" county officials, and attended a county board meeting and a luncheon.

### Cumberland County, N.C.

The board of commissioners honored veteran county employees with a ceremony presenting service pins to them. The County Assessor's Office provided a tour to 12 junior high school students and instructed them on mass appraisal. These students received one-on-one instruction from a county appraiser and, upon completion, received a certificate awarding them the title of "Junior Appraiser."

The board of commissioners also gave up their parking spaces to employees during the week.

### Coffey County, Kan.

Citizens enjoyed "coffey" and donuts with county commissioners on April 3, followed by tours of the courthouse. Door prizes were given to five of those people registered for tours. Also, news releases and a special county government page were run in the local newspaper.

### Murray County, Minn.

School students "shadowed" county officials. County nurses held a free blood pressure clinic. Tours were held at the recycling center. County commissioners were on hand to explain the work of county government, provide information and give out boat

safety coloring books.

### Pike County, Pa.

An open house was held at county offices on April 8. Schools were invited to tour offices during the week. A citizen "suggestion box" program was started and a raffle of county history books was held.

### El Paso County, Colo.

A news release was issued featuring programs that directly affect the lives of children. These programs primarily fall under the county departments of health and social services and the District Attorney's Office. NCGW was the same week as Public Health Week which permitted a tie-in with public health programs.

### Palm Beach County, Fla.

A display at a local mall showed services provided by the county and included free fingerprinting of children. High school students from the criminal justice program held a mock murder trial. Middle school students participated in a mock public hearing and were able to address questions concerning the environment, gangs, future jobs and after-school programs to members of the board of county commissioners and the school board.

### Lawrence County, Mo.

Tours of the courthouse were held in conjunction with the county's sesquicentennial ceremonies. Lawrence County's first

county court met on April 7, 1845.

### Jackson County, Ore.

High School students "shadowed" county employees in the annual Student Government Day activities. Students visited offices and ended the program with lunch at an exposition park. The program included both employee and student speakers.

### Cass County, N.D.

A public groundbreaking ceremony which will begin a remodeling project of the county courthouse front entrance highlighted the activities.

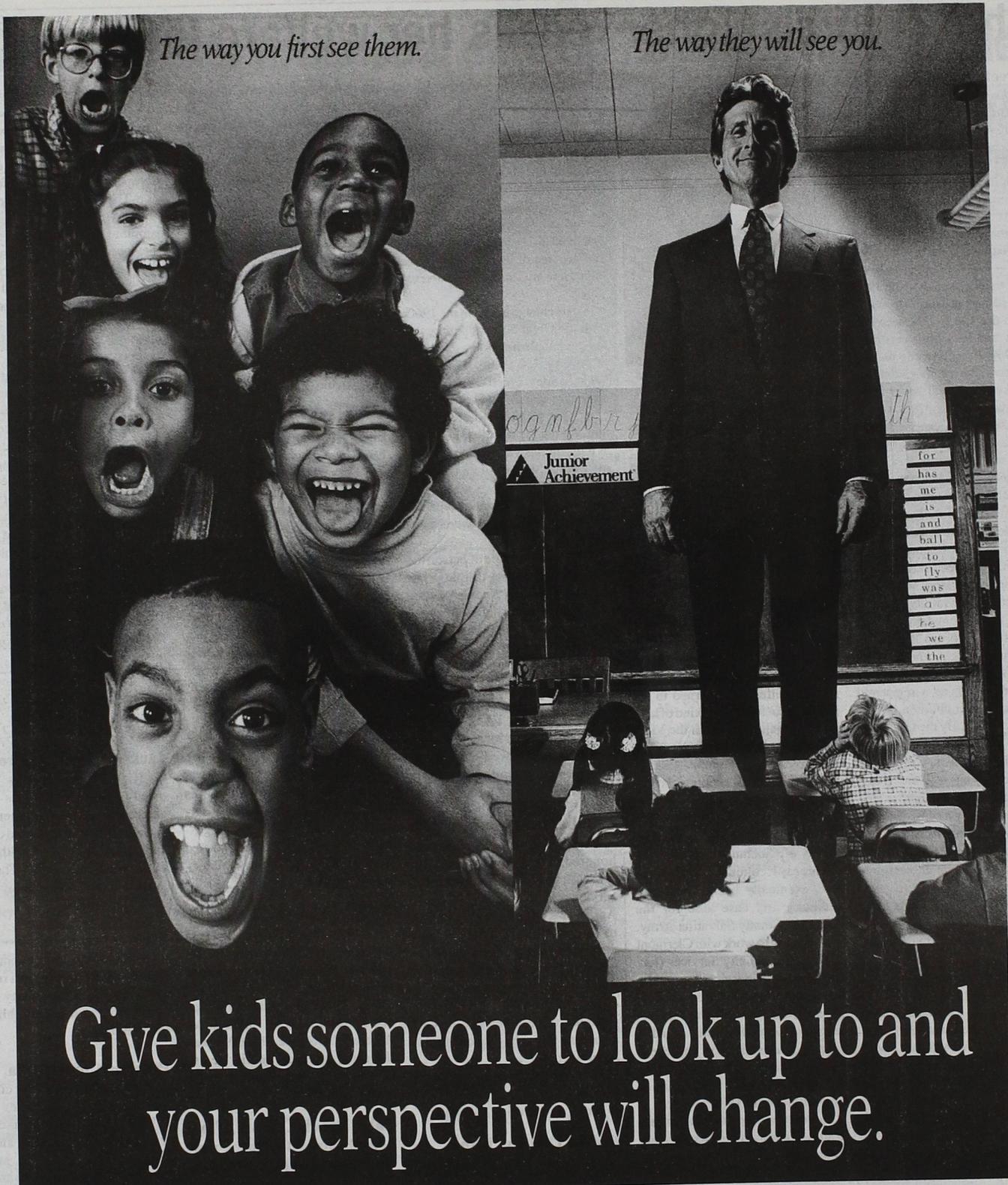
### Pinellas County, Fla.

"Go See" bus tours for citizens visiting county facilities were held. The day-long tours included transportation, lunch, snacks, written materials, tour guides, speakers, demonstrations and displays.

### Calhoun County, Iowa

Special sections on NCGW and county government programs and services were published in two county newspapers — *The Calhoun County Journal-Herald* and *The Calhoun County Advocate*.

Counties which issued proclamations included: Rapides Parish, La.; Bucks County, Pa.; Scott County, Minn.; Del Norte County, Calif.; Kittitas County, Wash.; and Somerset County, N.J.



*The way you first see them.*

*The way they will see you.*

# Give kids someone to look up to and your perspective will change.

It is a little scary the first time you walk into that elementary classroom. Then you see how they see you. And you remember you're there for the kids—to help them get started thinking about their future careers and how to make the

most of their education. So by the end of the class, you'll feel like you really are 10 feet tall.

To find out more about the new Junior Achievement elementary school volunteer program, call 1-800-THE-NEW-JA.



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# 1995 National GeoData Forum scheduled for May 7

The 1995 National GeoData Forum will be held May 7-10 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Crystal City, Va. Individuals from all levels of government, the private sector and the academic community will help shape the future of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI).

More efficient access to high-quality geospatial data critical to geographic information systems is expected to result from coordination strategies and cooperative ventures forged at this meeting.

Forum participants will help design a long-range plan for the NSDI and set priorities for short-term actions.

The forum provides opportunities for participants to interact with key decision-makers and peers in government, academia and industry.

Keynote speakers, panel sessions and plenary presentations will address such topics as building partnerships, providing access to geospatial data, identifying policies and standards, and how the NSDI will make a difference. Forum attendees will also take part in training workshops, interactive sessions and special interest group discussions.

## Local government sector activities

Tuesday, May 9, 1:30-5 p.m.

What can geospatial data bring to the process of predicting and managing change in local municipalities? What is the role of the NSDI in this process?

How can geospatial issues such as cost recovery, confidentiality, standards and institutional responsibilities be addressed by local governments?

Panels of local elected officials, GIS/MIS managers and researchers will focus on these questions.

## Session 1 Panel Geospatial Applications for Local Government

Current applications for spatial information data bases in local government are the tip of the iceberg; larger, more powerful uses are yet to emerge.

What can spatial information data bases bring to the process of predicting and managing change in small towns, large metropolitan areas and all political subdivisions in between? What is the role of the NSDI in this process?

led by a panel of local elected officials and GIS/MIS managers and researchers who work with local governments, this session will focus on the common interests that all local jurisdictions have in developing new and better uses for spatial information.

## Session 2 Panel Geospatial Policy Issues

## for Local Government

The need to incorporate geospatial applications into almost all realms of local government raises issues which must be addressed by all levels of government.

These issues revolve around

such areas as common policies for cost recovery, confidentiality of data collected, common needs for standards or geodetic orientation, provision of federal geospatial data to local governments, and fundamental "rules of the road" for the collection and

dissemination of spatial data.

A panel of local elected officials and GIS/MIS managers and researchers, who work with local governments, will discuss these issues with the goals of determining how local governments can help shape the national infrastruc-

ture of data bases, standards and policies which will be built over the next 10 years.

For more information, contact the Federal Geographic Data Committee Secretariat, 590 National Center, Reston, VA 22092, fax: 703/648-5755, Internet: gdc@usgs.gov.

# Wetlands dry up at USDA, as designations put on hold

By Philip A. Rosenlund  
NACo fellow

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will halt all agriculture wetlands determinations effective immediately, according to the newly appointed secretary of agriculture, Dan Glickman. The USDA has lead responsibility on agricultural wetlands since passage of the 1990 farm bill.

Further identification of lands will be put on hold until the 1995 farm bill is completed, which is expected this fall.

Glickman said it is the Administration's intent to work with Congress to get wetlands issues in agriculture resolved in the 1995 farm bill.

"We want to avoid causing farmers the confusion and uncertainty that would occur if USDA made a determination now and had to return next year with

changes that could occur with the development of the new farm bill."

Existing wetlands determinations are still valid, according to Jim Lyons, undersecretary for natural resources and environment at USDA. "What we're saying is that we are not going to make any new decisions on wetlands until we and Congress have had a chance to review, and if appropriate, revise current policy," he said.

Full review of wetland regulation policy by both the House and Senate Agriculture committees is scheduled this year.

The moratorium on wetlands does not affect land already regulated by the "swamp-busting" provisions of the 1985 farm bill or Section 404 Clean Water Act permits. Section 404 prevents the discharge of fill material into the waters of the United States without first receiving a permit from the Corp of Engineers.

## CARSKY from page 6

During this time, Kay's husband died after a lingering illness. "It was a devastating personal loss." She pauses, then continues. "But out of loss can come understanding. Having experienced the health care system, its strengths and its weaknesses, in a very intimate way, I was more determined than ever to improve it for the people of my county."

Another instance of finding the best of times in the worst?

"I guess in retrospect I would say that," she concedes. "I'm not sure that's what I was thinking then, but maybe on a subconscious level that's what was happening."

In 1989, Kay, a Republican-Conservative, and a number of her board colleagues on both sides of the aisle, having grown frustrated with the partisan acrimony that existed in the legislature, staged a "coup" and installed a bipartisan leadership that brought a totally new philosophy to county government.

"Wasn't it Jefferson who said

that we need a little revolution every now and then?" Kay asks.

That's when Kay took over as head of the board's powerful Budget and Appropriations Committee, responsible for overseeing a \$1 billion budget and nearly 10,000 county workers.

"I also was entrusted with preserving Westchester's Triple A bond rating while keeping necessary public services intact and maintaining the county's high quality of life," Kay says. "Looking back at it, maybe Jefferson was a little hasty."

Kay went from the Budget Committee to a term as vice chair of the board. But, with difficult economic times facing counties — and drastic fiscal shifts occurring on the federal and state levels — Kay's colleagues prevailed upon her to once again take up the financial reins.

However, Kay hasn't been content to confine her activities to one of the country's largest and most visible counties.

"I've become progressively involved with NACo over the years because I found interacting with county officials from all over the nation has broadened my vision and given me deeper insights on how to better govern at home," she explains.

Within NACo, she presently serves as chair of the Medicaid/Indigent Care Subcommittee and as vice chair of the Welfare Reform Coordinating Committee. In 1993-1994, she chaired the Labor and Employee Benefits Steering Committee and prior to that was a member of the Health Steering Committee for four years.

"I'm committed to NACo," Kay says. "It's the best resource we have to help us manage the change that county officials will inherit."

And just what is it she foresees?

"Counties will be where the buck stops, where the mandated cuts from Washington, D.C. and the statehouses will have to be

handled," she says. "The levels of government above the counties are in shedding frenzy right now. The levels of government below counties are growing ever more fearful that they'll have to pick up what's been shed and they can't afford to."

"NACo's the best vehicle to build a national county consensus," she continues, "to explain the problems of one region to another and to transmit the successes of one county to another. NACo will also be the organization that focuses the county message for Congress, and that's crucial. In short, I'm committed to my own county. And I know that during these rapidly changing times, the prospects for its future will be brighter with a strong and vocal NACo."

And these rapidly changing times, are they the best or the worst?

"Right now, they are what we make them," Kay says. "And that's precisely why I'm running for this national office."

## WARD from page 6

services statewide)

North Carolina Council on Disabilities — member

North Carolina Communities in Schools Program — trustee, and Wake County Education Foundation Board — member.

Her wide-ranging background serves her well as counties and citizens move toward the fast-paced information society — where citizens can book airline tickets on the America On-Line computer service in a flash and review their financial portfolio with a touch of the button. And they've come to expect and increasingly demand the same quick action and access from local governments. Candidate Ward sees

that as an opportunity for local governments.

"This challenges government to work harder and be more efficient. We all need to re-evaluate how and what we communicate, not only between counties and citizens, but with each other — county to county, NACo to county, state associations to NACo. We are already making great strides, but there are even more opportunities ahead."

For instance, the NCACC has formed a partnership with the Institute of Government of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to log onto the information highway with a Home Page. Created especially for NCACC and designed with county

officials in mind, the Association's Home Page offers people across the state and nation access to information about local government.

Another North Carolina technology project, which has received attention nationwide, is the Human Services Automation Policy and Planning Council (HAPP), which is working to completely automate human services delivery systems at the local and state level.

In North Carolina, counties are responsible for a large component of social services, mental health/substance abuse services, and public health. All have experienced skyrocketing cost in-

creases. Automation will reduce paperwork, duplication, caseloads and potentially curb the astronomical increases.

"The HAPP Council has been an extraordinary experience because we [counties] were key players with the state from the beginning. That exchange must happen on both the state and national level because virtually every decision made has an effect on our homes and people.

"People want their public officials to play that role. They want us to have a broad base of knowledge and be effective decision-makers — especially on the tough issues. That is what leadership and public service is all about."

# Financial Services Center readies new services

By Steve Swendiman  
Financial Services Center director

NACo's Financial Services Center (FSC) expects to roll out three new services within the next month that promise to give counties more fiscal flexibility, better compliance with federal law, and increased purchasing and leasing power.

The new services, which are in the final stages of development, include an arbitrage rebate compliance/investment program, a national anticipation note program, and a cooperative purchasing/small-lease financing program.

## Arbitrage Rebate Compliance/Investment of Funds Program

During the focus groups hosted by the FSC in 1994, county treasurers highlighted the need for a program to assist counties with arbitrage rebate compliance services and to provide safe and reasonable yields on investment of bond proceeds.

The federal government requires issuers of tax-exempt bonds and notes to refund any earnings on the proceeds of the funds that exceed the interest rate of the bonds or notes to the U.S. government. Compliance with this requirement has become more com-



*Each proposed service must pass through a series of developmental phases before it is authorized by the FSC board of directors.*

plex as the Treasury Department has added to the regulatory nature of rebate.

The FSC program provides both compliance services and investment services to assure that the county not only complies with federal law, but also is able to keep allowable earnings from bond proceeds.

In addition, the program offers the county investment alternatives for reserve funds and for other county funds which assure security, liquidity and yields within

the county's investment policies.

The FSC has selected two firms through the competitive process with which to offer this service and will conclude contract negotiations by April 30.

## National Anticipation Note Program

Counties and other local entities often receive taxes and revenues in uneven allocations, causing the need for cash flow borrowing to carry expenses during periods of negative cash. Treasurers and auditors utilize tax-

exempt anticipation notes to fund these working capital borrowings.

Many small and medium-sized jurisdictions, however, cannot afford the costs of borrowing, thus they pay higher bank rates, lose interest on reserves, or otherwise incur greater costs. A note program would allow many counties to join together to economically issue anticipation notes and enjoy savings and/or net earnings.

The anticipated structure is a state structure that brings counties (and possibly cities, special districts and schools) together to create a large note issue.

The borrowing would typically occur for 12 months, and the issue date would most often be at the beginning of the fiscal year of the counties. An investment vehicle would be provided to assure that counties maximized yields during the borrowing period, as legal arbitrage may be kept by the counties.

Requests for proposals were received in February and five firms were selected to offer the program. The program design and contract issues will be completed by mid-May. A survey of state associations is being analyzed to determine which states have the greatest opportunity to offer this program.

## Cooperative Purchasing/Small-Lease Financing Program

In an era of diminishing resources, the ability of a county to purchase wisely is critical. Cooperative or bulk purchasing systems exist in various parts of the country. Some states offer counties the opportunity to buy off state contracts. However, the purchasing power of the 3,200 counties is not harnessed in any single program.

By combining the purchasing power of large counties and by offering access to all counties, the FSC can provide a vehicle for significant savings on large commodities, such as office furniture and equipment, fleet automobiles and trucks, computer equipment and software, and various other products.

The program structure will emulate the existing program structure of the California Statewide Communities Development Authority. Public entities will be used as the bidding agent and will bid on behalf of all counties, county employees and retirees across the nation.

To the extent that local bidding regulations require that the bid be done by a local, in-state jurisdiction, bid documents would be made available to the local entity. The program may bid on the local bids, or the private sector companies may resubmit the

bids made on the national program.

Counties acquire equipment, and in some cases land and buildings, through the use of leases. Often these leases are provided by vendors at taxable rates or by banks at high interest costs. A small-lease finance program would complement the cooperative purchasing program by offering a financing device that provides tax-exempt rates on amounts from \$10,000 to \$1 million. Departments that acquire leases for equipment, such as furniture, computers, software, vehicles and heavy equipment, will benefit from the program.

An FSC-sponsored program will provide the necessary continuity between the cooperative purchasing program and a financing device that brings economies of scale and low-interest costs to counties. The large market for producing these leases will bring both interest costs and front-end fees down dramatically.

The FSC is presently negotiating with an existing state association program to offer the program nationwide. Additionally, requests for proposals were received on April 7 for the small-lease program. The FSC expects to select a small-lease provider by May 15.

## Service product development

Each proposed service must pass through a series of developmental phases before it is authorized by the FSC board of directors.

First, a new service must offer a unique, value-added service to counties, county employees or retirees. The FSC has no interest in providing a service that is presently offered to counties through other vehicles, unless the FSC can provide that service more efficiently and economically.

Next, the new service must meet specific criteria. Services must offer value to a broad range of counties. The service is tested for financial applicability. Finally, the service must provide a positive revenue flow to the counties, the state associations and the FSC.

Once the board has agreed to a service or product meets the criteria, a formal request for proposals is released and service providers are asked to provide program design, pricing and marketing proposals. A team of qualified reviewers judge the proposals and may interview finalists.

Finally, a recommendation made to the board of directors and a contract or letter of agreement is signed by the FSC and a successful proposer.

(For more information about NACo Financial Services Center's programs, please contact Steve Swendiman at 202/942-4282.)

# Association of Indiana Counties appoints Michael Davis as executive director

Michael K. Davis, deputy mayor of Bloomington, Ind., has been named executive director for the Association of Indiana Counties (AIC).

The position has been vacant since former director Chris Lowery resigned to accept a position with Hillenbrand Industries earlier this year.

Since 1987, Davis has served as deputy mayor to Mayor Tomilea Allison who did not seek re-election this year. Davis has held positions as assistant city attorney and law clerk in the

Monroe County Attorney's Office. He earned his law degree from Indiana University, has completed graduate work in public affairs at the University of Texas, and received a B.S. in public administration from Indiana University. Davis and his wife Bonnie have two children, Andrew, 8, and Patrick, 6.

In making the announcement, AIC President and Bartholomew County Treasurer Sue Paris said, "Mike Davis brings a well balanced combination of educational and public service experience to our association. Our board of directors initiated a strenuous selection process involving a search committee of elected officials and personnel professionals who narrowed the pool of applicants. "Finalists made presentations before over 30 elected county officials from around the state, who serve on the AIC board of directors," Paris explained. "Mike impressed us as a person who understands local government issues, someone with excellent research and communication skills, all of which will be put to good use in promoting the interests of the AIC."

Monroe County Attorney's Office. He earned his law degree from Indiana University, has completed graduate work in public affairs at the University of Texas, and received a B.S. in public administration from Indiana University. Davis and his wife Bonnie have two children, Andrew, 8, and Patrick, 6.

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## News from the nation's counties

### North

#### NEW JERSEY

Approximately 40 inmates at the UNION COUNTY Jail have graduated from the AMER-I-CAN Academy, Inc., an educational program founded by professional football great Jim Brown that aids individuals in overcoming "a general lack of self-esteem."

"This state-sponsored educational program is a good addition to the educational program we already have at our correctional facility," said Union County Freeholder Chairman Linda Di Giovanni. "There has been so much positive feedback about the program that another class is beginning soon."

Jim Brown, who was an All-American halfback at Syracuse University, a star running back for the NFL's Cleveland Browns, and founder of the academy in 1988, attended the graduation ceremony. More than 16,000 inmates in California have successfully completed the program.



From left, Union County (N.J.) Freeholders Henry Kurz, Ed Force, and Linda-Lee Kelly, Amer-I-Can Chief Executive Officer Shahid Adino S. Watson, N.J. State Senator Donald DiFrancesco, Jim Brown, Freeholder Chairman Linda Di Giovanni, Union County Manager Ann Baran, and Freeholder Walter McLeod.

come families, all of whom are willing to work for their houses, recently moved a major step closer to homeownership, as the FREDERICK COUNTY Board of Commissioners awarded \$144,000 to the Western Maryland Interfaith Housing Development Corporation.

The award was made available from \$200,000, which was set aside by the county commissioners in 1994

to promote the development of affordable housing throughout Frederick County.

Western Maryland Interfaith, a non-profit organization created by the religious community of western Maryland, will develop the houses and sell them to income-qualified families, all of whom will earn their downpayments performing 65 percent of the labor needed to construct the homes. Families who do not have all of the time needed because of jobs may seek assistance from friends and relatives.

The bulk of the financing for the project, some \$2 million, is expected to come from the Rural Economic and Community Development Service, formerly the Farmers Home Administration. This "self-help" housing program has been operational in rural communities throughout the country for 25 years, but this is the first such project in western Maryland.

#### NORTH CAROLINA

The WAKE COUNTY Board of Commissioners has taken another step to encourage efficient and effective customer service by approving a policy to provide incentives for savings, efficiencies and improved effectiveness.

According to Planning Director Mike Jennings, who worked on the proposal, the idea of the incentives program was to find ways to provide better service to Wake County's customers with the same or fewer resources. Jennings and other county staff studied the private sector's way of doing business and tried to identify ways to encourage departments, groups of departments and individuals to increase productivity, cut costs or collaborate to improve services.

Key principles in the process are: 1) accountability of department heads for controlling expenses and raising revenues supporting their operations; 2) the need to meet customer service expectations for any "savings" to be deemed meaningful; and 3) flexibility at the department level in the use of savings, including carrying for-

ward funds from one year to the next.

The county defines savings as an excess of revenues over expenditures after accounting for the fund balance, though savings are not always monetary. Efficiencies and improved effectiveness in service delivery within budget can also be considered savings. However, service expectations must be met for savings to be considered meaningful. Savings are shared with the county general fund, functional groups, departments, employees and ultimately, the county's customers.

care medical clinics; a role model handbook for youth workers in day care, camp and school settings; and legislative and educational initiatives to prevent gun violence.

In addition, violence prevention curricula and programs in all Ramsey County schools and resource development for private schools; training and resource materials for the religious congregations; violence awareness and prevention projects in the African American, Chicano-Latino and Native American communities; coordination of lobbying efforts on violence prevention and intervention bills; and a series of improvements in county and community intervention services for victims and perpetrators of family violence.

### Midwest

#### MINNESOTA

DAKOTA COUNTY Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the outstanding overall performance of the Section 8 Program, and by the Minnesota Senior Federation for the HRA's Senior Housing Development Program.

Dakota County was one of only five local housing authorities nationally to receive the Section 8 Sustained Performance Award for exemplary management performance in the day-to-day administration of its Section 8 Program. The award was presented to Colleen Loney, Dakota County HRA commissioner, and Elizabeth Ryan, director of Section 8 Housing, at a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

The Minnesota Senior Federation presented the Award for Extraordinary Service in Senior Housing to Dakota County's 10-year Senior Housing Development Program. The program provides low- and moderate-income senior housing throughout the county.

In a cooperative effort between the HRA and the county board, the HRA's special levy was designated for construction of 10 senior housing projects, beginning in 1989. To date, six developments have been completed.

The Initiative for Violence-Free Families and Communities in RAMSEY COUNTY was selected to receive an Outstanding Community Service Award from the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) - Minnesota Chapter.

NASW Chapter President Jan Andrews said when presenting the award, "We think this Ramsey County initiative is a premier example of what government can and ought to do in taking leadership to improve the quality of life for all its citizens."

Since its inception in 1991, the initiative has developed violence prevention training packages for the workplace; a workplace violence policy adopted by the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners; a violence-free college campus campaign; a series of public service announcements on ending violence; domestic violence screening systems for primary

### West

#### WASHINGTON

KING COUNTY Executive Gary Locke recently announced that the county will begin promoting recycled products nationwide through use of the Internet.

"Every day we get several calls from across the country asking about our procurement policies for recycled products, and our managers have spoken at recycling events nationwide," says Locke. "King County has been a leader in finding innovative and money-saving uses for recycled products, and using the Internet will help us share those innovations with others."

King County was one of the first jurisdictions in the nation to develop policies and procedures to increase the use of recycled products in government. By developing and exchanging procurement specifications, contracting procedures and policies, governments are increasing the use of a broad range of recycled materials. This new service will enhance their ability to share this information with suburban cities and other jurisdictions through the World-Wide-Web.

"Other governments don't always have access to this kind of information, and no one wants to start from scratch," says Eric Nelson, King County's recycled products coordinator. "They're particularly interested in the specifications we use for procurement, and how well recycled products really work in the field."

The service is accessible through the Internet World-Wide-Web at: <http://www.metrokc.gov>.

### South

#### MARYLAND

Twenty low- to moderate-in-

### The Award for Excellence: Counties Serving Disabled Americans

Applications for the 1995 Award for Excellence Program, which honors counties serving disabled Americans, are now available from NACo's Research Department. Deadline for submission is May 15.

The two-year-old program is sponsored by NACo and the National Organization on Disabilities, in conjunction with the J.C. Penney Co. The award is given to a NACo-county with the most outstanding project improving life for disabled Americans.

Programs will be judged on their measured success, ability to be replicated in other communities, innovation, and community involvement. A panel of five judges, appointed by NACo, will evaluate applications. The selection will be made by July 1, 1995 and the award will be presented at the 1995 NACo Annual Conference in Fulton County (Atlanta), Ga.

Call the NACo Research Department today at 202/942-4246 to obtain the award application form and guidelines.



\$1,000 cash to a NACo-county with the most outstanding project improving life for disabled Americans. The selection will be made by July 1, 1995 and the award will be presented at the 1995 NACo Annual Conference in Fulton County (Atlanta), Ga.

We invite readers to submit items for "News from the nation's counties."

Mail to us: c/o County News, 440 First St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001, or FAX to:

202/393-2630

# Neal Peirce commentary

## Regulatory reform, by all means — but save the goals

By Neal R. Peirce  
Washington Post Writers Group

(Neal Peirce is a syndicated columnist who writes about local government issues. His columns do not reflect the opinions of County News or the National Association of Counties.)

It's tough to dispute that 1995 is setting a new high water mark in the political urge to cut red tape and stem burdensome government rules.

Deregulation is almost the name of the new Republican Congress. And it's playing big in the states. The Alliance for Redesigning Government discovered no less than 20 governors had made a point of red tape reduction reform in their inaugural or "state of the state" message this year.

In Florida, Governor Lawton Chiles (D) not only promises to slay "the hydra-headed dragon of overregulation," but has set in motion a process to repeal, by next year, at least half his government's 28,750 rules, ranging from health and the environment to transportation and commerce.

In California, Governor Pete Wilson (R) wants to amend the state constitution to require a report on the cost — "the sticker shock"

— of any new rule before the legislature enacts it.

Emulating a successful Massachusetts experiment, New Jersey Governor Christine Todd Whitman (R) suggests setting deadlines for state bureaucrats to approve permits: "If we miss a deadline, either you get your permit approved or your money back."

Several governors have proposed "freezes" on new regulations. Michigan's Governor John Engler (R) set up an office of regulatory reform and is focusing on repeal of the state's comprehensive school code. New York's freshman Governor George Pataki (R) is going after the education bureaucracy and wants to lift what he calls "excessive" regulation that costs his state's health care industry over \$100 million a year.

What's not yet clear is why this flurry of deregulation right now? And will it last?

Some new light — a theory of what regulation is doing to the American psyche, why we hate it so much and what we might do about it — is being provided by 46-year-old Manhattan lawyer Philip K. Howard. Howard's new book, *The Death of Common Sense: How Law Is Suffocating America*, is riding high on *The New York Times* best-seller list.

Starting after World War II, and with accelerated speed since 1980, says Howard, Americans have "constructed a system of regulatory law that basically outlaws common sense." In an effort to be foolproof and "self-executing," laws and regulations now "shut out our humanity."

And it's only getting worse. Last year, Florida state government alone promulgated 5,000 new rules. In 1986, the *Federal Register* published 44,814 pages of regulations. In 1994, it had 64,914 pages — most of them unintelligible except to mavens of regulatory legalese who, like medieval clerics interpreting divine will for ignorant laypeople, presume to dictate to all the rest of us.

Howard's book is packed with juicy examples of regulation run amok. For example — how Mother Teresa and her Missionaries of Charity nuns had to give up plans to build a New York homeless shelter because city bureaucrats insisted on enforcing a code requiring elevators (cost \$100,000) in any renovated multistory building.

Chicago firms paid \$1 billion, he relates, to clean up the 1992 flood of downtown office buildings — all because city bureaucrats, who'd detected a dangerous leak in a tunnel under the Chicago

River, feared authorizing a \$75,000 emergency repair job without lengthy competitive bidding.

Howard reserves some of his sharpest criticism for the Americans with Disabilities Act, which has triggered a flood of regulations to "make every nook and cranny of every facility in America wheelchair-accessible" — even though, in fact, "not two percent of the disabled are in wheelchairs, and many of those are confined to nursing homes." ADA, says Howard, is "driving people crazy" — even while "children die of malnutrition and finish almost dead last in math."

But the problem, says Howard, usually isn't the goals of regulations.

It's how they get enforced. Water supplies, airplane traffic, toxin-producing factories, nursery school conditions — all do require public oversight.

The solution is to set bureaucrats free — sometimes even against their will — to exercise common sense discretion as cases arise. Then they can be evaluated on how they perform against the broad goals set in legislation. Any regulatory system, says Howard, "should be skeptical of people. But it shouldn't be paranoid."

Of course we let overregulation happen to us by allowing advocacy

groups with absolutist lawyers dominate our politics. Any government trying common sense solutions will find the same crew threatening it with legal liability issues.

But face it, says Howard: The effort to write rules to match every conceivable situation is a proven failure. It's created an administrative nightmare, an overburden of rules and regulations that "achieve nearly perfect inertia." It's America's equivalent of the central planning that brought the Soviet Union down.

Howard is now being consulted by governors, Vice President Gore, Congress and others — reminiscent of the attention accorded David Osborne when his *Reinventing Government* was published.

In both cases, it's a good thing. Because rather than being government-bashers, these reformers take the middle ground where most Americans are. They believe the system is broken, does require radical reform. But they also believe that government itself is vital, that its goals, democratically determined, are the lifeblood of a healthy society.

Next issue: Florida's ambitious test case to repeal burdensome state regulations.

(c) 1995, Washington Post Writers Group

## Job market

**COUNTY MANAGER — GREENWOOD COUNTY, S.C.:** Greenwood County, South Carolina will be accepting applications for a County Manager through May 26, 1995. Greenwood County has been a progressive county government with the Council/Manager form since January, 1988. Applicants must have a Masters in Public Administration or related field with a minimum of three years progressive administrative experience or a B.A. in Public Administration or related field with at least five years progressive administrative experience. Salary is negotiable based on experience. All resumes should be sent to Personnel Director, Greenwood County, 600 Monument Street, Box P-103, Greenwood, SC 29646.

**DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING — CARROLL COUNTY, MD.:** Replacement position. Regular full-time position (37.5 hours per week). \$48,832 - \$72,446 annual salary. Full benefits package. Under the direction of the Carroll County Commissioners, the Planning Director manages the Department of Planning, a department of 22 employees, including Transportation Planning, Agricultural Preservation Program Administration, and consulting with eight incorporated towns to develop and maintain comprehensive master plans. The position is responsible for promoting sound planning, zoning, land development, and conservation of natural resources, as well as overseeing the

capital improvement program ensuring consistency with the County Master Plan. The position also serves as staff to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Requirements: Bachelor's degree in Planning or a closely related field. Six (6) years experience involving a high level comprehensive planning and development of master plans, as well as technical design and review of subdivisions and site development plans. At least four (4) years experience as director of the planning function, managing comprehensive planners as well as other support staff. Candidates with Master's degree in planning are preferred or any equivalent combination of education, experience and training that provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities as determined by the County Commissioners. Residency in Carroll County, Maryland within twelve months after employment begins, unless otherwise provided. A Carroll County Government job application is required for this position and must be submitted by May 31, 1995. Please contact the Department of Human Resources & Personnel Services for additional information. Carroll County Commissioners, Department of Human Resources & Personnel Services, 225 North Center Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157, phone: (410) 857-2129. Carroll County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**PERSONNEL HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR — DALLAS**

**COUNTY, TEXAS:** Dallas County, a major Government Jurisdiction in Texas, is seeking an experienced Personnel Human Resource Director to manage a multi-disciplined department. Areas of responsibility include benefits, a self-insured health plan, recruitment, employment, compensation, staffing analysis and labor relations. This position offers a competitive salary and excellent benefits for the successful candidate. Minimum requirements for this position are a Bachelor's Degree and seven years of experience in a responsible, aggressive personnel management environment. Interested parties should apply by forwarding their resume and salary history to: Commissioners Court, Attn: Arliss Dickson, Dallas County Administration Building, 411 Elm Street, Dallas, Texas 75202-3301. Equal Opportunity Employer.

**NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR — CARROLL COUNTY, N.H.:** Scenic Carroll County New Hampshire, 103 bed intermediate care facility seeks Administrator. 3 years experience required. Must hold New Hampshire Nursing Home license. Salary mid Fortys, commensurate with experience. Send resume by May 1, 1995 to: Office of the Commissioners, PO Box 152, Ossipee, NH 03864.

## DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES — SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

Sedgwick County, Kansas, a vital and diverse community in the heart of America's heartland, is seeking a proven HR professional to lead a newly created Human Resource Management Team. The team will consolidate the functions of the Department of Personnel Management, Department of Risk Management and the Department of Affirmative Action.

The Director of HRM will be a key member of the Senior Management Team and will report directly to the County Manager. The Director will oversee the activities of sixteen employees and a combined operating budget of \$1.1 million. A bachelor's degree plus ten years of progressive and varied HRM experience required. Sedgwick County will offer the successful candidate an attractive salary and comprehensive benefits. For more information or to submit a resume contact:

Mike Mueller  
Sedgwick County Personnel  
510 N. Main  
Wichita, Kansas 67203  
Phone (316) 383-7178  
Fax (316) 383-7288

Application Deadline June 16, 1995.  
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Be sure to include billing information along with copy. For more information, call County News, National Association of Counties, 202/942-4256.

# Notices . . . notices . . . notices

## CONFERENCES

■ **The American Public Transit Association** will host its 1995 Bus Operations and Technology Conference in Reno, Nev., May 7-11.

Several experts in the industry will present workshops on transit bus operations, maintenance and technology. The registration fee is \$480.

For more information, contact: Kelly McDay, American Public Transit Association, 1201 New York Ave., Washington, DC 20005, phone: 202/898-0000, fax: 202/898-4049.

■ **The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)** is conducting a government financial management seminar in Portland, Ore., May 15-18, on the following subjects: "Effective Budget Presentation," "Financial Reporting and the GFOA Certificate of Achievement," "Revenue Analysis and Forecasting," and "Advanced Governmental Accounting."

For more information, contact: Rob-

ert Gee, GFOA, Education and Marketing Center, 180 North Michigan Ave., Suite 800, Chicago, IL, phone: 312/977-9700.

■ Judges, lawyers, caseworkers and other child support enforcement professionals will gather in Fargo, N.D., May 16-17, for a workshop on the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA), sponsored by the **National Child Support Enforcement Association (NCSEA)**.

Session topics will include: understanding and interpreting UIFSA, long-arm paternity and support establishment, and interstate evidentiary provisions. The registration fee is \$180 for NCSEA members and \$230 for non-members.

For more information, contact: NCSEA, 400 North Capitol St., Suite 372, Washington, DC 20001-1512, phone: 202/624-8180.

■ What is the most effective and

efficient means of providing services to tourist and resort communities? How can a community control growth while at the same time increase revenues? Experts in the field of tourism as well as local government officials will help answer these questions at the Eighth Annual Local Government Communities & Tourism Conference to be held in Alberta Canada, May 25-27. The cost is \$385.

For more information, contact: Beth Miller, manager, Communities & Tourism '95, ICMA, 777 North Capitol St., N.E., Suite 500, Washington, DC 20002-4201, phone: 202/289-4262, fax: 202/962-3500.

■ **"Child Health and Nutrition: Whose Responsibility?"** is the theme of the **Public Voice for Food and Health Policy's** fifth annual Children and Nutrition Conference, June 19-20 in Washington, D.C.

The conference will assess proposed changes in the federal nutrition policy

for improving the diet, health and fitness of the nation's children.

The cost is \$100 for government officials.

For more information, contact: Julie Rabinovitz, 1995 Children and Nutrition Conference, Public Voice for Food and Health Policy, 1101 14th St., N.W., Suite 710, Washington, DC 20005, phone: 202/371-1840.

■ **The National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC)** is sponsoring a National Conference on Legal Issues in Correctional Health Care in Chicago, Ill., June 30-July 1.

Sessions will cover a range of issues, including: adherence to the Americans with Disabilities Act, charging inmates fees for medical services, and use of national standards and health services accreditation to promote quality care.

For more information, contact: NCCHC, 2165 N. Southport, Chicago, IL 60614-4017, phone: 312/528-0818, fax: 312/528-4915.

## PUBLICATIONS

■ **The Government Finance Of-**

**icers Association (GFOA)** has released a report, titled **"Structuring and Sizing the Bond Issue: How to Develop an Optimal Financing Approach."**

This report examines various alternatives and illustrates how a bond offering can be tailored to meet the issuer's long-term financial and policy objectives. The cost is \$9 for GFOA members and \$14 for non-members.

For more information, contact: GFOA, 180 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60601, phone: 312/977-9700, fax: 312/977-4806.

■ **"Rural Development in the United States: Connecting Theory, Practice and Possibilities,"** is the title of a new publication by Island Press.

The book presents a comprehensive evaluation of the implications of past rural development and a consideration of the directions in which future development efforts should go. The cost is \$32.50.

For a copy, contact: Lisa Magnino, Island Press, 1718 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20009, phone: 202/232-7933, fax: 202/234-1328.

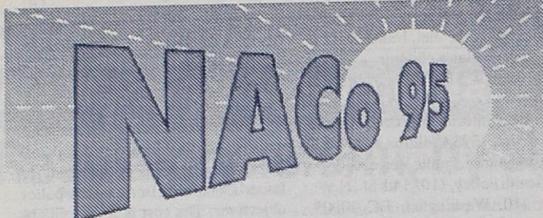
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# National Association of Counties 60th Annual Conference

Georgia World Congress Center • Fulton County, Georgia • July 21-25, 1995

Conference Registration Postmark Deadline - June 16, 1995

Please type or print clearly all applicable information requested below. Information following asterisks (\*) will appear on conference badge. Please make a copy of this form for your records.

\*Name \_\_\_\_\_ (LAST)      \*Name \_\_\_\_\_ (FIRST)      Mr/Mrs/Ms \_\_\_\_\_

\*Title \_\_\_\_\_      \*County \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_      \*State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_      \*Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_      Fax \_\_\_\_\_      (Please include FAX # to receive confirmation)

**REGISTRATION FEES:**

Check box that applies	Earlybird postmarked by 6/2	Advance after 6/2 & ON-SITE
Member county attendee	<input type="checkbox"/> \$275	<input type="checkbox"/> \$325
Non-member county attendee	<input type="checkbox"/> 325	<input type="checkbox"/> 375
Other government attendee	<input type="checkbox"/> 300	<input type="checkbox"/> 350
Other private sector	<input type="checkbox"/> 350	<input type="checkbox"/> 400
Spouse	<input type="checkbox"/> 50	<input type="checkbox"/> 75
Youth	<input type="checkbox"/> 30	<input type="checkbox"/> 50
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____	\$ _____

**AFFILIATE INFORMATION - Check box that applies**

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<input type="checkbox"/> 02 NACP	<input type="checkbox"/> 08 NACTFO	<input type="checkbox"/> 014 NACE	<input type="checkbox"/> 020 WIR
<input type="checkbox"/> 03 NACHO	<input type="checkbox"/> 09 WON	<input type="checkbox"/> 015 NACTEP	<input type="checkbox"/> 021 NCCAE
<input type="checkbox"/> 04 NACA	<input type="checkbox"/> 010 NACHSA	<input type="checkbox"/> 016 NABCO	<input type="checkbox"/> 022 NACAP
<input type="checkbox"/> 05 NACITA	<input type="checkbox"/> 011 NACCED	<input type="checkbox"/> 017 NACIO	<input type="checkbox"/> 023 ICMA
<input type="checkbox"/> 06 NACPRO	<input type="checkbox"/> 012 NACIRO	<input type="checkbox"/> 018 NACS	<input type="checkbox"/> 024 NACMHD

**POLITICAL AFFILIATION**

Republican       Democrat       Independent

Spouse Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Full Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

### ADDITIONAL MEETING ACTIVITIES

Additional fees must accompany meeting registration fee. All tour registration fees must be received by JUNE 30, 1995.

#### SPOUSE/YOUTH TOURS

- 028 A Sip in Tea ..... \$25
- 030 International Flair ..... \$25
- 032 Take a Walk on the Wild Side ..... \$25
- 034 Shopping World Class Style ..... \$25

#### ALL ATTENDEE EVENTS

- 036 The One and Only NACo Fun Run ..... Free
- 038 Golf at Sugar Creek ..... \$50

**PAYMENT METHOD:** Select one, please       CHECK       VISA/MC       P.O. or Voucher       Money Order

**CREDIT CARD INFORMATION:** (Check one)       VISA       MasterCard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT POLICY -** Conference registration fee MUST accompany this form and must be received before a registration can be processed. Send a check, voucher or county purchase order, made payable to the National Association of Counties. Purchase order only will hold registration. Purchase order must be paid before conference badge will be issued.

**CANCELLATION POLICY -** Refund of conference registration fee, less an administrative fee of \$50 (or 1/2 of spouse/youth fee), will be made if written notice of conference registration cancellation is received postmarked no later than June 16, 1995. Cancellation requests postmarked June 16 or later will be subject to an administrative fee equal to one-half of the registration fee.

**NOTE - ALL REGISTRATION FORMS POSTMARKED AFTER JUNE 16, 1995 WILL BE PROCESSED AT THE ON-SITE REGISTRATION DESK.**

## HOTEL RESERVATION

**HOUSING REGISTRATION -** Housing reservations must be made by completing this form.

Room Reservation Name \_\_\_\_\_      Arrival Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Roommate Name \_\_\_\_\_      Departure Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Do you have a special housing request? \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any special disability or handicap needs? \_\_\_\_\_

#### PLEASE NUMBER YOUR DESIRED HOTELS

Indicate first choice with 1. Number other hotels from 2 to 3 in order of preference. Each reservation requires a one-night deposit.

Hotel codes: W=walking distance to Headquarters Hotel; S=shuttle necessary.

	Single	Double
Atlanta Marriott Marquis (Headquarters) ..... S	\$114	\$124
Atlanta Hilton & Towers ..... S	\$104	\$120
Atlanta Hilton & Towers (Towers Level) ..... S	\$131	\$147
Omni Hotel at CNN Center ..... W	\$113	\$123

**NOTE: A portion of these guest room rates will be used to offset transportation cost related to conference**

Please circle - No. of Persons: 1 2 3 4      No. of Beds: 1 2

Do you wish to rent a suite? \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_ YES (You will be contacted)

**HOUSING DEPOSIT -** Your room reservation can be reserved by either of the following methods:  
1. Complete Credit Card Authorization below. This is fast and easy; your room will be reserved and guaranteed. Some hotels will charge your first night's room charge to your credit card immediately.  
2. Send no payment now. We will reserve your room and send you an acknowledgement of your room reservation that will instruct you to pay the hotel directly in order to guarantee your room. Your reservation will not be guaranteed until the hotel receives your payment.

**NOTE: The NACo Conference Registration Center will send you an acknowledgement within two weeks of receipt of this form. The hotel will also send you an acknowledgement when your credit card is confirmed or payment is received. Do not send payments for hotel reservations to NACo Registration; send them to the hotel indicated on your acknowledgement.**

**CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION**      MasterCard      Visa      American Express      Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Name \_\_\_\_\_

The NACo Housing Center is authorized to use the above card to guarantee my hotel reservation. I understand that one night's room charge will be billed through this card if I fail to arrive for my assigned room at the confirmed date, or if I depart earlier than I have confirmed, unless I have canceled my reservation with the hotel at least 48 hours in advance. The card may be debited as soon as the hotel receives my reservation.

Return completed form to:

**Office Use Only**

Date Rec'd. \_\_\_\_\_

Check No. \_\_\_\_\_

Amt. of check \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Date entered \_\_\_\_\_

Entered by \_\_\_\_\_