

County News

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Supreme Court strikes down flow control

By Diane S. Shea
associate legislative director

In a broadly worded opinion, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that local governments cannot direct all the garbage and trash generated within their boundaries to a designated facility for handling, recycling or disposal.

The 6-3 ruling, May 16, struck down the Town of Clarkstown, N.Y.'s "flow control" ordinance that required that all municipal solid waste generated within the town be processed at the town's recycling facility before leaving the municipality.

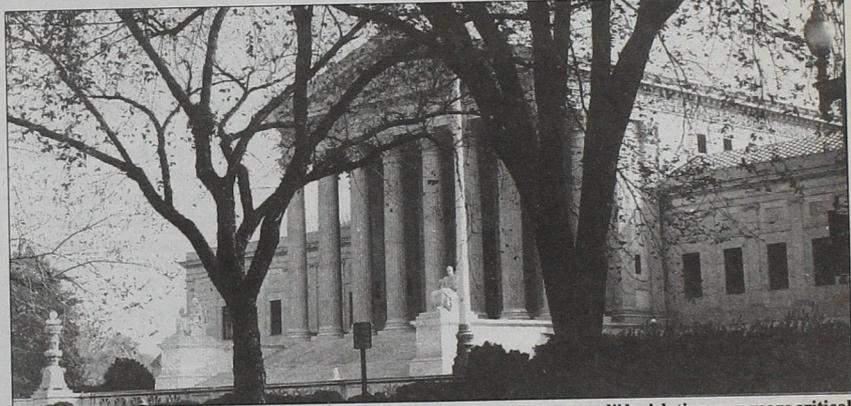
The decision will make it virtually impossible for local governments to guarantee a reliable solid waste stream, with its dependable revenue base, to publicly financed

solid waste facilities.

Also in jeopardy are numerous recycling, composting, household hazardous waste collection, and source reduction programs offered by local governments, currently subsidized by revenues from the facilities receiving flow-controlled solid waste.

Background

Under a consent decree issued by the state's environmental agency, Clarkstown agreed to close its landfill and clean up the environmental damage it had caused, and make new arrangements to safely dispose of the town's solid waste. It contracted to have a transfer station built, to be paid for by tipping fees charged by the contractor. The \$1.4 million facility received municipal solid waste from local haulers, then separated the recyclables from the



A May 16 Supreme Court decision makes efforts to enact new "flow control" legislation even more critical for local governments.

non-recyclable items. Recyclables were baled for shipment to a secondary materials dealer; the remain-

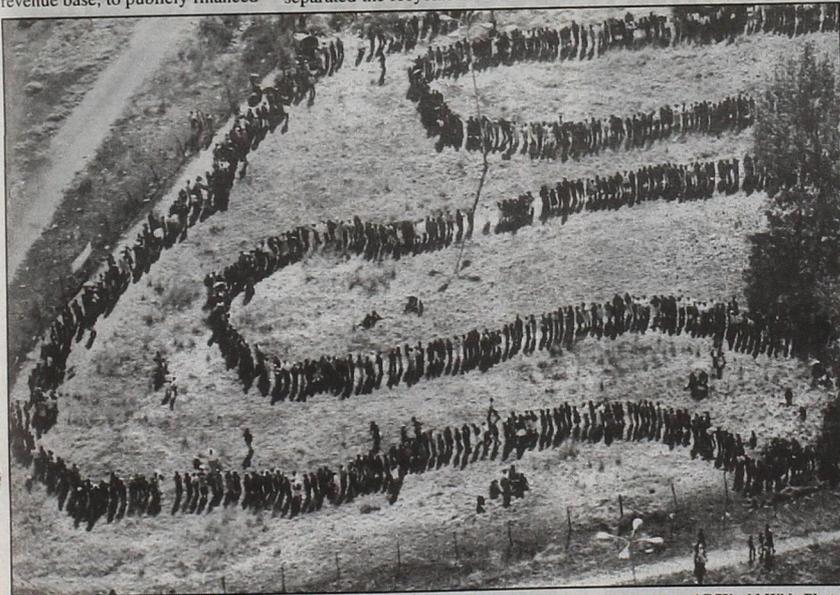
ing trash was sent to a Subtitle D landfill.

The town guaranteed the contractor a minimum of 120,000 tons per year, for which the contractor could charge each hauler \$81 per ton. If the tonnage guarantee was not met, the town was liable for

paying the difference from general tax revenues. After five years, when the cost of the facility was amortized, the facility would belong to the town.

The flow control ordinance pro-

See **FLOW CONTROL**, page 11



AP/World Wide Photos

Lines like this one outside a polling station in the black township of Soweto, South Africa, April 27, were common sights for U.N. election observer, Dana DeBeauvoir. DeBeauvoir, Travis County, Texas clerk, recounts her experience as an observer in the South African election in "Foot Soldier for Democracy," page 9.

Negotiations continue on mandate-relief compromise

By Larry Jones
associate legislative director

Efforts to reach a compromise on unfunded federal mandates legislation by Senators Dirk Kempthorne (R-Idaho) and John Glenn (D-Ohio), Governmental Affairs Committee chairman, are progressing, but have yet to produce a final agreement.

Both senators, however, remain optimistic about the prospects of reaching agreement on a proposal they hope will be considered by committee in early June and the full Senate shortly thereafter.

A draft proposal based on dis-

cussions between Glenn and Kempthorne was made available to NACO and other public interest groups, May 24. While the proposal clearly indicates progress, NACO has expressed concern about the bill, mainly because it falls short of requiring Congress to provide federal funds to pay for state and local compliance with future federal mandates.

Under the proposal, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) would be required to submit a fiscal impact statement which must accompany any bill approved by a committee that would impose a new

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Pinellas County, Fla. program should be inspiration for rest of country. **page 3**



Fingerprint matching technology used to ensure the identity of welfare clients has been in the news lately. How does it work? Can it help you? **page 5**



The House reauthorizes the Economic Development Administration. **page 7**

The celebration of National County Government Week just keeps growing, as counties invent new ways to highlight the week. **page 8**



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Health care reform moving in right direction for counties

By Thomas L. Joseph III
associate legislative director

Congress continues to search for compromises on health reform while three key committees hold markups on separate pieces of legislation. Amid these public markups are private, closed-door sessions with conservative House Democrats and moderate Republicans attempting to find common ground in a new proposal. The Senate Finance Committee members continue to meet privately to craft yet another approach. The congressional approach and strategy may change before Memorial Day, pending a meeting with President Clinton and Democratic leaders on the progress to date.

House Education and Labor Subcommittee

During May, the House Education and Labor Subcommittee continued its markup. Committee support for county issues continues to improve. Both county and private employers with 5,000 or more employees could continue to self-insure. The 7.9 percent cap on the amount of payroll going to health premiums would be

phased in by 2002 for public employers, which is an improvement over the president's bill.

On the service delivery side, public hospitals would receive automatic "essential community provider" status, giving them contracts with health plans in their area. Local health department programs would receive designation as proposed in the Clinton legislation. Those programs receiving federal discretionary health funding would be automatically designated. Jail detainees would be covered in the subcommittee's bill, but adults convicted of a crime would become the responsibility of the prison system. The bill is expected to pass before the Memorial Day recess (May 27-June 6).

House Ways and Means Committee

The House Ways and Means Committee began walking through the bill that passed in March. The bill, which expands Medicare to cover the uninsured and small business, still awaits a cost estimate from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). Under the bill authored by Representative Pete Stark (D-Calif.), counties of 1,000 or more employees could

continue to self-insure. County health departments and public hospitals would be automatically designated as essential community providers and detainees would be covered by the legislation.

Chairman Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill.) has not released his version of a bill and said that he will wait to vote on anything until after the Memorial Day recess. At the same time, his lawyers are reportedly negotiating with the U.S. Attorney's Office to fend off a potential felony indictment on alleged misuse of funds that, under House rules, would cause him to resign his chairmanship.

House Energy and Commerce Committee

The Energy and Commerce Committee is at a stalemate. Conservative Democrats and moderate Republicans are meeting to find a compromise, but none has been found to date. In the original draft offered by Chairman Charles Dingell (D-Mich.), counties of 1,000 or more employees could continue to self-insure. Their status as providers was not specifically spelled out, but Dingell personally assured NACo officials that he favored local

government's views.

Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee

On the Senate side, the Labor and Human Resources Committee's markup began with partisan shots, which later subsided into serious discussions and slow movement on the bill. An attempt is being made to fashion a bipartisan bill. On May 19, the committee adopted an amendment to require the National Health Board, in cooperation with the CBO, to estimate the cost of the benefits package and the cost-containment measures six months before the bill would go into effect. Congress would have 45 days to act on the proposed changes made by the board, or the board's adjustments would be in force.

Congressional support for county issues is moving in the right direction. While public entities would not be allowed to self-insure, counties could avail themselves of the caps on premiums, which are at a maximum of 12 percent. The inability to self-insure is expected to be changed in the Senate Finance Committee.

Service delivery issues are also being addressed. A dedicated fund-

ing source for traditional, community-wide public health is included in the form of an automatic appropriation. The funding is lower than the president's request, however. Senator Paul Simon (D-Ill.) has drafted an amendment to cover detainees, but Senator Edward Kennedy's (D-Mass.) staff has expressed concerns about the unknown costs of the provision. Senator Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kan.) is also prepared to offer an amendment to designate all local health departments as essential community providers.

The labor committee had scheduled to finish by Memorial Day.

Senate Finance Committee members continue to search for possible areas of compromise, and there is no schedule for a markup or an indication of the outlines of a bill. This committee is most likely the one to craft a plan that would have the best chance of passing. There is increasing talk about doing insurance market reforms, with some sort of future "trigger" that would be applied if universal coverage and access was not achieved.

(For more information, contact Tom Joseph, 202/942-4230.)

America's Counties

Creative member programs mark Georgia association

By Barbara Sheen Todd
NACo president

The 159 counties of Georgia, home state of NACo Third Vice President Michael Hightower, derive their authority from the state constitution and statutes. The commission form of government is used in all counties, yet several counties only have one commissioner on the "board." Other board structures may vary in size from three to nine members. Although the commissioners are the governing authority, many counties now employ a county manager or administrator to handle the day-to-day concerns of the county government.

In 1965, home rule authority was granted to county governments in Georgia by the state constitution so that today each county has the legislative power to adopt policies, resolutions, ordinances, rules or regulations which relate to county property and for which no provision has been made through state law.

Although Georgia's counties don't have charters, they have the authority to establish acts which may be amended by local legislation or home rule. The acts provide for the conditions of holding office, powers and



NACo President Barbara Sheen Todd discusses the 1996 Olympics with Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) President and Executive Officer Billy Payne during his keynote address to the Association County Commissioners of Georgia. ACCG President Joseph Clark looks on.

responsibilities, as well as permitting counties to provide a broad range of services to the public from housing to environmental management.

The Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) is a strong and pro-active full-service organization for all counties of the state. As the role of county commissioners have grown and expanded to include a broad gamut of responsibilities from transportation to

health care, criminal justice to environmental concerns, economic development to land-use management, the ACCG has provided the mechanism for county commissioners to speak with a united voice on public policy issues. Their united efforts have been very successful in recent times.

Most significant legislative achievements include the attainment of a local option tax which is structured for a specific purpose and subject to a vote of the people.

ACCG has a very unusual and unique program that it provides to counties so that counties may acquire necessary infrastructure and equip-

ment without incurring a long-term debt. The association actually borrows money to acquire the necessary equipment and then leases it back to the county for its use! The ACCG is one of the largest owners of county jails which are "leased" back to the counties for their use.

The training programs offered to county officials through the state association are second to none. The ACCG, in cooperation with the University of Georgia, has offered dozens of courses including leadership skill development, financial management and budgeting, planning and zoning, media relations, and conflict resolution. Most of these outstanding programs are voluntary; however, the ACCG also provides the New Commissioners Training Program, mandated by the state legislature as a requirement for newly elected commissioners.

Future challenges facing Georgia's counties relate to issues of unfunded mandates, the need to encourage greater consolidation of services, and the recognition of the necessity to build new coalitions among local governmental entities. "We have to relate with other groups out there," says ACCG Executive Director Jerry Griffin. "We can't battle all these issues alone."

Georgia officials joined with NACo in our unfunded mandates activities and took the issue to the home front in the form of state legislation to combat unfunded state man-

dates. Although the legislation did not pass in the state legislature, the level of public awareness to the issue is significant and county officials are optimistic that legislation to curb new mandates will eventually pass.

Clearly, Georgia's county officials are looking for responsible and creative solutions to the challenges they see themselves facing as the 20th century rapidly approaches. "Our association is deeply involved in what happens in our state," said NACo Third Vice President Michael Hightower. "It's awesome...our commissioners really do command the respect of our state administrative and legislative leaders."

"We recognize the need to address some consolidation of services, particularly as we deal with issues such as solid waste management, recycling and landfills," said Habersham County Commissioner Earl Roberts. Some legislation has allowed the creation of regional solid waste authorities. In the future, small counties will need to work more closely together for purposes of economic development and financing of needed facilities such as jails.

"As an association of county leaders, we are constantly looking for creative approaches for dealing with the common concerns we all face," said Commissioner Hightower. "All of us want to ensure that with the turn of the century, counties in Georgia will be a better place in which all might work and play."

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.

COMMENTARY

Caring, commitment needed for healthy families

By Tom Goodman
public affairs director

As the car rolls to a stop, a bare-foot, young girl in shorts approaches holding a dirty Cabbage Patch doll in each arm. Sharon Russell rolls down her window and says, "Hi ya, babe. How ya doin'?"

A grin breaks on the girl's face and she runs to join her brothers and sister playing in the front yard. Tamara is four years old. She has three brothers: Christopher, 5; Desmond, 2; and Henry, 6 months. Her sister, Sharie, is 3.

The older children are wearing shorts; the younger ones are in diapers. None has on shoes or shirts. They play in a yard that is dirt and sand—no grass. Tree branches and trash litter the yard. A large cactus has been removed from the yard, but some of its spiny leaves still remain. Henry sits in a chair against the propped-open front door. Another chair, tipped over, lays at the bottom of the steps where the children congregate.



Photo by Tom Goodman

Christopher, Tamara and Desmond sit on the steps of their house where they live with their mother and two other siblings. The house has no electricity—the family lives there without lights, a stove, refrigerator or hot water.



Photo by Tom Goodman
Sharon Russell, family support worker with the Pinellas County (Fla.) Healthy Families Program, carries Sharie into the house during a recent visit.

The scene is exactly as Sharon Russell, a caseworker with Pinellas County (Fla.) Healthy Families Program, had described it in our short ride to the house. In complete disrepair, the house is run-down from years of neglect—peeling paint, rotting wood and windows without screens. The house sits in a poor neighborhood, but other homes on the street are well kept. And they all have something that this house lacks

Sharon is one of five caseworkers who are taking task force and NACo staff members on visits this day. Tall, thin and talkative, Sharon begins speaking about the program as soon as we hit the door leaving her office building. Trained in college in criminal justice, she fell into this job when she was looking for work and she loves it. Her commitment and enthusiasm to her job is evident in the way she talks about the mothers she works

—electricity.

The power company has shut off the electricity because of a problem with where the line comes in, a problem the landlord can't or won't fix. This means that five children and a single mother live in this house with no lights, stove, refrigerator or hot water.

My visit is part of NACo's Children's Initiative Task Force. In each of the seven counties that hosted public forums to discuss children's issues, site visits were made to view innovative programs. Healthy Families, which began in October 1992, is a community-based home visiting program that provides family support workers, like Sharon, that visit families weekly and continue to help the family for five years.

with. To them, she is a sister, mother, teacher and friend. Their children are "her babies."

Her rapport is amazing. As we exit the car, Sharon quickly reassures Jackie, the children's mother, who has come to greet her. "This is Tom," Sharon says. "He's a friend of mine. He's not here to take your

babies. He just wants to learn about our program."

Jackie, a quiet, passive woman in her early 20s, has had a baby each year since about the time she became sexually active. Her circumstances seem to be overwhelming her.

Sharon leads me on a quick tour

of the one-story, five-room house. A dirty rug covers the floor in the living room, where two couches occupy each wall. Other than the couches and beds in the side sleeping rooms, there is little other furniture. Bread crusts and dust lay forgotten in corners throughout the house.

There is running water, but without power, no hot water. The baths the children receive are in cold water. With no stove or refrigerator, sandwiches are the primary food at mealtime.

Sharon goes about her job, weighing Henry on the small scale she has brought with her. She checks his coordination and reflexes and to see how alert he is. Each baby she works with is put through certain tests to ensure that growth and development are proceeding properly.

Henry seems to be developing well, but Sharon notices mosquito bites covering his back, causing him some discomfort. Without screens, mosquitoes have free rein of the house, despite Jackie's efforts to burn candles hoping the smoke will deter the bugs.

Jackie listens intently as Sharon talks about caring for the baby. Sharon has been working with Jackie for just a short time. Jackie had never been part of the program and joined it recently through a referral from another family member. Usually, Sharon begins her work with each family in the hospital just after the baby has been born. She deals one-on-one with the family, teaching parenting skills, checking the development of the infant, encouraging immunizations and well-baby visits, and providing informa-

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Collaboration, the key theme of the final children's initiative forum

By Tom Goodman
public affairs director

The need for greater cooperation and collaboration among providers of services to children and youths was the common theme voiced by many of the participants in the seventh and last Children's Initiative Public Forum, held on May 12 in Pinellas County, Fla.

The public forums have been held in different locations across the country to discuss children's issues and learn about innovative and collaborative programs. NACo will use the information gathered at the forums to push the Administration and Congress to adopt a comprehensive national policy on children.

Patricia Korpan, supervisor of the Full Service Schools Program in Pinellas County, said her organization operates with a simple goal: to serve children and families. The hard part, she maintained, for the many agencies serving children is "to give up turf issues." But it must be done, she said.

"We need to be in the community," Korpan said. "We need to work with and collaborate with other agencies."

Michael Dalich, special assistant to the assistant attorney general, U.S. Department of Justice, echoed her comments, saying, "Issues of turf are the toughest to deal with." Dalich said the Justice Department has created a program — Project PACT — in selected counties and cities nationwide to empower communities to combat violence.

In establishing this program, the department has encountered difficulties between cities and counties and with federal agencies in determining who is responsible for what, he said. The department is focusing on coordinating the programs that are working and "we're seeing a major change at the federal level of cooperation among agencies," he added.

Responding to a question in the discussion portion of the forum, Chris Card, executive director of the Florida Network for Youth & Family Services, said all groups need to cooperate because the "kids will run rampant if we don't work together."

COMMITMENT from page 3

tion about other community services.

Jackie's children seem to be active, normal kids. They are cute and curious, ready to learn. When Desmond thought no one was looking, he put his sister's doll on the scale, just as Sharon had done with the baby.

Have a strong feeling that I should help in some way, especially when Sharon asks Jackie if she has a quarter so that Jackie can make a call later that day. I want to reach in my pocket and give her money. It would meet a need now, but it's not a real

solution. Probably, it would only make me feel good and less guilty.

The real solution is that we need more Sharons. There are families like Jackie's all over the country. There just aren't enough Sharons. We need more programs like hers and others that help families, providing sisters, mothers, teachers and friends. While we're at it, our country could use some brothers, fathers, teachers and friends, too.

As we're leaving, Sharon tells Jackie, "Don't worry. I won't forget you. I'll keep working to help you."



Photo by Tom Goodman

James Myles (r), deputy director of the juvenile services program, St. Petersburg, Fla., makes a point during NACo's Children's Initiative Public Forum in Pinellas County, Fla. on May 12. Looking on are Michael Dalich (c), special assistant to the assistant attorney general, U.S. Department of Justice; and Chris Card, executive director, Florida Network for Youth & Family Services, Tallahassee, Fla.

Both NACo President and Pinellas County Commissioner Barbara Sheen Todd and Monterey County (Calif.) Supervisor Barbara Shipnuck, chair of NACo's Children's Initiative Task Force, emphasized that NACo is encouraging collaboration among service providers. It is one of the main focuses of the public forums.

"We are committed to having our cities, counties and school boards working together," Todd said.

Shipnuck said that county officials know they must involve the schools and cities when working to solve the problems facing children and youth.

"There are programs that are working and providing good examples of collaboration," she added. Descriptions of successful programs will be part of the final report of findings from the seven public forums.

James Mills, executive director of the Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board, opened the forum by explaining how the board operates and the county's special tax district that provides funding for children's programs. Created in 1946, the board and the tax district was the first program of its kind in the country.

Today, Mills said, it provides and funds a variety of services for children, youths and families, and is a good example of how cooperation and collaboration can work. Representatives of two other Florida counties, Martin and Orange, spoke about similar programs that have been established in their counties.

James Myles, deputy director of the Juvenile Services Program in Florida, brought visual evidence of what can be produced through youth programs. Myles showed, and even

I ask Sharon, as we pull away, if her job ever makes her feel discouraged. "I try not to let it," she says. "The day is over at 5 p.m. and that's when I try to stop thinking about it."

But I have quickly seen her care and commitment. I can't imagine her turning it off. I've only been there 20 minutes and I still can't forget.

(Since this visit on May 13, Jackie and her children have been relocated in temporary housing with a relative. She is on a waiting list for permanent housing through the Healthy Families Program.)



Photo by Tom Goodman

NACo President Barbara Sheen Todd (l) talks with Shirley Colett, president of Operation PAR, Inc., during a site visit in Pinellas County, Fla., for the Children's Initiative Task Force. Operation PAR is an innovative, successful program that provides a comprehensive system of professional services to fight drug abuse in the community.

sold, some of the bracelets that were produced in a business entrepreneurial program his agency runs.

Operating in 16 counties in Florida, Myles said his agency believes that young people need help, but also must be accountable. His agency provides assistance, help and treatment, and also actual experiences to help them learn, he said.

NACo *on the move*

◆ Dr. Virginia Hope, an official from New Zealand, was at NACo headquarters, May 10, to speak with Associate Legislative Director Tom Joseph on health care reform.

◆ On April 17-19, Research Assistant Peter Lane was in Savannah, Ga. for the annual meeting of the Association County Commissioners of Georgia, where he participated in a workshop titled "Volunteerism and County Government."

◆ At a May 6 roundtable meeting sponsored by the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), focusing on strengthening NCSL's relationships with local and tribal governments, Associate Legislative Director Jeff Arnold spoke about NACo's relationship with tribal governments.

County News

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

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TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Fingerprint matching technology: What can it do for your county?

Today, there's a new image of fingerprinting that allows local government personnel to use advanced imaging technology to serve citizens the best way possible.

The Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) has been used successfully for many years in the law enforcement arena.

Today, many local governments are benefiting from a dramatically improved system unique to social service requirements. The technology, Automated Fingerprint Matching System (AFMS), has the potential to create a revolutionary impact on the delivery of services in the public sector.

Specifically, AFMS is a form of biometric identification technology. Biometrics are defined as any physical characteristic unique to an individual such as a fingerprint, voiceprint or retinal scan (scanning the blood vessel pattern in the eye).

The following are commonly asked questions relating to fingerprint matching technology as it applies to local government social services.

What are the benefits of AFMS in delivering social services?
• saves dollars by ensuring that

only eligible persons receive benefits, such as welfare, or publicly administered privileges, such as driver's licenses

- enhances efficiency by accurately matching fingerprints to verify eligibility
- improves service to applicants through a shorter response time in getting benefits in most cases
- ensures that taxpayer dollars are being used efficiently
- provides a payback in less than one year, and
- offers easy-to-use software and an approach tailored to the unique needs of personnel who operate the system.

What are the policy issues related to AFMS in service delivery?

Association with law enforcement. The first and foremost policy issue in linking a fingerprint matching system to a social services program is its association with criminal investigation. Civil advocacy groups are concerned that applicants will associate having their fingerprints taken with a law enforcement process, and thereby feel degraded for asking for public assistance.

However, AFMS proponents point out that by utilizing AFMS fingerprint camera technology, known as live scan, the use of any ink or rolling process associated with law enforcement is eliminated, and applicants, in most cases, understand the need for using technology to improve a program's efficiency.

Privacy. There have been questions and concerns that fingerprint data taken for benefits verification is shared with law enforcement agencies.

AFMS, however, uses its own data storage which is separate from any law enforcement system. Local government officials using AFMS can reduce the law enforcement image by ensuring that the data is not shared with other agencies and by sponsoring public awareness campaigns to disclose which agencies, if any, will have access to this information.

How does AFMS work?

Typically, AFMS involves capturing a photograph of the fingerprint on a specially designed camera. An applicant places his or her finger on a lighted camera lens. After the clerk presses a button on the computer to take a photograph of the finger, the

applicant removes their finger from the camera lens.

If the image is unacceptable, the clerk would be prompted to capture another image. An acceptable image would then be compared against the data base of persons already receiving the benefit or service. A response returned to the clerk in a matter of minutes indicates whether the system identified a match.

Is AFMS being used currently for a local government program?

The Los Angeles County (Calif.) Department of Public Social Service has successfully implemented AFMS technology in an Automated Fingerprint Image Reporting and Match (AFIRM) System as a way to deter General Relief (GR) fraud.

The program is administered from 14 GR district offices throughout Los Angeles County, serving a steadily growing caseload of more than 100,000 cases.

The county saved \$5.4 million in the first six months and has reported saving more than \$11 million as of August 1993 by detecting duplicate welfare claims or denying benefits to recipients who fail to comply with

the fingerprinting requirement for GR.

In addition to cost saving, "the biggest plus of the AFIRM System is regaining the integrity of the General Relief Program. The system has weeded out several thousand people who shouldn't have been on the rolls," said Eddy Tanaka, director, Department of Public Social Services for Los Angeles County.

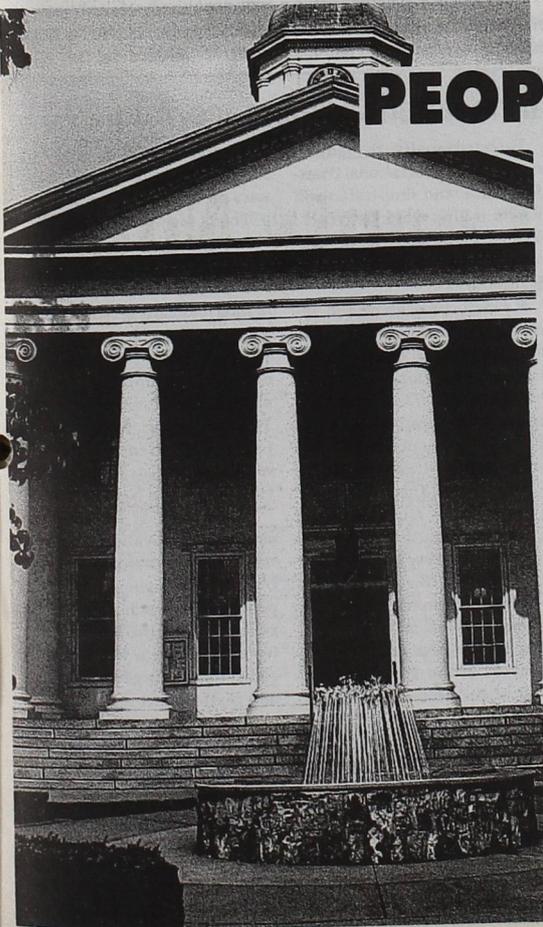
This year, the county expanded the AFIRM System to include the Aid to Families With Dependent Children Program, increasing the caseload to 550,000. The AFIRM System also has been implemented in Alameda, Contra Costa and San Francisco counties.

What are some key issues when procuring an AFMS system?

Because service-delivery AFMS is a revolutionary application of fingerprint technology, additional procurement considerations exist beyond those normally encountered.

- **Procurement knowledge.** Use of an independent fingerprint consultant or intensive investigation by

See *FINGERPRINT*, page 12



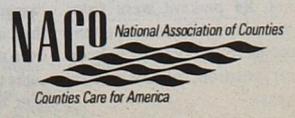
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New report cites neighborhood programs that help family

As the nation embarks on an increased effort to send welfare recipients to work and to assist poor working parents, the difficulty of arranging good child care for young children cannot be ignored. The National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP), whose mission is to enhance the health and development of children under the age of six living in poverty, now joins the child care debate.

The center's new report, "In the Neighborhood: Programs That Strengthen Family Day Care for Low-Income Families," describe and analyzes community-based programs that successfully organize and support family daycare providers in low-income neighborhoods.

Family daycare is child care offered in the home of the caregiver, a type of care that challenges policy-makers and advocates alike because of its informal nature and minimal regulation. Researchers estimate that four million of the nation's children

receive child care in caregivers' homes, rather than in centers or schools. Only 10-18 percent of home-based caregivers are regulated by state authorities. (See chart at right for the number of regulated family daycare-givers in all 50 states.)

This report follows the recent release of a Families and Work Institute report on child care provided in home settings, and a Carnegie Corporation of New York report, which identifies many unmet needs of children under three years of age, among them quality child care. Both studies indicate that poor-quality child care poses special risks to children in low-income neighborhoods.

"In the Neighborhood" offers lessons that work in the challenging context that surrounds child care for low-income parents. It focuses on programs in nine states that have enabled caregivers to become regulated, to participate in training, and to join support

Estimated number of family daycare providers in the United States

Alabama	3,592	Kentucky	616	North Dakota	1,710
Alaska	725	Louisiana	9,024	Ohio	6,605
Arizona	1,520	Maine	2,150	Oklahoma	3,237
Arkansas	1,603	Maryland	12,377	Oregon	6,980
California	52,720	Massachusetts	13,570	Pennsylvania	6,751
Colorado	6,619	Michigan	13,991	Rhode Island	617
Connecticut	5,958	Minnesota	14,410	South Carolina	1,933
Delaware	2,091	Mississippi	83	South Dakota	939
District of Columbia	315	Missouri	2,612	Tennessee	1,449
Florida	7,073	Montana	1,726	Texas	14,700
Georgia	5,872	Nebraska	3,806	Utah	2,664
Hawaii	358	Nevada	490	Vermont	1,820
Idaho	688	New Hampshire	500	Virginia	3,217
Illinois	7,666	New Jersey	4,000	Washington	8,200
Indiana	2,127	New Mexico	246	West Virginia	1,300
Iowa	4,789	New York	8,542	Wisconsin	5,057
Kansas	11,139	North Carolina	3,458	Wyoming	693

(Source: Family Day Care Advocacy Project (1993), 1993 Family Day Care Licensing Study, Washington, D.C., The Children's Foundation.)

networks so they can provide nurturing care and improve the early learning of young children.

"In the Neighborhood" assesses 10 programs that help family day-care providers in low-income neighborhoods. These 10

were chosen from 88 programs nominated by experts across the United States. The programs selected for analysis and case studies (included in the reports) are in Texas, California, Oregon, Georgia, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. Brief descriptions of all 88 nominated programs can be found in another NCCP publication, "Directory of Family Day Care Programs with Low-Income Focus."

"In the Neighborhood" identifies features shared by programs that have worked successfully in low-income neighborhood:

- They offer providers financial and material assistance to make home repairs and purchase

child care equipment and toys.

- They employ staff members from the community who can easily create trusting relationships with the providers.

- They combine the expertise of child care professionals with credibility of organizations rooted in low-income communities.

- Stable funding has enabled them to sustain a presence in the community and make long-term investments in building a supply of high-quality family daycare.

For more information, contact Beth Atkins, Columbia University School of Public Health, 154 Haven Ave., New York, NY 10032, phone: 212/927-8793, fax: 212/927-9162.

Continuing education and training survey highlights county officials' needs

By Lois Kampinsky
telecommunications and training director

How do you serve the most important unmet continuing education and training needs of county officials? How do you ensure hitting the mark with meaningful services and materials? How do you avoid providing the wrong formats or duplicating or competing with the highly valued state associations' efforts? One way is to ask the officials directly.

To this end, NACo launched its first such training poll. Approximately 13 percent of the 2,000 randomly selected representatives responded to our nationwide mail survey. They revealed a wealth of information for NACo's continuing education and training plans. State association training officials received a separate survey, which is not yet fully in.

Continuing education profile

- About two-thirds of those responding had attended continuing education classes as a county official. Of those who said they had not, 84 percent were from rural or mixed urban/rural counties and were likely to have been in their position for fewer than four years.

- The most frequent reasons for

not attending continuing education programs were programs not available locally (54 percent of respondents) or no awareness of them (47 percent of respondents).

- State associations were very likely to be involved with these programs along with other sources.

Method/media preferences

- The highest rated continuing education topics were legislative issues, managerial skills and technological innovations. Rated lowest were health care topics, volunteerism and public land issues.

- The most preferred format was seminar (75 percent), followed by videotapes (63 percent), and printed media (63 percent).

NACo conference workshops

- Almost half of the respondents reported attending a NACo workshop. Most important in their selection of sessions was the use of credible, qualified presenters and helpfulness to constituents. Least important was innovative formats.

- NACo-sponsored conference offerings were very positively rated by respondents who attended. Almost 80 percent of respondents "agreed or strongly agreed" that they always learn something new even though they usually attend the same topic areas. More than 90 percent felt that the workshops help them do their job.

NACo as educational clearinghouse

- Ninety-two percent of respondents agreed that a top priority for NACo should be to provide county officials with information about offerings by other states and state associations. The format of this information was most often requested in the form of quarterly coursebook (45 percent) or computerized index (33 percent) that can be updated.

Continuing education seminars

Topics that help officials do their job; well-qualified, credible presenters; and convenient locations were the most important factors in seminars. Less important were the facilities used and size of group being trained. Ninety-four percent of respondents reported being "likely or very likely" to attend seminars if the above issues were addressed.

Demographic profile

- Respondents averaged 5.8 years in their current position.

- Fifty percent of respondents described their county as rural. Only eight percent were urban and 12 percent were suburban. Thirty-one percent best described their county as mixed.

If you took part in the survey, NACo appreciates your help. If you would like to respond to the survey or tell NACo what training and continuing education you would like us to provide, please call Lois Kampinsky at 202/942-4267.

Innovations conference, Aug. 29-31

Internationally recognized experts in organizational transformation and innovation will headline "Innovators at Work: Transforming the Public Sector" Conference, Aug. 29-31 in Hampton, Va.

Keynote presenters will include: David Osborne, author of *Reinventing Government*; Gareth Morgan, author of *Imagination: The Art of Creative Management*; R. Roosevelt Thomas, author of *Beyond Race and Gender: Unleashing the Power of Your Total Workforce by Managing Diversity*; and Tracy Goss, author of *Re-invention: For People Who Want to Change the World*.

Michael Hammer, named by *Business Week* as one of the four pre-eminent management thinkers of the 1990s and author of the bestseller *Re-engineering the Corporation: A Manifesto for Business Revolution*, will be leading a post-conference seminar on Sept. 1.

Expert instructors in employee empowerment, systems thinking, redesigning government work processes, and strategic influence for public sector

innovators will be conducting full-day pre-conference seminars on Aug. 28.

This conference is being sponsored by the National League of Cities (NLC); the City of Hampton, Va.; the Virginia Chapter of International Personnel Management Association; and the Wyatt Company. Among the conference's supporting organizations are NACo; Public Technology, Inc.; International City/County Management Association; and Government Services Television Network.

Topics such as leading and sustaining innovation, community involvement and capacity building, re-engineering work processes, restructuring the bureaucracy, self-direct work teams, creating a learning organization, state-of-the-art pay and performance systems, and innovative uses of technology will be addressed through interactive seminars and work sessions.

For additional information about this conference, including registration information, please call NLC's Leadership Training Hotline at 202/626-3170.

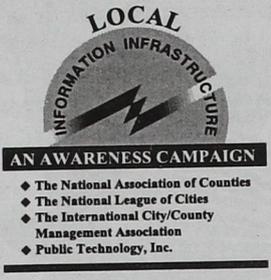
Harnessing the Information Revolution

Campaign to focus on the national information infrastructure

How to prepare for the revolution? Better yet, how to make sure the revolution doesn't leave your head in a basket, while your colleagues are dancing down the information highway, arm in arm, with the corporations intent on wiring the world?

Like it or not. Believe it or not — the megabyte explosion in information technology is coming your way. Fueled by the private sector's pursuit of new markets for information technology, the revolution can either be local government's best friend or leave it stranded in the dust.

That's why NACo, Public Technology, Inc. (PTI), the National



League of Cities (NLC) and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) have launched a National Information

Infrastructure (NII) Awareness Campaign to help local governments keep their heads amid the frenzy of products and promises that are beginning to bombard the public about the information superhighway.

The campaign will address NII's potential impact on communities and explore options for local government action.

NACo and NLC will take the lead in policy research and education. ICMA will conduct a survey and national leadership forum on telecommunications. PTI and NACo will seek and secure grants for local NII-related initiatives. PTI will identify

and test mechanisms for technical assistance to local governments. PTI is also providing financial support to NLC, NACo, and ICMA to help them conduct NII activities.

NACo has been making room for its members on an information highway in various ways for some time. The NACoNet Project, begun in 1992, for example, provides counties with long-term computer operations support and turnkey services through a partnership with EDS and Maxima Corporation. NACo has also negotiated a national computer network information exchange to county governments with Space-

works, Inc., called On-Ramp.

"It is vital that local governments safeguard the interests of their communities," said NACo Executive Director Larry Naake.

"With the information superhighway in place, counties can tap increased connectivity to provide enhanced health, education and welfare benefits to citizens," Naake explained. "They can also ensure universal access to information so that citizens who live in remote areas, cannot afford the necessary technology, have disabilities, or are uncomfortable using technology are not excluded."

House passes EDA/ARC reauthorization bill

By Haron N. Battle
associate legislative director

By an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 328-89, the House on May 12 passed the Economic Development Reauthorization Act (H.R. 2442) that reauthorizes the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) through FY96.

The House measure directs EDA to establish a prioritization system for funding programs based on the relative needs of areas that are eligible for assistance and their capacity to leverage other resources.

Eligibility for EDA funding narrowed

Whereas 85 percent of the country has been eligible for EDA funding, the bill lowers this to between 40-45 percent.

H.R. 2442 reauthorizes EDA at \$312.6 million in FY94 and \$306 million in FY95 and FY96. ARC authorization levels are \$249 million in FY94 and \$187 million in FY95 and FY96.

Assistance will be targeted to areas that meet at least one of the following criteria:

- 1) per capita income of 80 percent or less of the national average
- 2) unemployment rate one percent above the national average percentage for the last two years
- 3) threatened or sudden economic dislocation resulting in significant job loss both in terms of the number of jobs eliminated and the effect upon the employment rate, and
- 4) high concentrations of low-income persons and rural areas with substantial out-migration or unemployment.

Flexibility in use of funds expanded

The bill provides more flexibil-

ity in use of EDA funds. For example, grants used to establish revolving loan funds will not be treated as federal funds after they have been repaid, thereby giving communities greater latitude in using funds.

Non-profit organizations will be eligible to apply for public works grants. However, the bill specifies that they must work in cooperation with local governments.

Base closure communities benefit

The bill pays considerable attention to communities affected by closing military bases. Representative Bob Wise (D-W.Va.), chief sponsor of the legislation, reported that "[Commerce] Secretary [Ron] Brown has indicated that EDA will be a cornerstone for areas hit by military base closures and loss of military contracts."

To accomplish this, EDA would designate a representative to provide outreach and technical assistance for each state affected by base closures. EDA assistance would be available for use on military installations slated for closure or realignment and for projects in adjoining communities.

H.R. 2442 would also remove a significant barrier to conversion activities by specifying that communities would no longer need to either hold the title to or a lease on the property in order to receive EDA assistance.

What's next

Now that the House has completed work on EDA/ARC reauthorization, attention turns to the Senate where Senator Max Baucus (D-Mont.) has indicated he intends to introduce similar legislation prior to Memorial Day.

Sponsors of this legislation are confident that this will be the first

EDA/ARC reauthorization bill to be enacted in 12 years. These pro-

grams have remained in existence through annual appropriations.

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Citizens see the bang for their bucks during County Government Week

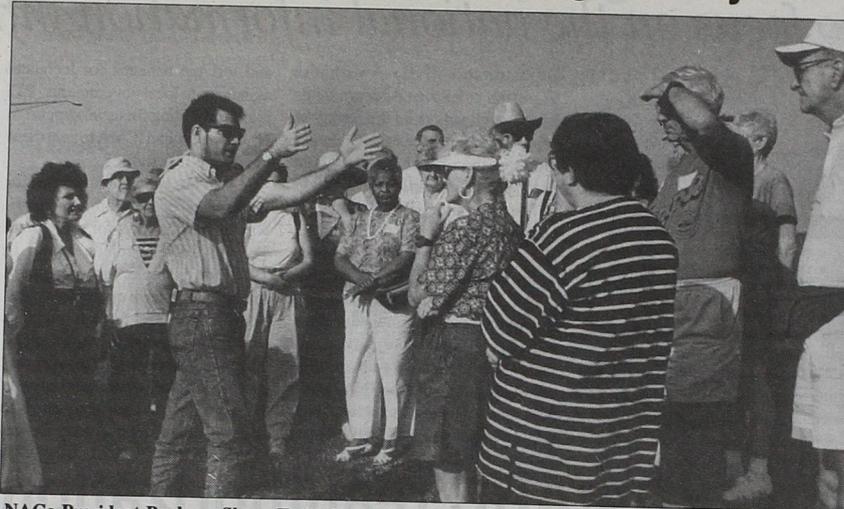
By Tom Goodman
public affairs director

"More people need to take the tour, to see the bang we get for our buck," said a citizen touring county facilities in Pinellas County, Fla., during National County Government Week (NCGW), April 16-23.

Similar comments were heard across the country as hundreds of counties celebrated County Government Week with activities of all varieties — from Alaska, where the Alaska Legislature honored boroughs (counties) for their "leadership, innovation and valuable services," to Texas, where the Texas Association of Counties produced a video on county government and sponsored an extensive awareness campaign.

The celebration extended as far west as Maui County, Hawaii, where the county council passed a resolution citing the work and efforts of the county and noted the \$15 million the county spends on unfunded mandates to counties in the East like Somerset, N.J., which scheduled a number of activities including an open house and family night on April 19. This is the fourth year that County Government Week has been held. More than 1,000 counties participated in some way to raising public awareness and understanding of the role and responsibility of counties in America.

The highlight of Pinellas County's events was two bus tours, offered by county employees in conjunction with the League of Women Voters on April 20. More than 66 members of the league, representatives of neigh-



NACo President Barbara Sheen Todd (l) listens as Steve Robinson, environmental specialist with the Pinellas County (Fla.) Environmental Management Department shows off one of the Bayside Bridge's mitigation sites. The county planted intertidal grasses and mangroves to cleanse storm water off the bridge that would have normally dumped directly into Tampa Bay.

borhood associations and interested citizens toured county facilities.

"We do everything the cities do and more," Todd said during one of the tour's stops. "We provide the health and social services safety net, courts and corrections, transportation systems and services, parks, public safety, solid waste disposal, planning and zoning services, and more."

County governments are the "forgotten government" in the bureaucratic food chain, Todd said. "But we are the most important sector of government."

In addition to participating in NCGW activities in Pinellas County, Todd took part in other events during the week:

- She attended the Manatee County

(Fla.) Board of Commissioners meeting on April 19 and was presented with their proclamation designating NCGW.

- She attended an Earth Day conference entitled "Community Stewardship for North Carolina's Urban Streams & Forests," sponsored by the Water Resources Research Institute of the University of North Carolina on April 22. Her keynote address was "Sustainable Communities: An Emerging Concept."

- She participated in the Eighth Annual Green Thumb Festival on April 23 in St. Petersburg, Fla., a horticultural event during which she presented their annual award for en-

vironmental stewardship.

- She attended and spoke at the grand opening celebration of the Pinellas Trail in Tarpon Springs, Fla. on April 24.

Other activities by counties across the country included:

- During a NCGW tour of the courthouse in Grundy County, Iowa, 195 area students participated in a mock election for the next governor of Iowa and also voted on a ballot question: Should smoking be banned in all public places? U.S. Representative Fred Grandy (R-Iowa) won the governor's race with 73 votes, Bonnie J. Campbell had 58, Terry E. Branstad had 51, William J. Reichardt had six, and Darold Powers had four. The public measure question passed with 143 yes votes, and 47 no votes.

- In Yellowstone County, Mont., county commissioners involved high school students in their regularly scheduled meeting, and the students also heard presentations from the treasurer's department and the county's clerk and recorder

- Seward County, Kan. conducted tours of the courthouse for approximately 450 school children.

- In Musselshell County, Mont., all elected officials participated in a program involving 12th grade students.

- Milwaukee County, Wis. scheduled a whole week of activities that included free admission for residents to the zoo, museums and parks. County Executive F. Thomas Ament visited schools to talk about county government, and through payroll flyers, highlighted all departments to enlighten county employees and encourage better community understanding.

- Schuylkill County, Pa. commissioners adopted a proclamation for NCGW and spoke to the media about the importance of stopping unfunded mandates.

- Douglas County Minn. held open houses throughout the week in the

courthouse, the health department, the public works department and the library. April 20 was designated Employee Appreciation Day.

- An insert on Calhoun County, Iowa was included in its local newspaper, the *Journal-Herald*, that focused on the county departments and their employees.

- McHenry County, Ill. held County Government Awareness Day involving students from 12 high schools. The day included a mock county board meeting, mock jury selection, and presentations by department heads. The activities were covered in an article in the local newspaper, the *Northwest Herald*.

- Wasco County, Ore. tied its activities to the Cherry Festival Parade and celebration.

- Among the activities by El Paso County, Colo., Kern County, Calif., and Howard County, Md. were expos in local shopping malls, where county departments displayed and explained their services.

- St. Lucie County, Fla. held open houses at eight locations on April 22, allowing citizens to see and learn about different departments and facilities.

- Sheridan County, Wyo. held open houses at the airport, fire stations, hospital and library. In addition, Sheridan's daily newspaper published a series of articles written by elected officials that were incorporated into the school curriculum for students on all grade levels.

- Iredell County (N.C.) Government Day was celebrated with 10 high school students serving as "County Commissioner for a Day."

- County elected officials in Sheridan County, Wyo. prepared articles on county government which were published in the *The Sheridan Press* during NCGW. Their articles were also incorporated into the school curriculum for students at all grade levels.

- Wake County, N.C. recognized student body presidents from public and private high schools throughout the county for their outstanding leadership and achievement with a reception and presentation of certificates at the board of commissioners meeting.

- Counties in Virginia that held activities involving high school students included: Henrico, Chesterfield and Stafford. Counties in the state that issued proclamations included: Augusta, Bedford, Henrico, Henry, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Powhatan, Prince George, Southampton and Scott.

- Other counties that issued proclamations were: Prince George's County, Md.; Stanislaus County, Calif.; McKinley County, N.M.; Charlotte County, Fla.; Alachua County, Fla.; Lake County, Fla.; Irion County, Texas; Gallup County, N.M.; Brooke County, W.Va.; Hamilton County, Ohio; Ventura County, Calif.; Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska; and Washington County, Md.

Students write about America's counties

Humboldt County, Iowa held a number of activities during National County Government Week last month involving the public and county school students. Essay contests were held for grades seven through 12. Here are the first-place winners for grades seven and eight:

America's Counties — America's Future

By Mike Coleman
7th grade

The county government is the form of government closest to the average person. The people feel like they have some influence and input on the decisions made. We know most of the elected people as friends and neighbors. To tell them how you feel is easier and you would hope they would listen and value your opinion.

The supervisors control the budgets for all county services. Some of the things they provide money for are the fair, parks, county health nurses, maintaining the county roads and county libraries. One of the biggest expenses is mental health.

For the county government to continue to be a functional and workable government in the future, it must be able to provide services in a cost-effective manner.

County government

By Jenny Sampson
8th grade

County government influences how we live our daily lives. And in monitoring our lives, it controls our future. County government oversees many things, from how our tax dollars are spent to the numerous county services. The county has all of our interests at heart. It oversees all of the important happenings in the county. County government is not in total control of its citizens. Abraham Lincoln once said, "No man is good enough to govern over another man without his consent." County government is definitely a factor in our future, and we control that future by who we elect to office.



By Dana DeBeauvoir
Travis County, Texas

Foot Soldier for Democracy

Travis County, Texas Clerk Dana DeBeauvoir was among 75 U.S. citizens selected by the United Nations to serve as an election observer during South Africa's historic vote last month. DeBeauvoir, who has served two terms as county clerk, recorded her experiences in a series of journal entries that provide a first-hand and compelling account of the birth of a brave, new and free South Africa. We hope you will find her account as rewarding as we did.



Serving as an elections observer for the United Nations is, I suspect, a lot like being in the army. I was issued a uniform, provided training and instructions and deployed to my designated post. I was not asked for my opinion or for my preference of location, nor was I given any information in advance of when I needed it. Security was strict.

One day I was a private citizen, an honored American asked to serve, and the next I was a foot soldier for democracy.

Upon my return, well-intentioned people have asked, "Was it fun? Did you have a good time?" It's a harder question to answer than you might first think. I have images burned in my memory that I will never forget, although some I'd like to try to erase.

My assignment as an election observer was often heartbreaking. The pace was physically demanding and the hours were longer than I had ever worked in our elections here.

Was it fun? I have a lump in my throat that may never go away.

But, I was there. I saw the end of the failed philosophy of apartheid. More importantly, I felt the triumph. I know you saw the photographs of the thousands of people standing in lines hours long waiting for the chance to cast the first ballot of their lives. What did not make the news was what happened at the end of those long lines.

What I saw from my vantage point inside those polling places was the smile on the face of countless voters as the ballot was finally, carefully inserted through the slot into the ballot box. All those hours standing in line, unheard of here, failed to curb the joy. I saw them dance out of the polling place.

JOURNAL ENTRY

Dateline: Johannesburg, South Africa, April 22, 1994

After leaving Austin on April 18th, I watched the next two sunrises from an airplane window. The trip was tiring, but uneventful. It had begun to rain when I reached my downtown Johannesburg hotel on Tuesday afternoon about 4 p.m. Our hotel is about two blocks

from the regional headquarters of Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) and in the same area where violence broke out last week. ANC supporters, Zulus and innocent bystanders died on the street in front of our hotel only days ago. Some of the streets still have barbed wire barricades up. Billboards and building facades sport bullet hole markings.

Some 200 election observers stand in the lobby awaiting processing. I struck up a conversation with a fellow observer, a Nigerian woman, while we were waiting.

I commented about the rain to her and mentioned that in America rain on election day usually dampened turnout and was considered bad luck. In a soft British accent she said, "You don't understand Africa. The rain is a welcome blessing. The rain is a good omen for the South Africa election because it will wash away the blood."

The next day, the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) was added to the election despite the fact that the ballot had already been printed.

Some decried the move. We all hope the compromise will succeed and save thousands of lives.

I still do not know into which province I will be deployed, and such information is closely guarded for security reasons.

JOURNAL ENTRY

Dateline: Sandton, South Africa, April 24, 1994

In traveling, I find the mood of the South African people varied — fear, uncertainty, and a buoyant optimism about the future. I hear a lot of positive comments from both black and white South Africans. I also hear questions about the competence of majority (meaning black) rule.

I have been assigned to the PWV region of South Africa, which includes northern Johannesburg, Soweto, Pretoria, and East Rand.

The assignment is considered prestigious, but at high risk for political violence.

According to briefings, it is the most densely populated at 10 million people, is a mixture of harsh poverty and posh wealth, and contains 40 percent of the country's economic development.

U.N. briefings have been extensive. Yesterday was Deployment Day, handled in military fashion. After last-minute additions, the ranks of U.N. observers now number 1,800 people from 96 nations.

We have been divided into "battalions" and sent to regional centers. I do not yet know my final destination. Hours are long and opportunity for sleep is limited.

I am benefiting from the fact that several members of my group are seasoned election observers with experience in previous missions such as Angola and Cambodia. These observers have offered helpful advice for emergency situations:

- Keep alert to surroundings. Upon entering a township, if you do not see people milling about on the streets, leave immediately. It is a warning sign.

- Always take the car keys with you and have the driver remain with the car.

- If you get tear gassed, use common petroleum jelly or non-menthol Chapstick in and around your eyes ASAP. Water is ineffective. Also, tear out a clump of a certain native grass (dried), light it and inhale the smoke to treat the lungs.

- Avoid the perception of affiliation. Never smile or shake hands with anyone. Instead politely nod to anyone who speaks. Never stand alone.

Preparation is a comfort, but I really believe that E-Day will be hectic, mostly quiet and non-violent. U.N.O.M.S.A. (United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa) is a word in Zulu. Unomsa means "giver of mercy and humanity."

Later, I remembered one more piece of advice the experienced observers had given me. They had told me never to sit next to a window.

Obviously, in case of a bombing, sitting next to a window could become a trap when the window was reduced to razor shards by an unexpected blast.

It was just pure luck that when the unexpected moment arrived and a 200-pound bomb exploded outside, the window I was sitting in front of didn't shatter.

JOURNAL ENTRY

Dateline: Germiston, South Africa, April 25, 1994

I have been assigned to observe elections in Bokburg, a conservative white suburb north of Johannesburg. The area has a con-

tingent of the AWB, an extremist, white right-wing group opposed to majority rule.

Now that the IFP is participating in the election, this area of the country is considered one of the higher risk areas for political violence. The white suburbs are very comfort-



Dana DeBeauvoir
Travis County, Texas

able, while the black townships are large and densely populated. I'm new here, but the close proximity of have and have-not feels tense.

On Monday morning, I attended a briefing by UNOMSA officials at its regional HQ on the 3rd floor of the Volksaks Building on Victoria Street in downtown Germiston. The building also houses the South African Peace Committee.

The Volksaks Building is a 10-story modern, atrium-style office building. Most of the offices have glass walls on the interior and large windows on the exterior.

About 100 people, mostly black, snaked in a long line on the bottom floor receiving paychecks. The beginning of the briefing was running a little late and a group of about 10 U.N. observers was chatting and reviewing handouts.

At a few minutes before 9 a.m., as I sat facing the atrium, I heard a loud boom and looked up to see the windows and the interior walls of glass shatter with the force of the concussion.

Ten stories of glass shards flew across to the offices on the other side of the atrium and rained down

on the people below. A car bomb on the street outside had exploded. As the building began to fill with smoke, people ran screaming to the exits.

Someone yelled for us to "hit the floor" in case shooting started. After a minute or so, we determined that there would be no shooting and it was more important to evacuate the damaged building.

It became increasingly difficult to maintain my own calm in the midst of the panicked group of office workers that crowded the exit stairs. The smoke set off the fire sprinklers, and it began to rain inside the atrium. Descending, I took a wrong turn and walked into the damaged area on the second floor.

Window casings were hanging ajar with some shards of glass still hanging in them. Chairs and desks were shoved over and swept clear of papers and telephones by the blast; drapes were shredded. I made my way outside and found more pandemonium.

Some people were running away from the blast area at the curb, others were running toward it.

I was unsure of which way to go and the smoke added to the confusion. Up ahead, a body lay on the sidewalk motionless. I don't remember much else about him. At my feet was a puddle of blood, and as I looked to my left, I noticed more blood. It looked like someone was being dragged — dragged to safety perhaps.

So, I followed the trail of blood down the sidewalk to the curb. The injured man was lying under an awning at a bus stop. He still had his leg, and although he had obviously lost a lot of blood, he looked like he might be all right. At the curb, a solitary small, white pickup truck was parked and unattended. I avoided it and all other parked cars.

Minutes later, as the smoke began to clear, a special unit of the South African Defense Force, ambulances, fire trucks, and the South African Police moved in to secure the area. At last count, the bombing left eight dead and 40 wounded.

See FOOT SOLDIER, next page

FOOT SOLDIER from page 9



After a time, the U.N. observers migrated to a park, and we concluded our work sitting cross-legged under the trees.

For me, disbelief gave way to fear, fear gave way to anger. There is an old African saying here that goes, "When two elephants fight, it's the grass that suffers." We must not let a small extremist group disrupt and intimidate the free and fair elections that all other South Africans have awaited for so long.

As a member of the U.N., no matter how small my role, I'm obligated not to let such cowardly, albeit frightening, acts deter support for South Africa's move to democracy. No birth is without pain and fear. By our continued presence, we are saying the world is with South Africa.

I didn't send a fax of my journal entry on the first or the second day of voting in the South Africa election. I couldn't write about what I saw on the first day of voting; I still can't talk about it. The first day of voting was a special day reserved for the aged, pregnant women and those with disabilities.

My U.N. observer team, which consisted of a Chinese man, a French woman, our Zimbabwean driver and me, visited several retirement communities. The lines were long, but everyone voted without incident. That's not the part that disturbed me. Part of our route that first day included going to a mine hospital.

In South Africa, the gold, coal and diamond mines are big business, and probably the worst of apartheid's reign. If you were poor, illiterate, black, Zulu, and had no opportunity for employment at home, you went to work in the mines to feed your family. The miners lived in huge camps and went home to see their wives and children once a year. Conditions were harsh and dangerous, and violence was common.

Today, conditions in the mines are supposedly improved. One of the benefits afforded to mine employees is a free hospital to treat on-the-job injuries and disabilities. When we drove up the unpaved road, I kept looking for the main hospital building.

The "hospital" consisted of several rows of shacks sharing common walls and a roof. There was nothing antiseptic about it. The windows and doors to each shack were open and had no screens. The wood floors were bare and there were no beds. Instead, pieces of plywood were straddled across cin-

der blocks, and occasionally one of the makeshift beds had an old sleeping bag on top of the plywood.

I'd guess there were 300 or so "patients" in the mine hospital, predominantly men. Some wore hospital scrub suits which made them look more like inmates than patients, others just wore rags. As we drove up in our U.N. car, there was an argument going on in the center of the compound. Some of the patients were being denied the right to vote because they did not possess Temporary Voter ID Cards.

Eventually, the dispute was resolved when plans were made to transport the group of about 20 patients to a nearby Voter ID Center to obtain temporary cards.

If I had not stayed outside to witness the argument, I would have missed seeing the man lying on the ground waiting in line to vote. He had lost the use of his limbs from the chest down. He did not have a wheelchair. Along with at least 100 other patients, he waited in line to vote and moved forward by using his elbows to drag his body through the dust.

I estimate he had been inching his way along for almost an hour. Voting was going very slowly inside the polling place because every voter was illiterate and needed assistance marking his ballot.

Inside the polling place another 100 people stood in line waiting to vote. I saw a man with an injured arm unbandaged, only supported with a sling around his neck made of an old, dirty rag.

I saw a man with a very swollen knee, barefoot with no splint and using only one crutch. It was an old, battered wooden crutch with a shriveled arm pad. Midway down the crutch, the pad for the heel of his hand was made of rubber bands.

I saw a woman with one leg stand in line for the two hours we were there using only one crutch. Perhaps the two patients were sharing the battered old pair of crutches.

I saw a very old woman, ancient, show such courage when she opened her folded ballot and stared at it without any idea how she was supposed to indicate her choice. No matter how long it took, she intended to vote. We notified one of the polling officials that she needed assistance.

Under no circumstances could I show any emotion at what I was witnessing. It was more important to convey respect to the person and support their right to vote than to acknowledge their painful surroundings.

The second day of voting was very tense. This was the day the long lines formed and people routinely waited 4-6 hours in line to vote, often in the hot African sun.

At some polling places, voters found out after waiting hours that the polling place had run out of ballots.

The lines of voters in my area were often two kilometers, or over 1.25 miles long. Over 7,000 people waited for three hours at the town hall polling place for delivery of ballots after exhausting original supplies.

Shortly after 5 p.m., all ballots supplies were exhausted in our polling places and voters were told to come back the next day to vote.

There was nothing more our U.N. team could witness until further supplies arrived. So, we decided to allow our driver to pick up a clean shirt, his first clean clothes in three days, at his home in the black township of Tembisi.

(Neither the South African company who hired our drivers, nor the U.N., who contracted with the company had made proper provisions for housing and feeding our drivers during the five-day assignment. That's another story.)

The visit to Tembisi was "unofficial." Until I saw a black township, I did not understand apartheid. These townships are huge, probably 400,000 people live in Tembisi, which is certainly not the largest.

Our driver was well groomed and wore a coat and tie to work. He also lived in a cardboard, tin-roofed shanty with his wife and two children.

Townships are not really created ad hoc. These are planned communities—planned in most areas without running water, sewers, electricity or roads. The apartheid government did not recognize the inhabitants officially by including them in the census. However, some electricity is provided free to some parts of the townships.

To reach our driver's shanty, we traveled cross-county over a gullied path in the red African dirt for 15 minutes, stopping occasionally to pay our respects to various elders along the way.

In the daylight, our U.N. car with two white women, a Chinese guy and our proud driver was considered somewhat comical.

We could not linger at his destination because it was too dangerous for us to be in an unlighted township full of desperate people after dark. I couldn't write about all the cruelties and the human damage I had seen. I still can't talk about some of it.

JOURNAL ENTRY

Dateline: Bokcberg,
South Africa, April 28, 1994

Today, the last day of voting, South Africa's election has taken a dramatic turn for the better. Polling officials report that they have received additional and sufficient supplies of ballots to allow all voters the exercise of their right to vote. The Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) has pulled this election out of the fire to the surprise of

many observers and voters. Once again, the tenacity and resilience associated with the South African people has shown itself in the final hour.

Today voting is strong in this area near Johannesburg, with polling places voting people at 300-400 per hour. Lines of voters are significantly shorter and moving more quickly although expected to lengthen beginning at mid-afternoon. Yesterday's declined voters are returning to the polls.

While the news is good here, there is still concern about Natal province and many of the townships in the Johannesburg/PWV province.

By noon, only two polling stations in Ulundi (in Natal) were open and voting. IEC officials tell us they are hoping for a noon start-up for the remaining locations in the province of Natal.

Voters hoping for a successful and popularly accepted outcome of the election, are carefully watching what happens in the townships here

and in Natal. Many voters say that as go these areas, so goes the elections in terms of being judged free and fair.

The fact that problems have been equally felt in both white and black areas has lessened tension. However, if the problems in the black townships and Natal are not quickly resolved today, charges of racism and tampering will quickly surface.

Also surprising has been the stellar performance of all the party officials in the heavily populated, critical Johannesburg region. There has been no electioneering, and often party representatives have stepped in to assist voters and diffuse frustration even when the voter probably will not cast his vote for the representative's party.

The dignity and patience shown by these voters at a very critical time lends credence to their assertion that they can and will build a new South Africa that works to

See FOOT SOLDIER, next page

Guaranteeing a "free and fair" election began at home for county clerk

Ever since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, Travis County Clerk Dana DeBeauvoir has been playing host to representatives from Eastern Europe's emerging democracies intent on learning about America's election process.

Texas, with its "early voting," or 17-day voting period, and Travis County, with its optical scan vote-counting system, were attractive sites to learn about how the United States guarantees free and open voting.

It was during these visits that DeBeauvoir became acquainted with the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) located in Washington, D.C. IFES, founded in 1987, is a non-partisan, international organization providing technical assistance to emerging democracies worldwide.

At the request of the State Department, IFES forwarded a list of 400 election-observer applicants, among them DeBeauvoir, to the U.S. Mission at the United Nations, which forwarded the list to the U.N.'s Field Operations for final selection.

As an election observer, DeBeauvoir was to "make sure that everything looked usual, that people were arriving in normal fashion, that everyone was given the same material, that everything was free and fair."

The U.N. teams always travelled in groups of three, DeBeauvoir said. They were advised to use their best judgment when confronting an unusual situation. "If there's a uniformed white guard armed with an AK-47 pulling black people out of line, you may just want to report him to the U.N. [instead of speaking with him directly]," she explained.

Being from Texas was an "instant entree," DeBeauvoir said. "Everyone knows Texas." Between her Texas roots and her eight years of experience running the election process in Travis County, "[monitoring the South African election] was easier for me."

Despite witnessing "a lot of heartbreak," her final assessment of the experience was upbeat. "Every single polling place was a model of respect for the voters."



FOOT SOLDIER *from page 10*



gether and tolerates cultural differences. Their commitment to a 100 percent franchise and greater opportunity for all is heartwarming and inspiring.

JOURNAL ENTRY

Dateline: Johannesburg, South Africa, May 1, 1994

Voting in all areas of South Africa has concluded and the counting process is underway. From all accounts, it is a painfully slow process, but expected to be concluded sometime tomorrow. I volunteered to serve on the counting team, but was only selected to serve as a standby in case another observer became ill. I've been on standby all day, and I suspect that at this point it is unlikely that I will be called. I'm disappointed.

Those who wished to attend were

transported this afternoon to a "braai" (a traditional South African barbecue) at the residence of the American Ambassador, Princeton Lyman and Nancy Lyman, to thank us for our service. The "braai" was held in Pretoria, not far from one of the main counting stations. We watched the televised coverage of the counting process and election results off and on all day. Nelson Mandela was invited and we all wonder if he will appear.

The parties have periodically raised charges of irregularities, most of which have been laid to rest. However, there was one complaint I found particularly interesting.

The National Party (NP) complained that in some polling stations voters were given premarked ballots.

The IEC investigated the charge and found a batch of ballots that contained a printing error.

On the face of some ballots, a small smudge appears in the middle of the voting box next to the name of the PAC candidate, the first candidate listed on the ballot. NP officials thought that the smudge looked like a thumb print that might be interpreted as a vote mark.

The IEC notified the counting stations involved and retrained counters to disregard the smudge as a possible vote.

I find it fascinating that the rate of "spoiled ballots" (often where the voter has marked two or more candidates or otherwise not clearly indicated his/her intent) is only about 1.5 percent. In a country where illiteracy is widespread, near 100 percent in some areas I visited, this is surprisingly low. The lesson here is not to confuse illiteracy with ignorance. These people know exactly what they want and can make informed choices, even though they often lack simple skills at writing.

My service as an election observer for the United Nations is drawing to a close. I say service because there are many times I felt like I was in the army. I haven't had time to sort through my thoughts and emotions yet.

There's a lump in my throat that's been there for days. It's been important, critical not ever to cry, no matter what I was witnessing. To show pity or tears would have been an insult to these voters.

I was called on to match their dignity and strength with respect, not focus on the poverty in their lives. After all, I was only observing. For them, it was the long awaited election day.

Tomorrow is my first free day and I'd like to see something else in this country before I leave. So, I'm headed south for Port Elizabeth.

Once out of service, I will have the time and permission to speak freely about what I've seen. I'll call tomorrow.

One by one, the parties and the U.N. have declared what we hoped to hear - that South Africa's first all-race election marking the end of apartheid was free and fair. In the surprisingly non-violent election days, civility, justice and peace prevailed.

AFTERMATH

Although I've been to South Africa, I don't know what may happen to this country post-election. South Africa has 300 years of oppression and fear to overcome. It needs roads, houses, schools and jobs. On assignment with the United Nations, what I found was a country emotionally ready to move past apartheid. Sanctions had hurt, and perhaps apartheid had created more than one kind of prison.

Watching black and white South Africans stand side by side in line to vote certainly created a strong image of unity and determination.

Given the stories I had heard about the South African police, I was surprised more than once by the attitudes I heard officers express. It seems the police and the

army had decided at some point that they wanted to support the new South Africa as trained professionals, respected in country as well as abroad.

On the second day of voting when the long lines formed, I saw evidence of the new trust and respect in one scene. An old black woman had been standing in line a long time and was beginning to show signs of fatigue. I went to fetch a chair for her. U.N. observers carried a lot of chairs that day.

When I returned, a South African policeman, an Afrikaner, was helping her up a set of steps. As he half carried her up the flight, he said reassuringly, "Now, don't you worry, Mama. You're gonna get to vote and everything's gonna be just fine." As she settled into the chair, he asked her, "Mama, would you tell me how old you are?" She told the white policeman that she was 70 years old.

Then he asked, "And how long have you been waiting to vote?" The old woman answered, "I've been waiting four hours." The Afrikaner countered, "No ma'am, you haven't been waiting four hours."

Growing angry, she insisted, "I've been waiting four hours!" Smiling at her, the uniformed man said, "No ma'am, you've been waiting 52 years."

FLOW CONTROL *from page 1*

hibited trash generators from evading payment of the tipping fee by requiring that all residential, commercial and industrial waste generated or collected within the town be delivered to the transfer station. Haulers were allowed to use other licensed recycling facilities, but once the recyclables had been removed, the remaining solid waste was required to be brought to the town's transfer station.

C & A Carbone operated a recycling facility within the town limits, but violated the ordinance by sending its non-recyclable trash to low-cost landfills in Indiana, Illinois, West Virginia and Florida. The subterfuge was discovered when one of the company's tractor-trailers containing 23 bales of garbage struck an overpass on a New Jersey highway, spilling its load.

The court held that by requiring all generators in town to use its transfer station facility, Clarkstown unconstitutionally interfered with interstate commerce and deprived out-of-state firms access to the waste-processing market.

Despite the town's argument that it was using its ordinance to assure that the cost of handling garbage and trash was equitably spread among all generators in the town, Justice Anthony M. Kennedy wrote for the court's majority: "State and local governments may not use their regulatory power to favor local enterprise." He urged the town to look

at other ways to subsidize the transfer station, such as through general taxes or municipal bonds.

Justice David H. Souter, writing the dissent, said that the Clarkstown ordinance "directly aids the government in satisfying [the] traditional governmental responsibility" of managing municipal solid waste.

The ruling throws the issue of flow control squarely into the lap of Congress, where several flow control bills have been pending for more than a year.

Without federal authority to

regulate the flow of trash and garbage, the cities and counties in the 29 states with flow control statutes will lose a valuable tool in managing the growing volumes of solid waste.

Even in those states where flow control is not yet authorized or in use, the loss of the ability to legally use flow control as long-range solid waste management plans are gradually implemented over the next several years is devastating.

NACo is urging counties to contact their senators to ask them to cosponsor S. 1634, a flow control bill sponsored by Senators Howell

Heflin (D-Ala.) and Dave Durenberger (R-Minn.). With a lack of pressure from local officials, few senators have signed onto the bill to date.

In the House, NACo is seeking a commitment from Representative Al Swift (D-Wash.), chairman, Subcommittee on Transportation and Hazardous Waste, to include a flow control amendment in an out-of-state waste bill soon to be heard in his subcommittee.

Major garbage haulers which own large amounts of low-cost dump space are NACo's key opponents on the flow control issue and

are devoting considerable energy to defeating any local government-friendly flow control measure.

The National Solid Waste Management Association has sent out legislative alerts to all its members, urging them to have all their employees contact their congressional representatives. Only a nationwide show of support for flow control will be able to counter the waste-hauling industry lobbying.

Background information, sample letters and up-to-date status reports on flow control bills are available from NACo. Contact Diane Shea at 202/942-4269.

MANDATES *from page 1*

mandate on state and local governments.

If the fiscal impact statement is not submitted, a point of order may be raised by any member to stop further consideration of a mandate proposal by the full House or Senate.

The proposal would also require Congress to authorize federal funds for any future federal mandate that is estimated to cost more than \$100 million on an annual basis.

In cases where the CBO estimate exceeds \$100 million, Congress would be required to pay for the total cost of the mandate. If Congress fails to authorize funds to pay for the mandate, the bill would be subject to a point of order. A majority vote would be required to waive the point of order.

By voting to waive the point of order, a member would be on record imposing a new unfunded federal mandate on state and local governments.

NACo's concern about the language that would require Congress to authorize funds centers on the question of appropriations. Under the current proposal there would be no obligation to subsequently appropriate the necessary funds to pay for the cost of the mandates.

The amount authorized in any bill is only viewed as a proposed limit on funding. There is no obligation on the appropriation committees to appropriate any amount authorized in the bill. The committee staff is working on new language to address this problem.

Another concern is the threshold

provision in the bill that triggers federal funding of mandates. Under this provision, state and local governments would be required to pay the cost of any mandate that would cost, in the aggregate, less than \$100 million annually.

NACo and other public interest groups have urged that there be no threshold or a significantly lower one. Although the committee staff

felt the impact of \$100 million on state and local governments would be insignificant, NACo fears that several mandates in this range could impose a severe strain, particularly on small governmental units.

If enacted, the bill would become effective, Oct. 1, 1995. NACo would like to get legislation enacted in time to become effective on Jan. 1, 1995.

EPA Briefings

On May 12, EPA distributed draft *Federal Register* notices for revised source performance standards for new municipal waste combustors and emission guidelines for existing municipal waste combustors. The rulemaking is on an accelerated schedule.

As soon as the *Federal Register* notice is published, expected within the next month, a public hearing will follow 15 days later in Washington, D.C. The public comment period will last 30 days, then final rules will be adopted. NACo will be submitting comments. For further information, contact NACo at 202/942-4269.

"New politics" at work with empowerment zones

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.)

Within weeks, official Washington will be deluged with community applications to snare the benefits of nine empowerment zone and 95 enterprise community designations voted by Congress last year.

As the Clinton Administration then gets to work on judging the entries, it's likely politicians and the media, as usual, will dwell on the old politics — Who will win or lose? Is the competition wired for favored cities? How many federal dollars will the winners scoop up?

The real story, however, is about a different politics: the Clintonites' strategy to get cities and counties to tap the will to revitalize even their poorest communities, and to evoke new city and regional alliances to support those neighborhoods.

It is not the Jack Kemp vision of enterprise zones — throw out a bunch of tax incentives and see how many businesses then want to set up shop in graffiti-smear, crime-plagued areas. Nor is it Lady Bountiful.

See PEIRCE, page 13

Special seminar for newly elected county officials at Annual

By Sharon Lawrence
director of research

What happens when the candidate becomes the commissioner or clerk? How does a newly elected county official suddenly juggle the multiple demands on his/her time? How do they learn the baffling language of government which seems to be all letters and numbers and no words? (Witness Section 1983, ISTE, AHCCCS, and PILT) What happens when the county's code of ethics fails to offer guidance on the many complicated ethical questions arising from public service?

To assist newly elected county officials navigate the often treacherous, but highly rewarding world of elective office, NACo is offering a special seminar, "Words of Wisdom

for Newly Elected County Officials."

Designed for elected county officials with less than 18 months of service, this daylong seminar will be held on Monday, Aug. 1, in conjunction with the Annual Conference. Members of the NACo Member Programs and Services Steering Committee, who represent all of NACo's steering committees and affiliates, will be active instructors and counselors for this program.

Committee Chairman Terry Wood, council member from Duval County, Fla., described the seminar's objectives: "Those of us who have held

public office for a number of years understand the problems that are experienced by someone who has just been elected to county office. We've been there." Wood added, "Now we'd like to share the benefits of our years of service, not only with other officials from our county or our state, but with officials from across the country. Moreover, we'd like to help these individuals build relationships with other newly elected officials from outside their state and their region."

Katie Dixon, vice chair of the committee, explained, "We know that most state associations offer training for newly elected county officials. This program is designed to complement and supplement those efforts." Dixon, Salt Lake County (Utah) recorder, pointed out, "We hope to have active participa-

tion by many row officers: This is not just a program for commissioners and elected county executives."

The day's activities will open with an overview of the key facts about public personnel management that all elected officials need to know. Participants then will shift their attention to the complex ethical environment now engulfing public service. As part of this segment, they will analyze several situations which involve potential ethical conflicts and discuss how they should be resolved.

Strategies for developing effective working relationships with state and federal government officials will be discussed during the luncheon. Former county officials who now serve in federal and state government will offer guidance from their unique perspective on county/

state and county/federal relations. Another section of this program will highlight important financial management issues for elected officials.

Supplementing these presentations will be reflections from long-time elected officials who will discuss, "If I Knew Then What I Know Now." Finally, the day will close with a question and answer session during which participants will be able to pose their most difficult questions to a panel of veteran elected county officials.

Advance registration for this seminar is required. To obtain registration materials, please contact: Sharon Lawrence, director of research, National Association of Counties, 440 First St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001 phone: 202/942-4285, fax: 202/737-0480. Deadline for registration is July 15.

Counties resound with the sound of Christmas in April

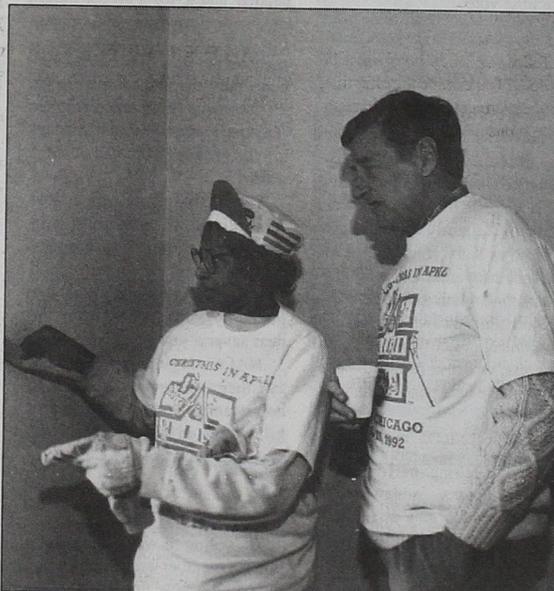
In counties across America, the sounds of hammers, saws and excited volunteers rang out as 120,000 Christmas in April volunteers worked to transform homes.

In all, 4,000 houses saw the dramatic effects of this barn-raising spirit which encourages people from all walks of life to join together to fix up the houses of low-income, elderly and disabled homeowners.

In Prince George's County, Md., 101 houses received this magical

makeover, with repairs ranging from a new roof to a complete new paint job inside and out.

Prince George's County is truly a public-private partnership, with County Executive Parris Glendening doing all he can year after year to cooperate. "Christmas in April saves Prince George's County lots of money ... and makes this a better place to live. ... We all win," says Glendening. Now in its sixth year in the county, this neighbor-helping ini-



Cook County (Ill.) Commissioner Richard Phelan (r) watches another Christmas in April volunteer prepare a wall for painting.

Now in its third year, this program has become an annual rite of spring for corporations, civic leaders, construction companies and caring individuals. Phelan held the first organizational meeting in his council headquarters, observing that with cutbacks in government spending, such volunteer initiatives were more important than ever. And the Cook County program continues to perform miracles.

This year, one family was moved into the house they had purchased two years ago. With no plumbing, electricity or kitchen, the Hassells, with eight children, found themselves unable to live in their "piece of the American Dream." Along came Christmas in April, and out of public housing came the Hassells. With the help of a local construction company that donated several weekends of hard, skilled work, this family finally has a real home.

While most of the work of Christmas in April occurs in the month of April, the planning and preparation takes basically a year.

Each of the 132 Christmas in April affiliates has a local board of directors which is responsible for the administration and fundraising. All affiliates are part of a national organization, Christmas in April USA, which is headquartered in Washington, D.C. For additional start-up information, including a step-by-step guide and a national video, write: Christmas in April USA, 1225 Eye St., N.W., Suite 601, Washington, DC 20005, or call: 1/800/4REHAB9.

(Ed. Note: For the past two years, NACo staff have also volunteered for the Washington, D.C. Christmas in April program.)

FINGERPRINT from page 5

the procuring organization staff is important to acquire the necessary functions without purchasing costly, but unnecessary, features. A list of organizations providing consulting can be found in the 1994 *Advanced Card and Identification Technology Sourcebook*, Warfel and Miller, Fifth Edition, 1993.

• **Proven reliability and accuracy.** Specific requirements for reliability and accuracy should be included in any AFMS procurement and are the key components of public acceptance.

Accuracy ensures that eligible persons promptly receive their benefit or service and that the system is cost-effective. It may make sense to require a demonstration of the system and proof of accuracy.

• **Expandability.** As customer volume increases, the expandability of any procured system, including AFMS, is vital.

Proven production performance or a benchmark of system performance should be required in any AFMS procurement. Another consideration is the financial stability of the vendor

to: 1) ensure that they remain in business throughout the life of a contract to allow for upgrades and expansion, and 2) have the financial means to resolve any difficulties that may arise in an expansion.

Where can more information about AFMS be found?

There are a number of publications and articles on fingerprint technology. Some include: "Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems: Technology and Policy Issues," Thomas Wilson and Paul Woodard, U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1987; "Putting the Finger on Fraud," Nancy Hitchcock, CIO, January 15, 1994; and AFIRM brochure, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Social Services, 1993.

(For assistance from the NACo technology program, NACoNET, call toll free 1/800/551-2323. Any comments, questions or suggestions for future topics can be sent to Technology News, c/o County News, 440 First St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001, or fax to: 202/737-0480.)

initiative has rehabilitated more than 480 houses. At market value, the repairs would have cost \$3 million.

Glendening says Prince George's County has become stronger and more unified because of Christmas in April. "As people come together to pitch in to help a neighbor, suddenly they find that they have lots in common, no matter what they do or what their skin color. We have seen some pretty incredible scenes and witnessed a lot of tears of happiness," Glendening explained.

On the other coast, in Washington County, Ore., dreams came true for

15 needy families, in this, the first year of Christmas in April. County housing officials helped bring the program to Washington County and actively serve on the board of directors.

The Home Depot, the national corporate sponsor of Christmas in April USA, along with many other businesses, churches and financial institutions, joined together to make the necessary repairs.

And in Chicago, County Commissioner Richard Phelan worked to bring Cook County together for Christmas in April.

News from the nation's counties

North

ILLINOIS

• **COOK COUNTY** Hospital has been selected by UNICEF as the first American research site to study ways to increase breast-feeding rates in hospitals through its Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative model, a worldwide program to foster breast-feeding.

The research project will examine factors within the hospital that may influence the decision of new mothers to breast-feed, including surveys on staff and patient attitudes and experiences. The study will also analyze the costs and time involved in changing hospital practices related to promoting breast-feeding.

UNICEF has awarded a \$9,000 grant to the hospital to serve as the springboard for the project.

South

MARYLAND

• The **MONTGOMERY COUNTY** Charter Review Commission recently issued its biennial report, which recommends that two charter amendments be placed on the ballot for the November 1994 General Election.

The first, if passed, would delete a requirement that officers appointed outside of the county's civil service system must head a principal department, office or agency of the executive branch and authorize the council to designate such executive branch officers whose positions may be filled by appointment.

The commission believes the amendment would provide county elected officials with needed and

appropriate flexibility to structure county government, while at the same time discouraging the overuse of appointed positions. Under the current charter, the council can create an unlimited number of departments with appointed heads by majority vote.

The second amendment would alter the definition of an aggregate operating budget, which is used to establish spending affordability guidelines and the consumer price index limit above which a budget cannot increase unless approved by six council members.

Midwest

MINNESOTA

• Three private health care institutions have pledged a total of \$45,000 to support the **ANOKA COUNTY** Prenatal Abuse Project, a program to identify and intervene in domestic violence, particularly incidents involving pregnant women.

Under the program, special training on the use of abuse assessment tools will be provided to public health nurses and clinic personnel. These health care professionals will assess pregnant women being treated at public and private clinics in Anoka County and will offer education, referral and advocacy to women who need to prevent or interrupt a cycle of abuse.

A follow-up study involving 200 women will determine the effectiveness of the project in preventing subsequent abuse.

WISCONSIN

County taxpayers in Wisconsin were partially relieved of the burden

of funding a state court system when Governor Tommy G. Thompson signed into law Assembly Bill 1152, directing \$10 million dollars to counties for partial state funding of the state court system.

The bill clarifies legislation passed in 1993 that requires the director of state courts to act as the administrative agent for the program.

When the director of state courts withheld the property tax relief funds unless counties promised to meet certain demands inconsistent with state law, the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) filed a lawsuit pursuing a legislative remedy.

"On behalf of taxpayers and county government, the governor and legislature deserve thanks for delivering relief to this mandate," said Mark M. Rogacki, WCA executive director. The director of state courts will now follow the law and perform the administrative function dictated by the legislature nine months ago. "I'm looking forward to putting this issue behind us and once again working with the judiciary to serve the citizens of Wisconsin."

As a result of the bill's passage, the director of state courts issued checks to counties totaling \$9.9 million in late April.

West

IOWA

• A **LINN COUNTY**-operated employment service for adults with disabilities has been selected to receive a Project Excel Award from the University of Missouri. Options of Linn County received the award for a school-to-work service it provides in cooperation with local school districts.

Project Excel is a regional awards program designed to promote excellence in services for people with disabilities by recognizing exemplary programs in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri

and Nebraska.

Options plans to use the \$1,000 it received with the award to pilot a literacy program for adults with disabilities this summer.

More news from



UNION COUNTY Register of Deeds Joanne Rajoppi (second from left) and assistant Ana Cardozai (seated) demonstrate the new computerized indexing and receipting software program now being offered nationwide through Sign-On Computer Services of Miami. Looking on are Freeholder Chairman Frank H. Lehr (l) and County Manager Ann Baran.

NEW JERSEY — UNION COUNTY Register of Deeds Joanne Rajoppi has announced a contract agreement between Union County and Sign-On Computer Services of Miami, Fla. The contract, the first of its kind by a governmental entity in New Jersey, authorizes the computer company to resell the register of deeds' indexing and receipting system nationwide. The county will receive royalty income for each sale.

"The contract is the last piece of a long-range program I started in the Office of the Register in 1984," said Rajoppi. "When we were unable to find a software program to meet our needs, we developed our own and

produced a state-of-the-art prototype which we then patented and sold to another New Jersey county. Now, other counties have expressed an interest in purchasing the program."

Rajoppi said the success of the program in New Jersey suggested it could be adapted for counties throughout the United States. The program features an integrated accounting and filing system which performs both the indexing and receipting functions. It can be used to locate dozens of types of documents. If the item is a deed, information includes the deed grantee's name, the address, lot and block numbers, and the book and page number of where the document is located.

PEIRCE from page 12

ful liberalism — show how you can spend Washington's money.

Instead, Washington is challenging applicant communities to show buy-in from a broad range of partners — grass-roots community groups, local governments, health and social services agencies, environmental organizations, churches, businesses, universities.

Second, the partners must agree on a strategic plan to create job op-

portunities, not only directly, but by fostering communities with safe streets, decent housing, social services, clean air and water, and improved schools — places that can attract jobs.

Finally, the feds are saying, if communities will commit themselves to reaching performance-based benchmarks of improvement, then Washington will give them preference in waiving burdensome federal regulations. Richest benefits will flow to the empowerment zones (six urban, three rural), less to the enterprise communities (65 urban, 30 rural).

Each empowerment zone is supposed to get \$100 million in social service block grants and employer tax credits for new jobs created. But enterprise communities get only \$3 million in outright benefits.

Faced with such an unconventional challenge, a number of communities have been flailing around in indecision as the June 30 application deadline nears. Some (Atlanta and DeKalb County, for example) are engaged in nasty political disputes over zone boundaries.

But there's also been a remarkable outpouring of interest in the

competition. Even places such as Manchester, N.H., where poor neighborhoods never got much attention before are getting ready to apply. An overflow crowd of 2,500 local officials and grass-roots activists, many intent on applying, flooded into the Administration's National Housing and Community Development Conference in Washington, March 30.

Some places seem truly to grasp the spirit and potential of the new deal the feds are offering. Consider the example of America's most ravished great city, in the nation's most segregated region — Detroit. With the bait of empowerment zone designation, and anxious to bolster freshman Mayor Dennis Archer, the big institutions of the Detroit region have produced a startling set of initiatives.

A consortium of lead universities — Wayne State, Michigan State and the University of Michigan — have agreed to focus resources of multiple departments, including their schools of business development, urban studies and architecture, on Detroit's zone, and to keep up the effort whether Detroit wins in the competition or not.

Leading Detroit foundations, including Kresge and Hudson-Webber, have put together a \$10 million fund to provide operating assistance to community-based organizations. A \$500,000 economic development training institute is included.

Detroit Renaissance — the chief executives of the region's 50 largest businesses, including GM, Chrysler and Ford — are launching a community development bank somewhat akin to Chicago's famed South Shore Bank, aiming for almost \$50 million in capitalization.

Another Detroit Renaissance project will be a collaboration and innovation center. Pushed by Renaissance Director Robert Keller, the center will include rooms for collaboration-building sessions among citizen, business and government stakeholders who've often been at each other's throats. The facility will have one room for computer-assisted negotiations and telecommunications capacity to confer and compare notes with groups in other cities.

Most cities' efforts are more modest. Los Angeles considers it something of a miracle that the city

bureaucracy has made common cause with the Coalition of Neighborhood Developers, a group of 56 grass-roots organizations. This first-ever planning combine of African American, Korean and Latino organizations, with backing from the Irvine Foundation, spent a year forming a common neighborhood revitalization strategy, ranging from homeownership, jobs and economic development to services for youth.

None of Washington's reinvented, user-friendly ways of running the zone competition means picking the winners won't be contentious. The process could also encounter huge snags when federal departments begin waiving regulations that hamper local governments in the zones.

But for now, the competition reminds us that every citistate region has all the resources it needs to revive its depressed neighborhoods — if it will only mobilize them. Just a dozen or two cities emulating Detroit's verve in building new coalitions to combat poverty and inner-city depression would justify the whole effort.

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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
FAX to:
202/393-2630

Notices ... notices ... notices

CONFERENCES

■ **The American Public Transit Association** will host the 1994 Rapid Transit Conference in Sacramento, Calif. on June 11-16.

Topics of discussion will include the growing popularity of rapid transit, commuter/intercity and automated guideway transit, design, ridership and quality of service. Registration costs \$505.

To find out more, contact: Kelly Redcay, American Public Transit Association, 1201 New York Ave., N.W., Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005, phone: 202/898-4115, fax: 202/898-4049.

■ **Public Voice** will host its fourth annual Children and Nutrition Conference, titled "Nutrition Prevention and Health Care Reform: Guiding Kids to a Healthy Future," June 13-14, in Washington, D.C.

Sessions will focus on children and nutrition issues as the cornerstone of meaningful health care reform. The registration cost for state and local government officials is \$100.

For more information, contact: Mark S. Epstein, executive director, Public Voice for Food and Health Policy, 1001 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Suite 522, Washington, DC 20036, phone: 202/659-5930, fax: 202/659-3683.

■ **The Department of Engineering Professional Development, College of Engineering, University of Wisconsin**

consin — **Madison/Extension** is hosting a course called "Cost-Effective Collection of Recyclables and Solid Waste," June 27-29 in Madison, Wis.

This course brings together new approaches for the strategic integration of collection services, while laying out the practical details of new collection methods, equipment, methods of contracting, and ways to fund collection services. The fee is \$795.

For more information, contact Kris Winneke, program assistant, Engineering Registration, The Wisconsin Center, 702 Langdon St., Madison, WI 53706, phone: 800/262-1299 or 608/462-0876, fax: 800/442-4214 or 608/265-3448.

■ **The 18th Neighborhood Reinvestment Training Institute** will be presenting a series of workshops designed for organizations committed to improving the affordability of neighborhood housing, the vitality of neighborhood economies, and the quality of community life.

Nearly 50 courses will be offered over a three-day period, July 18-22, in Chicago, Ill. The cost is \$125 per day.

Inquiries should be directed to Neighborhood Reinvestment, 1325 G St., N.W., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20005, phone: 202/376-2642, 800/438-5547, fax: 202/376-2168.

PUBLICATIONS

■ **"Wetlands Mitigating and Regu-**

lating Development Impacts" published by the **Urban Land Institute (ULI)**, provides updated federal and state regulations; new mitigation strategies and techniques; and new case studies, examples and illustrations. The cost for ULI members is \$43.95 per copy and the cost for non-members is \$54.95 per copy.

For ordering information, contact: Urban Land Institute, 625 Indiana Ave., Washington, DC 20004-2930

■ **The Urban Institute** recently released "Full Funding for WIC: A Policy Review" The Urban Institute policy review presents the history of the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program and its potential as part of an integrated program to serve the needs of the nation's children.

To order, contact: Office of Public Affairs, The Urban Institute, 2100 M St. N.W., Washington, DC 20037, phone 202/857-8702.

■ **Reinventing government** is being transformed through a new report released from the **Reason Foundation**, titled "Privatization 1994."

"Privatization 1994" presents a detailed picture of which kinds of services are being privatized nationwide; a tally of the efforts by states and localities nationwide to sell off roads, highways, and bridges; and the future of privatization.

For more information, contact: Matthew Mickelson, Reason Foundation, 3415 S. Sepulveda Blvd.,

Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90034, phone: 301/391-2245.

■ **Government officials, policy-makers, researchers and youth services professionals** collaborated to develop the publication, "Building Resiliency: What Works!" by National Assembly Publications. "Building Resiliency: What Works!" is based on a concept that moves beyond the prevention of negative risks in a young person's life to the promotion of positive outcomes for youth in their development. The cost is \$14.95

For ordering information, contact: National Assembly Publications, 1319 F St., N.W., Suite 601, Washington, DC 20004, phone: 202/347-2080, fax: 202/393-4517.

■ **"A Research Agenda for Studying Rural Public Service Delivery Alternatives in the North Central Region,"** published by the **Rural Services Networking Group**, studies ways to improve the availability and access to public services for individuals living in rural areas. The cost is \$4 per copy.

For ordering information, contact: North Central Regional Center For Rural Development, 404 East Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011, phone: 515/294-8321, fax: 515/294-2303.

■ **Center for Community Change** has released a new report, "How to Save and Improve Public Housing." In it, residential organizations explain how and why they have have transformed their developments.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CAPITOL REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS — HARTFORD, CONN.:

Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), Hartford, CT, seeks proven professional to head 29 municipal member voluntary agency with 17 FT employees and \$1.99 million budget. Regional population 700,000. Strong leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills essential. Successful experience in government or regional organization/programs. Degree in public administration, urban planning, or related fields important. Appointed by a 15-member Executive Committee with approval of full Policy Board. Salary \$80,000+; negotiable, dependent upon qualifications and experience. Apply at once to CRCOG consultant: The Par Group - Paul A. Reaume, Ltd., 100 N. Waukegan Rd., Suite 200, Lake Bluff, IL 60044. TEL: 708/234-0005, Fax: 708/234-8309. EEO/AA.

PURCHASING DIRECTOR — McHENRY COUNTY, ILL.:

The County of McHenry, Ill., (pop. 200,000) currently seeks a professional purchasing director to develop and implement a central purchasing department "from the ground up." This position has been approved and budgeted for the current fiscal year. Position will report directly to the County Administrator. The ideal candidate will possess the following: BA/BS degree from accredited college or university in business, public administration, or related field; five years of progressive purchasing experience (preferably in a local government environment) to include purchasing and procurement; competitive bidding; request for proposals; writing specifications; and supervisory experience; and certification as a certified public pur-

For price and ordering information, contact: Center for Community Change 1000 Wisconsin Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20007, phone: 202/342-0519, fax: 202/342-1132.

CD-ROM

■ **WaterNet** on CD-ROM, available from the **American Water Works Association (AWWA)** gives users immediate access, at their own computers, to references of more than 30,000 published journal articles, books, conference proceedings and government reports.

The service cost is \$350 for AWWA members and \$450 for non-members. The cost for use on a local area network is \$525 for AWWA members and \$675 for non-members.

For more information, contact: AWWA Information Services Department, 6666 West Quincy Ave., Denver, CO 80235, phone: 303/794-7711, fax: 303/795-1440.

■ **Where and how the federal government** spent over \$1.25 trillion during FY93 in grants, benefits, subsidies, salaries, and goods and services, is now available on CD-ROM from the Commerce Department's **Census Bureau**. The data break the spending down by program category and by the geographic location of federal funds recipients. The service cost is \$150 for one CD-ROM.

For more information, contact Robert McArthur at 301/763-5276. To order, call Census Bureau Customer Services at 301/763-4100.

chasing officer or certified purchasing manager is desirable. Salary range \$34,092 to \$45,900. Excellent benefits package and quality environment. McHenry County is part of the Chicago metro area. Current personnel complement is 900+, with 27 departments, and a \$62 million budget.

Send resumes to: R.T. Witherow, Asst. County Administrator, McHenry County Government Center, 2200 No. Seminary Av., Woodstock, IL 60098. Position open until filled; screening to begin as soon as possible. EOE/M/F.

Job Market - Classified Rate Schedule

Rates: \$3 per line.
(You can figure the approximate cost of an ad by counting the number of characters, including spaces and punctuation marks, in your copy. One line consists of approximately 38 characters. Divide 38 into the number of characters in your ad. The resulting figure will give you the approximate number of lines. Multiply that figure by 3 to figure your approximate cost.)

Display Classified: \$30 per column inch.

Billing: Invoices will be sent after publication.

Mail advertising copy to: Job Market, County News, 440 First St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001.

FAX advertising copy to: Job Market, County News, 202/393-2630.

Be sure to include billing information along with copy.

For more information, call County News, National Association of Counties, 202/942-4256.

Job market

ATTORNEY — WASHINGTON COUNTY, N.C.: The Washington County Board of Commissioners is recruiting for a newly established In-House Attorney to work under the direction of the Manager. The position will be responsible for advising the Board and referencing General Statutes, drafting ordinances, contracts, resolutions, agreements, tax foreclosures, and representation in litigation when needed. Will represent Social Services in child support enforcement, and other needed assistance as required. Applicants for this position should be able to demonstrate graduation from a recognized law school, and have two years of experience in the practice of law, and possess a license to practice law in the state of North Carolina. The starting salary for this position will be \$35,000 and fringes. Applicants should provide evidence of graduation from law school and of their license to practice. Submit resume to Washington County Manager's Office, P.O. Box 1007, Plymouth, N.C. 27962.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR — FLORENCE COUNTY, S.C.: Florence County, South Carolina has an immediate opening for a person with proven abilities in Public Administration, Management, and Finance. Prefer candidate with Masters Degree in Public Administration or related field. Successful candidate must have related Baccalaureate Degree and five years experience as County Administrator, Assistant Administrator, or related background. Salary negotiable based on qualifications. Please send resumes with salary history marked confidential to: K.G. (Rusty) Smith, Jr., Chairman

County Council, Florence County, City County Complex - Drawer S, Florence, SC 29501. Applications will be accepted until June 22, 1994. All job requirements are subject to consideration of reasonably accommodating individuals with disabilities. Florence County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. M/F/H/V.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/CONTROLLER — KENT COUNTY (GRAND RAPIDS), MICH.:

The County of Kent (pop. 500,000+) is seeking an experienced administrator to direct and oversee, individually and through management staff, the administrative activities and financial affairs of the County. This position reports to the County legislative body, the Board of Commissioners, which is comprised of nineteen members, each of whom is elected for a two year term. The County has approximately 1,800 employees, a budget in excess of \$217 million, a strong financial position and an AAA rating from Standard and Poors. Kent County is a growing west Michigan community located within 30 miles of Lake Michigan. The County is comprised of 824 miles of rolling hill country, and includes nine cities and 21 townships. Grand Rapids, the County seat, has a population approaching 200,000. Qualifications include: a Bachelor's Degree or equivalent in public, business administration, or a related field and at least five years of work experience in public administration or a related area that demonstrates a knowledge of governmental finance, budget development and knowledge of state and federal requirements which affect

local government. Master's Degree in public or business administration and/or extensive work experience in an executive level position in County or other local government is desirable. Salary will depend on qualifications and includes an excellent fringe benefit package. Contact Kent County Personnel, 300 Monroe N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49503, (616)336-3414 for an application package. Applications will be accepted until August 1, 1994, prompt replies are suggested. EOE.

COURT ADMINISTRATOR — SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIF.:

\$115,000 per annum, plus Executive Benefit Plan. San Bernardino County is recruiting for a proven leader to manage the County's Trial Court system. The ideal candidate will be able to manage change in a complex and dynamic environment and will be knowledgeable in a wide range of fields which characterize the daily operation of modern courts. The Court Administrator is a new position and will play a leadership role in unifying the Superior, Municipal, Juvenile, and Justice Courts. San Bernardino County is one of the most progressive in the state of California and is the largest in the continental United States. While located in the heart of Southern California, San Bernardino enjoys a moderate cost of living including surprisingly affordable housing. The application deadline is July 15, 1994. For more information regarding this exciting opportunity, contact: San Bernardino County Human Resources, 157 West Fifth Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0440, 909/387-5589. EOE. m/f/h.

Reminder: When traveling to Las Vegas, YOU DO NOT NEED a Saturday stay-over to take advantage of reduced airline fares.

Also remember, NACo room blocks at conference rates are not available until Sunday, July 31.

NACo

59th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

POSTMARK DEADLINE - JUNE 25, 1994

Bally's Casino & Resort
Las Vegas, Nevada
July 31 - August 4, 1994

Return completed form to:
NACo • Conference Registration Center
P.O. Box 26307 • Akron, OH 44319

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

*Name (LAST) (FIRST) Mr/Mrs/Ms
*Title *County
Address
City *State Zip *Nickname
Telephone () Fax ()

REGISTRATION FEES:

Check box that applies

Earlybird postmarked by 6/10

Advance after 6/10 & ON-SITE

Table with 3 columns: Fee Category, Earlybird, Advance. Rows include Member county attendee, Non-member county attendee, Other government attendee, Other private sector, Spouse, Youth.

TOTAL \$ \$

AFFILIATE INFORMATION - Check box that applies

- Grid of checkboxes for various affiliate organizations: NACRC, NACCA, NCECE, NACHFA, NACP, NACTFO, NACE, WIR, NACHO, WON, NACTEP, NCCAE, NACA, NACHSA, NABCO, NACAP, NACITA, NACCED, NACIO, ICMA, NACPRO, NACIRO, NACS, NACMHD.

POLITICAL AFFILIATION

- Checkboxes for Republican, Democrat, Independent.

Spouse Full Name Youth Full Name(s)

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

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION: (Check one) [] VISA [] MasterCard Exp. Date: Card #

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 postmarked no later than June 25, 1994. Cancellation requests postmarked June 25 or later will be subject to an administrative fee equal to one-half of the registration fee.

NOTE: ALL REGISTRATION FORMS POSTMARKED AFTER JUNE 25, 1994 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 / / AM
Roommate Name Departure Date / / PM

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.

Table with 2 columns: Hotel Name, Single/Double Price. Rows include Bally's Casino Resort (Headquarters), Flamingo Hilton, Alexis Park Resort.

Please check one of the following: [] 1 person, 1 bed [] 2 persons, 1 bed [] 2 persons, 2 beds

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.
- 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 room 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 after 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

Card Number Exp. Date / 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 housing 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.

Office Use Only
Date Rec'd. / /
Check No. _____
Amt. of check _____
Total _____
Date entered _____
Entered by _____

Contest

NACo is in search of County Courthouse or County Administration Building photos in three categories: color, black & white, and "seasons"

Winning entries will be framed and mounted at NACo headquarters as part of a permanent collection showcasing county government.*

Contest rules: Photographs must be printed in an 8 x 10 format, labeled on the back with name of county and state, category, date of courthouse dedication, and name of photographer.

There will be one grand winner and three distinguished winners in each category.

All photographs become the property of the National Association of Counties.

There is no entry fee and you may enter as many categories as you wish.

Winners will be asked to supply negative or color slide.

Entries will be judged on quality, creativity and visual interest.

Contest Deadline: July 1, 1994

Prizes: Each grand prize winner will receive two complimentary registrations to the NACo conference of their choice. "Distinguished" winners will receive one complimentary registration to the 1995 Annual Conference in Fulton County (Atlanta), Ga.

Entries should be mailed to: NACo In Search Of, 440 First St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001-2080.

*Winning entries will also be published in *County News* and may be featured in a County Government Calendar tentatively scheduled for publication in 1995.