

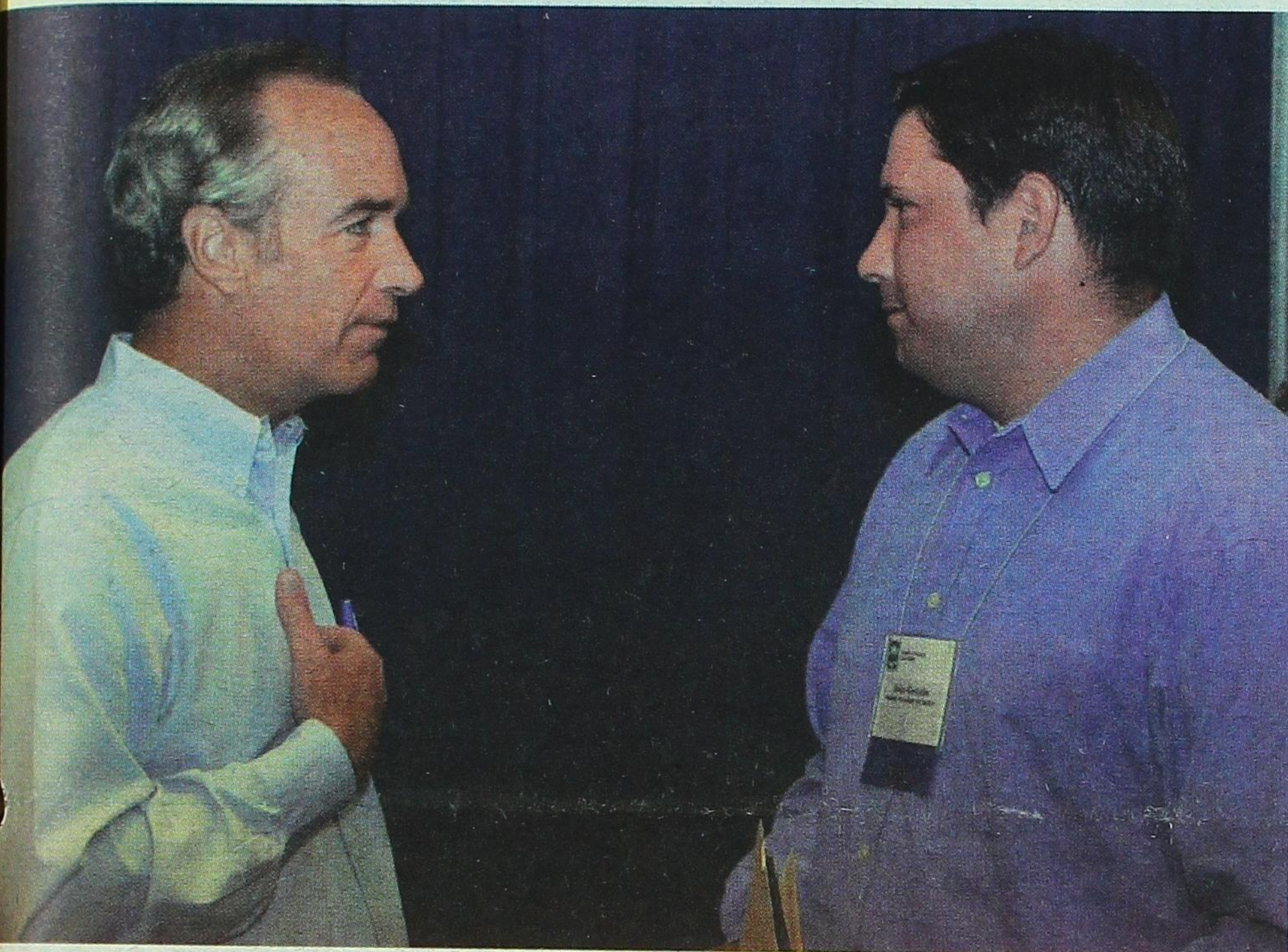
# County News

National Association of Counties • Washington, D.C.

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## Western governors and feds commit to collaboration with counties New strategy adopted to reduce wildfire risk



NACo President Javier Gonzales (r) and Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne discuss the implications of the new wildfire management policy adopted by the Western Governors' Association at its Annual Meeting, Aug. 13.

PAUL V. BEDDOE  
ASSOCIATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

NACo President Javier Gonzales (Santa Fe County, N.M.) joined Western governors, Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton and Secretary of Agriculture Ann M. Veneman in formally committing to a new way of addressing the threat and consequences of wildland fire at the Western Governors' Association Annual Meeting in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

A collaborative 10-year strategy endorsed at the Aug. 13 meeting, seeks to reduce wildfire risks to communities and the environment by emphasizing proactive fire management in addition to traditional suppression actions. The document and letters of endorsement have been forwarded to Congress, which requested the cooperative strategy.

In addition to Gonzales, Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne (R), Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber (D) and Arizona Gov. Jane Dee Hull (R) signed off on the strategy for the Western Governors' Association, along with the secretaries and the National Association of State Foresters.

The strategy departs from the unilateral federal approaches of the past. States, counties, local communities, tribes, federal agencies, industry and environmental groups

were all involved in drafting the strategy, and they will help plan and execute local projects to reduce hazardous fuels and restore fire-prone ecosystems. The strategy seeks to improve prevention and suppression of wildfires, reduce hazardous fuels, restore fire-prone ecosystems, and promote community assistance.

"Over the last decade, county officials have witnessed the ecological and economic devastation wrought by increasingly severe wildland fires across the country," said Gonzales. "As a direct result of this first-hand experience, we are convinced that the approach outlined in the strategy is exactly what we should be doing to protect our communities and our natural resources."

WIR President George Enneking added that he was heartened by the fact Congress directed the secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to work with the states and local governments as full partners in developing the strategy. "We're pleased that the secretaries and governors have built respect for local perspectives in this plan. That's why I think it fulfills both the spirit and the letter of the law," he said.

See **STRATEGY** on page 5

## Congress faces labor, health, human services and education funding bill

By JEFF ARNOLD

DEPUTY LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

As Congress returns from the summer recess, it will face its most contentious appropriations bill — labor, health, human services and education. Meanwhile it has completed or partly completed many of 13 bills needed to fund programs in FY02. Following is an overview of what has happened so far.

### Labor, health, human services and education

This week, Congress will take up an appropriations bill that funds labor, health, human services and education programs. An important funding issue to watch in the area of health will be the monies allocated to the Community Access Program (CAP). This program directs grants to communities for developing coordinated sys-

tems of care for the uninsured and the underinsured. The CAP program was initiated during the last years of the Clinton Administration. It is currently operating in demonstration status, but the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee (HELP) unanimously voted last month to authorize the program.

President George W. Bush (R) zeroed out this program in his budget, putting more funds into community health centers instead. However, Congress has shown support for the CAP program and increased funding over the last two years. Many congressional districts now have operating CAP programs, and members of Congress can see how the program creates more efficient and effective health care to the uninsured and underinsured.

In addition, because CAP is a grant program, its existence is not

dependent on a funding floor level. The more money the program gets, the more communities that can receive a grant. In FY01, CAP was allotted \$125 million. NACo supports both the authorization and the funding of this program.

### Social services block grant

One of NACo's priorities in the Labor/HHS appropriations bill is to restore funding to the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG, Title XX). The program is currently funded at \$1.7 billion, a reduction from the \$2.38 billion authorized in the 1996 welfare reform law.

NACo also hopes to preserve the ability to transfer 10 percent of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant to

See **BILL** on page 10

## County News Quik Takes

### TOP COUNTY CHOICES FOR RECRUITMENT OF ELECTION WORKERS

- ✓ Senior citizens and retired persons **59.9%**
- ✓ Local civic organizations **29.9%**
- ✓ Local labor market **23.5%**
- ✓ County employees **22.5%**
- ✓ High school civic classes **15.8%**



Results taken from NACo's 2001 Election Services Survey (done in partnership with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government)



# GAO says lower federal funding puts safety at risk on rural roads

By ROBERT FOGEL  
ASSOCIATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

A recent U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) report addresses the issue of federal transportation funding and its impact on the safety of rural roads. This report was done in response to concerns raised by NACo and was requested by Rep. Frank Wolf (R-Va.).

According to the GAO study, rural local roads, which account for more than half of the roadways in the United States, had the highest rate of fatalities of all types of roadways — more than six times that of urban interstates.

County officials have long been concerned that not enough federal funds are spent on the two-lane highways traditionally owned and maintained by county government, and have traditionally had fairly significant fatality rates.

The report points out that between 1992-2000, the federal government distributed more than \$201 billion in federal highway funding. While urban roads represent 23 percent of total lane miles and rural roads 77 percent, 59 percent of federal highway funds were spent on urban roads and the remaining 41 percent was allocated to rural roads (Table 2).

On a per-mile basis in 1999, states spent a high of \$80,900 in federal funding on urban freeways and a low of \$100 per mile on rural local roads (Table 3). The report makes the connection to safety. About 60 percent of the traffic fatalities took place on rural roads —

25,107 of 41,611 in 1999. Adjust those figures for miles traveled and the fatality rate for rural roads is two and a half times greater than their urban counterparts.

Urban roads with a total of 1.6 trillion vehicle miles traveled had 15,816 fatalities in 1999, a rate of .97 per 100 million miles traveled. Rural roads, with 1.1 trillion vehicle miles traveled, had 25,107 fatalities or a rate of 2.36 fatalities per 100 million miles traveled (Table 4).

The most dangerous roads are rural minor collectors and rural local roads and, the types of roads most likely to be owned by county governments. Their rates of fatalities per 100 million miles traveled were 3.04 and 3.79 respectively, compared to the rate on urban interstates of .61.

These roads are five to six times more dangerous than urban interstates. The report looks at federal highway spending on the various classes of roads. The minor rural collectors get \$400 per lane mile and the rural local roads get \$100 per lane mile. The urban interstate — \$80,900 per lane mile.

The safest road gets the most federal dollars while the most dangerous roads get the least. Interestingly, even the urban local roads, generally owned by county or city governments, are twice as dangerous as the urban interstate and they also get only \$400 per lane mile.

(This report is available on the GAO Web site at [www.gao.gov](http://www.gao.gov). The report number of GAO-01-836R.)

## Letter to the editor...

Dear NACo, Mr. Davenport, and Betty Lou Ward:

I am writing to thank you for the wonderful blessing you have bestowed upon my family and I since winning the Presidential Scholarship of Excellence in 1999. Without this award it is unlikely that I would have been able to afford the great education that I am receiving at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

I enrolled at Chapel Hill with ambition and purpose and have continued to strive to meet all of my goals. I am currently a junior double majoring in anthropology and history, and plan to attend graduate school in forensic anthropology. Without your help, none of this would be possible. Each semester brings new challenges and shows me new things about life, learning, and myself. Thank you for investing your money as well as your faith in me.

Sincerely,  
Megan Waugh

### County News invites Letters to the Editor

If you have a compliment, complaint or different point of view, let us know. Please include a phone number with your letter. Mail, fax or e-mail to: County News, NACo, 440 First St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001-2080; 202/393-2630; [cnnews@naco.org](mailto:cnnews@naco.org).

Table 2: Percentage of Federal Highway Funding Obligated by Functional Class

Functional class	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Average
<b>Urban roads</b>										
Urban interstates	26%	25%	26%	19%	24%	23%	18%	16%	16%	21%
Urban principal arterials	15%	15%	16%	16%	16%	16%	17%	18%	19%	16%
Urban freeways and expressways	7%	7%	7%	10%	11%	8%	10%	13%	10%	9%
Urban minor arterials	6%	6%	6%	8%	7%	6%	7%	6%	6%	6%
Urban collectors	2%	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Urban local roads	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%
<b>Total urban</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>59%</b>
<b>Rural roads</b>										
Rural principal arterials	16%	16%	14%	17%	15%	18%	21%	19%	21%	17%
Rural interstates	11%	11%	11%	8%	7%	8%	8%	8%	9%	9%
Rural minor arterials	7%	7%	6%	6%	6%	7%	8%	7%	8%	7%
Rural major collectors	6%	5%	5%	6%	6%	5%	5%	6%	5%	5%
Rural local roads	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%
Rural minor collectors	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
<b>Total rural</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>41%</b>

Table 3: Comparison of Average Federal Highway Funding to Lane Miles by Functional Class Fiscal Year 1999

Functional class	Fiscal Year 1999 (millions)	Lane miles (thousands)	Dollars per lane mile
<b>Urban roads</b>			
Urban freeways and expressways	\$3,358.4	41.5	\$80,900
Urban interstates	4,051.3	73.3	55,300
Urban principal arterials	4,547.8	184.9	24,600
Urban minor arterials	1,508.8	224.0	6,700
Urban collectors	836.9	186.3	4,500
Urban local roads	430.0	1,186.0	400
<b>Total urban</b>	<b>\$14,733.2</b>	<b>1,895.9</b>	<b>\$7,800</b>
<b>Rural roads</b>			
Rural principal arterials	\$4,711.7	252.5	\$18,700
Rural interstates	2,002.8	134.2	14,900
Rural minor arterials	1,692.8	286.9	5,900
Rural major collectors	1,410.1	870.6	1,600
Rural minor collectors	216.0	543.4	400
Rural local roads	537.2	4,194.5	100
<b>Total rural</b>	<b>\$10,570.6</b>	<b>6,282.0</b>	<b>\$1,700</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,303.8</b>	<b>8,178.0</b>	<b>\$3,100</b>

Table 4: Fatalities and Fatality Rates by Highway Functional Classification, Fiscal Year 1999

Functional classification	VMT (millions)	Fatalities	Fatalities per million V
<b>Urban roads</b>			
Urban other principal arterial	392,721	5,003	12.7
Urban local road	234,886	2,917	12.4
Urban minor arterial	313,936	3,172	10.1
Urban freeway/expressway	171,563	1,354	7.9
Urban collector	131,613	1,023	7.7
Urban interstate	382,986	2,347	6.1
<b>Total urban</b>	<b>1,627,705</b>	<b>15,816</b>	<b>.97</b>
<b>Rural roads</b>			
Rural local road	125,545	4,758	37.9
Rural minor collector	57,617	1,754	3.0
Rural major collector	206,936	5,816	2.8
Rural minor arterial	169,378	4,263	2.5
Rural other principal arterial	243,950	5,280	2.2
Rural interstate	260,204	3,236	1.2
<b>Total rural</b>	<b>1,063,630</b>	<b>25,107</b>	<b>2.36</b>
Unknown		688	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,691,335</b>	<b>41,611</b>	<b>1.55</b>



# Counties and Congress: the record so far

By JEFF ARNOLD  
DEPUTY LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

Average  
21%  
16%  
9%  
6%  
3%  
2%  
59%  
17%  
9%  
7%  
5%  
3%  
1%  
41%  
Total  
ollars per  
lane mile  
\$80,900  
55,300  
24,600  
6,700  
4,500  
400  
\$7,800  
\$18,700  
14,900  
5,900  
1,600  
400  
100  
\$1,700  
\$3,100  
Year 199  
ities per 10  
million V

By the time Congress left for its August recess, it had taken up some very difficult issues such as major tax cut legislation, a patients' bill of rights, education reform and campaign finance reform. Congress has been dealing with issues important to NACo and the nation's counties. Below is some of the legislation NACo is following.

## Advanced telecommunications deployment

There are a number of bills in the 107th Congress that attempt to address the deployment of broadband to underserved areas. The most notorious to date is H.R. 1542, the Tauzin-Dingell bill (named for its authors, House Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Billy Tauzin (R-La.) and its ranking member John Dingell (D-Mich.).

This bill would release the former Regional Bell Operating Companies (SBC, Verizon, Qwest, and Bell South, or the RBOCs) from the limitations of the 1996 Telecommunications Act, which requires the former Bells to open their local phone services to competition in exchange for the ability to transfer long distance data across certain boundary lines established by the act.

Even though the bill would continue the limitation on voice services, competitors and consumer groups are strongly fighting this legislation because they believe it would eliminate the incentive to competition. Millions of advertising and lobbying dollars have been spent in Washington, D.C. and across the country on both sides of the bill.

NACo has not taken a position on the entire bill, but strongly opposes language in the legislation that would preempt state and local regulatory authorities.

Even supporters of Tauzin-Dingell acknowledge it will not be a panacea for rural areas.

In recent testimony on Capitol Hill, a Bell South executive stated that the only effective way to deploy broadband services to rural areas is to provide financial incentives to the private sector. A number of bills introduced deal with financial incentives to bring broadband services to rural areas. In general, they provide tax incentives or grants to telecommunications providers to address the digital divide in rural America. Two are drawing the most attention

are S.88, introduced by Sen. Jay Rockefeller (D-W.V.) and H.R.267, introduced by Rep. Phil English (R-Pa.). Neither bill is expected to move this year. NACo's Telecommunications and Technology platform supports such legislation.

## Medicare prescription drug coverage

House and Senate health care leaders were unable to produce a bipartisan Medicare prescription drug coverage bill before the August recess. Their task proved elusive as discussions stalled over how to reduce premium costs for Medicare beneficiaries using the prescription drug benefit. The new goal is to consider legislation before Congress adjourns for the year. The general belief on Capitol Hill is that if action is to occur on this issue in the 107th Congress, it must happen before this session adjourns.

With 2002 an election year, the likelihood of legislative action on Medicare prescription drug coverage will decrease dramatically next year. NACo supports the creation of a Medicare prescription drug benefit.

## National Health Service Corps

The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee (HELP) has approved the reauthorization of the National Health Service Corps (NHSC). This program provides financial incentives to health care providers to locate in medically underserved areas. These areas tend to be either rural or inner-city areas. The NHSC plays a vital role in increasing access to health care. NACo supports the reauthorization of this program.

## Mental health parity

The Senate HELP Committee approved several pieces of legislation related to health care. The Mental Health Parity Act (S.543), would require group health plans that cover mental health and substance abuse treatment to provide benefits equal to coverage for other health care. The bill was adopted unanimously after agreement was reached on expanding the exemption for small businesses from 25 to 50 employees. When the full senate takes up the bill, it's expected to consider an amendment that would cancel the parity requirement if it raises health costs by more than 1 percent. The current parity law, which is more limited in scope, will expire on Sept. 30. NACo supports this legislation.

## Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996

Legislation (S. 836 and H.R. 1975) was introduced that would delay the compliance date for HIPAA by two years. The HIPAA law calls for the administrative simplification of the processing and handling of health care information and data by all entities that deal with such information, including county government.

The goal of the law is to achieve cost and time efficiencies through administrative simplification. For example, a national, uniform medical code system will replace the thousands of codes used regionally and locally to process reimbursement forms and in recordkeeping. However, implementation and compliance requirements of the law have been released in a piecemeal fashion and it will be extremely time consuming and costly for any entity to achieve compliance. County governments can expect no federal financial assistance in this effort, making this issue an unfunded mandate. NACo supports the legislation.

## Food Stamp reauthorization

The House Agriculture Committee approved a farm bill that contains a nutrition title. Early indications are that the bill would provide an additional \$3.25 billion over 10 years for the program.

Related amendments include a state option to permit families that leave the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program to continue receiving the same level of food stamps benefits for six months without having to file new paperwork. Under current regulations, families are allowed three months of transitional benefits. This change would put the Food Stamp Program more in line with the Medicaid transitional program.

The bill also includes several changes to the quality control system, such as changing the error tolerance rate, providing incentive bonuses and applying sanctions only to states with serious and persistent problems. Under the current system, about half the states are sanctioned every year. Although the House bill did not go as far as a comprehensive overhaul of the quality control system into one based on outcomes/measures, it is expected these changes will ease the burden on states and reduce the number of states being sanctioned.

Other significant changes include an increase in the standard deduction and a simplified definition of income.

Under the new standard deduction provision, families with four or more individuals would have more of their income excluded for eligibility determination purposes. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, most of the families who will benefit from this change have incomes below 75 percent of the poverty line.

Under the simplified definition of income, a number of educational benefits now excluded from income in Medicaid would also be excluded under the Food Stamp program. Additionally, states could exclude other income they now exclude from the TANF and Medicaid programs. Finally, the bill also provides \$10 million a year in grants to states to develop and implement simplified application and eligibility determination processes.

Many of the changes included in the House bill coincide with a resolution NACo members approved in July at the Annual Conference.

## Faith-based initiative

The House of Representatives approved the Community Solutions Act (H.R. 7), commonly known as the Faith-based Initiative Bill. A vote on the bill had to be postponed 24 hours when it became apparent that passage was in jeopardy because many moderate Republicans had serious concerns about language that would preempt state and local anti-discrimination laws.

The bill mandates state and local governments consider religious institutions on the same basis as non-profit institutions and provide alternative, unobjectionable programs within a reasonable period of time to those individuals who object to services being provided by a religious group. These programs must also be easily accessible and of equal value.

The bill also has a new provision that would allow federal agencies to direct that programs covered by the legislation be funded through vouchers, which could seriously affect current program structure. The bill covers many federal programs. These include juvenile justice, crime prevention, housing, domestic violence prevention, the Older Americans Act, the Workforce Investment Act, hunger relief, high school equivalency programs, after-school programs, child care and reverse commute programs.

NACo has expressed concerns about many of these provisions and their effect on local governments. We are working with the other national associations representing state and local governments to develop legislative language for Senate consideration.

## Labor and employment

Since January, NACo has been following a number of bills dealing with labor and employment issues.

NACo worked closely with Congress to pass major public pension reform legislation. That legislation will give public sector employees greater flexibility to move funds between different types of accounts and to take advantage of rollover provisions prior to retirement.

A number of bills have already been introduced that would implement the president's desire to allow individuals to invest a portion of their Social Security contributions into a private, personally managed account. The premise behind this is that all Americans, rich and poor, should benefit from the increase in wealth that resulted from the growth of the stock markets prior to January 2001.

The opponents suggest the current collapse of the stock market shows the problems associated with such a program. While NACo has not taken a position on private accounts, the fear always exists that efforts will be made to mandate universal participation in Social Security. Such an action would require states and counties that currently do not participate in Social Security because of the nature of their retirement plans to participate.

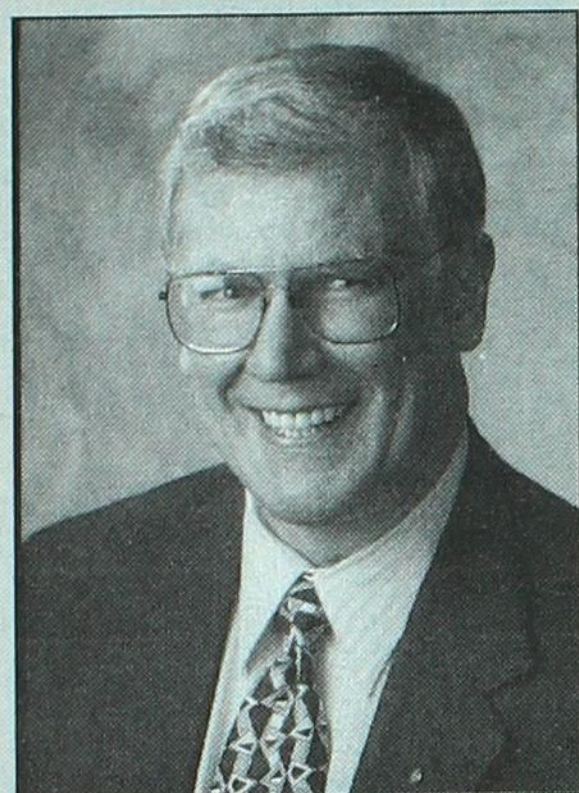
NACo continues to monitor efforts to increase the minimum wage. NACo's position has been to support efforts to establish a livable wage, and this effort would help. However, even if Senate Democrats push for a new minimum wage, it's unlikely to pass. Nonetheless, it is an issue most Americans are sympathetic towards and is perceived as giving them a 2002-election advantage. If adopted the minimum wage would likely increase by about \$1. The impact on counties would be negligible since every county in the U.S. pays a starting wage above the minimum wage.

Other issues NACo continues to follow are the National Fire Protection Association's Code 1710 which is likely to have a dramatic impact on state and local fire departments by requiring local fire departments to meet certain staffing and response time requirements. Though not a legislative issue, NFPA codes often obtain the force of law when Occupational Safety and Health Administration adopts their guidelines into regulation.

Legislation that would mandate all public safety officers have the right to collective bargaining regardless of state and local law is also on the table. While it has been introduced in many Congresses, mandatory collective bargaining generally receives substantial support at first, but subsequently dies for lack of urgency.



## Profiles in Service



**R. Charles  
Pearson**

**NACo Board of  
Directors**

**Clackamas County, Ore.  
Surveyor**

**Number of years active in NACo:** Three years.

**Years in Public Office:** Thirty-four years. (Three as an elected official)

**Occupation:** County Surveyor

**Education:** History major, Portland State University

**The hardest thing I've ever done:** Build my own house.

**Three people (living or dead) I'd invite to dinner:** John Wayne, Albert Schweitzer and Michelangelo.

**A dream I have is to:** Finish my home. Spend more time traveling in Europe.

**You'd be surprised to learn that I:** Read and write poetry, and love to cook.

**The most adventurous thing I've ever done is:** Scuba dive with sharks in Hawaii.

**My favorite sport is:** Golf.

**I'm most proud of:** My family.

**Every morning I read:** Local newspapers.

**My favorite meal is:** Any type of Italian food.

**My pet peeve is:** Inconsiderate drivers and cell phones in restaurants.

**My motto is:** "Always be faithful, honest and prepared."

**The last book I read was:** *Losing Julia* by Jonathan Hull.

**My favorite movie is:** *The Quiet Man* (John Wayne)

**My favorite music is:** The score from *Phantom of the Opera* — anything classical.

**My favorite president is:** Thomas Jefferson and Teddy Roosevelt.

## New group zeroes in on rural telecom issue

This may be the fifth time rural community leaders will meet over the issue of telecommunications at the RuralTeleCon '01 in October, but it will be the first time they have a new national organization devoted solely to their information technology needs.

After several years of discussion, the annual event known as the RuralTeleCon has emerged as a national organization, the RuralTeleCongress or RTF.

Commissioner Cindy Weeldreyer, Lane County, Ore. commissioner and program chair for RuralTeleCon '01, explained that RTC will act as a convener of rural interests in rural telecommunications policy and its implications for rural consumers.

The RuralTeleCongress, with a new Web site at <http://ruraltelecon.org>, emerged after discussions held at the last two RuralTeleCon conferences.

"Recent political changes in the White House, Congress and Federal Communications Commission will have impacts on rural community efforts to bridge the digital divide. Our inaugural session of the RuralTeleCongress at RuralTeleCon '01 is designed to gather rural telecommunications advocates and practitioners from all 50 states to debate and adopt a national strategy to better address what's working, and what's not in rural telecommunications, and map out a course for where we go from here," Weeldreyer said.

Jeff Richardson, of the Colorado Department of Higher Education and an RTC founding board member, was the creative force that started the annual RuralTeleCon. The RTC began as the statewide rural telecommunications conference for Colorado in 1991. It became a national conference in 1997, co-sponsored by Colorado Mountain College with funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

"The 1996 Telecommunications Act generated great excitement and the expectation of cheap, ubiquitous access to high quality telecommunications services and technologies as they evolved across America. Now, nearly five years later, rural consumers still find themselves on the wrong side of the digital divide and have a compelling need to get their collective voices heard in the policy arenas of Washington D.C., state legislatures and state Public Service Commissions," Richardson said.

Weeldreyer and Richardson acknowledge the United States has an

abundance of existing advocacy organizations working in the telecommunications policy arena, and there are many more representing grassroots interests. However, they said there is no voice or entity focused solely on addressing the needs of rural telecommunications consumers and the regulatory issues at federal, state and local levels, which make effective implementation of

technology in "rural" communities difficult.

(Additional information about the RuralTeleCongress and its inaugural session at the national conference can be found on its Web site. Online registration for membership in the new organization and for the fall conference is also available at <http://ruraltelecon.org>)

### RTC's "Communities of Interest"

RTC will focus on seven communities of interest related to rural telecommunications:

- ➔ **Infrastructure** — financing, marketing, research & development
- ➔ **Distance Learning** — cyber-schools, college degrees, workforce training
- ➔ **Community & Economic Development** — creating & sustaining Internet-based businesses, technology centers, and libraries
- ➔ **Telehealth/telemedicine** — workforce development and training, Web-based consultation & diagnostic services, medical research
- ➔ **E-government** — Web-based public services, citizen involvement
- ➔ **Public Policy & Research** — telecom legislation and research data
- ➔ **Youth** — projects targeted to youth and intergenerational activities

## County News

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# Arts and Culture Commission awards Philadelphia, Los Angeles County

By JACQUELINE BYERS  
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

Last year, for the first time, the Arts and Culture Commission presented the Arts Advocacy Award. This award is given to an individual who supports the arts as a way of life and as a way of achieving a better quality of life for all people. Last year's recipient, television actress Victoria Rowell, of *Diagnosis Murder* and *The Young and the Restless* was presented the award for her work with the Rowell Fund for Foster Children, where she used the arts and dance as a

means of working with foster kids and making them successful.

This year, the NACo Arts and Culture Commission, under the leadership of Commissioner Betty Lou Ward of Wake County, N.C., presented the Second Annual Arts Advocacy Award to Philadelphia Council Member James F. Kenney.

Council Member Kenney, a life long resident of South Philadelphia, is the son of a Philadelphia fire chief and a working mother. First elected to the Philadelphia City Council in 1991, he is currently in his third term of office as a councilman-at-large.

Kenney has been a strong advocate for the arts dating back to his days as chief of staff to State Senator Vincent Fumo, where he assisted in obtaining state appropriations to assist the establishment of numerous cultural organizations throughout the region, including the Avenue of the Arts.

After his election to the Philadelphia City Council, Kenney joined the campaign to create a dedicated municipal fund for the arts, which was finally accomplished in 1992. Kenney was one of the first board members chosen for the new fund,

and has consistently and successfully fought for increased funding.

Recent research and his own personal experience convinced Kenney that one of the best ways to increase Philadelphia's population and economic development was the promotion and development of the region's arts and cultural organizations. He has pursued this vision in his role as councilman and through his involvement on the boards of the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance, Prince Music Theater, Penn's Landing Corporation and Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau, among others.

Just recently, Kenney assisted in securing funding for the Philadelphia Fringe Festival and presented city honors to the retiring Jeffrey Gribler, the principal dancer of the Pennsylvania Ballet.

Kenney is active in the Mummerys Fancy Brigade Association, a past board member of the Mummerys Museum, coaches Little League Hockey and is an active member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and other Irish-American groups.

## Arts leadership awarded

Two years ago, as a part of a cooperative agreement with NACo, the Americans for the Arts, launched the County Leadership in the Arts Award.

This year Nina Ozlu, vice president for Governmental Affairs at the American for the Arts, presented the Second Annual Award to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Ozlu noted during her presentation that Los Angeles County was particularly worthy of receiving the County Leadership Award

because of the major arts activities they have sponsored and/or funded. These include:

- contributing financial support of \$35 million a year to the arts
- increasing the budget of the Arts Commission from \$900,000 in 1992 to more than \$5 million in 2001
- donating the land for the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and for the Music Center of Los Angeles County
- providing leadership in the fundraising for their completion and provided a \$95 million parking garage
- providing funding and leadership to create the Los Angeles County Arts Internship Program
- joining with the J. Paul Getty Trust to award over \$1 million arts summer internships. This program awarded more than \$500,000 in internships to 66 organizations in 2000
- funding the creation of an Arts Education Hub through the county's Productivity Investment Fund, by partnering with the Los Angeles County Board of Education. This hub will provide sequential arts education in each of the K-12 public schools in the county. The program will reach 1.7 million children, and
- co-founding the Los Angeles County High School for the arts and developing specific grants programs for arts education programs.

In addition to directly funding arts activities, the board used transportation funds to provide shuttle service to the Hollywood Bowl and the Ford Amphitheater and transported county youth and senior citizens to museums and performing arts events.

## STRATEGY

from page 1

As suppression expenditures increased over the past 20 years, the nation continued to experience an increase in property losses and greater jolts to communities and the environment.

"For years we have been suppressing wildfires, increasing the fuel load and incrementally moving our forest ecosystems and wildlands away from their historic health conditions," Kitzhaber said. "With these high fuel levels, fires burn hotter, are harder to contain and do more damage to ecosystems and communities. This 10-year plan creates the foundation for long-term collabora-

tive planning and on-the-ground projects that begin dealing with the fuels problem and improve overall ecosystem health."

The 10-year strategy was the focus of a plenary session at the WGA Annual Meeting. WIR First Vice President John Howard represented NACo on the panel supporting the strategy.

He was joined by Greg Applet with the Wilderness Society; and Jason Campbell with the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. Each of these helped develop the strategy, illustrating the broad-based support it enjoys. Also participating in the session were Forest Service Chief, Dale Bosworth, and National Fire Plan Coordinator Lyle Laverty, who updated the attendees on the status of the fire season.

By May 1, 2002 a detailed implementation plan will be developed in collaboration with governors to establish consistent operational ways of doing business between federal agencies, states and tribal entities to insure that the goals of the strategy are met.

"The strategy is especially notable for the partnership it establishes on fire and restoration between the states and the federal agencies," said Hull, incoming WGA chairman. "If we are going to tackle this immense problem, we will need to work together as one team. Arizona and New Mexico are working collaboratively in our states with our federal partners and other interests, and we are making progress in restoring health to our forests and rangelands across the landscape."

## BLM management helps Colorado counties ready fire management plans

By CYNTHIA MOSES-NEDD

The National Fire Plan encourages federal agencies to collaborate with local communities to identify resources at risk from wildfire and develop appropriate approaches to reduce dangerous fuels accumulations. Colorado Bureau of Land Management has contributed \$155,000 and technical assistance to help 22 Colorado counties work on county fire plans this year.

Land managing agencies, such as the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), are seeking to undertake cooperative projects with communities that cross ownership and jurisdictional boundaries and conform to logical fire landscapes.

In Colorado, collaborative planning efforts are being expanded to include participation from such groups as the Nature Conservancy. Other federal agencies have joined the effort to create seamless, integrated inter-agency fire management plans at appropriate landscape levels. Grass roots involvement is expected to produce hazard mitigation better adapted to local needs.

BLM began working early this year with the Colorado State Forester and county leadership to design a comprehensive fire management planning process. The governor's task force on wildfire in the wildland-urban interface emphasized county fire planning as a priority. The BLM met with groups of county officials including

sheriffs, volunteer fire district chiefs and county commissioners in western Colorado. Workshops were organized in several counties to initiate planning efforts.

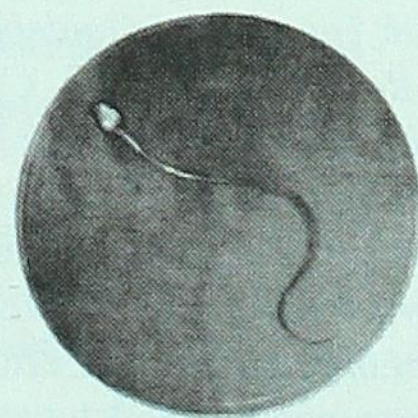
Efforts to refine a comprehensive county fire planning process continue. With funding and assistance from the BLM, the State Forester and Colorado Counties, Inc. will sponsor a workshop to develop guidelines and standards for comprehensive county fire plans. Colorado Counties, Inc. also plans training programs for counties to help them incorporate fire planning into other planning actions.

County fire plans will identify wildland urban interface communities and other resources at risk from wildfire, validating and refining the "communities list" generated by the state. Fire suppression priorities will be defined. Plans will identify hazardous fuel reduction needs, equipment and training needs of volunteer fire districts. They will also help coordinate mitigation efforts among agencies and neighboring landowners and identify fire education and prevention priorities to help focus firewise training and related efforts.

(Moses-Nedd is NACo liaison for the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM).)

If you would like more information, you may contact the writer at (202) 942-4257 or [cmnedd@naco.org](mailto:cmnedd@naco.org).

*What it takes to be a father.*

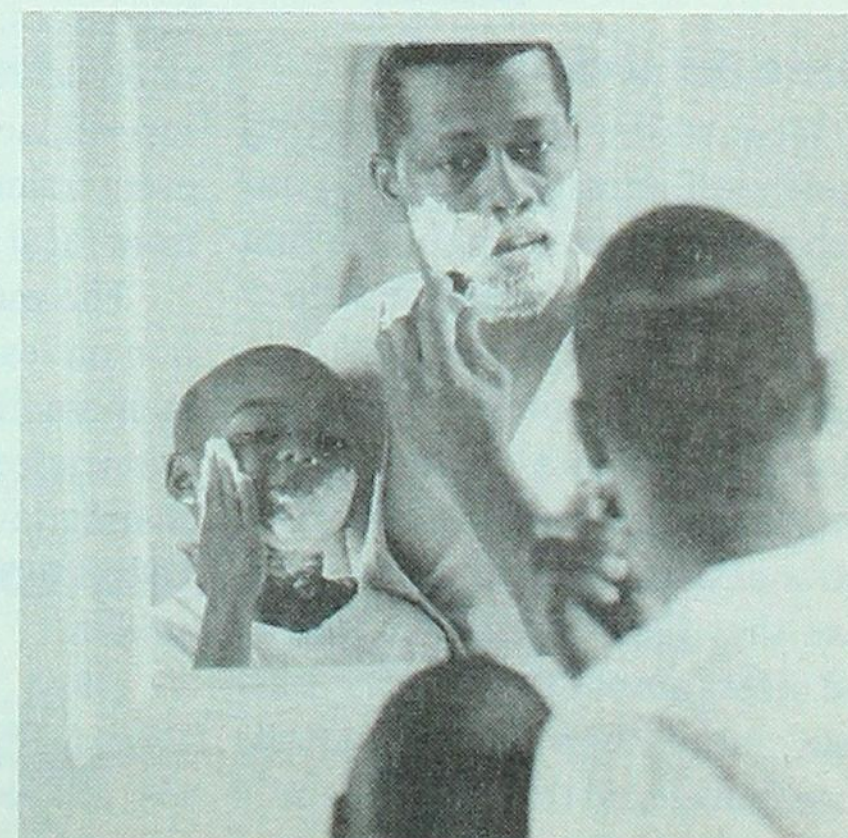


*What it takes to be a dad.*

It takes a man to be a dad.

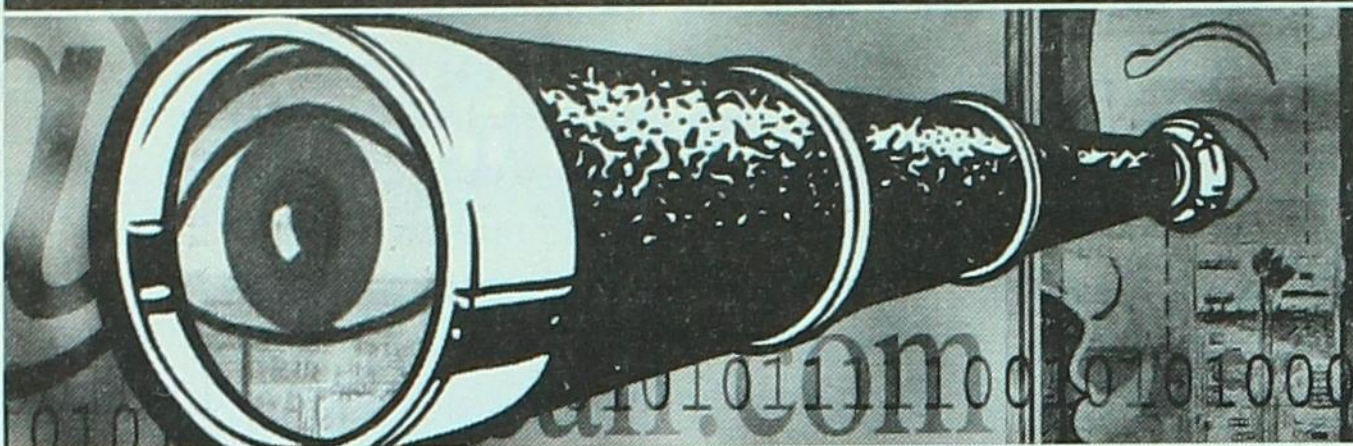
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National  
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## WEB WATCH

**Check those old addresses**

If you've migrated your site from one URL to another, you should check your old Internet address and see who's sitting there now. You may not be happy with what you find.

Seems that "pornpreneurs" are out buying up abandoned cyber real estate and setting up shop. For example, old links for a parish in Louisiana and a county in Texas now take you to a pornography site. And if you haven't let folks know you've changed your site's address, there's very likely a number of databases that have stored your old link and still have you listed on THEIR Web sites under the old address. Anyone trying to access your site through another site is in for a big surprise.

The remedy: Make sure everyone on your mailing lists gets notified of your new address.

**Fairfax County, Va. adds computer recycling to Web site**

Fairfax County, Va. is making life easier for folks who don't know what to do with their old, but still serviceable computers. The county's Department of Public Works and Environmental Services has listed — on its Web site ([www.co.fairfax.va.us/gov/dpwes/recycling/mat-comp.htm](http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/gov/dpwes/recycling/mat-comp.htm)) — local and national organizations that accept donations of used computers and software because county residents requested an alternative to throwing away used computers. In the meantime, the county is putting together a task force to determine estimates of the number of old computers that would need to be managed in the future.

**Share the technology**

Meanwhile, if you're looking to add similar information to your Web site, be sure to include a link for Share the Technology (<http://sharetechnology.org/index.html>). Share the Technology Computer Recycling Project, a New Jersey nonprofit corporation, provides a national computer donation database that lists donation requests and offers across the country. Last year, more than 950 donations were facilitated through the site's database. As of Aug. 7, there were 685 donations.

**Washoe County, Nev. posts it all**

Taking the extra step, Washoe County, Nev. not only posts its Board of Commissioners' meeting agenda on the Internet — as required by state law — but also posts the entire board packet. The county began making the materials available in July. If you'd like a peek, go to [www.co.washoe.nv.us](http://www.co.washoe.nv.us) and select the Board of Commissioners link.

**New advocacy group for rural telecom needs launched**

There's a new kid on the block ready to take on the digital divide in rural communities. RuralTeleCongress has made the leap from annual conference to a national organization devoted solely to the technology needs of rural areas, says Lane County (Ore.) Commissioner Cindy Weeldreyer, one of RTC's founding members. For more information on RTC, visit its Web site: <http://ruraltelecom.org> or read more about RTC on page 4 in this issue of *County News*.

**How can we work together?**

Here's a publication that uses the information superhighway to help speed things up on the "rubber meets the road" type. PTI, (Public Technology, Inc.) has released *How Can We Work Together: A Guidebook to Smart Response Through Coordinating Local Public Safety & Transportation, Communications and Technology*. The publication, free for downloading at PTI's Web site, [www.pti.org](http://www.pti.org), focuses on efforts to get governments to work together on key issues, such as regional public safety centers, incident management, surveillance cameras for downtown event management and the move from local to regional coordination.

The publication includes a section on leadership tactics, a sample memoranda of understanding, recommended practices for resources sharing/joint operations/integration and a lengthy section devoted to case studies.

(Web Watch is compiled by Beverly Schlotterbeck, executive editor. If you have a site you'd like mentioned in Web Watch, e-mail: [cnews@NACo.org](mailto:cnews@NACo.org).)

# Gloucester County, N.J. rewarded for excellence in disability programs

By JACQUELINE BYERS  
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

The 2001 Award of Excellence for Disability Programs and a check for \$1,000, was presented to Gloucester County, N.J. for its program Total Mix Is Real Inclusion: Bankshot™ Basketball and Tennis. The program, developed for regional and national events in Gloucester County, N.J., addresses the spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act by utilizing a "total mix" approach.

Under the leadership of the county and using the Bankshot basketball court and products, events are planned and conducted by all interested parties who are committed to recreational opportunities where persons of all ages, sizes, abilities and disabilities participate together. (Bankshot basketball features 18 stations — all different — where players can score up to 240 points by successfully banking a basketball off specially designed backboards and into the hoop from different distances.)

To encourage and support this program, the county built a Bankshot basketball facility featuring an inclusionary design. This was the first publicly owned facility involved in the Bankshot basketball program. In 1997, the county partnered with Mantua Township and received a \$5,000 award through United Way to get the program started.

The total cost of the facility, located in the Green Acres Chestnut Branch Park, was \$50,000. In 1998 and 1999, Gloucester County was selected as the site of the Northeast Regional Bankshot Tournament where participants qualified for national tournaments held in Lima, Ohio and

Victoria, Texas. The national events included junior, 12 and under, teen, 13-18 years, senior, 19 years and up, and wheelchair.

Bankshot basketball awarded the 2000 National Tournament to Gloucester, which expanded the number of divisions to seven, adding senior, 55 and up, wheelchair and partner, and challenger (developmentally disabled), to the previous categories.

The county is participating in the design of a prototype Bankshot tennis system. These models can be replicated and serve as examples of providing full and active participation of persons with disabilities.

**Honorable Mentions**

In addition to the Award of Excellence, two Honorable Mention awards were presented. The first to Olmsted County, Minn. for its Region 10 Quality Assurance Project.

In 1995, people with developmental disabilities, their families, legal representatives, advocates, support providers, county and state representatives and other stakeholders from the 11 counties in Region 10 of Minnesota held a meeting to discuss the service system for persons with developmental disabilities.

One of the priorities identified by the stakeholders was assuring quality of services to people with developmental disabilities in spite of potential changes at the state and federal level. The stakeholders worked with area legislators to develop and pass legislation that would allow counties to participate in an alternative licensing system that would focus on quality outcomes of support providers versus minimal licensing requirements.

Through this organization, counties created VOICE (Value Individual Choices and Experiences) which is an individual quality assurance assessment tool focusing on what is most important to each person. The project started in Olmsted and Winona counties in 1997.

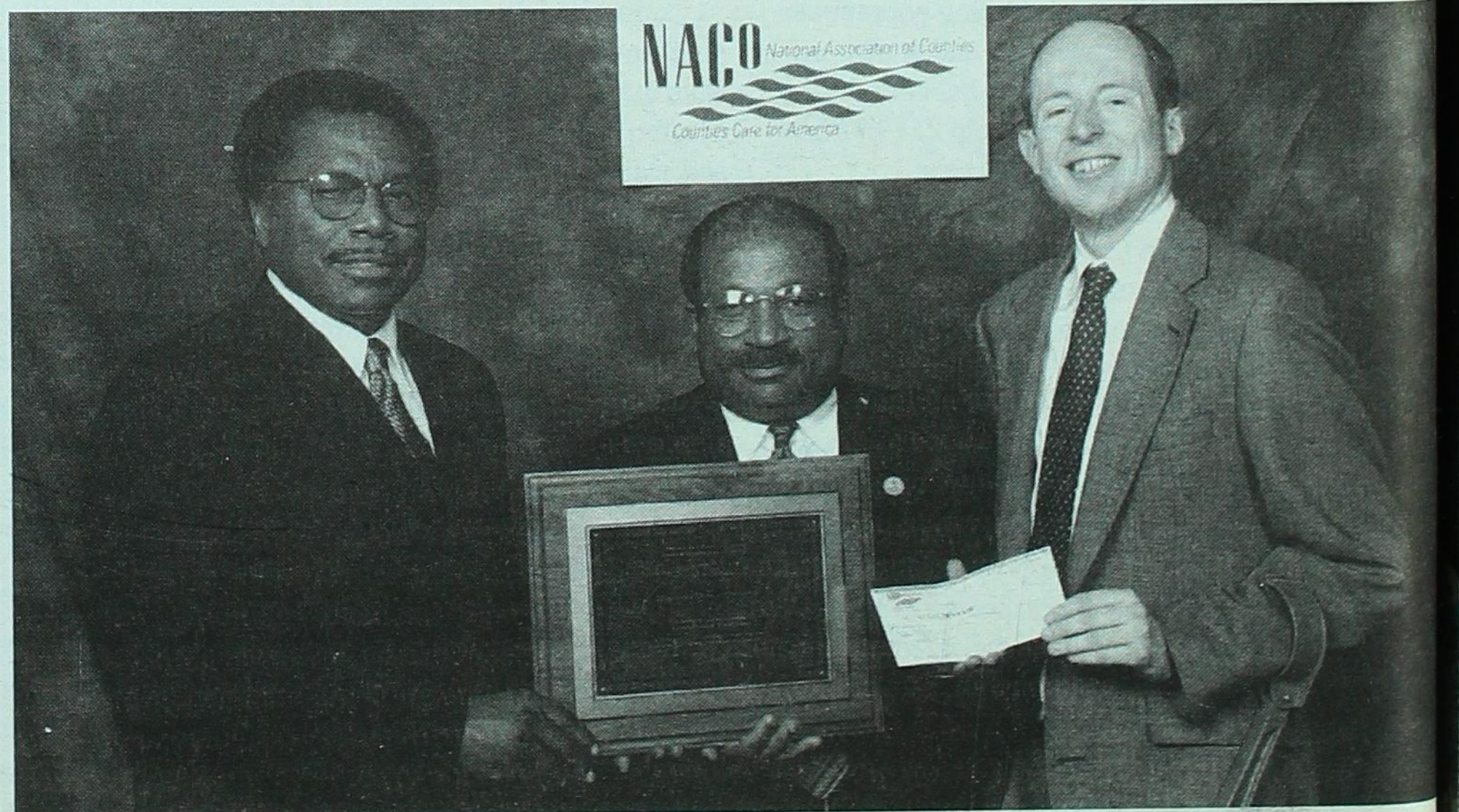
To date, three other counties, Fillmore, Houston, and Mower have joined the program.

The second Honorable Mention award was awarded to Jacksonville Duval County, Fla. for its Disability Services Division. The goal of the Disabled Services Division is to prove the quality of life for people with disabilities by addressing, searching and attempting to resolve the many barriers they encounter.

The division tries to achieve goal through numerous interactions and partnerships within the community. The Disabilities Services Division supports and serves as staff to Mayor's Disability Council.

This council consists of Jacksonville citizens who are appointed by the mayor to serve as his advisors on issues addressing disabilities. These individuals represent a cross section of disabilities within the community. The chief of disabled services is responsible for advising Mayor and city council members regarding issues dealing with compliance as required under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Award of Excellence, sponsored by NACo, the National Organization on Disability and AHA Healthcare, was presented at the National Annual Awards Reception at the annual Conference in Philadelphia.



Warren S. Wallace, Gloucester County, N.J. freeholder (c), receives a \$1,000 check from Taylor H. special assistant to the president, National Organization on Disability and an Award of Excellence plaque from NACo Past President C. Vernon Gray.



# ed rams Dog parks leave the people howling

By M. MINDY MORETTI  
SENIOR WRITER

As the sun sets over another warm August evening in Chatfield Park in Jefferson County, Colo., Helen and Jackson Manning run through the park, stopping occasionally to investigate a shrub or say hello to other park visitors. Helen and Jackson are unencumbered by the cares of the day. They are also unencumbered by leashes.

Helen Manning and Jackson, her 1-year-old behemoth of a yellow lab, are enjoying this bucolic setting without fear of being cited by a park ranger for Jackson's being leashless. They can't be cited for breaking any laws because the 20-odd acres they are enjoying are part of the parks' off-leash area (OLA), or the area more commonly known as a dog park.

Dog parks — areas where citizens can allow their dogs to legally roam without leashes — are becoming increasingly popular throughout the United States with more than 100 currently in existence.

In the country's ever increasing need for green space, dog owners see the parks as a place where they can safely and legally allow their dogs to exercise and socialize with other dogs while their "people" do the same. However, not all is well in the world of dog parks; there are those that oppose the parks citing a litany of reasons including potential health hazards as well as an affront to their quality of life.

Because many dog parks are on county lands, county officials often find themselves compelled to play mediator between two groups of constituents and ultimately forced to choose sides.

"We live in an area that has dog parks [seven in Arlington County and 26 in Alexandria] and just like people want skate parks and softball fields, we have a constituency that wants dog parks as well," explained Judy Peterson of the Fairfax County Va. Park Authority.

Fairfax County recently went through a heated battle about plac-

ing a one acre, fenced area for dogs within a six-acre plot of green space in the Annandale section of the county. The county is already home to one dog park and has five other parks proposed or approved. According to Peterson, what created the furor over this particular dog park was its proximity to a cluster of townhomes.

"People think we're just doing 'dog parks,'" Peterson says. "But what we're doing is masterplan revisions. It's a relatively cyclical process that addresses all of the future needs of the parks. We did this plan 10-years ago and what made sense then, doesn't necessarily make sense now."

Opponents to the park feared contamination of soil from feces, increased traffic, noise, dog bites and a decrease in property values. The Fairfax County Park Authority eventually approved the controversial park on a 9 to 3 vote. Peterson expects the park to be open by early winter and said the county will closely monitor the situation and would not hesitate to close the park if any of the fears are realized.

And while the opposition may not be as great as what the Fairfax Park Authority saw, even park planners in the Denver suburbs — an area recently rated by the Purina Pet Institute as the best place in the country to have a dog — have seen both sides of the issue.

"We've had so many people writing letters and asking the rangers about establishing a dog park, particularly after they've been cited for not having their dog on a leash. We knew the need was there, but we also knew there would be some opposition, we just didn't know how much to expect," said Robin Bartling, a park planner for Arapahoe County, Colo.

Arapahoe County is currently in the preliminary stages of planning one dog park with several more on the horizon.

"Right now, we're planning for the future by redoing our masterplan," Bartling explained. "We will incorporate these parks into the plan, but that doesn't mean they will come to fruition. We'll vet them to the public and go from there. It's basically a judgement call based on each meeting we hold."

The parks operate under different rules from area to area; for instance, in northern San Diego County, Calif. the parks are municipal parks and allow unleashed dogs only at certain times and certain days. Then there are the dog runs like those in Fairfax County, Va. that allow dogs off leash at all times, but only within a certain fenced in area. And then there are the ad hoc dog parks found in many places. These "parks" are not sanctioned, and owners run the risk of a citation

from police for failing to properly leash their pets.

Once in place, there are often quite a few rules that come with the OLAs. Some of the rules include: all dogs must be licensed with the county, no children under a certain age within the fenced in area, no puppies in the area, and owners must clean up after their dogs to name a few. In addition to the rules and regulations of the parks, most counties also require a sponsoring organization for the parks. Groups that will help raise some or all of the funds to get the parks built and who will maintain the area and enforce the rules.

While the opposition to dog parks may, at times, seem vitriolic, Peterson and other county officials take it in stride.

"There truly is a sense of 'not in my backyard,' not only for dog parks, but also for any kind of public facility, for halfway houses, for almost anything. People are very protective of their property values," Peterson said. Today it's a dog park, tomorrow a park for handicapped children. "Nothing really surprises us anymore."

(For more information about dog parks throughout the United States and Canada, as well as links to other useful Web sites, check out [www.dogpark.com](http://www.dogpark.com).)



Photo by Don Sweeney, Fairfax County Park Authority

Taylor Hill  
excellence pla  
Fairfax County, Va. resident lets her dog know that it's okay to be  
leash in Blake Lane Park.

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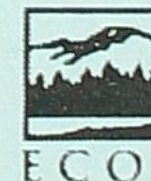
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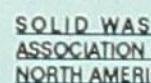
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# Alabama County jails face crowding issues

By M. MINDY MORETTI  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

In the pre-dawn hours of an early Monday in May, Houston County, Ala. Sheriff Lamar Glover watched as a group of inmates were loaded into vans awaiting transportation to a state prison facility. As they shuffled past, several of the inmates turned to Glover and thanked him. Thanked him for getting them out of the overcrowded situation of the Houston County Correctional Facility and into the more accommodating state prison system.

Glover and his counterpart in Jefferson County made the early morning deliveries to the state penitentiary because their correctional facilities were overcrowded with state prisoners: prisoners who had been sentenced more than 30 days prior yet despite a court order remained in the county facilities.

The average number of prisoners entering the Alabama state system exceeds the average number of inmates exiting the system by about 150 per month; therefore the backlog falls to the county jails. At one time, Glover had 343 inmates in his correctional facility that was originally built for 99 and later modified for 200.

The problem of state prisoners taking up space and financial resources in county detention centers is throughout the United States, but it reached epidemic proportions in Alabama this year. A litany of lawsuits and court orders and stays and fines is attempting to put it right, but no one sees a solution on the horizon.

"We have to all recognize that the biggest issue we have faced in the past year is the state prison problem," explained O.H. "Buddy" Sharpless, executive director of the Association of County Commissioners of Alabama. "From a time problem, to a money problem, to a heartburn and indigestion problem, this has been the largest problem. We do many, many things here, but this past year has certainly been consumed by this."

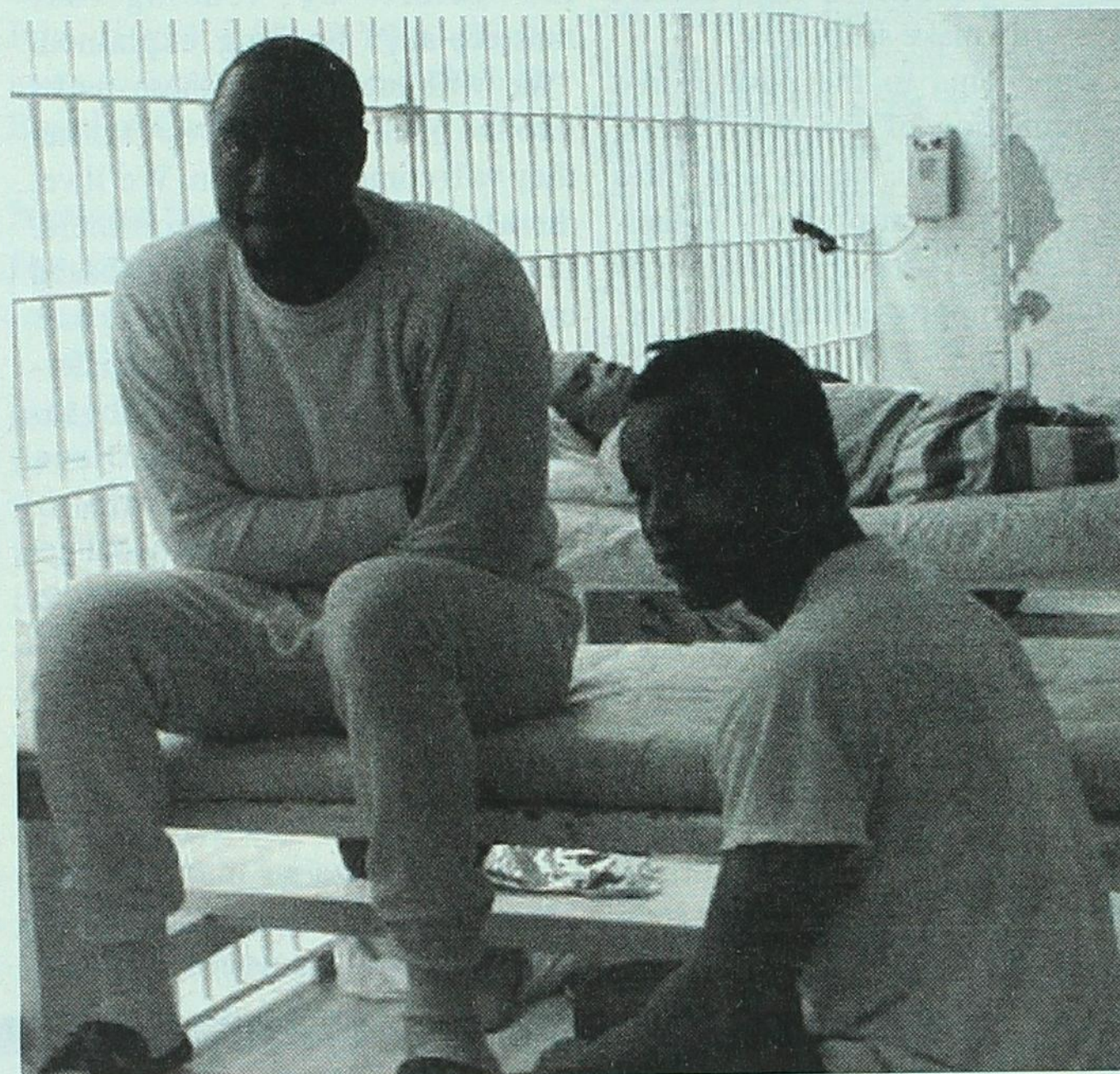
Alabama has one of the highest incarceration rates in the country, 571 per 100,000, with more than 25,000 prisoners currently in the system. This has been a problem for many decades, but the current situation started coming to a head in 1998 when the Alabama Department of Corrections agreed, in court, to remove all state prisoners from county jails within 30 days of sentencing.

When the DOC fell behind, four Houston County circuit judges ordered Glover to remove the state inmates and if the state prison system would not take them, to secure the prisoners in the prison receiving center.

At the urging of the state attorney general, the Alabama Supreme Court issued a stay in January 2001 to stop

the removal of the prisoners. However, on May 4, the Supreme Court lifted the stay and Glover made his move. While the state facility accepted these prisoners, a subsequent court-ordered stay was issued, and Glover and the other sheriffs were once again prevented from delivering any more inmates.

Besides the highly publicized early morning delivery, another case that has brought national attention to the severe overcrowding problems in the Alabama county correctional system is in Morgan County. Several inmates in a Morgan County jail sued over the conditions they were forced to live in.



Inmates in a Morgan County, Ala. jail slept on top of tables until a court ordered them removed.

Upon touring the facility, U.S. District Court Judge U.W. Clemon compared the conditions there — where inmates routinely slept on mattresses on the floor or stacked on top of tables — to those of a slave ship. At the time of Clemon's tour — in April — there were 134 prisoners in a jail designed to house 99 inmates.

"This problem has been around for years," explained Larry Bennich, chair of the county commission in Morgan County. "And it flares up from time to time, but it probably got worse this year than it has ever been."

According to Sharpless, the problem seems to stem from two areas.

"The legislature is passing lock them up, shut them up statutes, and judges are running on an 'I'm gonna lock them up ticket,' and even when we seem to get the numbers lower, these new laws fill us up again."

And while the legislature continues to pass stringent anti-crime laws, there is little to no money available to build new prisons. Alabama has the lowest property tax rate in the country, and according to the state consti-

tution, 98 percent of the sales tax must be earmarked for education.

"We're hoping that the state legislature and the governor will address this situation the next legislative session, but we don't know," Bennich said. "The general populations attitude about prisoners is 'Put them there and keep them there,' so when you ask them for more money for jails, it's not very popular."

In an attempt to sort the problem out, on July 20, Judge William A. Shashy of Montgomery County Circuit Court ordered the state to find room for more than 1,700 inmates left in county jails after their convictions.

Even though this is a county versus state issue, Sharpless says the relations between the two aren't strained, yet.

"It hasn't hurt our relationship with the legislature or the governor yet," Sharpless said. "It's a problem that they inherited. However, if there is going to be a strain, that will happen if Shashy sticks to his guns and imposes the sanctions. Whenever you toss money in there, it's going to be strained."

Only time will tell what happens if

the Sept. 3 deadline comes and goes without the removal of the state inmates. Glover knows one thing is for sure in this situation, \$26 per day, per state prisoner in a county facility is not the answer.

"I don't want their money, I just want the space. I want their prisoners out of our jails," Glover said. "That's all I'm asking."

*The Associated Press contributed to this report.*

## Alabama Prisons At a Glance

Average Number of Inmates Per Month in State Facilities .....	26,182
Average Number of State Inmates Per Month in County Jails .....	2,899
Average Number of Admissions Per Month .....	828
Average Number of Separations* Per Month .....	679
Total Number of State Facilities (including work release) .....	35
State Prison Capacity .....	23,504
Percentage of White Inmates .....	32.4
Percentage of Black Inmates .....	60.4
Percentage of Female Inmates .....	6.9
Age Range for the Highest Percentage of Inmates:	26-30 years old

\*Release through parole, time served, etc.

(Source: May 2001 Department of Corrections Monthly Statistical Report, the most recent available. The averages were compiled over a 13 month time period from May 2000 through May 2001.)

## The Current Crisis

Although there is a history of problems with overcrowding in the Alabama prison system, this most recent set of problems dates back to 1998.

• **1998** Alabama Department of Corrections agrees in court to remove all state prisoners from county jails within 30 days of sentencing.

• **December 2000** DOC falls behind in its obligation to remove prisoners and Houston County Circuit Court judges order sheriff to deliver inmates to the state facility.

• **Late December 2000** Houston County Sheriff Lamar Glover delivers the first group of state inmates to the state-run facility.

• **January 2001** Alabama Supreme Court issues a stay preventing Alabama sheriffs from delivering any additional prisoners to state facilities.

• **March 2001** U.S. District Court Judge U.W. Clemon visits a Morgan County detention center and compares the overcrowded conditions there to a "slave ship."

• **April 12, 2001** Clemon orders state prisoners from county facility.

• **May 4, 2001** Alabama Supreme Court lifts the stay preventing sheriffs from delivering state inmates to state facilities if held over 30 days past sentencing.

• **May 7, 2001** Houston and Jefferson County sheriffs make early morning deliveries of about 200 state inmates to state facility.

• **May 10, 2001** Montgomery County Circuit Court judge issues a stay preventing the delivery of any additional inmates.

• **May 18, 2001** Montgomery County Circuit Court Judge William A. Shashy orders state to find room for more than 1,700 inmates left in county jails after their convictions.

• **June 2001** Alabama Gov. Don Siegelman says state will not be able to comply with Shashy's order but hoped to make room for 1,250 inmates.

• **July 20, 2001** Shashy declares state corrections commission in contempt of court and says court will begin fining the state for every state prisoner not moved out of a jail within 45 days.

• **Sept. 3, 2001** Deadline for the removal 1,700 state inmates from county facilities before the courts begin fining the state per prisoner, per day.

• **Sept. 14, 2001** Clemon to hold hearing with Morgan County officials over proposed deal to handle the overcrowding issue.



# Pursuing broadband in the vast digital divide

By JEFF ARNOLD

DEPUTY LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

Broadband, advanced telecommunications services, cable modems, DSL, wireless Internet, satellite access, MMDS, and on the flip side, the menacing "digital divide" — these are terms we are reading and hearing about daily. Access to broadband technologies for Internet access are often touted as the next economic development revolution for counties. Whether such predictions are true remains to be seen, but what is broadband and what does it really mean for counties?

Let's start with "what is broadband?" Generally, broadband is any one of several technologies allowing users to communicate with the Internet at speeds greater than 128k, although some have differing speeds between upload and download speeds. These technologies include, but are not limited to: cable modems, digital subscriber lines (DSL), T1 leased lines, satellite systems, ground-based wireless and others. Most provide an "always on" capability, which increases the efficacy of their use. They are basically a bigger pipeline for information than dial-up services, and thus the bigger the pipeline, the better the flow of information.

The digital divide is simply the lack of access to broadband technologies for local governments, businesses and private citizens. Entities that do not have access to broadband cannot utilize the many tools available to provide services, access services and do business over the Internet. Research shows this divide exists primarily in rural America, and

many inner cities. There are approximately 102 million U.S. households. Around 62 million households have personal computers, with approximately 52 million with online

access. Only 9.6 million households currently have broadband Internet access.

In a recent quick snapshot survey of counties, 52 percent of respondents said their county had access to broadband, but a much smaller percentage of their citizens had such access.

Approximately 70 percent of high-speed Internet services now come from cable modems, primarily because they were deployed first. The cabling of many local governments, businesses and homes has been in place for years, and adding the Internet to this pipeline was relatively easy. DSL came along in recent years (and is gaining in popularity), but only about 2.8 million homes or 29 percent of high-speed users use DSL. Satellite users represent about 0.7 percent and wireless Internet about 0.3 percent.

Many authorities suggest that the future of economic development and job growth (and subsequently county revenues) will come from utilization of the Internet for e-commerce and other Web-based activities. The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) predicts that between now and 2008, employment in the technology sector is expected to rise by more than 35 percent.

BLS says, "Computer systems analysts, engineers and scientists are expected to be the fastest growing occupations through 2008. Employment of computing professionals is expected to increase much faster than average as technology becomes more sophisticated and organizations continue to adopt and integrate these technologies. Growth will be driven by very rapid growth in computer and data processing services, which is projected to be the fastest growing industry in the U.S. economy."

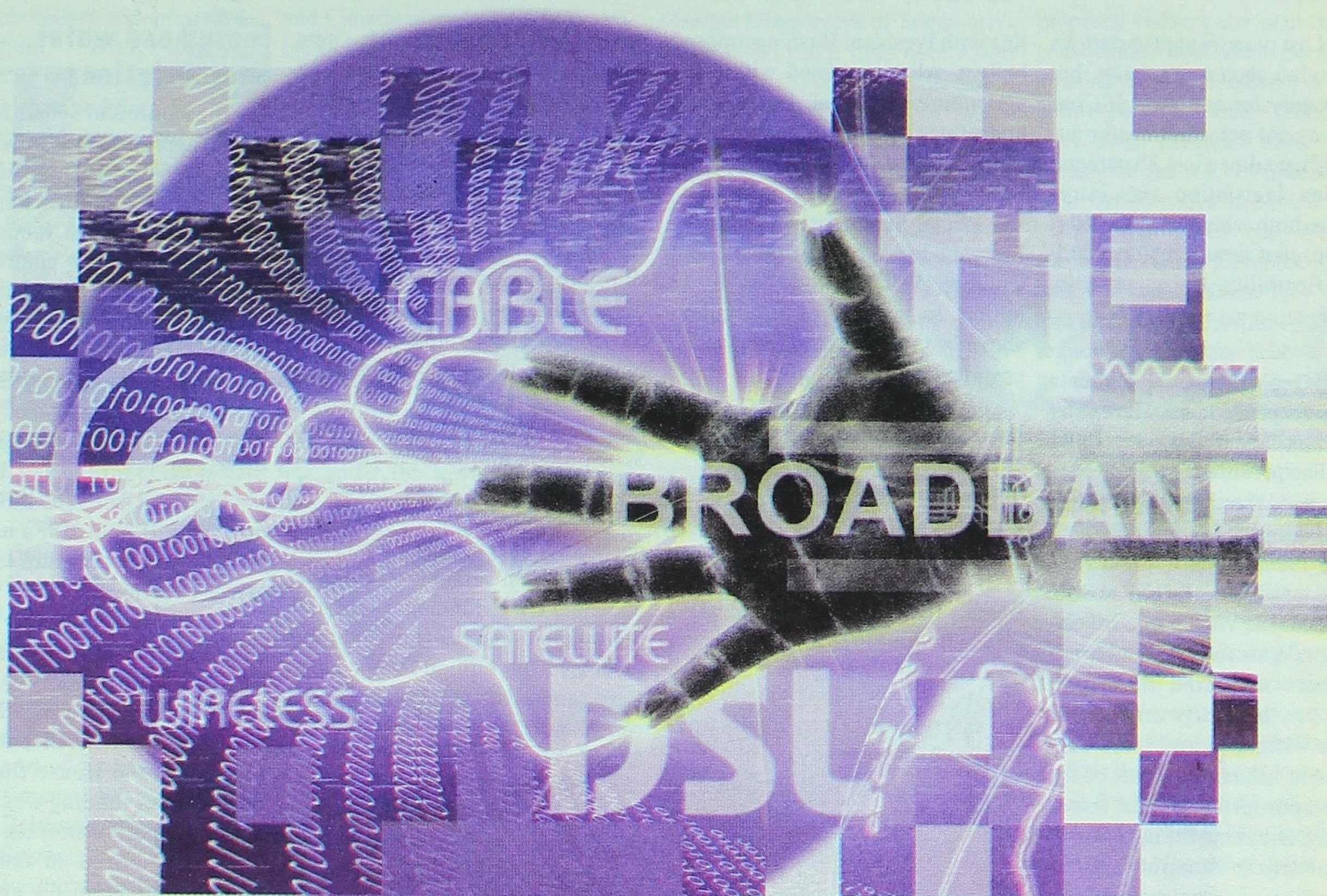
In addition, thousands of job openings will arise annually from the need to replace workers who move into managerial positions or other occupations or who leave the labor force. If counties are to reap the benefits of this new job growth, broadband access will be critical.

There are a number of bills introduced in the 107th Congress that attempt to address the deployment of broadband to underserved areas. The most notorious to date is H.R. 1542, the so-called Tausin-Dingell bill (named for its authors, House Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Billy Tausin (R-La.) and its ranking member John Dingell (D-Mich.).

Some counties can't wait for legislation and have taken it upon themselves to address the broadband divide by putting money on the table. As an example, Moffet County, Colo. entered into a substantial financial arrangement with a Utah-based cooperative to bring broadband to the county. This aggressive approach convinced the former RBOC Qwest Communications to begin to deploy and make available fiber optic cable in their county.

What this all means is that counties need to assess their broadband access availability and, if it is lacking, develop a strategy to work with telecommunications and/or cable providers to work expeditiously to deploy these new services. Economic development, job and literally the future of many county communities, will be dependent on access to broadband technologies. NACo is working with Congress and other advocacy groups to find the best ways to get broadband deployed universally across the country.

In the 21st Century, broadband will be as important to the future of counties as electricity and telephone service were in the last.



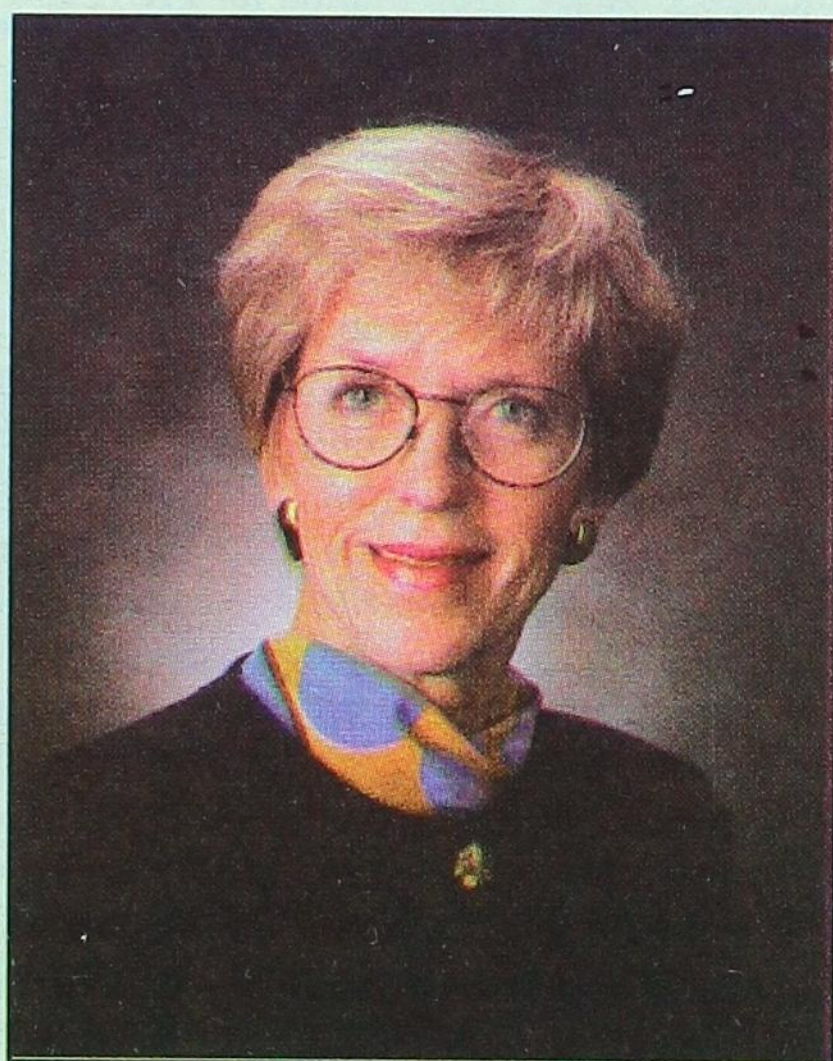
## NACRC public official of the year

Each year, the National Association of County Recorders, Election Officials & Clerks, (NACRC) selects one individual to receive its prestigious Public Official of the Year award. This award is presented to an official who exemplifies leadership, dedication and excellence in public service. Nominations for this award are submitted by boards of county commissioners or supervisors, state associations, or individual recorders, election officials and clerks.

The recipient of the 2001 Public Official of the Year award is Maxine Olson-Hill, county register of deeds for Burleigh County, N.D. The award was presented to Olson-Hill on July 14 at the NACo Annual Conference in Philadelphia, Pa.

As chair of the Property Records Industry Joint Task Force, Olson-Hill was instrumental in bringing together leaders from the private and public sectors of the land records industry. Through this task force, county governments and private sector organizations (such as Fannie Mae and the American Land Title Association) are successfully working together to identify problems and improve efficiency through the use of new technologies and improved processes. Olson-Hill was one of the founders of this task force, formed three years ago.

Olson-Hill holds a master's degree in management from the University of Mary in Bis-



Maxine Olson

marck, N.D. She was elected the Burleigh County Register of Deeds in 1987. She served as the president of the North Dakota Association of Counties, the National Association of County Recorders, Election Officials & Clerks and is actively involved in many local, state and national service organizations, as well as her church. She is married to Bryce Hill, who serves on the Bismarck City Commission.



# Returning from the summer recess, Congress faces most contentious appropriations bill

ILL from page 1

SBG. Last year's appropriations bill included such a provision, but that was only for one year. If Congress does not act, the transfer authority will go down to 4.25 percent. Bipartisan legislation was introduced in both chambers (S. 501/L.R. 956) that would restore funding and flexibility.

## Labor

The Department of Labor's FY02 appropriation may be cut by as much as 10 percent over FY01 levels. The president initially proposed, and the House appears likely to adopt, a \$600 million cut in Department of Labor funds. Five hundred million of that would come out of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA funds). Senate appropriators may find they have little ability to rectify this, unless they are willing to break the budget caps or take money out of the defense appropriation. But this is not likely. Breaking the caps would create a deficit situation and recent pushes to increase defense spending are likely to continue.

The entire Labor/H appropriation (as it is commonly referred to) is \$6 billion shy of what is needed to fully fund the educational and health-related priorities on which Congress and the Administration agree. The impact of the cut could be significant. Adult training programs would be cut the least from \$950 to \$900 million, a cut of 5.3 percent. Youth training programs could be cut by nearly 13 percent from \$1.15 to \$1 billion. Dislocated worker programs would be cut the most. A full 13 percent cut in dislocated worker programs from \$1.6 to \$1.4 billion is likely.

## Rural Development

The House passed the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. Within this particular appropriations package, the Rural Community Advancement Program (RCAP) received a slight increase in the FY02 budget. This year's budget for RCAP is \$767.46 million for an increase of slightly more than \$4 million over FY01 budget numbers (less than 1 percent).

The programs contained within RCAP (Water & Sewer programs, Community Facilities programs, and business cooperative programs) received small increases.

Rural housing assistance programs received a \$15 million increase over last year's budget numbers up to \$693.5 million, which is in

line with President Bush's proposed budget. Also contained within the agriculture and rural development budget are Child Nutrition Programs, funded at \$10 billion — \$554 million above last year.

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is funded at \$4.137 billion, an increase of \$94 million above last year and the same as the president's request.

The Senate has yet to act on the Agriculture appropriations package.

## Transportation appropriations

The House and Senate have passed FY02 Transportation Appropriations bills. The Senate finally passed its version of the bill on Aug. 1 after a long debate over the safety of Mexican trucks traveling on U.S. highways. The Mexican truck issue will continue in conference committee and may invite a presidential veto. Both bills have similar funding levels on a number of major programs of interest to counties.

Highway funding is set at \$32.9, transit funding at \$6.7 billion and the Airport Improvement Program at \$3.3 billion in both bills. These levels were guaranteed by TEA-21 and AIR-21 and reflect the levels NACo asked for. Both bills set Amtrak funding level for capital improvements at \$521 million and, very importantly, will allow Amtrak to access the funds on the first day of the new fiscal year.

The Senate bill includes \$20 million and the House bill provides no funding for the Small Communities Air Service Development Program NACo has been promoting. This program would provide funding to communities to attract new air service where the existing air service is infrequent and passengers face high fares.

Finally, both bills include language stating concerns that the U.S. Department of Transportation has not issued final statewide planning regulations which, in part, address enhanced consultation for rural local officials.

## VA-HUD & Independent Agencies

Both the Senate and the House housing subcommittees have approved versions of appropriations bills for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for FY02.

On the Senate side, S.1216 restores funding levels for the Com-

munity Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to more than \$5.1 billion, differing from the \$4.4 billion recommendation of both the Bush Administration and the House housing subcommittee. In addition, the Senate bill provides \$1.8 billion for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program and does not include the \$200 million set-aside for a down payment assistance program that was proposed by the White House.

The House version of the bill, HR. 2620, includes an additional \$200 million for the set-aside if it is authorized before June 30, 2002. Homeless assistance programs under the McKinney Act received \$1.02 billion in both versions of the bills, matching FY01 funding levels. The Senate appropriations legislation also includes \$100 million for Shelter + Care renewals, a program that received no new funding under the House version of the bill.

With respect to public housing, the S.1216 provides appropriations for 17,000 new Section 8 vouchers, funds public housing capital grants at \$2.9 billion and restores the public housing drug elimination program at \$300 million. The House version of the bill funds 34,000 new Section 8 vouchers, and follows the Administration's request by cutting \$700 million from public housing capital grants and eliminating the public housing drug elimination program.

Both bills fund public housing operating subsidies at \$3.4 billion, a \$200 million dollar increase over FY01 funding levels. In addition, lead-based paint abatement grants received \$110 million in both bills, and brownfields redevelopment grants received \$25 million in funding under both versions of the bill.

## Floodplain re-mapping program

In the VA-HUD bill, the House and Senate approved increased funding for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Flood Mapping Modernization Program, one of NACo's critical funding priorities. The House provided \$50 million for the program as a "down payment" on meeting the larger need to update the nation's floodplain maps and make them usable to county governments. The Senate approved only \$22 million for the program.

The House passed its version of VA-HUD appropriations on July 30, with the Senate passing its version just before the Congressional recess on Aug. 2. The differences in the legislation will be taken up in conference committee.

## Energy and water appropriations

The House and Senate approved annual appropriations bills funding EPA water infrastructure funds. The bills stop short of fully funding the state revolving loan funds (SRFs) and sewer overflow control grants that provide financial assistance to counties for drinking water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure, programs that NACo strongly supports.

The Senate version of the EPA bill fully funds the clean water SRF at \$1.35 billion and the drinking water SRF at \$850 million, but provides no funds for a new \$450 million grants program to control sewer overflows.

The House measure includes \$1.2 billion for the clean water SRF, \$850 million for the drinking water SRF and no funds for sewer overflow grants. An amendment offered on the House floor to increase water funding was defeated due to budget constraints. The bills will be finalized in conference, where there is still a chance for funding levels to change.

## Interior appropriations

The Senate passed its version of the 2002 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill by a voice vote on July 12. As requested by NACo, Senate appropriators recommended funding the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program at \$220 million. The House appropriated \$200 million for PILT, \$50 million more than the Bush budget.

In addition to increases for the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Forest Service, the bill also fully funds the Title VIII conservation programs often referred to as "CARA-Light." The title also includes \$406 million for federal land acquisition, \$221 million for state and other conservation programs such as endangered species programs and wetland conservation programs, \$137 million for historic preservation programs and \$180 million for federal infrastructure improvements.

The House and Senate versions must now be reconciled in a conference committee made up of members from both chambers. The Senate conferees are Sens. Robert C. Byrd (D-W.V.), Patrick J. Leahy (D-Vt.), Ernest F. Hollings (D-S.C.), Harry Reid (D-Nev.), Byron L. Dorgan (D-N.D.), Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), Patty Murray (D-Wash.), Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii), Conrad Burns (R-Mont.), Ted Stevens (R-Alaska.), Thad Cochran (R-Miss.), Pete V. Domenici (D-N.M.), Robert Bennett (R-Utah),

Judd Gregg (R-N.H.) and Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo.).

The House has yet to name its conferees. Staff for the chairman of the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee indicated the substantial differences between the House and Senate bills meant no conference schedule had been set in order to allow staff the necessary time to conduct detailed analysis.

## Justice Appropriations

The Senate Justice Appropriations Committee on Commerce, Justice, State and the Judiciary reduced the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant from \$523 million in FY01 to \$400 million in FY02 and cut the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) from \$565 million to \$265 million. House appropriators set funding levels for these programs at the same mark as last year's levels.

Although the Administration requested only \$400 million for the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) program and \$50 million for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP), the House Committee marked LLEBG at \$522 million and SCAAP at \$565 million.

In addition, the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant was set in the House and Senate at \$250 million, and an additional \$298 million was set aside for juvenile justice programs under the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act. The House and Senate committees provided \$391 million for the Violence Against Women Act (\$103 million more than FY01) and \$1.01 billion for Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). This was \$158 million more than the president's request but \$17 million less than last year.

On a positive note, the Senate provided \$5 million to fund mental health courts for the first time, increased funding for counter-terrorism programs to a new level of \$364 million and elevated the NACo supported Title V prevention program to \$131 million, or \$36 million more than the House Committee's measure.

(Also contributing to this report were: Paul Beddoe, Neil Bomberg, Eric Ciliberti, Bob Fogel, Cassandra Matthews, Sally McElroy, Donald Murray, Stephanie Osborn and Marilina Sanz, associate legislative directors. If you would like more information, call Ed Rosado, legislative affairs director, (202) 942-4271, or visit the Legislative Affairs Department Web site at [www.naco.org/leg/index.cfm](http://www.naco.org/leg/index.cfm).)



## NEWS FROM THE NATION'S COUNTIES

## FLORIDA

Thirteen Florida teens recently spent their summer working on plans for a teen center, cleaning up litter, visiting the **BROWARD COUNTY** Commission, learning about voting and how laws are passed as well as participating in a host of other activities. Upon completion of the Leaders of Tomorrow program, each camper received a computer system (including monitor and printer).

The 10-week program was designed to give campers a view of the county and will follow them over the next three years to determine the camp's success. The campers were selected on the basis of the family's income. Monies for the programs and the computers come from federal block grants.

## GEORGIA

On Sept. 18, voters in **GLYNN COUNTY** and surrounding jurisdictions will go to the polls and determine whether the county will add a new penny sales tax. If the tax is approved, it will go into effect at midnight on Jan. 1, 2002 and generate an estimated \$80 million in funds over the next five years.

Monies from the penny tax are earmarked for projects such as facilities, infrastructure and drainage between the county, the city of Brunswick and Jekyll Island Authority.

While the new tax has its detractors, Glynn County Commissioner Fred Tullos told *The Brunswick News* the tax is absolutely necessary.

"Anybody that thinks we can pay for these projects out of the general fund without massive fee increases needs to go take even the simplest of accounting courses," Tullos said.

## KANSAS

The Kansas Supreme Court blocked a **SEDGWICK COUNTY** judge's contempt citation against the county commission for failing to fully fund his district court budget.

The controversy began in April when Judge Paul Buchanan of the 18th Judicial District in Wichita submitted a list of eight items totaling \$493,900 for equipment and salary increases for the court offices for the 2002 budget. The county commissioners denied the request, and Buchanan issued a court order in May, without holding hearings or filing pleadings, ordered the items be included. Buchanan also issued a restraining order preventing the board from certifying the 2002 budget.

When the five-member county commission approved the 2002 budget anyway, Buchanan found the board in contempt. The Supreme Court halted further action by Buchanan "...until further order of the Court."

## MARYLAND

While many counties struggle with skateboarders and what to do with them, **BALTIMORE COUNTY** is embracing them with three new skateboarding facilities on the east and west sides of the county, as well as one in the central county. The Department of Recreation and Parks began a \$1.25 million upgrade to an existing facility in mid-August. The upgrade is designed to enhance safety at the skate bowl. The money allows for some physical upgrades such as fencing and regular staffing.

Besides the upgrades to the existing skate bowl—including a new comfort station and skateboard park—the county will begin construction of two new parks in spring 2002. The new parks will cost between \$75,000 and \$150,000 each.

Also in Baltimore County, Executive C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger recently unveiled the county's new mental health hotline center. The hotline is part of a comprehensive package of mental health services called the Baltimore County Crisis Response System. This is a cooperative venture between the county's Department of Health (DOH), the Police Department and a locally based nonprofit that provides behavioral health services.

The project is funded through the DOH with \$700,000 in local funds and \$200,000 in federal block grants. The police department is providing \$250,000 worth of personnel and resources.

The CRS is designed to provide immediate relief to people suffering mental health emergencies.

This is the first program in the state of Maryland and one of the few in the country, to deal with mental health crises through a combined police/clinical response.

## MICHIGAN

The director of the **OAKLAND COUNTY** Management and Budget Department is a whiz with the numbers and now he's got the credentials to prove it. In early August, Jeffery C. Pardee became one of the first individuals in the country to receive credentials as a Certified Public Financial Officer (CPFO).

To receive this new certification, Pardee was required to pass a five-part examination that covered the areas of governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, cash management, investments, debt management, operating and capital budgeting, pension and benefits, risk management and procurement. Pardee scored the highest of any candidate in the nation on the auditing and risk management components of the test.

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada awards the CPFO designation. The CPFO credential is maintained by participation in 30 hours of continuing professional education each year.

## MISSOURI

In the spring 2001 elections, the citizens of **WRIGHT COUNTY** voted, by a margin of 55 percent to 45 percent, to abolish their 12 townships. This was the third time the issue appeared on the ballot.

Wright County's defection leaves 22 out of Missouri's 114 counties under the township organization. These counties are mainly located in the northwest and western parts of the state. Missouri has a total of 314 townships, and the number per county varies from as few as seven to as many as 24.

## NEW MEXICO

It may look like a summer camp on the grounds behind the county jail in **SAN JUAN COUNTY**, but the men living in the old military helicopter maintenance tent are far from happy campers. The county is using the tent, donated by Dona Ana County, to relieve its overcrowded jails. The county has a backlog of 15,000 outstanding warrants as a result of the jail overcrowding. The tent holds an average of 60 people but can accommodate 100. Only men on misdemeanor warrants such as unpaid speeding tickets and failure to appear in court stay in the minimum-security tent. Inmates eat and sleep in the tent. The cost of the semi-permanent project was \$10,000.

## NORTH CAROLINA

From 1987 through 1995 **MECKLENBURG COUNTY** consistently violated the federal standard for ozone levels. In March, the Board of County Commissioners adopted a resolution to proactively study and work to solve the problem. That is where the Breathe task force comes into play.

The task force is made up of 20 citizens selected by the commissioners to study the problem and make recommendations on actions. Aside from Mecklenburg citizens, stakeholders (road contractors and the trucking industry) and organizations with interests in the environment, health, transportation and planning will also be on the task force. The first meeting of the task force is scheduled for Sept. 13.

For more information about the Breathe initiative, visit the Department of Environmental Protection's Webpage at [www.co.mecklenburg.nc.us/coenv](http://www.co.mecklenburg.nc.us/coenv).

## SOUTH CAROLINA

It's **JASPER COUNTY** vs. the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) in a fight over 2,000 muddy acres of land along the South Carolina-Georgia border.

The county wants to condemn about 1,800 acres GDOT owns in South Carolina. The county offered to buy the land from Georgia at a price of about \$8 million, when Georgia refused, the two went to court.

Currently, GDOT uses the land to dump dredged mud from the river bottom to keep the Savannah Harbor ship channel deep enough for the giant freighters that use it. The county would like to secure the land and lease it to Stevedoring Services of America, which would then build a \$400 million international container shipping port.

Lawyers for GDOT had previously failed to stop the condemnation by arguing that the land taking would adversely affect the federal government, specifically the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Federal officials declined to enter the fray.

## TEXAS

A group of Hispanic leaders are vowing to kill a record bond issue for roads and parks in **HARRIS COUNTY** if the county refuses to carve out a seat for them on the Commissioners Court.

The leaders took up their battle when the court failed to pass their proposed redistricting plan the Hispanic leaders said would put them in position to win a court seat. Just before passing another redistricting plan, court members voted unanimously to put a \$535 million bond issue before voters on Nov. 6.

According to the *Houston Chronicle*, court members say the bonds are vital because they will allow them to fight traffic congestion, improve mobility and keep pace with growth in unincorporated areas.

The retirement of Commissioner Jim Fonteno has created a rare opening on the court that currently consists of four Anglo and one black member. The Hispanic leaders wanted the lines redrawn to increase their political chances. Court commissioners had said all along that they had no intention of drastically altering the district lines and that the Hispanic voters already had enough voting strength in the precinct of get a Hispanic elected.

The Hispanic leaders have vowed to use whatever they can to make their point, including stopping the bond issue on the November ballot.

(News from the Nation's Counties is compiled by M. Mindy Moretti, senior staff writer. If you have news, please call (202) 942-4223, or e-mail [mmoretti@naco.org](mailto:mmoretti@naco.org).)

## NACo ON THE MOVE

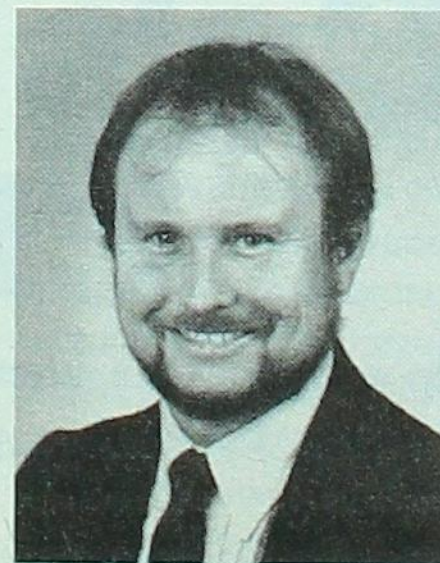
## NACo OFFICERS / MEMBERS

- NACo First Vice President Karen Miller attended the Association of County Commissioners of Alabama annual meeting in Point Clear, Ala. She addressed the attendees on August 22.
- President-elect Ken Mayfield spoke to the delegates at the Michigan Association of Counties Annual Meeting on Aug. 20 in Gaylord, Mich.
- NACo President Javier Gonzales addressed the members of the Maryland Association of Counties at their Annual Conference in Ocean City, Md. on Aug. 17.

## NACo STAFF

- On Aug. 22 and 23, NACo's Director of Research, Jackie Byers, offered *Counties 101* to approximately 80 employees of Nationwide Retirement Solutions, the administrator of NACo's Section 457 deferred compensation program. Designed to help NACo partners and corporate members understand counties better, this seminar covers topics from the esoteric to the functional. Byers also offered this course during a workshop at NACo's Annual Conference in Philadelphia in July.

- On Aug. 14 and 15, James Davenport represented NACo at the 4th Annual Southeast Watershed Forum and the 2001 Georgia Water Resources Leadership Summit in Atlanta, Ga. Davenport presented the recently released *Source Water Information Kit for Local Government Officials* and the report *Stormwater Management, Three Profiles of County Based Initiatives*, two new NACo technical assistance products.



James Davenport





## 2001 Achievement Awards "Best of Category" Winners

### Criminal Justice and Public Safety

#### Sentencing to Service Homes Program Hennepin County, Minn.

The Sentencing to Service Homes (STS) program began in Hennepin County in January 2000. The program assists non-sex offenders from Hennepin County, who are in their final 12 to 18 months of incarceration, by teaching them skills in the construction trades and securing their placement as an apprentice carpenter upon release. As a result a collaboration between Hennepin County, the City of Minneapolis, Summit Academy OIC and the Minneapolis Building and Trades Council, participants performed rehab activities to improve the appearance of existing structures and mitigate the effects of the affordable housing crunch.

Prior to the program's implementation, county officials met with officials from Minneapolis to identify homes falling under the "rehab" category. After meeting with the city, county officials met with the Minneapolis Building and Trades Council to gain its support for the program and to head off any concerns the union would have regarding the rehab activities. Union officials expressed their support for and interest in the program because they had the potential to benefit from an increase in the number of union journeymen. Finally, the county partnered with the Summit Academy OIC to provide an eight-week pre-apprenticeship curriculum to program participants.

After an application process was conducted in three of the state's minimum-security facilities, six offenders were chosen for the first STS crew (for the first crew the county included the criteria that all participants must be non-custodial fathers who had been ordered to pay child support but up to this point in their lives were unable to do so).

When the crew completed the eight-week pre-apprenticeship program (phase one of the STS program), they reported to a rehab project in South Minneapolis and were assigned duties as a sub-labor carpenter crew working at the direction of a general contractor through the city (STS phase two). Upon their release, two members from the first STS crew moved to phase three of the program, which is placement with an actual construction company.

### Emergency Management

#### Special Needs Registration Program Linn County, Iowa

The Linn County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC) developed a special needs registration program to register the needs and challenges of all special needs persons who live in their own homes and not in a group home or residential care setting.

The purpose of the program is to gather as much information as possible about the needs of residents prior to an emergency and to ensure the county can plan and prepare resources necessary to provide timely assistance

to an easily overlooked segment of the population. The program was also developed as a mechanism to assist with transportation of community residents with special needs in the event of an emergency at DAEC, Iowa's only nuclear power plant.

Currently, there are nearly 1,300 persons registered through this program (registration is expected to double within the next few years as the program becomes more publicized).

Because confidentiality laws prohibit EMA officials from obtaining registration information through social service agencies, they must rely on a voluntary registration system to identify those who might need assistance. To register, applicants fill out and return a postage-paid, 5 x 7 card that asks for basic information including name, address, phone number, residency status (full time/seasonal, etc.) and a brief description of their special need. Registration cards are mailed to the residents that live closest to DAEC and are also distributed with local telephone books to the remaining residents within the 10-mile radius that surrounds DAEC.

If filling out the card is difficult for registrants, they can call EMA and register by phone. Once the registration information is received, it is entered into a database management system that becomes part of a Geographic Information System (GIS) that places the applicant's location on a computer generated map.

*(Hats off to ... was compiled by Christina Crayton, research assistant and features 2001 NACo Achievement Award Winners. For more information, call (202) 942-4285.)*

## — THE H.R. DOCTOR IS IN — Future Workforce Will Force Major HR Change

The whole world surrounding government services is changing. As a society, we have become accustomed to 24/7 banking, grocery shopping and pharmaceutical services. Yet many governments continue to deliver services as if horses and buggies still crowd their parking lots. Recently, the HR Doctor saw a sign in a government office, which read, "For your convenience, our hours are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m."

*Employers will have a greater responsibility to provide education and deliver clear and consistent expectations to employees.*

Clearly, if the agency were really working for my convenience, rather than its own, the hours would be 24/7.

Why shouldn't the citizen/customer be able to pay a bill online? Or get an auto tag renewed? Or reserve a park campsite, apply for a county job, view public records, get a building permit, etc., etc. — all online. The technology is there and sooner rather than later, the demand will force continual access to public services.

Is it likely that the next generation of public servants will be up to the task of delivering Public Service, version 2.0? The answer is a resounding no if we don't pay attention to major human resource issues.

In the future, the pool of applicants who want to work for counties, cities, schools or public hospitals will be larger but, in general, will lack solid work experience and solid work habits. Employers will have a greater responsibility to provide education and deliver clear and consistent expectations to employees.

However, there will also be a small group of "super-applicants." These technologically enabled, highly-skilled and highly-mobile people have many employment options. We will need them more than they will need us.

Public agencies will not do well if they approach Public Service, version 2.0 with HR practices, version 1.0. rule-bound, inflexible practices in HR will fail to attract the great stars we need to actively seek out. Such super-applicants will not wait six months for the government civil service eligible lists to be set up, names certified to appointing authorities and notices mailed back and forth. This is not a

nimble, 21st century business practice. It is a fossilized, approach — the relic of another era.

The new and effective version 2.0 model will be customer focused and outcome-oriented rather than process-oriented. HR professionals will measure their success by how well they have met the client's needs. A 9 to 4 HR office in a 24/7 world will be bypassed by both the frustrated clients as well as by the most skilled applicants.

The new model is marked by leadership courage — the courage to consider service delivery options. Local governments in the United Kingdom, for example, regularly contract with media marketing firms to design and place ads and run the branding campaigns necessary for maximum recruitment success.

The HR Doctor is very familiar with a public agency in the United States that which takes the same approach to attract hard to find health care professionals. The courage to do things differently and to take risks in service delivery, to join with other agencies for joint recruitment projects, to contract out testing or other traditional in-house HR functions, will be a key defining trait for the next generation of successful HR leaders.

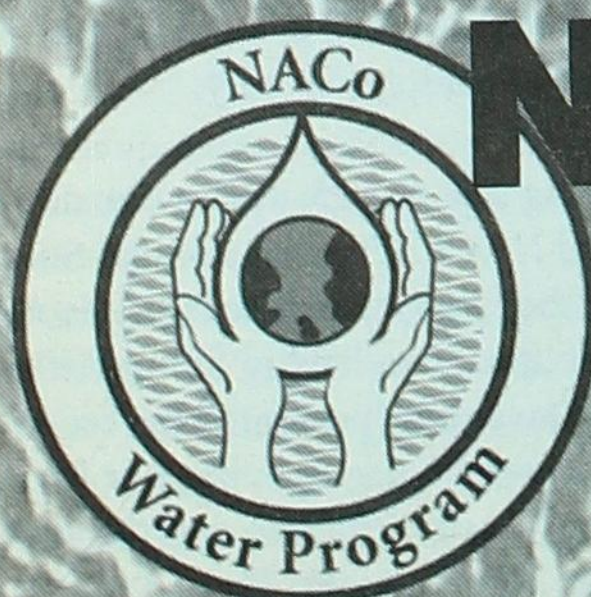
The HR Doctor also predicts that even top level HR leadership could be provided by professional service contracts with individuals or with companies. The "range riding" contract city or county manager concept could work just as well in the HR leader's office as it could be in meeting needs for seasoned, stable executive leadership in the county manager's office. As more experienced, mobile retired executives pursue "piece-work" contracts or accept assignments to serve their hometown communities, this flexible approach to professional leadership will grow more popular.

Public Service, version 2.0 means fewer entitlements and more opportunities for individual opportunities. The changes are powered by the demographic, technological and attitudinal evolution — or perhaps, revolution — going on in public service. "Beta" or test versions of 2.0 are already "on sale" in an organization near you. As county leaders, you may want to get to the store and shop early!

The HR Doctor wishes you enjoyable HR "shopping."

Sincerely,  
Phil Rosenberg

The HR Doctor @ [www.hrdr.net](http://www.hrdr.net)



## NACo's Water Program

Need help with septic systems? Stormwater management?  
Flood control? Protecting drinking water?

Contact Jason Shedlock at (202) 942-4252 for more information. Don't miss the opportunity to ensure the water quality of your community!



## RESEARCH NEWS

# Locating Federal Facilities — Urban or Rural?

The General Accounting Office (GAO) recently released a report prepared at the request of Sen. Byron L. Dorgan (D-N.D.). Dorgan asked the GAO to investigate where the federal government was locating its new facilities and whether the rural areas of the nation were getting their fair share of these facilities. The inquiry from Dorgan was prompted by his concern about federal agency compliance with the Rural Development Act (RDA). This act, passed in 1990, requires federal agencies to consider locating facilities in rural areas.

The report from GAO, called *Facilities Location — Agencies Should Pay More Attention to Costs and Rural Development Act*, was released in July.

The GAO surveyed federal agency officials concerning 115 sites acquired between 1998 and 2000 either through the General Services Administration or by agencies that have independent statutory authority to locate and acquire sites.

Some discussion occurred about the definition of a rural community because of the lack of uniformity across federal agencies. Setting the population threshold for rural communities as 25,000 or less, the survey revealed only 32 of the 115 sites acquired during the two year span were rural sites.

In the process of preparing this report, the GAO also determined that eight of the 13 cabinet level agencies had no RDA siting policy

and there was little evidence RDA requirements were considered when siting new facilities.

Federal agencies chose urban sites for 72 percent of the 115 sites. The reasons agencies listed for selecting urban sites included their need to be near agency clients, and related government and private sector facilities to effectively accomplish their work. The agencies that selected rural areas did so to be close to existing support facilities and because of the lower relative costs of buying real estate.

Many agencies that relocated stayed in the same area where they were originally located, which were urban areas. New sites were divided nearly evenly between urban and rural locations. A reason often used for selecting urban areas was the need to be near an accessible skilled labor force.

The activities performed by facilities located in largely urban areas included loans/grants/benefits administration processing, inspection and auditing, and health and medical services. Facilities located in rural areas performed research and development, supply and storage, automatic data processing and finance and accounting. Law enforcement activities were placed in both locations, with a slight majority going to urban sites.

Agencies located in urban areas claim they have more efficiency in performance because they can share existing facilities. They also cite their

close proximity to other agency facilities and employees, and their accessibility to public transportation for both their employees and clients as a primary reason for urban siting. Problems associated with an urban site include lack of building security or expansion space.

The benefits of locating in a rural site include close proximity to agency support facilities, improved building and data security and better access to major transportation. The problems associated with a rural site include lack of public transportation, distance from other agency facilities and lack of high-speed telecommunications infrastructure.

In its report, GAO also presents lessons learned from the private sector that could be beneficial to public sector agencies when siting new facilities. These include, where possible, taking advantage of certain incentives local governments can offer to attract new employers, such as free land. A second factor is the lower real estate and labor costs available in many rural areas.

Existing policy in both the RDA and Executive Order 12072 (requiring central business areas be given first preference for the location of federal facilities that need to be in urban areas) emphasizes locating federal facilities in either urban or rural areas to promote economic development. Neither of these policies recognizes cost as a factor when selecting the location for new facilities.

As part of its report, the GAO suggests Congress enact legislation to require agencies to consider, along with their missions and program requirements, real estate, labor and other operational costs and applicable local incentives when deciding whether to relocate or establish a new site in a rural area or urban area.

For a copy of the complete report go to [www.gao.org](http://www.gao.org) or [www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/aces/aces160.shtml](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces160.shtml) and enter the name of the publication and the number (GAO-01-805).

(Research News is written by Jacqueline Byers, director of research.)

## NOTICES

### CONFERENCES

■ **The American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA)** is holding its *40th Annual Meeting and Exposition* Nov. 4-7, at the San Diego Convention Center. AAHSA's Annual Meeting is the largest in the senior services field, with more than 5,000 long-term care providers attending. More than 190 educational sessions will be offered and participants will have the opportunity to earn continuing education credits and network with their peers. Long-term care providers can learn more by calling (202) 508-9405 or visiting the upcoming events section of AAHSA's Web site, [www.aahsa.org](http://www.aahsa.org).

■ **The Council for Urban Economic Development (CUED)** is holding the *CUED 2001 Annual Conference: The American E-volution* on Sept. 9-12, at the Lowes Philadelphia Hotel in Philadelphia, Pa. The focus of the conference will be economic development with workshop sessions on best practices, emerging economic drivers, evolving technology issues and the new economy. There will also be an annual awards luncheon and recognition dinner. For more information on this conference, contact the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) at [www.iedconline.org](http://www.iedconline.org).

### PUBLICATIONS

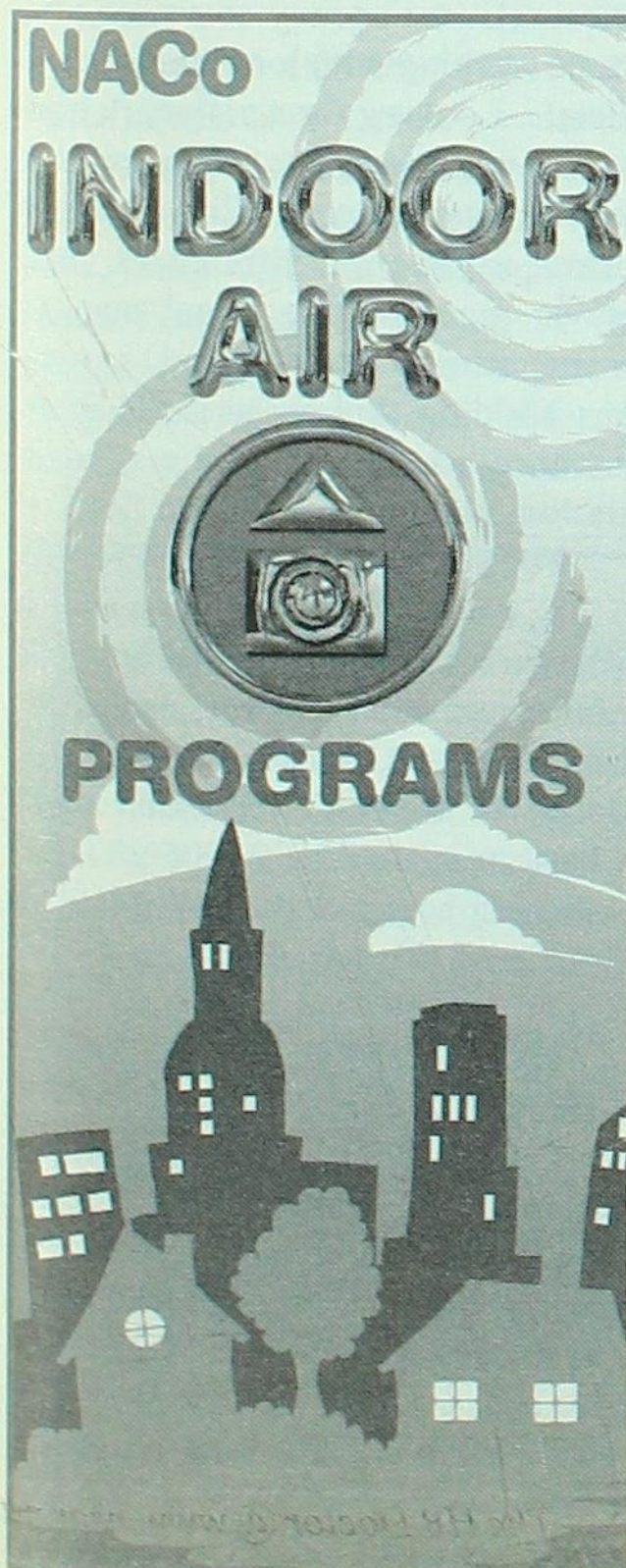
■ **The International City/County Management Association (ICMA)** recently published *Information Technology in Local Government: A Practical Guide for Managers*. The publication addresses the needs of smaller municipalities and counties and provides guidance for managers with no IT staff as well as advice for full-time IT managers and staff. Covered in the publication are managing technology use, technical and service issues and applications of technology. For more information, visit the ICMA online bookstore at <http://bookstore.icma.org> or call Christine Ulrich, editorial director, at (202) 962-3595 or [culrich@icma.org](mailto:culrich@icma.org).

■ **Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.** has published *Reforming Medicaid: The Experiences of Five Pioneering States with Mandatory Managed Care and Eligibility Expansions*. In the early 90s, many moved to managed health care due to rising Medicaid costs, increased numbers of uninsured people and inadequate access to healthcare. This report summarizes a six-year evaluation of five Medicaid Section 115 demonstrations, initiated between 1994 and 1997 in Hawaii, Maryland, Oklahoma, Rhode Island and Tennessee. The study assessed the effects of the demonstrations on states, plans, providers and beneficiaries. Researchers found each of the states made major investments of time and resources to accomplish sweeping changes in their Medicaid programs. For more information on this report, or to download it from its PDF form visit, [www.mathematica-mpr.com/PDFs/redirect.asp?strSite=reformmed.pdf](http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/PDFs/redirect.asp?strSite=reformmed.pdf). For a printed copy, contact Publications at (609) 275-2350.

### OTHER RESOURCES

■ **The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** is seeking entries for its annual Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. The program recognizes and honors outstanding, innovative efforts that make progress toward achieving cleaner air. It also recognizes significant air quality achievements in the area of clean air technology, community development, education/outreach, regulatory/policy innovations, and transportation efficiency innovations. All public and private entities are eligible to apply. All entries must be submitted by September 28, 2001. For more information and to obtain entry forms, visit [www.epa.gov/oar/caaac/program.html](http://www.epa.gov/oar/caaac/program.html) or contact Paul Rasmussen, [rasmussen.paul@epa.gov](mailto:rasmussen.paul@epa.gov) or (202) 564-1306.

(Notices is compiled by Stacey Kennedy, editorial assistant.)



**NACo**  
**INDOOR**  
**AIR**  
**PROGRAMS**

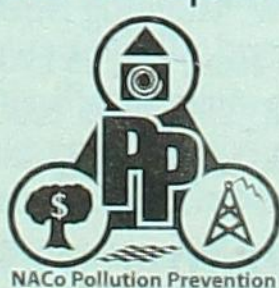
The objectives of NACo's Indoor Air Programs are to heighten county officials' awareness of indoor air pollutants as public health threats and to provide materials and technical assistance for risk reduction activities. Such indoor air pollutants include...

**radon, environmental asthma  
triggers, environmental tobacco  
smoke and carbon monoxide.**

Contact Lou Witt or Maggie Kennedy for free materials and information on how your county can help reduce the health risks associated with poor indoor air quality.

**Maggie Kennedy**  
Environmental Assistant  
[mkenney@naco.org](mailto:mkenney@naco.org)  
202.661.8806

**Lou Witt**  
Senior Program Manager  
[jlwitt@naco.org](mailto:jlwitt@naco.org)  
202.942.4261



**NACo** National Association of Counties  
Counties Care for America



## JOB MARKET/CLASSIFIEDS

**CORRECTIONS DIRECTOR — ORANGE COUNTY, FLA.** (Population 883,308) Salary range \$76,000 to \$119,000; beginning salary negotiable.

*Orange County, Florida* is seated in Orlando. The County has 13 cities covering over 1,000 sq. mi. The County and the Central Florida region offer outstanding quality of life amenities. County operates under a Charter which provides for a directly elected Chairman (CEO) and a six-member County Board (Legislative), elected from single member districts. With the consent of the Board, the Chairman appoints a County Administrator who is responsible for most of the County's central functions and for managing the daily activities of many County departments and divisions, including the Orange County Office of Public Safety (OCOPS). OCOPS is headed by the Director of Public Safety. In addition to the Corrections Department, it contains the Fire Rescue Department and the Communications Division. OCOPS employs 2,540 people. With nearly 4,300 inmates, the Orange County Corrections Department runs the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest jail in Florida and the 17<sup>th</sup> in the nation and is now operating at about 1,000 inmates over capacity. The Department employs 1,623, has a FY2001-02 budget of \$137,643,743 and serves 22 police agencies. To remedy the overcrowding, the County is currently investing \$95 million to expand the jail by 1,200 beds including new inmate housing, a new Medical/Mental Health facility, a new Intake/Release facility, improved security and automation. The Corrections Director is responsible to the Director of Public Safety to provide overall management of the County's Corrections System which includes Main Detention, Central Booking & Transportation, Direct Supervision, Special Facilities, Health Services, Community Corrections and Corrections Administration.

**Requires** a Bachelor's degree in criminal justice/public administration or a related field (masters' degree preferred) and at least 6 years of management experience in an urban jail setting or a closely equivalent combination of training and experience. Must have excellent management & leadership skills, cutting edge knowledge of modern corrections methods, facilities, construction and technology, and have excellent written and verbal skills, including community and media relations.

**Send resume by October 12, 2001 to:**

Robert E. Slavin, President  
SLAVIN MANAGEMENT  
CONSULTANTS  
3040 Holcomb Bridge Road, Suite B-1  
Norcross, Georgia 30071  
Phone (770) 449-4656  
Fax: (770) 416-0848  
e-mail [rslavin101@aol.com](mailto:rslavin101@aol.com)

**NOTE:** Under Florida's Open Records Law, resumes are considered as public documents and must be provided to the media upon request. Should you wish further information concerning this matter, please call prior to submitting your resume.

**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY RECRUITER/EMPLOYER**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR — LAKE COUNTY ILL.** Salary: Highly competitive DOE/Q.

Lake County, IL (Pop. 644,356) is seeking candidates for the position of County Administrator. Salary: Highly competitive DOE/Q. \$340M budget with Aaa bond rating by Moody's Investors Service. Recently ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in the nation in per capita income, Lake County's 470 square miles include urban, suburban, and rural communities experiencing rapid growth. The County Administrator is appointed and serves at the pleasure of the 23-member Lake County Board. Board members are elected on a partisan basis, from districts, to 4-year overlapping terms and are organized by a member-elected Chair into eight standing committees.

The County Administrator serves as the chief administrative officer providing complex professional and administrative direction to all operating departments that include 2800 employees. Requires master's degree in public or business administration and 10 years of progressively more responsible administrative experience. The successful candidate will be politically sensitive with extensive knowledge of the principles and practices of public administration, State and Federal legislation affecting county government and a demonstrated ability in effectively planning, promoting and administering the operations of a large complex organization. In addition, the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with staff, community and Board officials, other elected officials and State and Federal representatives is essential. Submit resume and salary history by October 5th to: Lake County Board Chair, 18 N. County St., 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Waukegan, IL 60085. [www.co.lake.il.us](http://www.co.lake.il.us) EOE.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR — SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY, CALIF.** Current salary range: \$135,984-\$165,288.

The County of San Joaquin, located east of the San Francisco Bay Area in the San Joaquin/Sacramento River Delta region of California's fertile San Joaquin Valley, is seeking a County Administrator. Working under the policy direction of a 5-member Board of Supervisors, you provide administrative and budgetary direction to a city. Organization w/7,000 employees and an \$884M FY01-02 budget.

Ideal candidate is a county administrator/executive, asst. or sr. executive from a comparable public sector org. w/ a proven track record for leadership, fiscal resp., integrity, results, innovation, enthusiasm and ability to work in an effective partnership w/ the Board of Supervisors. Individual possesses outstanding problem solving, communications, cust. Service and consensus building skills. Masters is highly desirable.

Current salary range: \$135,984 - \$165,288. Placement will depend on exp. & qualifications of selected candidate. County also offers and excellent benefit package.

To be considered for this exceptional career opportunity, submit your

resume and cover letter w/ 3 work-related references and current salary by Friday, September 28, 2001 to:

CSAC Human Resources  
Advisory Services  
740 University Avenue  
Suite 130  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
Tel: (916) 567-4280 or  
(916) 924-8333  
Fax: (916) 567-1220  
[resumes@shannonassoc.com](mailto:resumes@shannonassoc.com)

**CURRENT PLANNING MANAGER — BATON ROUGE, LA.**

Extensive knowledge of land development regs. with several years experience in processing zoning and subdivision applications. MS in Planning preferred. Contact Troy L. Bunch (225) 389-3144 or [tbunch@ci.baton-rouge.la.us](mailto:tbunch@ci.baton-rouge.la.us).

**DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT — STAFFORD COUNTY, VA.**

Stafford County, located in the Washington DC metropolitan area, is seeking an experienced manager to plan, develop, and direct the County's business, tourism and industrial development programs and services. Requires considerable professional experience in a sophisticated and aggressive economic development program in a highly competitive environment with significant experience in economic development, recruiting and marketing programs, preferably in local government. Open until filled. Send required County application, resume and cover letter to: Stafford County, Personnel Department, P.O. Box 339, Stafford, VA 22555; fax: (540) 658-4597; for application and additional information contact, (540) 658-8628; TTY: (540) 658-4534; [www.co.stafford.va.us](http://www.co.stafford.va.us) EOE/ADA.

**DIRECTOR/FACILITATOR — SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIF.**

Self Service Center Division. \$79,250 to \$100,199 Annually. (Depending on Qualifications). The County of Santa Clara, on behalf of the Superior Court, State of California is looking for an innovative and result-oriented individual to fill this critical Executive Management position. This opportunity offers the Director the challenges of developing, implementing and managing a new center that will provide a broad variety of **Family Legal Services** to a diverse population.

Excellent Executive Management Package

Executive Management Services  
70 W. Hedding Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Jose, CA 95110  
(408) 299-4355 Ext. 207  
[www.sccjobs.org](http://www.sccjobs.org)

**DIRECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES — GUNNISON COUNTY, COLO.**

Gunnison County, Colorado is very fortunate. It is a semi-rural, inspiring beautiful mountain county located deep within the western slope of Colorado's

Rocky Mountains. Gunnison County has an excellent history of successful and respected county leadership that has reinforced the viewpoint in the area that County government can be relied on for effecting positive change, that County funds are managed prudently, and that the County's decision-making eye is fixed on balance. Gunnison County is seeking its next Director for the Department of Human Services, affording the successful candidate the opportunity to apply advanced professional skills, address challenging issues, become a part of a vibrant community, and enjoy a first-rate quality of life. This position has become available because of the retirement of the previous Director who completed a 38 year tenure in this position.

The successful candidate will have considerable knowledge of human services programs, in particular considerable knowledge of the general principles and objectives of State and Federal laws and regulations pertaining to the delivery of human services, and knowledge and techniques of administration, community organizations, supervision and staff development as well as knowledge of current case work standards. At minimum the successful candidate must possess at least five years of progressively responsible human service delivery experience. It would be beneficial if the successful candidate has a working knowledge of the Colorado Human Service Delivery system, but at minimum the successful candidate must possess an undergraduate degree in a pertinent discipline. A copy of the position description can be obtained by calling (970) 641-0248 or Email [jdevore@co.gunnison.co.us](mailto:jdevore@co.gunnison.co.us). Resumes must be submitted by close of business on September 28, 2001, address to John DeVore, County Manager, Gunnison County, 200 E. Virginia, Gunnison, Colorado 81230.

**DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES — LA PLATA (DURANGO) COUNTY, COLO.**

(Population 43,911) **Compensation:** The current salary range is \$59,246 to \$89,615 annually. Beginning salary is negotiable depending on qualifications. Excellent benefit package.

Established in 1874, La Plata County, Colorado is a beautiful western Colorado community nestled in the Rocky Mountains. The area is known for its exceptional year round recreational opportunities. The County covers 1,690 square miles. The Social Services Department employs 50.3 FTE and has a current budget of \$5.2 million. The departmental mission is to enhance the capacity of families to care for themselves through services such as child support, public assistance, Medicaid, child welfare services, protective services for adults and children, therapeutic services and veterans services. The Director of Social Services reports to the County Manager and is responsible to properly manage the department and to actively participate as a member of the County's leadership team.

**Requires** the equivalent of a Bachelor's Degree (Master's preferred)

in Social Work, Public Administration or related field plus six or more years of increasingly responsible professional experience in social service which must include management level experience.

Please send confidential resume by Friday, October 12, 2001 to:

Robert E. Slavin, President  
SLAVIN MANAGEMENT  
CONSULTANTS  
3040 Holcomb Bridge Road, Suite B-1  
Norcross, Georgia 30071  
Phone: (770) 449-4656  
Fax: (770) 416-0848  
E-mail: [rslavin101@aol.com](mailto:rslavin101@aol.com)

La Plata County is an Equal Opportunity Employer

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR — CHARLOTTESVILLE VA.**

Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission, (Population 199,648) Competitive Salary (DOQ), Benefits

The Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPD) is seeking a skilled executive with a demonstrated capacity to lead a comprehensive, multifaceted regional council and direct an accomplished staff. Must work effectively with diverse constituencies including commissioners from member localities, public officials, advisory groups, and citizens to advance regional efforts.

TJPD is a 29-year-old regional council serving 5 counties, 1 city in the Blue Ridge region of Virginia; it conducts programs in transportation planning, workforce development, housing, environmental management, human services, planning assistance, grant management, and economic development and staffs affiliate organizations including an MPO. State data center affiliate. Active GIS operation. 17 employees; \$4.2 million budget.

Desire at least 5 years' progressively responsible positions in upper management in regional planning/service delivery agency or senior positions working with local and state officials. Looking for a visionary innovator with local-state government knowledge; understanding of regionalism, urban-rural differences; facility in grant writing, grant management; strong interpersonal, consensus-building, diplomatic skills. Prefer advanced degree in public administration, planning, or related field.

For information, phone (434) 982-5538; e-mail [vapdc@virginia.edu](mailto:vapdc@virginia.edu); or visit [www.monticello.avenue.org/tjpd](http://www.monticello.avenue.org/tjpd). Mail cover letter, resume, names of 5 references and salary history in confidence to Search, P.O. Box 4897, Charlottesville VA 22905. Resume screening begins September 24, 2001. Open until filled. EOE.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR — CHENAGO COUNTY, N.Y.**

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chenago Co., Norwich, NY. Leadership for effective community education programs, building strong partnerships, and managing resources. Master's degree and: 6 yrs. of rel exp. More info: [www.cce.cornell.edu](http://www.cce.cornell.edu). Send ltr of intent.

See JOB MARKET on page 15



## JOB MARKET/CLASSIFIEDS

**JOB MARKET**, from page 14

resume, names/addresses of 4 ref & transcripts by 9/21 to: PA#243. Box 26 Kennedy Hall. Ithaca, NY 14853.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU—GALENA/JODAVIESS COUNTY, ILL.

Excellent opportunity to live and work in a historic resort community located in a beautiful setting in extreme Northwestern Illinois. Reporting to County Administrator, the CVB is a County Department with a staff of six. Its purpose is to promote tourism for Jo Daviess County in a manner which will favorably impact the residents' quality of life and economic well-being. Executive and administrative duties are included in heading up this dynamic organization. Requires undergraduate degree in marketing, communication, tourism or related field or equivalent combination of experience and education appropriate to the position. Requires experience as a tourism developer, ability to build consensus, excellent marketing skills, outstanding sales skills, the desire to make a long-term commitment, excellent personality and communication skills, a problem solver, knowledge of finance and budgets and the ability to work independently. Salary open depending upon experience and qualifications plus competitive fringe benefit package. **Recruitment Brochure available from the Mercer Group. Send resume by close of business October 1, 2001 to James L. Mercer, President, The Mercer Group, Inc., 5579B Chamblee Dunwoody Road, #511, Atlanta, GA 30338. Voice: (770) 551-0403. Fax: (770) 399-9749. E-mail: mercer@mindspring.com. Jo Daviess County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**

### GRANTS ADMINISTRATOR— DAVIE COUNTY, N.C.

**Grants Administrator** — Salary range \$32,486–\$50,393. Hiring range: \$32,486–\$37,359. Minimum qualifications: Four-year degree from a college or university and two years experience in grants writing or related field. Additional experience may compensate for

some education. Employee must have working knowledge of grant writing to state and federal agencies and to private foundations. Employee will also be required to administer some grants. Employee must have a valid North Carolina Driver's License.

For a copy of an application call (336) 751-5513. Send applications to: Kenneth N. Windley, Jr., Davie County Manager, 123 South Main Street, Mocksville, NC 27028. Applications will be received until position is filled. Davie County is an equal opportunity employer.

### INTERNAL AUDITOR—LANE COUNTY, ORE. Salary: \$44,470– \$61,547

Lane County, Oregon has a full time Internal Auditor position available. The position will open 9/03/01 and closes 10/01/01. This position reports directly to a 5-member Board of Commissioners. This Internal Auditor position will focus on Performance Audits. The position requires the successful candidate to plan and conduct performance audits that assess the efficiency and effectiveness of County programs. **Job description:** Independently reviews and evaluates efficiency, effectiveness and legal compliance of a wide variety of depts and prgrms. Examines financial data, org structure, mgmt systems and operating policies and procedures to determine if: 1) program operating objectives, goals and associated control procedures are properly established; 2) resources are managed and utilized effectively and economically; 3) program has complied with laws and regulations and 4) desired results are being achieved. Responsible for performing the complete audit process, to include planning the audit, examining and evaluating information, communicating results, suggesting improvements or alternatives and establishing follow-up. **Training:** BA from accredited college or university in BA, PA or a related field. Possession of a certified Internal Auditor Certificate is desirable. **Experience:** Two years of resp exp in auditing or analysis of the performance of government or business prgrms.

**Salary:** \$44,470–\$61,547 Benefits: PERS, Co. pd medical, dental and vision plans for ee and qual dependents, 9

pd holidays, TM(vac and sick) accrues at 23 days/yr, Long and Short term disability. Co. pd Group term-life ins. Required application and supplemental can be obtained Sept. 3, on line at [www.lanecounty.org/jobs/](http://www.lanecounty.org/jobs/) EEO/ADA

### MANAGER — SENECA COUNTY, N.Y.

The last day for filing for the Seneca County Manager position has been extended to September 14, 2001. The original advertisement was published in County News issue dated August 13, 2001. Send resumes to Seneca County Personnel Office, 1 DiPronio Drive, Waterloo, New York, 13165. (315) 539-1712. EOE.

### MEDICAL EXAMINER — COCONINO COUNTY, ARIZ.

Medical Examiner-Coconino County Health Services.

#### Could this be the job for you?

Beautiful Coconino County has 18,608 square miles, and is the second largest county in the U.S., the largest in Arizona. It's cool here in the mountains! Coconino County has it all: clean air, hiking trails and splendid scenery including rugged mountains, deep canyons and thick forests. It is home to many scenic areas such as the Grand Canyon National Park, Sunset Crater National Monument, the towering San Francisco Peaks, Oak Creek Canyon and the world's largest Ponderosa Pine forest. **We are currently seeking a Medical Examiner for our Health Services Department located in Flagstaff, AZ.** This employee performs post mortem examinations, retaining samples, specimens and tissues necessary for analysis, examination and documentation as prescribed by existing practices of forensic pathology; prepares written autopsy reports; issues preliminary reports in writing, of the cause of death where such determination is not dependent upon further investigation; keeps and maintains appropriate records, reports and other documentation regarding investigations as well as physical evidence transferred from other investigative agencies. Requires Arizona physician license; Board eligible or Board certified in Forensic Pathology; two years experience working as a Medical Examiner or Forensic Pathologist. We offer an excellent salary and benefits package. Call (520) 779-6702 for application or visit our Web site at <http://co.coconino.az.us>. EOE. Open until filled.

### HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR—LEE COUNTY, FLA.

Population: more than 400,000  
**Anticipated Salary Range:** \$57,066 to \$94,147 plus benefits; beginning salary negotiable. Reasonable cost of living, including no state income tax.

Lee County, seated in beautiful Fort Myers, is ideally located on Florida's Gulf Coast within 150 miles of both Miami and Tampa. Designated by *Money Magazine* as the 6th Best Place to Live in America, Lee County continues to be one of the fastest growth areas in the Country. It boasts an ideal year

round climate, excellent neighborhoods, beautiful beaches and an array of first rate recreational and cultural amenities. The County is governed by a 5-member Board of County Commissioners who appoint a County Manager to manage the day to day operations of the government. There are 2,089 County employees and a budget of \$1.23B. The H/R Director reports to a Deputy/Assistant County Manager. Responsibilities include: Systems & Records; Benefits Management; Compensation, Labor Relations & Employee Services and Staffing. The Department has a staff of 21 and an operating budget of \$1.77M.

**Qualifications:** Requires the equivalent of at least a Bachelor's Degree in Human Resources, Public Administration or closely related field, with a minimum of 6-9 years' professional Human Resources experience, including management level experience. Knowledge of current H/R laws and cutting-edge concepts; commitment to making H/R an effective internal consultancy by which user departments are enabled to meet their goals rather than are they inhibited by unneeded process and outdated rules. Must be a communicative leader with a commitment to staff development and must have a strong "team" orientation.

**To apply:** Please submit your resume, along with current salary, **immediately to:**

**Robert E. Slavin, President**  
Slavin Management Consultants,  
3040 Holcomb Bridge Road,  
Suite B-1,  
Norcross, Georgia 30071  
Phone: (770) 449-4656  
Fax: (770) 416-0848  
e-mail [rsalavin101@aol.com](mailto:rsalavin101@aol.com)  
EEO/ADA

**Note:** Under Florida law, resumes are public documents and will be provided to the media upon request. Please call prior to submitting your resume if confidentiality is important to you.

**EOE/Veterans Preference/At Will  
Position/Open Until Filled**

### LABOR EMPLOYEE/RELATIONS MANAGER — LANE COUNTY, ORE. Comp: \$49,088– \$67,954.

Lane County Oregon has a full time Labor/Employee Relations Mgr position available. The position will open 9/03/01 and closes on 10/01/01. The County employs approx 1,400 ee's and has labor contracts with 5 unions. Position manages and coordinates countywide labor relations and ee relations programs; coordinates with other county departmental managers in developing positive labor management relations. Provides highly complex staff assistance to the HR Mgr. Training: Equiv to a BA from an accredited college or university with major course work in HR or a closely related field. A Master's in LB, HI Mgmt, BA, PA, or a related field is desirable. Exp: 4 yrs of increasingly responsible exp in HR Mgmt including at least 2 yrs in LR Mgmt and 2 yr negotiation responsibility.

Comp: \$49,088–\$67,954 Benefits PERS, Co. pd medical, dental and vision plans for ee and qual dependents, pd holiday, TM(vac and sick) accrues at 23 days/yr, Long and Short term disability. Co. pd Group term-life ins. Required application and supplemental can be obtained Sept. 3, on line at [www.lanecounty.org/jobs/](http://www.lanecounty.org/jobs/) EEO/ADA

## St. Clair County, Michigan Request For Proposal

**Qualified firms are invited to submit a bid to perform a  
system-wide Classification and Compensation Study.  
Bid Specifications Provided Upon Request.**

Contact: Terry E. Pettee, Human Resources Director  
St. Clair County Human Resources  
200 Grand River Avenue – Suite 203  
Port Huron, Michigan 48060

Tel: 810-989-6910 • Fax: 810-985-3493

E-mail: [Tpettee@stclaircounty.org](mailto:Tpettee@stclaircounty.org)

**Bid Submission Deadline: October 12, 2001**

## Job Market - Classified Rate Schedule

- **Line Rates:** \$7 per line, NACo member counties; \$10 per line, others.
- **Display Classified:** \$50 per column inch, NACo member counties; \$70 per column inch, others.
- **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.
- **E-mail advertising copy to:** [skennedy@naco.org](mailto:skennedy@naco.org).
- **Be sure to include billing information along with copy.**
- **Estimates given prior to publication are approximations only and do not necessarily reflect final cost.**

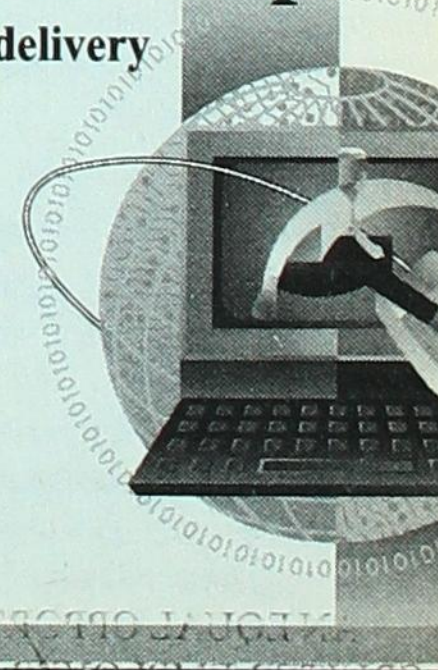
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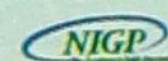
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