

County News

National Association of Counties • Washington, D.C.

Vol. 28, No. 20 • October 28, 1996

Three county-related cases on Supreme Court docket

By Mary Ann Barton
senior staff writer

The Supreme Court recently began its 1996-97 session and has already heard one case involving issues important to counties and is set to hear at least two more county-related cases before recesses next spring.

Brady Bill: Unconstitutional

A debate over crime control, gun ownership, and the shifting of power between federal state and local government has been set off in the case of *Wayne Printz, Sheriff, etc. vs. United States and Richard Mack, Sheriff, etc. vs. United States*, which will be

heard by the high court Dec. 3. Printz works for Ravalli County, Mont. and Mack is sheriff in Graham County, Ariz. "The Brady bill essentially orders local law enforcement to carry out background checks for a federal program," said David Hardy, the attorney in the case involving Graham County.

The case concerns the 10th Amendment to the Constitution, which states that "powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States, respectively, or to the people."

The Supreme Court must decide whether the federal law (the 1993 Brady Handgun Violence Preven-

tion Act) that requires sheriffs to run background checks on handgun purchasers unconstitutionally burdens local officials and infringes on the domain of the state. (The 1993 law is named for Jim Brady, who was shot in 1981 during an assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan.)

The Supreme Court has been "real solid behind the 10th Amendment and states' rights," Mack said. "Here we have Big Brother from Washington coming in and commandeering the local sheriff's offices."

"He's [sheriff Mack] doing this as an individual, so the county is not involved," said Terry Cooper, Gra-

See SUPREME COURT, page 5

Americans With Disabilities Act requires easy access for voters

By Margaret Rice
NACo ADA coordinator

In federal, state and local elections, county election commissions have legal obligations to meet the needs of voters with disabilities under the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Voting Rights Act, as well as state laws.

Several counties have already been sued under these federal laws and corresponding state law regarding voting access for persons with disabilities.

Under ADA, a county has a legal obligation to operate an activity, including voting, that is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.

Although the U.S. Department of Justice has not created any

Under ADA, a county has a legal obligation to operate an activity, including voting, that is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.

formal guidance on whether this means that all polling locations must be physically accessible, some state election laws require that all polling places be physically accessible. This is likely to be the trend.

A good starting point for coun-

See VOTER ACCESS, page 7

Things to remember

✓ **Vote! Vote! Vote!**

But before you do, take a moment to refresh your memory about candidates Clinton and Dole's answers to the "Five Questions That Count," which we have reprinted on pages 10-11.

✓ **Tell us what you think!**

Fill out our Readers' Survey on page 4. It's your turn to talk back.



Photo by Beverly Schlotterbeck

The central market square in Brussels, the Grand' Place, is said to be the most beautiful in the world and is partly surrounded by ornate 17th century buildings like those pictured here.

German counties grapple with Europe's union

By Beverly Schlotterbeck
editor

(Publisher's Note: In conjunction with NACo's ongoing relation with the German Association of Counties, the *Deutscher Landkreistag*, County News Editor Beverly A. Schlotterbeck was selected to participate in a two-week staff exchange with the DLT in mid-September. Following is the first of two reports on her experiences and observations.)

Imagine that the NAFTA treaty establishing a common trade zone between the United States, Canada and Mexico also provided for the eventual outlawing of the dollar, substituting instead a new currency

See GERMANY, page 9

I N S I D E

Late-Breaking News NACo Telecommunications Seminar Chicago, Nov. 14-15

NACo is sponsoring a special telecommunications seminar in Chicago, Nov. 14-15, tailored to county officials who are involved in advocacy on telecommunications issues before their state legislatures.

For registration information, contact Betty Thomas at NACo, 202/942-4209.

Officials in Allegheny County, Pa. have taken a traditional county function and given it an entrepreneurial edge with a surprisingly different twist. [page 3](#)

With its Neighborhood Place, Jefferson County, Ky. appears to be in a good position to take on the new service delivery demands of welfare reform. [page 6](#)



Want to know who represents your state on NACo's Board of Directors? Have an opinion or idea about NACo's legislative priorities? Need a NACo staff phone number? Then you need County News' comprehensive NACo leadership and staff directory which begins on [page 12](#)

NACo On the Move, NACo Services News, Research News [page 17](#)

Membership News, County Services News [page 18](#)

Neal Pearce Commentary, News From the Nation's Counties [page 19](#)

Job Market, Notices [page 20](#)

Welfare reform broadcast links the nation

By Lois Kampinsky
telecommunications and training
director

What are the new work requirements of the new welfare law? How does the law change the links between Medicaid and foster care? What are the rules about denial of benefits to legal immigrants? Whom should counties lobby and how do you approach them? These were just some of the questions that NACo answered during its Oct. 9 satellite broadcast, "Counties and the New Welfare Law."

Some 450 sites nationwide downlinked the show for live presentation, including cable television stations in New York City and Albany, N.Y. Broadcast attendance was nearly double that of other such events.

The broadcast focused on the ways the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 will affect the operations and services of county governments. It explored changes in direct responsibilities that many counties traditionally assumed, such as Aid to Families with Dependent Children (now Temporary Assis-

tance to Needy Families), and the indirect roles many other counties have taken on, such as job training, social services and health care.

The two-hour broadcast was led off by Michael Hightower, NACo president and commissioner from Fulton County, Ga., and Larry Naake, NACo executive director.

County panelists presented ideas about the contents of their states' newly penned welfare plans and those in the making, explaining how and to what extent counties were involved in hammering them out.

Hightower explained what NACo is doing to ease the transition to the law's requirements. Among the innovations: a series of meetings to discuss strategies affecting the states' planning processes, as well



Photo by Shawn Bullard
(l-r) Panelists Lynda Fox, Maryland Department of Human Resources; Gail Ewing, Montgomery County (Md.) Council chair; and Bruce Elliot, panel moderator, prepare for the second segment of NACo's Oct. 9 satellite broadcast, "Counties and the New Welfare Law." In the foreground is Patricia White, Montgomery County (Md.) Private Industry Council.

as press conferences between county leaders and mayors on welfare reform issues.

Naake offered the organization's

assistance in finding welfare solutions through information exchanges as well. He cited "best practice" models and other aids that will appear on NACo's new Internet Welfare Clearinghouse (NICH).

Federal officials who administer the law and one who helped write it offered interpretations and advice. Donna E. Shalala, U.S. secretary of Health and Human Services, and E. Clay Shaw, Jr. (R-Fla.), chairman of the Human Resources Subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee, pretaped interviews with NACo for the broadcast.

On hand at the first part of the broadcast to discuss the components of the law and the effect on counties were Ellen W. Haas, undersecretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Ann Rosewater, deputy assistant secretary for planning and evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Judy Chesser, deputy commissioner for legislation and congressional affairs, Social Security Administration; and, by phone, Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, supervisor, Los Angeles County, Calif.

County panelists presented ideas about the contents of their states' newly penned welfare plans and those in the making, explaining how and to what extent counties were involved in hammering them out. With only 20 state plans submitted at the broadcast date, counties were

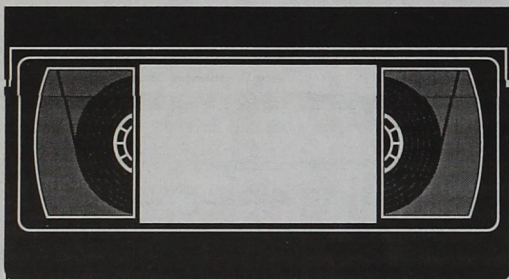
urged to make their voices heard by authors of state welfare plans. Counties were told how to contact state legislatures and governors' offices.

The following presenters provided ideas about contacts and approaches during the second half of the broadcast: Lynda Fox, deputy secretary for program development, Maryland Department of Human Services; Gail Ewing, chair, county council, Montgomery County, Md.; John Dunlop, National Conference of State Legislatures; Patricia White, Montgomery County, Md. Private Industry Council; and, by phone, Penelope Clarke, director, Department of Human Assistance, Sacramento County, Calif.

Directly following the broadcast NACo held a one-hour training session on conducting the Community Countdown 2000 Campaign in the community. Val Marmillion, president of Pacific Visions, Inc., and Larry Naake presented the information and held a brief question and answer session with downlink sites.

The welfare reform broadcast was a joint effort between NACo Training Division and its Legislative Affairs Department. To order copies of materials related to broadcasts, use the form at left. Note that the guide will not be available until December 1996.

(Also, please note that each form is designed for ordering one videotape or publication only. Read each one carefully when ordering to avoid delays.)



VHS VIDEOTAPES and BOOK ORDER FORM

"Community Countdown 2000 Training" October 9, 1996 1-Hour Broadcast

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County News invites Letters to the Editor

If you have a compliment, complaint or different point of view, let us know. Please include a phone number with your letter. Mail or fax to: County News, NACo, 440 First St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001-2080, 202/393-2630.

WELFARE REFORM UPDATE

States plan for new block grants

By Marilina Sanz
associate legislative director

Although states have until July 1, 1997 to submit their plans for implementing the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Block Grant (TANF), the program which replaces the former AFDC welfare grant, many have already submitted plans in an attempt to cash in on higher grant amounts.

As of Oct. 18, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services had received 29 state plans. Many are only interim and are likely to change substantially throughout the year. However, these states — California, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Texas, South Dakota and Wyoming — expect to receive more funds under the block grant because the allocation formula is based on higher caseloads than they have now. Even some of the states that have submitted more comprehensive plans based on existing waivers, such as Ohio, mentioned that the plans may change substantially throughout the year.

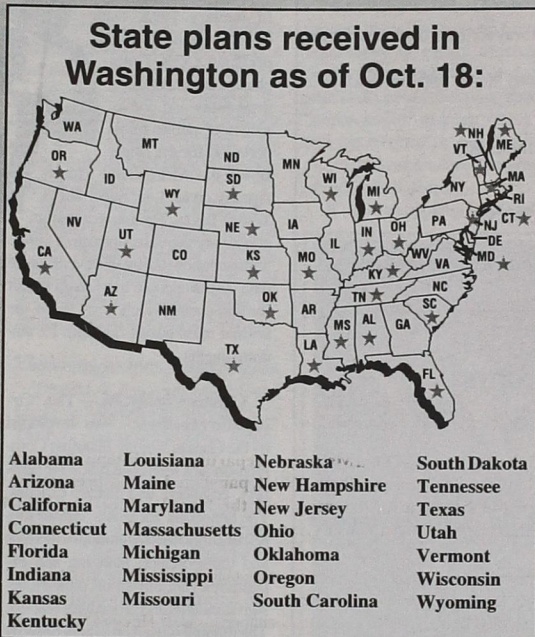
Following are some examples of different state plan characteristics:

Local government consultation

One of the requirements of the new welfare reform law, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, is that the state must consult with local governments in the development of their plan. State plans address this issue in a variety of ways. Some states simply certified that they have consulted.

Many of the states that submitted plans based on existing waivers certified the process that they used at the time they developed their waiver as their consultation procedure. Some, such as Texas and Wyoming, state that they will continue to consult through formal advisory groups and more informal meetings.

New Jersey gave one of the most extensive explanations, citing its existing system whereby county Human Services Advisory Councils make recommendations affecting local administration of the program. It is unclear, however, whether they are now using this system to develop their proposed state legislation.



As of Oct. 18, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services had received 29 state plans.

Two states, New Hampshire and South Dakota, gave a long list of groups that have been consulted, but the lists did not include county governments.

Lifetime limits

The new law also requires a five-year lifetime limit for assistance under the block grant. Most of the states that submitted their plans are either following the new law's limit or have a lower lifetime limit. One state, however, Massachusetts, said that it intends to have a program funded solely by state funds for people who exceed the federal limit. Massachusetts will count these funds toward its maintenance of effort requirement.

State residence

The new law gives states the option to treat families moving into the state differently than other families under the program. Most of the state plans say that they will treat these families the same as other families in the state. The only state plans that include some form of differential treatment for these families are California, Florida, Indiana, Maryland and Wisconsin.

Legal immigrants

The new law also gives states

the option to determine TANF, Medicaid and Social Services Block Grant eligibility for legal immigrants. Most of the states have decided to continue providing TANF assistance to legal immigrants, although there could be some changes later in the year as they finalize their plans. None of the states made any mention of eligibility for Medicaid or the Social Services Block Grant.

The only states that have chosen to deny TANF assistance to legal immigrants are Alabama, Kentucky, South Carolina and Wyoming. The state of Maine will continue to provide assistance to current recipients, but current immigrants who apply after Nov. 1 will have their sponsors' income counted for eligibility purposes. According to Oklahoma's plan, the state will submit some changes to this provision at the beginning of the year, but did not specify.

The law denies federal assistance for five years for most legal immigrants who come into the country after the date of enactment. Three states, Maryland, Nebraska and Utah, mentioned that they will use their own funds to provide assistance to this group of immigrants.

County gives entrepreneurial twist to an old function

By Susan D. Grubb
senior staff writer

The Allegheny County (Pa.) Economic Development Department resembles more a private corporation these days than a county department.

Last March, under the leadership of department director Allan Wampler, the county merged its planning and development departments to form the new department, which now operates under a "fee-for-service" contract with the county. County officials have the option of looking elsewhere for a private sector contract if its services are too costly or ineffective.

Officials see the move as an innovative approach to making a traditional government function more market-driven, customer-focused, self-sufficient and less reliant on taxpayer money. The goal is to attract business and create jobs while operating as a for-profit business.

"The idea of operating on a 'pay-as-you-go' basis is a bold one that sets high standards for the department," said Commissioner Bob Cranmer. "The idea is to inject the entrepreneurial spirit into government. Healthy competition gives everyone the incentive to be successful."

"I wanted accountability put in the department," added Wampler. "Now we have to perform."

The department is staffed by 75 employees and operates with an annual budget of about \$4 million, he explained. Approximately \$600,000 of that comes from the county.

Next year, Wampler wants to zero out county funding, and instead charge Allegheny County a \$320,000 retainer for specific services, including performing the county's transportation planning, overseeing the Allegheny Land Trust and the rail-to-trails program, continuing work on the county geographic information system, and concentrating on land development near Pittsburgh International Airport.

"Director Wampler has essentially said, 'Let me run this so efficiently that the county will decide to hire the department rather than appropriate for it.' Under that scenario, we would have the option of hiring someone else, if we're unsatisfied," Cranmer said.

Additional revenue will come from fees and payment for managing the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Although county funding will eventually be eliminated, the board of commissioners will retain its authority over the department.

After informing staff that "they wouldn't have an entitlement next year," attitudes in the department changed, Wampler said. "They realize they have to deliver. ... They're rising to the challenge."

Five counties selected as finalists in awards program

By Kathleen Rouse
special correspondent

Chosen from more than 1,550 applicants, 25 government initiatives were named as 1996 finalists in the Innovations in American Government Awards Program, sponsored by the Ford Foundation and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Five of those finalists were Riverside County, Calif.; Linn County, Iowa; Hennepin County, Minn.; Arlington County, Va.; and King County, Wash.

The counties will be receiving either a \$100,000 or \$20,000 award for their public issues programs in December.

Riverside County's (Calif.) Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) project works for immediate employment of welfare recipients, having found jobs for 9,400 people in 1994-95. Estimated savings in welfare costs are \$25 million.

Helping children at risk from abuse, Linn County's (Iowa) Patch Project deploys protective service workers in well-defined neighborhoods, pools various funding sources, and offers social services at community centers.

Through the collection and recycling of such common household items as batteries and appliances, the Mercury Management Plan of Hennepin County, Minn., has reduced the amount of mercury released into the environment by more than 90 percent.

The Arts Incubator Program in Arlington County, Va. combines traditional support with free theater and rehearsal spaces and administrative assistance, helping art organizations develop into viable community resources.

The Urban Rural Greenway: King County 4 to 1 Program (Wash.) balances environmental protection with growth by using market incentives. For every acre developed, four acres must be planned as open space.

The four evaluation criteria used in selecting the finalists were the program's effectiveness in addressing important problems, its novelty, the value of the services it provided to clients, and the degree to which it could be replicated in other jurisdictions.

Applications for the 1997 awards are now being accepted. The Ford Foundation plans to award grants totaling \$1.3 million to another 25 finalists. Applications are due Jan. 8, 1997 at 5:00 p.m., and can be obtained from the Innovations Program Web site: <http://ksgwww.harvard.edu/innovat/>, or by calling 800/722-0074.

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8. Other ideas, impressions (Don't be shy.)

Hats off to ... County Transportation Programs



Dade County, Fla. — In January 1995, Dade County was the site of Super Bowl XXIX. To emphasize the importance, availability and convenience of public transportation for the Super Bowl, the Metro-Dade Transit Agency created the Super Bowl Transit Token. The token campaign effectively increased the use of public transportation during this event. More than 23,000 people used mass transit for this event, which is six times the normal mass transit ridership for stadium events.

oped the "How to Ride" brochure video and cable advertising to help disabled passengers make a smooth transition from paratransit to fixed-route bus service, and to prepare fixed-route passengers for the integration. The program was designed to create a climate of awareness and sensitivity among current passengers.

Chester County, Pa. — The "Circulation Handbook" was developed by the Chester County Planning Commission as a reference guide for planners, engineers and elected officials. The handbook addresses various topics relating to the integration of land use and transportation planning and explains relevant legislation, policies, design standards and procedural matters. The manual is used on a daily basis by commission staff to answer transportation-related questions, and is used to assist in the review of land development proposals, the development of ordinances and the review of municipal comprehensive plans.

York County, Va. — To promote and encourage the use of bicycling as an alternative form of transportation, York County, with the help of a Bicycle Advisory Committee developed the Comprehensive Bicycle Program. The two major goals of the plan are to get bicycle paths built or designated, and to get people to use them, especially for commuting purposes. The committee has sponsored and led bike rides, proclaimed May as Bicycle Month, sponsored "Bike to Work" weeks, purchased bike racks for public transit buses and created Bicycle Education Kits for public school teachers.

Westchester County, N.Y. — In 1995, the Westchester County Department of Transportation faced the challenge of introducing wheelchair-accessible buses to its bus fleet. In response to this, the department devel-

Maricopa County, Ariz. — The Maricopa County Department of Transportation has a new outreach program aimed at senior citizens. The Traffic Safety Program for Seniors, modeled after the School Safety Program, focuses on issues pertinent to the county retirement community, including Arizona traffic law. Additional topics seniors can learn about are pedestrian safety, golf cart safety and bicycle safety. (Hats off was compiled by Peg Beardslee, research assistant.)

County News

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

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SUPREME COURT from page 1

County manager. "It'll be interesting for folks out here to watch." Since 1992, there have been three major decisions finding three different federal statutes unconstitutional, not because those statutes violated individual rights, but because the court found that they intruded into an area of state power rather than federal power. The Justice Department, which defends the Brady Bill, did not object to the Supreme Court hearing the case because appeals courts are currently in conflict over its constitutionality. In March, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals became the first appellate court to find the Brady Bill unconstitutional. Two other circuit courts have upheld the gun control law.

The law requires a five-day waiting period before purchasing a handgun and directs law enforcement officers to make a "reasonable effort" during that time to check on the buyer to see whether that person has a felony record or history of mental illness or drug use.

Since its inception, 102,000 gun permits have been denied under the Brady Bill.

In the 5th Circuit decision, Judge E. Brady Jolly of Jackson, Miss. wrote, "We conclude that by imposing these duties on local officials whose offices and duties are defined by state statutes, Congress has transgressed the Tenth Amendment principle that it may not commandeer the legislative processes of the states by directly compelling them to enact and enforce a federal regulatory program."

Mack said the law angered resi-

dents because it took him away from his other duties.

Printz has said the law was an example of Washington increasingly asking local officials to do more with less.

The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the Brady law, saying the sheriffs were directed to "serve for a temporary period as law enforcement functionaries in carrying out a federal program."

The law requires a national instant-check system to be in place by November 1998, when local officials would then not have to do background checks.

Solicitor General Drew Days, in a brief filed to the Supreme Court, says it's an "important federal statute directed at one of the most serious issues of public safety currently facing the nation, the epidemic of gun violence."

Elections, judges, voting rights

On Oct. 8, the court heard *Vicky Lopez vs. Monterey County* (Calif.). The case concerns elections, judges and voting rights.

Monterey County adopted an at-large election plan for municipal court judges, but failed to obtain preapproval of the plan as required by Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, according to a recent article in *Preview*, a publication of the American Bar Association (ABA).

The plan was challenged by Latino voters, and ultimately, a California federal district court ordered Monterey County to implement at-large judicial elections despite the

county's failure to secure Section 5 preapproval. The Supreme Court is asked to decide if the district court had the authority to mandate adoption of an unapproved electoral scheme, particularly one that mandates at-large voting.

According to the ABA, hearing the case gives the Supreme Court the opportunity to clarify whether the court's prior rulings that district courts should not permit elections under an "unprecleared" at-large voting system are affected in any way by its recent rulings circumscribing the use of race-based districts.

It's also an opportunity to spell out

the judicial guidelines applicable to court-ordered election plans in Voting Rights Act cases, especially when there has been no judicial determination of a Section 5 violation, but a locality seeks to implement an unprecleared voting law change.

The Supreme Court's decision on the Monterey County case could be handed down any time between late November to the end of the term next summer.

The Fourth Amendment: Unreasonable search and seizure

Several years ago, on a summer night in Bryan County, Okla., Jill Brown was a passenger in a truck that ran from

a roadblock set up by a deputy sheriff and a reserve deputy sheriff. After the truck stopped, she was handcuffed while facedown on the ground. She claims she was injured by the reserve deputy sheriff, who has a misdemeanor conviction for assault and battery and traffic violations.

On Nov. 5, the Supreme Court will hear *Bryan County Board of Commissioners vs. Jill Brown*.

The court will have to decide whether the Constitution imposes liability on the county for a single hiring decision that is in line with state law, since Oklahoma only forbids the hiring of individuals with felony records.



Photo by Traci Dove
(l-r) NACo President Michael Hightower, Immediate Past President Doug Bovin, First Vice President Betty Lou Ward and Executive Director Larry Naake, members of NACo's delegation to Taiwan, admire the sign welcoming them to the Asian nation. During the September visit, the delegation discussed the possibility of increased trade between Taiwan and the United States with their Taiwanese counterparts.

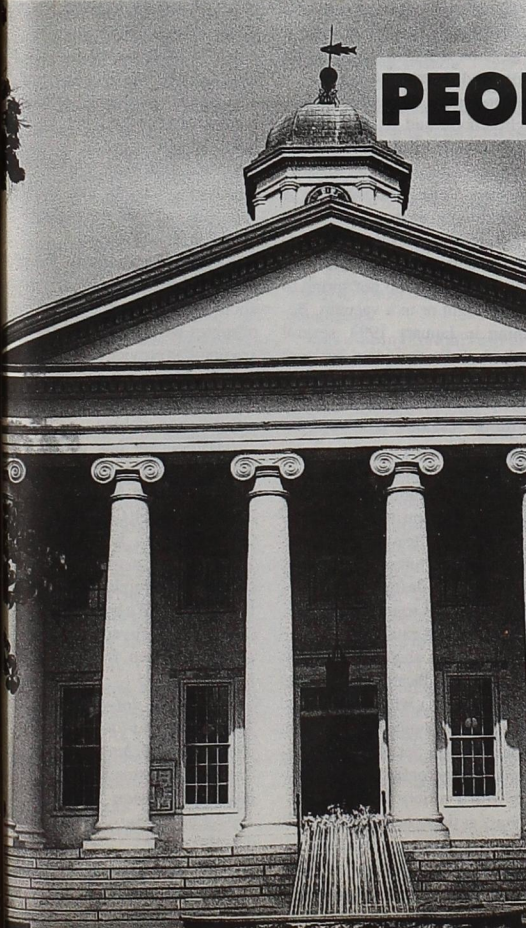
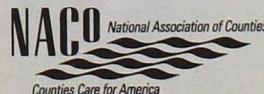
PEOPLE HERE VOTE FOR US.

When county officials elect a deferred compensation administrator, the vote always goes to the one that offers the most for county employees.

For more than 5,200 jurisdictions, PEBSCO is the undisputed leader, and the exclusive plan administrator for the National Association of Counties. Administering in excess of \$2.5 billion in program assets for over 221,000 public employees and 2000 participating NACo jurisdictions.

Our story is told in a new booklet called, "How To Select The BEST Deferred Compensation Program." It's yours free when you call 1-800-545-4730. It'll tell you exactly how, and why, we've become the favorite elected representative of county government.

Proving, once again, that when government officials cast their votes for program administration, we win by a landslide



One-stop service marks Neighborhood Place

By Rose Nett
Jefferson County, Ky.

"I need to see someone," the young woman explained nervously.

As she spoke, she twisted her hands and paced, ignoring empty chairs in the attractive waiting room at Neighborhood Place Ujima, a unique source of services for people who live in a densely populated section of Jefferson County, Ky.

Sylvia Johnson, administrator of Neighborhood Place Ujima, understood that "Betty" was afraid. Afraid for her children. Afraid she would not make it through another day. Afraid she was losing control of her life. Afraid she would give up.

In a calm and friendly manner, Sylvia invited the young woman to accompany her to a private area for an assessment interview.

"I walk a lot," Sylvia noted later, "and if I see someone who's been waiting a while or someone agitated like Betty, I get involved."

Sylvia's attitude exemplifies that of the 50 staff from nine agencies who work collaboratively under one roof.

Their goal is to provide a new system of community support to a targeted area whose poverty rate is 36 percent, triple that of the county as a whole.

Their vision is stable, healthy, self-sufficient families who live in safe neighborhoods and are part of an educated work force. Their method is to help clients consider a whole spectrum of issues, identify strengths, and formulate goals to support them in their progress toward self-sufficiency.

"I asked our human services department to develop an approach that would make a difference for families and children in the long run," says David L. Armstrong, who has served as chief executive officer of Kentucky's most populous county since 1990. "Neighborhood Place is dramatically changing the nature,



Jefferson County (Ky.) Judge/Executive David Armstrong (center) at the opening of the Ujima Neighborhood Place in western Jefferson County, Ky.

structure and delivery of human services in our community, thanks to a broad-based collaborative effort initiated in early 1993."

County Judge/Executive Armstrong and his colleagues on Fiscal Court plan for a total of eight Neighborhood Places and several satellites to provide access to every resident of the county by 1998.

After only six months of operation, Neighborhood Place Ujima was regularly seeing 800 clients each month. Fully a quarter of the people who come in each month are new to the center. Like Betty, many have no appointment, but know what they need.

"I've been in the hospital and I'm not supposed to go back to my job yet," Betty told Sylvia. "My two

school-age children have been living with my mother while I've been sick, and missed a lot of school. She can't keep them anymore. I need to see someone today!"

"One of our therapists will see you today," the administrator reassured her, "but, please, could you tell me a bit more about the hospital, your children and your job first."

Further inquiry revealed that while she had been hospitalized for a medical problem, Betty had missed a rent payment. She also was low on food, but qualified for food stamps.

Having key service providers a quick walk from the intake area, Sylvia arranged emergency rental assistance and enrolled Betty in the food stamp program. Then Sylvia introduced Betty to a therapist who met with her new client briefly the same day and scheduled a follow-up appointment a week later in Betty's home, to get a full picture of Betty's home situation.

In addition to financial, housing and mental health services, each Neighborhood Place also offers health, juvenile, job search, school-related, and child and adult protective services. Each emphasizes prevention, community education and family self-sufficiency.

Unique features of Jefferson County's Neighborhood Place include:

- A single point of access and, with client permission, one entry form to be shared among all service providers. A client never repeats a single piece of information.
- Clients as full partners in planning, completing and evaluating services. Clients are integrally involved in every step of the process.
- Providers as participants in in-

tegrated service teams working toward specific client-identified goals. Because they can communicate about clients' goals and progress, providers — not families — make any adjustments necessary to facilitate coordination of services.

• Community councils composed solely of people who live or work in the targeted area help hire staff and shape the delivery of services.

Those most familiar with the neighborhood and its needs have significant influence on the center's operations. As one grass roots leader explained, "The planning here is not just by people in suits."

The Neighborhood Place concept (its supporters insist it is an idea, not a place) did not spring to life overnight or in a vacuum. Beginning in January 1993, several hundred service providers, business and community leaders, and clients participated in a series of brainstorming sessions convened by Jefferson County.

The group, now called the Community Collaboration Forum, first developed a vision of a community in which a seamless service delivery system nurtures young families. Then they designed strategies and action steps to implement it.

A significant catalyst for shared work toward a shared vision was the Kentucky Education Reform Act of 1990 (KERA), which established school-based Family Resource Centers and Youth Service Centers as points of entry for families and children with a variety of needs.

Staff at these new centers were quickly stymied by the fact that although most families articulated several problems, few agencies were prepared to address more than one

What's in a Name?

The Community Council for each Neighborhood Place selects the name for their center. In this case, the Community Council called its Neighborhood Place "Ujima," a Kwansaa term that means "collective work and responsibility to build and keep our community together, to make our brothers' and sisters' problems our problems, and to work and solve them together." The Community Council's selection of "Ujima" is a wonderful reflection of the spirit of Neighborhood Place.

problem at a time. Even parents with cars and child care were run ragged trying to pursue referrals staff and families agreed were appropriate. However, with its unique mix of many services customized for a given geographic area, Neighborhood Place has made the KERA mandate both workable and meaningful.

As "devolution" requires local governments to assume more and more financial and programmatic responsibilities, the Neighborhood Place approach makes good sense on many levels.

It clearly increases the capacity of a community to meet its own needs. Fragmentation and duplication are reduced and the system itself is more accountable. Agencies which traditionally competed for the same dollar have set aside jurisdictional issues to maximize resources and serve clients more effectively. Clients like the new approach and staff are reaping high levels of job satisfaction.

In short, the dramatic transformation in human services brought about by Neighborhood Place demonstrates how a local unit of government can provide extensive leadership to prepare for increased responsibility and increased community decision making.

The concept has garnered its share of attention from national organizations and foundations. The Edna McConnell Clark Foundation, for example, has committed \$140,000 and major technical assistance to Neighborhood Place Ujima as part of a broad initiative to redesign the delivery of services to protect children from abuse and neglect.

(For more information about Neighborhood Place, please write or call Katy Schneider, executive director, Jefferson County Department for Human Services, 810 Barret Ave., Louisville, KY 40204, 502/574-6022.)

(Nett is administrative liaison for the Jefferson County (Ky.) Department for Human Services.)

What Is Neighborhood Place?

Neighborhood Place is not one place, but a network of multiservice centers throughout Louisville and Jefferson County, Ky. Closely linked with schools, the centers provide community residents a single access point to an array of services where they live. These services include the following:

- **Financial Assistance: Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)**
 - Food Stamps
 - Emergency Assistance
- **Mental health assessment**
- **Employment referrals**
- **Health services: Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC)**
 - Well Child Checkups
 - Immunizations
- **Counseling**
- **Child welfare services**
- **Linkage with other programs, such as Community-Oriented Policing and housing services**

Counties share economic development successes

By Haron N. Battle
associate legislative director

Developing and preserving affordable housing; financing economic development with bonds, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and other resources; developing a continuum of care to combat homelessness; and revitalizing neighborhoods and commercial areas were among the workshops that participants attended during the 21st Annual Community and Economic Development Conference. The conference was sponsored by NACo's affiliate, the National Association for County Community and Economic Development (NACCED).

In addition to NACo, the conference was cosponsored by Jefferson Parish, La. and the city of Kenner, La.

At the NACo Community and Economic Development Steering Committee meeting, chaired by Fort Bend County (Texas) Commissioner Grady Prestage, members were briefed on an array of economic development tools and strategies, including assistance to microenterprises; Small Business Administration and locally financed business loan programs; tourism as an economic development strategy; appropriate use of incentives to attract and retain businesses; and the use of federal programs in rural and small, as well as urban counties.

NACo Housing Subcommittee Chairman William E. Hanna, Jr., described a new initiative, Productivity Housing, he successfully sponsored in the Montgomery County (Md.) Council that will facilitate development of residential units in commercial and industrial zones with a requirement that 35 percent of these units be affordable for working people making modest salaries.

The conference included a number of distinguished speakers, including U.S. Representative William J. Jefferson (D-La.), Jefferson Parish President Tim Coulon, who stressed the need to focus on neighborhood revitalization; and Jefferson Parish Chairman Aaron Broussard, who emphasized the need for counties and cities to work together as regions in order to compete in a global economy.

At the annual business meeting, the membership elected the following NACCED officers: Patricia Ward, community development director for Tarrant County, Texas as president; Arleeta O. Terrell, an executive assistant in Jefferson Parish, La., as vice president; Thomas R. Laurin, economic and community development director for San Bernardino County, Calif., as sec-

retary-treasurer; and Chris Hardnett, community development director for DeKalb County, Ga., as NACCED's representative on the NACo Board of Directors.

NACCED also presented its annual awards of excellence at the meeting. Allegheny County, Pa. was recognized for its Carnegie Retirement Residence, which the county built in partnership with a private developer.

An abandoned school building that had stood vacant for 15 years was converted into 59 units that are affordable for elderly citizens with incomes below 60 percent of the area median income. The \$4.4 million project was financed with HOME funds and low-income

housing tax credits.

Two counties received an award in the community development category. Clark County, Nev. was recognized for its REACH OUT Learning Center.

This child care facility, which was financed with CDBG funds and developed in collaboration with the city of Las Vegas, can accommodate 100 youth and infants who are HIV-positive. The second community development recipient was Washington County, Ore. for its Multi-Service Facility Project.

This project involved the construction of a "one-stop shop" social service facility to house many of the activities of the Community Action Organization, includ-

ing emergency shelter programs, child care, a rent and heating assistance program, a self-sufficiency program, and a transitional housing program.

Funded by CDBG and private contributions, the multi-service facility brings many services into one easily accessible place and facilitates efforts to coordinate service delivery, thereby providing comprehensive intervention.

Jefferson County, Ky. received the economic development award for the Riverport/Rivergreen Project.

The county has undertaken a four-pronged strategy to attract new business to this area, with a particular focus on invigorating an industrial park:

- develop the infrastructure to attract businesses to the area
- provide child care facilities for business employees
- construct affordable housing near major employment centers, and
- expand public transportation routes for employees in the industrial park.

Federal and state funding sources (including CDBG and the HOME Program), county general funds, and private contributions were strategically targeted to the various program components.

To date, more than 1,000 new jobs have been created in the Riverport/Rivergreen area as a result of the county's economic revitalization strategy.

VOTER ACCESS from page 1

ties to assess physical accessibility under ADA is to check the following (This should not be used as an exhaustive list):

- Determine if a person with a disability is able to get from a nearby public transportation stop (if one exists) or from public parking to an accessible entrance. This review involves making sure that there are accessible curbs and sidewalks for wheelchairs.
- Ensure there is appropriate signage designating the accessible entrance.
- Ensure that there is an accessible route from the entrance to the polling station.
- Establish a voting process enabling persons with disabilities to vote using their own capabilities.
- Verify that an accessible exit route back to public transportation (if it is available) or to the public parking lot exists.
- Train staff on how to greet and offer assistance to voters with disabilities.

Developing creative voting procedures can give counties flexibility to achieve accessibility at polling places over time.

Davidson County, Tenn. allows persons with disabilities to vote during the "early voting" period if their precinct has an inaccessible voting site. All early voting sites have been approved for accessibility.

In addition, Davidson County worked with the state legislature to secure a change in state law reducing the paperwork for persons with disabilities wanting to vote at the main office on election day if their own precinct is not accessible. Once the precinct becomes accessible, a person with a disability votes at his precinct.

Modifying your local procedures may help you to achieve voting access with little or no cost. Working with the school board, Monroe County, N.Y. adopted a policy to close schools on election day (and

give teachers a working conference day). The county then could use its schools, which were already accessible, as polling locations.

As Davidson County began to move toward complete physical accessibility at all polling locations, it used volunteer partnerships with the private sector to achieve accessibility at a number of polling stations. In 1993, 50 of its 166 polling locations were found inaccessible. Using building plans from volunteer architects and volunteer student manpower from Vanderbilt University, Davidson County has achieved accessibility at 27 of these 50 locations.

Meanwhile, Monroe County, working with several local groups, including the League of Women Voters, has achieved nearly 100 percent voting accessibility in its towns and 92 percent voting accessibility county-wide.

The County has worked with the Center for Independent Living to identify pre-existing accessible places in city neighborhoods that could serve as polling locations and met with its town clerks to identify similar locations in outlying areas. Its numbers speak for the success of these partnerships and represent saved financial resources by using pre-existing accessible locations.

Making sure that persons with disabilities can vote using their own capabilities is also an important priority in Monroe County. To respond to the needs of persons using wheelchairs, Monroe County is transforming its fleet of voting machines to make them accessible.

The county has adapted its voting machines to raise and lower so that a person using a wheelchair can vote by his or herself. This year, the county converted 25 machines.

Finally, many state and local governments are struggling with how to serve persons with vision impairments. In *Lightbourn vs. County of El Paso, Texas*, the district court concluded that persons with vision impairments deserved

the same right to a secret ballot afforded to other Texas voters.

Prior to the court's ruling, voters with vision impairments had to be assisted by election judges when they cast their ballot. The court directed the Texas secretary of state to work with voters with vision impairments to come up with a creative solution. Texas is still struggling with this issue. If your county has had success with this issue, please call the NACo Americans with Disabilities Act Hotline at 703/533-9060. The hotline would be delighted to share working solutions in *County News*.

For more information about Davidson County's work, including its ADA sensitivity training for polling officials and its collaborative work with private businesses, contact Michael McDonald, Administrator/Register At-Large, Davidson County Election Commission, 700 Second Ave. South, Room 153, Nashville, TN 37202, 615/862-8800.

For more information about Monroe County's innovative work, contact Betsy Relin, Democratic election commissioner, or Ronald Starkweather, Republican election commissioner, at 716/428-4550.

For more information about the League of Women Voters partnership with Monroe County, contact Judy Sandler, diversity director, at 716/244-6714.

This Chapter of the League of Women Voters won an award from the National Organization on Disability for its educational work making voting accessible to persons with disabilities.

In response to a request by the League of Women Voters, both candidates in the last county executive election in Monroe County captioned their advertising to make it accessible for persons with hearing impairments.

(For information about the ADA Training and Technical Assistance Project, call Margaret Rice, ADA coordinator, at 703/533-9060.)

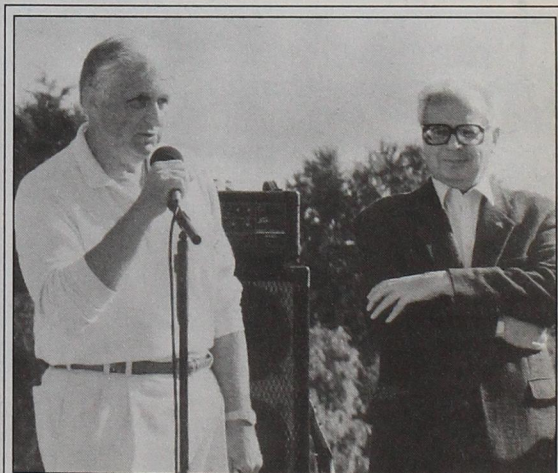


Photo by Beverly Schlotterbeck

(l-r) NACo Board Member Gerry Hyland, Fairfax County, Va. supervisor, welcomes the German Association of Counties Immediate Past President Otto Neukum and members of his delegation to Hyland's "Annual Lobsterfest," a fundraising tradition in the Northern Virginia county. The Lobsterfest was the first stop in a series of visits, late last month, for Neukum and his 12-member delegation, hosted by NACo President Michael Hightower.

New initiative to support public health system

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), in partnership with the University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine, has begun a new, four-year project entitled,

Turning Point: Collaborating for a New Century in Public Health.

Funded by the W.K. Kellogg and Robert Wood Johnson foundations, this initiative aims to transform and strengthen the public health infrastructure in the

United States so that states, local communities and their public health agencies can respond to the challenge of protecting and improving the public's health in the 21st century.

In many state and local jurisdic-

tions, significant changes are occurring in medical care and public health delivery systems that pose both threats and opportunities for maintaining and improving the health of communities. Local governments, and in par-

ticular, their elected officials, have a vested interest in the outcomes of such changes. If properly implemented, public health system reform can significantly reduce costs and increase effectiveness of services related to protecting and improving the public's health.

The effectiveness of future public health systems depends on the ability of states and communities to form strong collaborative relationships across stakeholder groups, both public and private. With this in mind, Turning Point: Collaborating for a New Century in Public Health will serve as a catalyst for the development of these innovative partnerships at the state and local level, bringing together elected officials, community groups, public health departments, businesses, managed care organizations, hospitals and other health care providers.

Due to the large scope of this program, two National Program Offices (NPO) have been established. NACCHO will serve as the NPO for the local level and the University of Washington's School of Public Health will serve as the NPO for the state component. The role of the NPOs will be to provide technical assistance to state and local participants, including locally tailored training programs which will focus on key elements for the development and maintenance of successful partnerships. Primary areas of training will focus on systems and policy change, evaluation, and leadership development, as well as issues concerning quality assurance, accountability and standards.

To complement the in-kind benefits of technical assistance and support, state and local partnerships will receive some grant monies to facilitate their participation in the project. In addition, awards ranging from \$20,000-\$100,000 will be granted to local-level participants upon the successful completion of the project (per eligibility requirements and other conditions as established by a national advisory committee).

In early October, a program announcement will be sent to all local county governments and many others at the state and local level that will provide an overview of the program's purpose, goals and eligibility guidelines. Interested groups are encouraged to attend one of the applicant workshops, which will be held on Nov. 6 in Chicago, Ill. and Nov. 8 in Washington, D.C. Letters of intent from state and local applicants are due Jan. 31, 1996. For additional information on this initiative, please refer to the forthcoming program announcement.

(Note: Those who do not receive a program announcement may request one from NACCHO via fax: 202/783-1583 or e-mail: tpoint@naccho.org.)

DOE dollars awarded to county energy projects

By Kathleen Rouse
special correspondent

Six county projects breaking new ground in energy research and technology transfer have received nearly \$1 million in U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) funding for 1997, through a program administered by the Urban Consortium Energy Task Force (UCETF) of Public Technology, Inc. (PTI), a non-profit technology organization of NACo, the International City/County Management Association and the National League of Cities.

• **Barnstable County, Mass.** was recognized for being a leader in iden-

tifying energy- and cost-saving opportunities for local governments in a deregulated electric-utility market. The county will conduct a national conference on competitive franchising to disseminate information, experience and resources that help local governments exercise the options available to them through franchise power. (Contact: Margaret Downey, 508/362-2511.)

• **Chittenden County, Vt.** is attempting to decentralize generating systems that supply electricity to a group of buildings, while addressing institutional capacity and the support needed for implementation of a biomass district energy system. (Contact: Arthur Hogan, 802/658-3004.)

• **Yolo County, Calif.**, having worked in partnership with other local governments to accelerate the rate of methane gas generation in landfills maximizing its capture, will evaluate those technologies and develop guidelines for their application. (Contact: Ramin Yazdani, 916/757-5567.)

• Combining telecommuting and job-retraining centers is the focus of a project underway in **Hennepin County, Minn.** The project promotes partnerships between local governments and private business, and brings urban jobs to suburban neighborhoods. (Contact: John McLaughlin, 612/348-8912.)

Shared research and technology transfer are two other UCETF core

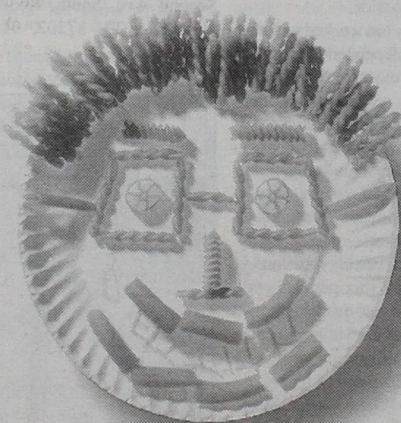
topics that **Metro-Dade County, Fla.** and **Montgomery County, Md.** have addressed through their projects.

Metro-Dade County will hold a regional conference and design competition to discuss aspects of sustainability and energy efficiency, targeting users, architects, builders, regulators and researchers. (Contact: Victor Monzon-Aguirre, 305/375-4460.)

Montgomery County will develop a CD-ROM version of its energy design guidelines, providing a transferable package for energy-efficient building design. (Contact: Paul Tseng, 301/217-6071.)

Thirteen city projects were also chosen to receive funding. A total of 56 proposals were submitted.

Our program has Helped
children for so long,
We remember making these
with macaroni Instead of
pasta.



Many things have changed since we opened in 1965.
The need for help from the business community hasn't.
To find out how you can help, call your local Head Start.



Nurture the future
BE A HEAD START VOLUNTEER



GERMANY from page 1

common to all three nations — one which rose and fell on their collective economic fortunes.

Imagine, as well, that this treaty also established a supra-North American state, with its own Congress, agencies, legislation and regulations.

Not likely to happen, right? Perhaps not on this side of the Atlantic. But in Europe, that's exactly the case.

The 15-member nations of the European Union (EU), headquartered in Brussels, have agreed to phase out their currencies beginning in 1999. Gone will be the German mark, the French and Belgian franc, the Italian lira ... all going the way of the Confederate dollar. They will be replaced entirely in 2002 with the "Euro" dollar, a currency already in play on the Continent.

The EU's monetary reform is but one piece of a larger endeavor, intended to accomplish peacefully what has eluded Europe for centuries — economic and political union. Already the barriers are beginning to fall.

Crossing Europe from Germany to Holland to Belgium is as easy as driving from Maryland to Virginia to North Carolina. No border checkpoints. No passports needed in either place. And in the airports. If you're a citizen of an EU member state, you stroll to the baggage area unimpeded. Otherwise, there's a stop at passport control before proceeding to your luggage.

By far, the EU and its ramifications for local European governments was the most intriguing portion of my two-week trip to Germany, as guest of the Deutscher Landkreistag (DLT), or the German Association of Counties.

The DLT maintains an active interest in the EU's Committee of Regions (CoR), a recently established institution (1994), intended to give Europe's local and regional governments a say in the policies that affect them — policies, which in many instances, they are obliged to carry out. For American county officials, the latter must sound very familiar.

CoR, a 222-member body, meets five times each year. Germany, France, Italy and the United Kingdom (Great Britain and Northern Ireland) have the largest representation, with each allotted 24 representatives. On the other end of the scale stands Luxembourg. It has six representatives.

With a few exceptions, all members are directly elected regional (state and county) or local politicians. Official EU literature says: "Through their opinions, these members bring their knowledge of daily life in Europe's cities and regions [counties] and their concrete suggestions on improving EU policies to the other EU institutions in Brussels."

The Treaty of European Union, also known as the Maastricht Treaty, requires that CoR be consulted on

issues related to trans-European networks in the areas of transport, telecommunications and energy infrastructure; education and youth; culture; public health; and, economic and social cohesion. The latter, closely linked with local level funding through the EU.

During my visit, I traveled to Brussels with my German host, Rolf Derenbach, DLT director of international relations, to observe the German delegation as it prepared to attend a CoR plenary session.

Like Washington, D.C., Brussels is a city of embassies and lobbying organizations. The DLT maintains an office there, in conjunction with other German local government associations — the Eurocommunale — as does the Bavarian State Association of Counties.

Brussels, noted for its charm, and home to hundreds of small shops selling the famous Belgian chocolate and lace, is also — so my Brussels' hosts informed me — home to one of the most corrupt governments in Europe, at least by German standards. "You wait six months to get a phone installed, unless you know someone," claimed Dieter Leiss, from the Bavarian State Association of Counties. "It's like the Mafia."

Belgium itself is significantly divided between French and Flemish-speaking sections. As one witness to this division, the country's association of provinces (local governments similar to counties) split into two associations one year ago, each representing a distinct geographical section of the country, roughly demarcated by the dominant language group.

However in Brussels, it is unity, not division that EU supporters dream of, even when addressing potentially thorny issues such as adopting a common position on agriculture or rural development.

That was the mission of a CoR working group which met the day before CoR's plenary session to discuss the adoption of a policy on rural development.

The approximately 20-member committee, which included representatives from the larger EU nations, was presented with a "working paper," prepared by the CoR staff as a starting point for discussion. Almost immediately, members began debating the definition of "rural," with member-nation representatives citing their own country's demographic parameters as the proper cutoff point.

Meanwhile, a French delegate shifted the group's focus by asserting that agriculture was declining with more and more people turning from the farm life. A UK delegate countered, claiming agriculture wasn't declining, only becoming more efficient and less labor-intensive. And so it went.

In the end, the working group members mostly agreed that they wanted to preserve rural lifestyles

and prevent the exodus of young people from rural areas, probably through increasing tourism and attracting high-tech companies to diversify the rural economy. Despite the translator booths and headphones in the room, the discussion felt very much like one from the States. And at the very end, they sent the paper back to the staff for more work.

The next day's plenary session, Sept. 19, was closed to everyone but elected officials. Otto Neukum, retired landrat, or county executive, and outgoing DLT president, is a CoR member. Afterwards, he briefed other members of the German delegation on the session's activities. Among the highlights was an address by the former European Commission President Jacques Delors on the need for local governments to plan for and ease the way for the forthcoming monetary union.

CoR also issued opinions in eight specific areas, including ones that dealt with sustainable development, environmental protection (and funding) and water policy.

In the face of "union," the stakes appear very high for Europe's regional governments. While the EU does send money to assist local governments with implementing its policy and will not grant CoR membership to any but "democratically" elected officials, the issue of local control, at least from an American viewpoint, is problematic at best.

Take for example, the issue of voting in and eligibility for local election. As of Jan. 1, 1996, EU member nations needed to begin implementing the principle of "non-discrimination" in municipal (i.e. local) elections. As explained by a German county executive, Landrat Franz Mueller, Rhein-Sieg Kreis, the directive means that any citizen of an EU member state, 23 years or older, can vote in and run for local office anywhere, anytime. You may be a French citizen, but, if you so

Inside the EU Legislative Process

The EU decision-making process involves three EU institutions: the European Council, the European Commission and the European Parliament.

- The European Council, more commonly known as the Council of Ministers, is comprised of the heads of state of all the member countries. Its presidency rotates between the member states every six months. It acts in a co-decisionmaking capacity with the European Parliament.

- The European Parliament is a 626-member body. Its members are directly elected for five-year terms by the citizens of EU member states. Representation is proportional, ranging from 99 members for Germany — the largest number — to six members for Luxembourg. It has legislative, budgetary and administrative oversight authority. Its membership also represents close to 100 political parties.

- The European Commission (EC) is a 20-member body, nominated by EU states to serve five-year terms. The larger European nations have two representatives each, while the others have one. Don't be fooled by its size, though. The commission commands a 15,000-member staff. The commission is also the only body that can introduce legislation for consideration by the parliament and the Council of Ministers.

chose, you may run for the landrat of any county (kreis) in Germany. Mueller, who holds a PhD in law, as do many German county executives, would only smile wryly at the prospect.

Any discussion of the EU and its impact on local governments would, however, be incomplete without a look at the notion of "subsidiarity." Subsidiarity is a principle enshrined in the treaty establishing the EU, and dear to the hearts of German county officials as well. It maintains that decisions should be made by those public authorities which "stand as close to the citizen as possible."

It is intended to protect all the EU member states from unnecessarily remote, centralized decision making. Practically speaking, it appears to mean an elaborate, labyrinthian decision-making process,

which may or may not, in the end, honor the spirit of this intention. Regardless, the word popped up frequently enough during my German hosts' discussions to leave the impression that honored or not, the principle of subsidiarity is the best place for Europe's local governments to hang their hats.

Given the international flavor which spikes DLT's policy deliberations, it is not surprising to find that the German Association of Counties also maintains close relations with its European sister organizations, most formally through the European Association of Regions.

In part two of this report, we'll give a snapshot of conditions in Europe's other county governments and learn more about the similarities and differences between the German and American county.

1900: 1,700 Negroes attend college.

1944: 40,000 Colored People attend college.

1970: 522,000 Blacks attend college.

1992: 1,393,000 African Americans attend college.

Still I rise.

These numbers may sound impressive, but there are still tens of thousands of deserving students who can't afford to go to college. That's where the United Negro College Fund comes in. For more than 50 years, we've been helping bright, young students get the education they need to fulfill their dreams. But there are still thousands more who need your support. Please give generously. Because the bigger these numbers become, the better it is for all of us. Call 1 800 332-UNCF.

UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND

A mind is a terrible thing to waste.

Before you vote, remember the answer

Clinton answers

1) Will you protect local communities from unfunded federal mandates?

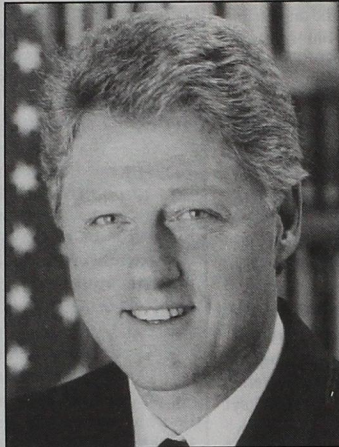
President Clinton has taken action to protect local communities. He signed the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act of 1995, which protects local communities by restricting Congress from passing new mandates without identifying sources of funding.

President Clinton also instituted an Executive Order that prevents agency heads and other members of his Administration from issuing new federal regulations to state and local governments without allocating the necessary resources to comply with them.

Too often, issuing unfunded mandates compounds the very problems they are intended to solve. That's why President Clinton has acted on behalf of local communities.

2) Do you expect new local taxes to pay for big government programs?

As President Clinton stated in his 1996 State of the Union address, "The era of big government is over." Acting on many of Vice



Bill Clinton

President Gore's recommendations for "Re-inventing Government," the Clinton Administration has reduced the size of the federal work force by more than 200,000, abolished 300 costly and outdated programs and

projects, and has proposed to eliminate nearly 200 more.

We are also eliminating 16,000 pages of unnecessary rules and regulations. Under President Clinton's leadership, the federal government is now the smallest it has been in 30 years.

President Clinton remains committed to ensuring that the burden of government services and programs is not borne out in higher local taxes. To this end, he signed into law the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act of 1995, which requires Congress to reveal the cost of federal mandates to state and local governments and to identify a source of funding to cover associated costs.

In addition, President Clinton issued an Executive Order requiring executive departments and agencies to provide funding for all new federal mandates.

3) Who will pay when Medicaid and health care dollars run out?

President Clinton will not back down on his commitment to preserve the federal guarantee for Medicaid. By remaining steadfast on this issue, he is also protecting counties, which too often bear the brunt of reduced federal support. President Clinton's Medicaid plan protects states from unexpected costs due to recession, inflation or demographic changes by allowing dollars to follow enrollment changes.

The Clinton Administration proposal would give states greater flexibility in program operation and provider payment. President Clinton's plan would provide states with the independence to establish managed care plans and home- and community-based care options without federal waivers as required by current law.

President Clinton has already given 12 states the authority to develop their own health care demonstration projects through the Medicaid program. When all of these demonstrations are in place, we will have expanded Medicaid coverage for over 2.2 million previously uninsured people.

President Clinton remains committed to working with states to ensure access to affordable health care for all Americans. That is why he supports the Kassebaum-Kennedy bill to stop insurance companies from canceling the health insurance of those who get sick or denying coverage to those with pre-existing conditions.

4) What impact will federal cuts have on local crime prevention?

The Clinton Administration's efforts to make government more efficient and cost-

effective have not reduced the federal contribution to local law enforcement and crime prevention efforts. In fact, President Clinton has increased federal support for local crime prevention programs.

On Sept. 13, 1994, President Clinton signed into law the toughest and smartest crime bill in history, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. This new law grants funding for state and local authorities to construct new prisons to house violent criminals. The bill also provides funds for states to crack down on illegal immigration.

The Clinton crime bill places unprecedented emphasis on crime prevention. It is adding 100,000 new police officers on the streets of our cities and towns — where they are needed most.

The Clinton crime bill also bans nearly 19 types of deadly assault weapons and their copies, taking them out of the hands of violent criminals. The president's crime bill also significantly increases the level of funding available to local and community organizations to run youth crime prevention programs.

5) Will you seek local input before creating new government programs?

President Clinton is working to create a new partnership between Washington and the communities and individuals of this country. We need a new way of doing business in which we try to create the conditions in which people can seize opportunities for themselves.

The president believes the federal government should be a catalyst that encourages churches, schools, communities, civic organizations and local elected officials to work together to solve their problems. He is creating partnerships with local officials across the nation to give them the tools they need to strengthen their communities and neighborhoods.

In such areas as improving education, fighting crime, building roads, turning public housing into safe communities, and supporting empowerment zones, President Clinton has worked with local school systems, police departments, and city and county leaders in finding solutions that help people make the most of their lives.

President Clinton remains committed to empowering communities and neighborhoods by fostering cooperation between all levels of government.

County Dems active in Clinton/Gore campaign

By Doris Ward
San Francisco County, Calif.

Elected county officials across the country have taken an active role in the re-election campaign of President Bill Clinton.

County officials were active early in the process, with over two hundred county officials being elected or appointed as delegates to the Democratic Convention. In Chicago, these county delegates joined their democratic colleagues from across the country in nominating the Clinton-Gore ticket for a second term. During the convention, the National Democratic County Officials (NDCO) hosted a number of well-attended events for the delegates, Cabinet officials, their families and staffs. The highlight for county officials was an appearance by NACo President Michael Hightower with President Clinton on the stage shortly after he accepted the nomination and speeches before the entire convention by Doris Ward, president of NDCO and the elected assessor from the County of San Francisco, and President John Stroger of the Cook County, Ill. Board of Commissioners, the host county for the convention.

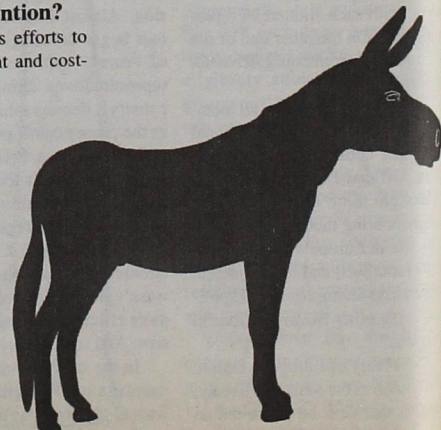
As we know, once the convention was over, the hard work began. The Democratic National Committee and the Clinton-Gore campaign have solicited the views of county officials on how to most successfully reach the electorate to ensure the victory of the Clinton-Gore ticket. County officials across the coun-

The Democratic National Committee and the Clinton-Gore campaign have solicited the views of county officials on how to most successfully reach the electorate to ensure the victory of the Clinton-Gore ticket.

try have worked with the coordinated campaign organizations in each state to help elect Democratic candidates at all levels of government. With a coordinated strategy, all Democratic officials benefit from the strengths that each bring to the campaign. During the two presidential and one vice presidential debates, county officials sponsored and attended debate watch parties to raise funds for the individual state coordinated campaigns.

As we move into the final weeks the election, I am confident of the outcome knowing that Democratic county officials, true grassroots campaigners, have played an important role in the Clinton-Gore re-election effort.

(Ward is president of the National Democratic County Officials and San Francisco County, Calif. assessor).



Answers to "Five Questions That Count"

Dole answers

1) Will you protect local communities from unfunded mandates?

Yes. Bob Dole believes America's future rests with the states, counties, local communities, and the people, not with a federal government which has become too large, too remote, and too unresponsive. That is why he has made the Tenth Amendment one of the centerpieces of his campaign. In fact, he carries a copy of this Amendment with him at all times. As he recently remarked: "I like to show it to people as often as I can, to remind them about this critical part of our Constitution."

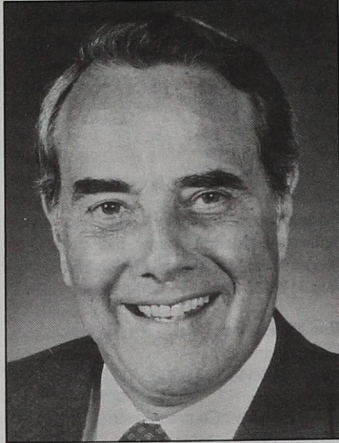
That is why Bob Dole led the successful effort to pass the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act in the new Republican Congress as one of its first pieces of legislation. This historic legislation will sharply curtail the Congress' ability to impose costly, unfunded federal requirements on state and local governments. As President, Bob Dole will complete the process, making the Tenth Amendment once again an honored and protected part of our constitutional freedoms.

2) Do you expect new local taxes to pay for big government programs?

No. As Majority Leader of the Senate, Bob Dole has been a strong supporter of legislation to return power to the states. The Republican Congress has made a good beginning, but more needs to be done to move away from the "Washington knows best," one-size-fits-all approach to solving the nation's problems. In a Dole Administration, the Tenth Amendment will be a guide to finding creative solutions to problems like crime and welfare that take into account the rich diversity of our country and its people. The federal government should work in partnership with the states and counties, not as their adversaries. That is why Bob Dole was such a strong supporter of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

3) Who will pay when Medicaid and health care dollars run out?

Medicaid reform is critical. The states



Bob Dole

must be given the opportunity to redesign their programs without the heavy hand of the federal government, so that they can serve low-income families and the disabled in a more efficient and effective way, without increasing the tax burden on the American people. As President, Bob Dole will work to increase access for all Americans to private medical care by enacting legislation to guarantee portability, as well as giving states the flexibility they need to manage the Medicaid program to cover more people.

This year, Senator Dole voted for the Health Insurance Reform Act, which would end "job lock" by increasing portability of health insurance, limit exclusions for preexisting conditions, and promote state flexibility by allowing states to enact insurance reforms providing additional protection for consumers beyond the minimum requirements in the Act.

Bob Dole also led to passage the Balanced Budget Act of 1995, which would have block-granted Medicaid to the states to give them the flexibility they need to enhance coverage and reduce wasteful bureaucracy.

4) What impact will federal

cuts have on local crime prevention?

Bob Dole strongly supports continued federal assistance to state, county, and local governments. He has also consistently supported giving state, county, and local governments flexibility in their use of federal law enforcement assistance. For this reason, he has supported efforts to transform the COPs program and the categorical prevention programs into a single law enforcement block grant to ensure that the counties will receive grants directly from the federal government. In addition, Bob Dole has supported truth-in-sentencing grants, a portion of which can be utilized by county governments for the purpose of incarcerating violent offenders.

5) Will you seek local input before creating new government programs?

Yes. Bob Dole believes the Congress

should use the Tenth Amendment as a guide to restrain Congress from exceeding its own authority. As President, he will closely examine proposed pieces of legislation for any federal mandate they may contain.

As President, he will insist that Washington recognize and learn from what states, counties, and local communities have to teach us. To institutionalize the federal-state-local government partnership, he will establish two new offices: an Office of Governmental Reform enlisting the best minds in state and local government to identify what Washington does well and what the states, counties, cities, or private businesses might do better; and a bipartisan Council of American Governors, modeled after the Council of Economic Advisors, designed to infuse the federal establishment with the same energy, creativity, and common sense that so many of today's governors bring to their task.

Dole campaign links with Republican officials

By Rebecca Jackson, Jefferson County, Ky.

On Sept. 20, the Dole/Kemp campaign announced the creation of the Executive Committee for Local Governmental Affairs, to be chaired by Senator Dirk Kempthorne (R-Idaho). The committee has since enlisted 30 Republican elected officials, 10 of whom are county officials and from America's most experienced ranks.

The recruited county officials include NACo President-elect Randy Johnson, Jefferson County (Ky.) Clerk and National Conference of Republican County Officials President Rebecca Jackson, Los Angeles County (Calif.) Supervisor Michael Antonovich, Harris County (Texas) Judge Robert Eckels, and Tulsa County (Okla.) Clerk Joan Hastings.

Also, Westchester County (N.Y.) Executive Andrew O'Rourke, Oakland County (Mich.) Executive Brooks Patterson, Mercer County (N.J.) Executive Robert Prunetti, Passaic County (N.J.) Freeholder Norman Robertson and Shelby County (Tenn.) Mayor Jim Rout.

Along with forming this executive committee, Sen. Kempthorne said, "Bob Dole's commitment to local and state governments is apparent by his designating the unfunded mandate legislation as Senate Bill 1. That number is reserved for the most important bill and demonstrates Bob Dole's commitment to relieve our nation's cities, counties and states from the burdens

"Bob Dole and Jack Kemp understand that local people make better decisions about how to meet their communities' needs than the bureaucracies in Washington."

Senator Dirk Kempthorne (R-Idaho)

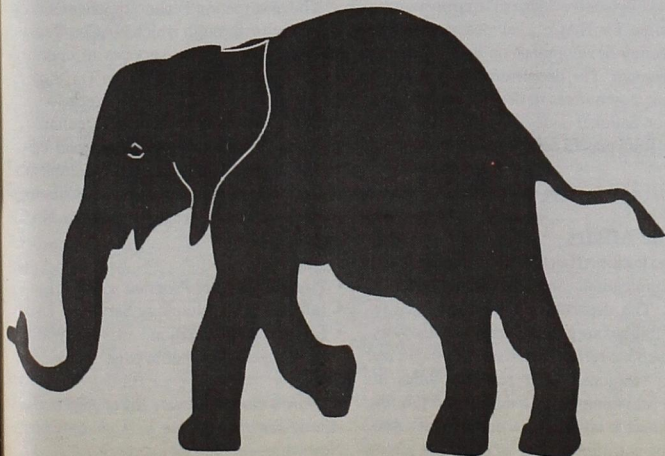
placed on them by Congress.

"Bob Dole and Jack Kemp understand that local people make better decisions about how to meet their communities' needs than the bureaucracies in Washington, and both men are staunch advocates of the 10th Amendment and states rights."

As a group, the campaign staff has included county Republican officials in many conference calls, including one with Jack Kemp. Specifically, they are involved in discussions on talking points and policy, and help with media and various statewide election events.

Because this team is asking for participation and advice from local officials, we can already see the lines of communication being established for a dialogue with a Dole/Kemp Administration!

(Jackson is president of the National Conference of Republican County Officials and Jefferson County, Ky. clerk.)



1996-1997 Steering Committees

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS

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John Witt

Vice Chairs

• **Larry A. Bennich**
Chairman, County Commission
Morgan County, Ala.
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• **Gerald Hyland**, Supervisor
Fairfax County, Va.
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• **Ronald D. Kouchi**, County Council Member
Kauai County, Hawaii
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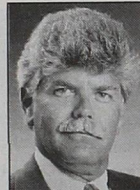
• **The Honorable Janet Porter**
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Tim Davis

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• **Mary Pearmine**, Commissioner
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• **Grady Prestage**, Commissioner
Fort Bend County, Texas
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Chair

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Peter McLaughlin

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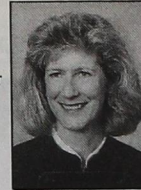
• **Sylvia Poitier**, Commissioner
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ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY

AND LAND USE

Chair

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Jane Hague

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• **Ron Houseman**, Clerk
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• **Jean Michaels**, Commissioner
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• **Joel McTopy**, Parish Council Member
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Chair

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Carolyn Meline

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• **Katherine O'Connor Kuhn**
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James W. Scarborough

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• **Doris Karloff**, Chairman, Bd. of Supervisors
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• **E.B. Turner**, Commissioner
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Chair

• **Ricardo Solomon**
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Ricardo Solomon

NACo Services and Publications

Finance and Administration

The Finance and Administration Department provides a wide variety of support services to NACo departments and personnel. This department manages all financial, payroll and accounting activities, human resources, data information systems, administration and mailing operations, and building facility operations. On a daily basis, this department provides services and assistance to approximately 80 staff members and five affiliate organizations which are housed in NACo office space.

County Services Department

The County Services Department has a member service and education focus, and consists of the following divisions: Community Services Programs, Human Services Programs, Training, Research and Conferences.

Department staff provide ongoing training and technical assistance programs, educational programs, and publications and services designed to help busy county officials better serve their constituents.

- ADA Project Rice
- Aging Program Markwood/Schulman
- Children and Youth Project Markwood
- Coastal Watershed Friedman, Abigail
- Management Project
- "The County Environmental Quarterly" Witt

- Conferences Byars/Gavilan
- HOME Project Keister
- Joint Center for Sustainable Communities McNeil
- JTPA Service Fee Program ... Gortenburg
- "JTPA Directory" (Service Delivery Areas) Gortenburg
- "JTPA Update" Gortenburg
- Landfill Gas Recovery Project Friedman, Naomi
- Pollution Prevention Project Friedman, Naomi
- Professional Development Kampinsky
- Radon/Indoor Air Project Witt
- Regional Seminars Kampinsky
- Research/Surveys Byers
- Source Water Protection Project ..George
- "Special Update on Job Training for County Elected Officials" Gortenburg
- Solid Waste Project Friedman, Naomi
- Training Gortenburg and Employment Programs
- Videoconferences ... Kampinsky/Bonkowski
- Volunteerism Project Lane
- Wetlands Project Friedman, Abigail

Enterprise Services

The Enterprise Services Department is NACoS, the NACo Services Corporation, a subsidiary of NACo that is organized as a for-profit company and incorporated under the laws of Delaware. Its mission is to provide development, marketing and promotion of programs that offer competitive products and

services to counties and their employees. Current programs include deferred compensation through PEBSCO for county employees, financial services for county governments through the NACo Financial Services Center (FSC) and the Corporate Membership Program.

- Corporate Relations Sweet
- Deferred Compensation ..Zeldow/Palmer (PEBSCO)
- Financial Services Center Swendiman

Legislative Affairs Department

The Legislative Affairs Department is responsible for NACo's advocacy programs and policy development on behalf of local government. The department uses NACo's steering committees to develop policy positions on national issues and then plans legislative strategies to achieve priority goals.

- "Legislative Bulletin" Dove

Public Affairs

The Public Affairs Department is NACo's communications and membership department. The department's three primary responsibilities are publication of *County News*, membership retention and development, and media relations. Other responsibilities include providing graphic design and printing assistance to other NACo departments, publication fulfillment, and other public affairs

functions such as planning and carrying out Community Countdown 2000 and National County Government Week.

- *County News* Schlotterbeck
- *County News Job Market* Vickers
- Dues Payments Parrish
- Elections/Credentials Parrish
- "Leadership Letter" Bullard
- Membership Featherson/Parrish
- Publications Orders Vickers

Other NACo Services

Information Technology Center

The Information Technology Center is the organization through which NACo offers information technology services to counties. The mission of the Information Technology Center is to provide training, education and research regarding information technology to counties, including limited, broad-based consulting and referral services. Current programs include the Information Technology Premier Member Program and the NACo home page.

- Premier Member Program Lyday
- Information Technology Services .. Lyday
- Electronic Information Lyday/Wallace Exchange/NACo home page

(For a more complete list of staff assignments, see the on-line version of County News at countynews@naco.org.)

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• **Jim Rout**, Mayor
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Wayne Curry

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• **Marjorie Webster**, Commissioner
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Shirley A. Darrell

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Kay Carsky

Vice Chair

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PUBLIC LANDS

Chair

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Paul Ohri

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Navajo County, Ariz.
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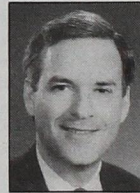
• **Joan Frey**, Commissioner
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• **William G. O'Brien**, County Administrator
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Robert Eckels

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• **Carl Hansen**, Commissioner
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• **Bill Melton**, County Treasurer
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TRANSPORTATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Chair

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Carol Roberts

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• **Jim Jackson**, Commissioner
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• **Jean Jacobson**, County Executive
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• **Karen Miller**, Commissioner
Boone County, Mo.
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Area Code 202/

Antonelli, Betty Lou	942-4226
Arnold, Jeff	942-4286
Ayele, Hirut	942-4240
Barton, Mary Ann	942-4210
Battle, Haron	942-4204
Beardslee, Peggy	942-4279
Bomberg, Neil	942-4205
Bonkowski, John	942-4216
Bosak, Kathyann	942-4206
Boykin, Donna	942-4207
Braaten, Kaye	942-4291
Bullard, Shawn	942-4212
Bussey, Thomas	942-4211
Byars, Dottie	942-4208
Byers, Jackie	942-4285
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Featherson, Cynthia	942-4221
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Sampson, Carol	942-4251
Sanz, Marilina	942-4260
Saunders, Alva	942-4265
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Schulman, Kelly	942-4246
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Tabor, Ralph	942-4254
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Timmer, Kenneth	942-4276
Todd, Reginald	942-4271
Upton-Caro, Angie	942-4278
Vickers, Victoria	942-4256
Wagner, Maria	942-4202
Wallace, Brian	942-4284
Warner, Ericlle	942-4258
Waugh, Nelsona	942-4259
Witt, John Lou	942-4261
Yates, Gail	393-6226
Zeldow, Fred	942-4264

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Chair and vice chair to be appointed.

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There is no chair or vice chair for this committee.

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• Richard Squires
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NACo on the move

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

◆ Members of the National Council of County Association Executives gathered in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Oct. 16-19. The state association officials were briefed by NACo Executive Committee members and NACo staff on various activities and initiatives. President **Michael Hightower**, President-elect **Randy Johnson**, Second Vice President **Dick Cecil** and Immediate Past President **Doug Bovin** were there, as well as Executive Director **Larry Naake**, Deputy Executive Director **Ed Ferguson** and Legislative Director **Reggie Todd**.



Michael Hightower



Randy Johnson

◆ NASA officials met with President-elect **Randy Johnson**, Navajo County (N.M.) Commissioner **Larry Layton**, Nevada Association of Counties Executive Director **Robert Hadfield** and several county geographic information systems directors in Cook County (Chicago), Ill. Oct. 9-10 to discuss the creation of an information-sharing program between NACo and NASA. Director of Information Technology Services **Win Lyday** coordinated the meeting; **John Stroger**, Cook County board of commissioners president, served as host.

Earlier this month in Richmond, Va., Johnson was a panelist for a workshop titled, "What Are the Public and Private Business Opportunities in an Era of Intergovernmental Change?" at a conference sponsored by the Federation of Information Processing Councils.

◆ In Pierre, S.D. for the South Dakota Association of Counties meeting earlier this month, Immediate Past President **Doug Bovin** addressed delegates on devolution and Associate Legislative Director **Bob Fogel** spoke on the reauthorization of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act.

Bovin also touched on devolution at the general session of the North Dakota state association meeting in Bismarck Oct. 6-9. Public Affairs Director **Tom Goodman** provided a progress report on NACo's Community Countdown 2000 initiative.

NACo STAFF/COUNTY OFFICIALS



Fred Zeldow



Angie Upton-Caro

◆ Several NACo staff members presented a seminar on Sept. 27 in Columbus, Ohio for state association executive directors about programs available to counties and their employees through the NACo-FSC-PEBSCO partnerships. NACo's representatives were Corporate Relations Director **Tom Sweet**, Financial Marketing Analyst **Fred Zeldow**, County Services Representative **Kaye Braaten**, Financial Services Center (FSC) Managing Director **Steve Swendiman** and FSC Marketing Coordinator **Angie Upton-Caro**.

◆ Research Associate **Naomi Friedman** spoke at the Clean State Leaders Annual Conference on Oct. 3 in Nebraska City, Neb. on solid waste source reduction and pollution prevention.

◆ In Lubbock, Texas for the annual meeting of Texas' judges and commissioners Oct. 17, Public Affairs Director **Tom Goodman** updated attendees on the progress of NACo's Community Countdown 2000 initiative.

Goodman also briefed board members of the New Mexico Association of Counties on the initiative at their meeting in Taos at the end of September.

◆ Associate Legislative Director **Bob Fogel** attended a meeting of the Rebuild America Coalition, a group of public and private organizations with an interest in infrastructure, in Washington, D.C. Oct. 17, where participants talked over next year's agenda.

(NACo On the Move was compiled by **Susan D. Grubb**, senior staff writer.)

Research News

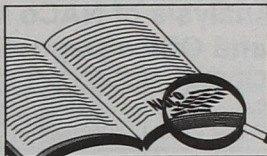
Many county officials will sit out next month's election

Election day may be upon us, but who is going to be elected on Nov. 5? A president to be sure, but not many county officials! Some counties will hold their elections on Nov. 5, but not all. Why not? Most counties still have staggered terms of office for their elected officials. This means that only a portion (some have two-year terms, some have four-year terms) are really elected on the same day as the presidential election.

Although the first Tuesday in the first full week of November is the most common election day, many county governments hold their elections during odd-numbered years, while all federal elections are held during even-numbered years.

Except in some states there are odd-numbered districts in each county which hold their elections in odd years and even-numbered districts hold their elections on the even years. But, in Florida, odd-numbered districts are holding their elections this year (an even-numbered year), except for Volusia County, where all the commissioners are up for election this year.

Although November elections are common, many states



still hold their elections at other times. Alaska has many different dates, but the first week in October is the most common. New Mexico and Oklahoma have not changed their election dates to November either; elections are held throughout the year.

Arkansas and West Virginia county officials all have two-year terms, and every county office will have candidates on Nov. 5. While in Tennessee and Virginia, since elections are on odd-numbered years only, no county officials will be up for election on Nov. 5.

So how many local county commissioners, council members, supervisors and freeholders are actually up for election this year? Above is a sampling of the approximate number of contested offices from a recent survey of state association executives.

State	Contested Offices (approximate number)
Alabama	180
Arkansas	253
Colorado	92
Florida	400
Indiana	186
Iowa	181
Minnesota	240
Mississippi	12
Montana	64
Nebraska	165
Nevada	43
New Hampshire	64
New Jersey	50
North Carolina	356
North Dakota	110
Oklahoma	308
Oregon	29
South Carolina	165
Wyoming	30

Happy voting! Special thanks to those state association executives who responded to our election survey.

(For more information, contact the Research Department at 202/942-4277.)

(Research News was written by **Angela M. Sides**, research assistant.)

NACo Services News

State association executives take in new PEBSCO products

In a first-time meeting to explore the history and future of the NACo-PEBSCO partnership, NACo's Financial Services Center (FSC) hosted the state associations of counties executives at the PEBSCO-Nationwide headquarters in Columbus, Ohio late last month.

The meeting served as the occasion to roll out a number of new PEBSCO products and services targeted to the county employee, and to review the progress of the NACo deferred compensation program, offered through PEBSCO.

On the service side, PEBSCO showcased its new financial planning software, which will allow on-site illustrations of the advantages of the NACo deferred compensation program both individually and as a group.

The PEBSCO field representative can process and transmit participant agreements; illustrate the immediate tax benefits; outline the anticipated retirement



income and projected payouts; and display historical standardized and non-standardized mutual fund performance values for one, five and 10 year periods.

PEBSCO is NACo's partner in providing deferred compensation, a voluntary savings and investing program for public employees that, by allowing the deferral of federal (and often state) income taxes on principal and interest, is intended to encourage employees to save for their retirement.

On the new products side, PEBSCO introduced its post-employment health plan, now available to county employees through NACo/FSC. This program entitles employers to provide a benefit plan that provides tax-free reimbursements of medical expenses for employees at termination or retirement.

The 30 state association ex-

PEBSCO is NACo's partner in providing deferred compensation, a voluntary savings and investing program for public employees.

ecutives who attended the Sept. 27 meeting were also given a tour of the PEBSCO learning and customer service centers, where they observed the day-to-day customer support given to county employees.

(For additional information about these or any other FSC programs, call 202/942-4278.)

(NACo Services News was written by **Angie Caro**, NACo/FSC marketing coordinator.)

Membership News

Who Says You Can't Use the Same Money Twice?

NACo, through its Financial Services Center (FSC), has created a program that can save your county enough money to pay NACo dues and still have enough savings left over to apply to other programs.

We encourage you to review the FSC's Cooperative Purchasing Alliance agreement with the Office Depot chain of business supply stores and to consider possible revenue savings as a way of financing your county's 1997 NACo dues.

Counties everywhere purchase business supplies, buy in large quantities, and enter into contracts which offer them the best discount value. The NACo FSC's cooperative purchasing agreement is designed to take advantage of the economies of scale resulting from the volume of business counties do in support of their staffs and communities.

The agreement with the Office Depot stores offers counties up to 61 percent savings on list price business supply items and up to 45 percent savings on office furniture. A look at reappropriating the possible savings associated with this agreement results in a win-win situation for counties and NACo.

The chart above highlights the relationship between NACo's membership dues and the comparative cost savings from a yearly purchase of supplies from Office Depot using the NACo FSC's contract terms and conditions.

NACo's yearly membership dues range from \$350 for the smallest counties to \$35,000 for the largest. The dues are based on county population figures as reported in the 1990 U.S. Census. Counties use significant quantities of office supplies and the list prices per year shown are probably more applicable to the monthly charges spent by most counties.

With that in mind, your county's savings (and spending) may be significantly more, although your NACo dues will remain the same for the 1997 calendar year.

To analyze your counties savings potential:

- find the yearly office supply purchase amount used
- next, the discounted savings of 40 percent
- next, the discounted savings of 61 percent is figured for an Office Depot savings, and
- finally, locate the dues figure which is closest to the actual dues billed to your county.

Analysis of NACo Membership Dues and Office Depot Discount Savings

Office Supplies @ List Price	Savings @ 40% Discount	Office Depot @ 61% Discount	NACo Membership Dues
\$575.00	\$230.00	\$350.75	\$350.00
825.00	330.00	503.25	500.00
1,250.00	500.00	762.50	750.00
1,750.00	700.00	1,067.50	1,000.00
8,250.00	3,300.00	5,032.50	5,000.00
16,500.00	6,600.00	10,065.00	10,000.00
24,750.00	9,900.00	15,097.50	15,000.00
33,000.00	13,200.00	20,130.00	20,000.00
41,250.00	16,500.00	25,162.50	25,000.00
49,500.00	19,800.00	30,195.00	30,000.00
57,750.00	23,100.00	35,227.50	35,000.00



Okay, so you're probably asking yourself, "Who pays list price?" Well, you're right. That's why we have included the 40 percent discount column on which you can base your comparisons. The Office Depot contract offers you an additional 21 percent savings! Our research suggests that the 61 percent discounted savings from the NACo Office Depot con-

The agreement is designed to take advantage of the economies of scale resulting from the volume of business counties do in support of their staffs and communities.

tract represents the deepest overall discounted contract available to counties.

Counties that take advantage of the Office Depot cooperative purchasing agreement are receiving significant savings. These savings provide both the means and yet another reason for paying your NACo dues.

Let's assume that your county routinely spends as little as the equivalent of \$575

list price per year purchasing general office supplies. Discounting that list price by 40 percent would result in a \$230 savings, but with the Office Depot discount, the savings would be 61 percent or \$350.75. An \$8,250 office supply purchase at list price results in discounted savings of \$3,300 and \$5,032.50, respectively. These figures illustrate the means, but what about the reason for paying NACo dues? The contract the FSC has negotiated with Office Depot on behalf of county governments was possible because of the size and strength of our member counties.

Programs such as the Cooperative Purchasing Alliance depend on counties that participate in the process because they believe that the power of counties lies in the synergy of the group and that a large immovable force of counties banded together is good for each individual county and our country as a whole.

While you're analyzing the chart, you'll probably wonder what other ways NACo has to save you money, time and resources. Well, there are many, and we want you to take advantage of them all.

Along with recently mailed 1997 dues invoices was information highlighting NACo's programs and services that are funded in part by county membership dues. Please review the list and then decide how important renewing your NACo dues is to not only your county but all counties.

The more NACo does for counties ... the more counties can do!
(Membership News was written by Cynthia Featherston, membership marketing director.)

Research News

Programs Turn Around the Lives of At-risk Youth

Alfonso Sota and Miguel Boyas, inner-city teenagers, often found themselves in trouble, and occasionally found themselves in the back of a squad car. They were failing at school and surrounded themselves with people who sold drugs. Then, they began spending their free time shooting ... not guns, but videos. Today, they are not in gangs, they don't take drugs, they've graduated from high school and they work for the community arts organization that took them off the street.

Alfonso and Miguel's defiance of the odds against them is not as remarkable as it may seem. According to a report released by the President's Committee on Arts and Humanities, in communities across the country, local arts programs are helping at-risk children build character, creativity, self-esteem and self-discipline. The report, "Coming Up Taller: Arts and Humanities Programs for Children and Youth At Risk," documents more than 200 of these successful community efforts.

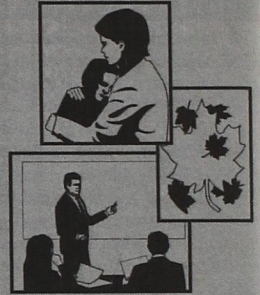
Programs highlighted in the book include the Broward County, Fla. Boys and Girls Clubs, which initiated a creative arts unit to assist children and youth living in high-risk neighborhoods creatively tackle such critical issues as inner-city violence, teen pregnancy and domestic abuse through musical theater productions.

Also showcased is the Fort Worth and Tarrant County, Texas Arts Council, which sponsors 14 Neighborhood Arts programs to provide a connection between the city and county's culturally diverse, high-risk neighborhoods and the mainstream arts institutions.

The programs outlined in the report offer young people the opportunity to dance, sing, paint, write plays and poems, take photographs, make videos, perform, and mount exhibitions. As a result, the report notes, the young participants are learning to take responsibility, connect with adults, resolve conflicts, find solutions to problems and acquire job skills.

Above all, the young people involved in the arts programs begin to believe that they have the ability to transport themselves beyond the boundaries of their current circumstances.

"Studies show that high-risk children who become competent, confident adults do so through forming strong relationships with adults, participating in a community support network,



and building social and other skills," says Rita Moreno, an Academy Award-winning actress and member of the president's committee. "Arts and humanities programs provide this adult contact and community support in ways that set adolescents on a positive course for their future."

Without this strong connection to adults, many teens find their community in gangs. The Carnegie Council on Adolescent Development reports that many young people spend 40 percent of their time without responsible adult companionship or supervision.

To make a successful transition from childhood to adulthood, the council states that children "must have sustained, caring relationships with adults; receive guidance in facing serious challenges; become a valued member of a constructive peer group; feel a sense of worth as a person; become socially competent; know how to use the support systems available to them; achieve a reliable basis for making informed choices; find constructive expression of the curiosity and exploration that strongly characterizes their age; believe in a promising future with real opportunities; and find ways of being useful to others."

The arts programs highlighted in the guide aim to help children and youth reach beyond the labels often associated with at-risk children and youth — teen parent, school dropout, juvenile delinquent, poor child — and give them a chance to improve themselves and flourish.

(To obtain a copy of the report, "Coming Up Taller: Arts and Humanities Programs for Children and Youth At Risk," contact the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Suite 526, Washington, DC 20506, 202/682-5409.)

(County Services News was written by Sandra Reinsel Markwood, human services programs director.)

Neal Peirce Commentary

A Database for the Global Grassroots

By Neal R. Peirce
Washington Post Writers Group

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

Flags from Brazil, Argentina, India, the Ivory Coast, the United States and nations across all continents flash onto your computer screen. But don't expect stories of the grandeur of nation-states.

This program — Best Practices for Human Settlements — is about the global grassroots. Available now on CD-ROM or the Internet, it focuses on what people in cities across the world have to tell about the civic partnerships they've formed to boost entrepreneurship and job creation, fight homelessness, protect the environment, advance women, educate children, and create safe neighborhoods.

This cyberspace system may prove the most lasting legacy of Habitat II — the United Nations-sponsored world summit of cities — held in Istanbul in June. It's a database that lends itself to constant updating. And by providing names and telephone numbers and Internet addresses of local "doers" — not just international diplomats or learned experts — it gives civic leaders a new way to interact.

The cultures and stories all differ, but they share a theme — growing local partnerships, people learning from participating.

The government of Tilburg, in the Netherlands, has worked with citizens neighborhood-by-neighborhood, to establish accountability measures on the city's performance in assuring adequate housing, safety, traffic control and environmental protection.

In New York, Banana Kelly, a community development corporation born in the South Bronx's deperate years of fire and abandonment in the 1970s, has leveraged \$100 million in reinvestment. It's rehabilitated or constructed 2,500 units of affordable housing, assisted 125 small businesses, helped hundreds of youth gain construction skills and land jobs.

Banana Kelly was one of 12 projects recognized as lead global Best Practices examples by a Habitat II international jury. At Istanbul in June, Banana Kelly veteran leader Yolanda Rivera said there was jubilation in her community of learning of the award — the first international

award an American neighborhood has received.

"When people see their personal contribution has meaning in the world, there's a wonderful ripple through the community," said Rivera—who actually appears on a brief video clip on the Best Practices CD-ROM.

The U.N.'s idea of featuring "best practices" can be tracked back to a small New York-based nonprofit, the Megacities Project, founded in 1987 by Janice Perlman, a former University of California professor.

With affiliates in 18 of the world's largest metropolises, from Cairo to Calcutta to Tokyo to Los Angeles, Megacities was years ahead of its time in championing the idea that massive metropolises can be decent environments by tapping — and exchanging — the problem-solving skills of citizens, communities and their city governments.

When Jorge Wilhelm, a Megacities cofounder and planning director of San Paulo, became deputy secretary general of Habitat, he pushed the "best practices" idea — eventually embraced by over 50 nations with their own competitions.

Habitat II lacked funding to create a global database of the entries, but the New York-based Together Foundation, headed by Ella Cisneros, a Venezuelan businesswoman, stepped in with funding.

Now an international committee of stakeholders — local authorities, community-building institutions and donors — has been set up to decide how the database is to be maintained and improved, and with what criteria over time.

An early challenge, says Perlman, will be how to move beyond disseminating best practices to actual hands-on transfers in other communities around the globe — a demanding, time-consuming task that "doesn't happen in a vacuum, or automatically."

Habitat II has, however, created a worldwide network of civic entrepreneurs without precedent in world history. With the Best Practices database, combined with the fast-spreading communications capacity of the Internet, a first-ever opportunity exists for community and city leaders to get in touch, stay in touch and keep learning from each other.

For the CD-ROM call Together Foundation: 212/628-1939; Internet access: <http://www.bestpractices.org>.

1996 Washington Post Writers Group

News From the Nation's Counties

CALIFORNIA

• What a difference a muffler makes! No we're not talking about Midas™ here. But close. The LOS ANGELES COUNTY Metropolitan Transit Authority expects to downsize air pollution in the Los Angeles basin by some 600,000 pounds a year by retrofitting 1,350 of its diesel buses with a specially-designed catalytic converter muffler developed by the Englehard Corporation. The so-called CMX™ muffler was the first technology to be approved by the U.S. EPA for bus engine retrofit/rebuilds.

• After eight years of planning, ORANGE COUNTY is beginning to build what may be the world's largest multiuser, multiowned radio system. A new state-of-the-art communication system, now under construction, will link the county's 101 police, fire and public works agencies via a single, unified 800Mhz digital communications system. By 1999, the systems 6,500 customized radios will operate on 91 channels, according to a report in "California County: Journal of the California State Association of Counties."

FLORIDA

• DADE COUNTY recently elected its first mayor, Alex Penelas. The 34-year-old son of Cuban immigrants beat out Arthur Teele Jr. for the spot. Teele was chairman of the county commission for three years.

Dade County voters approved a referendum in June, allowing for a county "mayor" with powers similar to those of an elected county executive. The new mayoral position, in a county with a population of more than two million, has been referred to in Florida political circles as the second most powerful in the state, after the governor's seat.

As mayor, Penelas will meet regularly with Dade county commissioners. Political observers in the state say more and more large counties will adopt the mayor system because it's more efficient, with one person setting the agenda.

ILLINOIS

• Counties, and voters, across the state got good news recently



when the state's Appellate Court struck down Illinois' two-tier voting system under the National Voter Registration, or "Motor Voter," Act. Before the decision, voters who registered through the Department of Motor Vehicles were only permitted to receive a federal election ballot. They were not eligible to cast a vote in local elections.

The court's decision was especially good for PEORIA COUNTY, said Peoria County Clerk Mary Harkrader. The county has a 1/4-cent sales tax initiative on the Nov. 5 ballot, which, if passed, will pay for the costs of a jail and juvenile detention facility expansion. If the measure fails, the county's 77,000 property owners will have to foot the bill.

MARYLAND

• The public information office for MONTGOMERY COUNTY has gone paperless ... almost.

Beginning Oct. 11, the office ended its weekly mailing of news releases. In its place, the information will be available on the Internet. Officials estimate a yearly savings of nearly 7,000 in postage from the move to the Net.

Montgomery County becomes the first major jurisdiction in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area to rely on the Internet for routine distribution of its news releases.

The public information office also plans to make more use of faxes to release information. No word on how much they expect to save from using someone else's paper.

NEW YORK

• OSWEGO COUNTY has decreased its property tax rate by 21 percent in the wake of the adoption of the county's 1997 budget late last month. The budget also included across-the-board cuts in all county departments.

The decrease makes good on a

promise made to the voters earlier this year when the county mounted a successful effort to pass a three percent sales tax. "When we adopted the county sales tax in April, we promised the people of Oswego County that we'd cut government spending and use the sales tax revenue to cut property taxes. With the help of the Administration, department heads and county employees, the legislature kept its promise," said Herbert Van Schaack, chair of the legislature's Ways, Means and Budget Committee.

OREGON

• Vice President Al Gore commended Oregon's counties for working as partners with cities, the state and the federal government in a report released last month called, "The Best Kept Secrets in Government."

Through the partnership, called "Oregon Option," the governor and numerous mayors and county commissioners signed an agreement with the federal government in 1994 to test a simplified, integrated governing system that is more oriented to results, customer satisfaction and preventing problems, as well as one that delegates responsibilities for service design, delivery and results to local-level providers.

Surveys were conducted to target the issues of most concern to citizens, like cleaning up rivers, increasing adult literacy and reducing teen pregnancy. They then set a series of performance goals, dubbed "Oregon Benchmarks."

"The biggest improvement is communication," says CLACKAMAS COUNTY Human Services Administrator Jono Hildner in the report. Clackamas and Tillamook counties were specifically singled out in the report for their involvement in the partnership. "I've got somebody in Washington who knows me now, who I can talk to, who understands our problems and helps us get them fixed. I think the feds should be doing a lot more of this."

VIRGINIA

• NORTHAMPTON COUNTY is laying claim to developing the first eco-industrial park in the country. Late last month, the county announced that it had purchased 50 acres of ecologically sensitive land that will be included in a planned 570-acre development in the Virginia coastal zone. The park site has been zoned as a Sustainable Technologies Industrial Park.

CORRECTION

In the last issue, we misidentified two of the four individuals who appeared in the photo about NASSAU COUNTY, N.Y. snagging the U.S. Open Tournament in 2002. Appearing from left to right are: Suffolk County, N.Y. Executive Robert Gaffney and Nassau County Executive Thomas Gulotta. Their identities were reversed in the previous issue.

(News From was compiled by Beverly Schlotterbeck, County News editor.)

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Job Market

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES — PINELLAS COUNTY, (CLEARWATER), FLA.: Pinellas County Utilities is committed to providing its residents the highest quality services possible. We have an exciting opportunity for an Assistant Director of Utilities who will be a strong foundation in the administration, direction and operation of County utilities, including water, wastewater, solid waste and effluent reuse. Responsibilities will involve management functions assisting the Director of Utilities in planning, operation and maintenance of all facilities, as well as developing and monitoring the departmental budget and CIP. Pinellas County Utilities comprises 600 employees, a \$140 million operating budget and an aggressive \$220 million Capital Improvement Program. A bachelor's degree in Business Administration or Civil Engineering and five (5) years progressively responsible administrative experience in a technically oriented business atmosphere or public utility operations is required. An MBA or MPA is desirable. Pinellas County, population 950,000, located on the west central coast of Florida is famous for its miles of beautiful, white sandy beaches. We offer several nationally acclaimed County-owned parks as well as a 47-mile bicycle trail. If you love the water and outdoor activities, you'll love it here. Please contact the Pinellas County Utilities Administration Office 813/464-3438 to apply for this exciting career opportunity. This position will remain open until it is filled. Salary range: \$57,219 - \$94,849. EEO/AA/ADA.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL FORUM FOR BLACK PUBLIC ADMINISTRATORS — WASHINGTON, D.C.: National Forum for Black Public Administrators, a Washington, D.C. based non-profit organization of 3,000 professional public sector managers and college students (50 chapters nationwide) and a \$1.5 million budget. Skills: financial management, fund raising, marketing, interpersonal. Master's degree preferred. Competitive pay and benefits. Respond with full resume and letter of interest by January 3, 1997 to: Executive Search Committee, NFBPA, Suite 807, 777 North Capitol St. NE, Washington, DC 20002.

DIRECTOR, FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING — GWINNETT COUNTY, GA.: Gwinnett County Gov't is seeking an experienced professional to direct the Facilities Construction and Engineering division staff of the Dept of Public Utilities and to oversee the engineering design (in-house and outside firms), bidding, contractor selection and construction for all facilities required/funded for 135,000 customer water and wastewater utility. Develops and manages division goals and objectives and coordinates work processes. Develops major facilities capi-

tal improvement programs. The ideal candidate must have a minimum of 10 years progressively responsible exp in the management of multiple facility design and construction projects, preferably in the water and wastewater industry. Exp in preparation and review of facility construction contract specifications and in managing projects in excess of \$100 million. Bachelor's degree in Engineering required, master's degree in Civil Engineering preferred. Licensed as a professional Engineer. Salary range is \$49,497 - \$71,770 DOQ, plus a superior benefits package. A completed application is required; resumes accepted only as additional information. Call 770/822-7915 to request an application or visit the Employment Office at 75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville, GA 30245. Position open until filled. Interested and qualified applicants should submit an application immediately. Salary history required. EOE.

HEALTH OFFICER — SPOKANE COUNTY, WASH.: The Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD) in beautiful Spokane, Washington is now recruiting for one full time Health Officer, SRHD, located in the heart of the pristine Pacific Northwest, is the largest local public health agency in Eastern Washington, and the 4th largest in Washington State. Spokane County, with 406,500 residents, offers an attractive and challenging mix of urban/rural public health concerns. There are over 76 lakes within a 50 mile radius for fishing, swimming, skiing and other water activities, 31 golf courses, 9 colleges and universities, 32,000 acres of parklands and city parks, 4 downhill ski resorts, and a public school system ranked as one of the best in the state. The Health Officer provides leadership for the successful operation of SRHD, including the establishment and implementation of public health policies and programs to promote and protect the health of citizens of Spokane County. Responsibilities include the enforcement of local and state public health laws, serving as the chief medical officer for the Health District and providing highly complex staff assistance to the Board of Health. Requirements include: a degree as a doctor of medicine or osteopathy, a current license to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathy and surgery in the State of Washington, a master's degree in public health, and five years experience as a licensed physician with three of those years in public health. One year of leadership exp. as a local or state health officer with supervisory responsibilities is highly desirable. Excellent salary and benefit package including: family medical and dental insurance, state retirement, 25 days paid vacation and 12 days paid sick leave per year, 11 paid holidays, and more! Apply by sending a resume and requesting an application packet from: Spokane Regional Health District, Office of Human Resource Ser-

vices; 1101 W. College Avenue; Spokane, WA 99201, 509/324-1506, TTY: 509/324-1464, fax: 509/324-3604. Internet: syamane@spokanecounty.org. AA/EEO, M/F/H, ADA Compliant Employer.

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN SERVICES — EL PASO COUNTY, COLO.: Directs, organizes & administers the programs & services of the Human Svcs. Dept. in coord with the State Dept of Human Svcs. Annual Budget of \$96 million, staff of 350 employees. Bachelor's degree in social/behavioral science or public admin + 7 yrs rel exp incl 3 yrs supv exp. \$4,828-\$5,578/Mo. Apply prior to 5 pm 11/15/96, Human Resources, 105 E. Vermijo, Suite 103, Colorado Springs, CO 80903 or fax resume to 719/520-7406. EOE. Internet: http://www.co.el-paso.co.us.

PUBLIC INFORMATION MANAGER — ANOKA COUNTY, MINN.: Anoka County, MN seeks a Public Information Manager to direct the operations of the Public Information Unit and provide technical direction to County staff. Responsibilities include developing and implementing public outreach and government awareness programs and providing training and development to senior level staff in media relations and public outreach opportunities. Requirements include a BA in Journalism or Communication and 5-7 yrs related experience; 3-5 yrs supervisory/mgt experience. \$37,376-\$51,393 DOE. Exc benefits. For application and supplemental form call Anoka County Human Resources at 612/323-5525 by 11/22/96. (TDD-forhear-

ing impaired 612/323-5544) EOE.

NOTICE OF SALE — CALVERT COUNTY, MD.: The Board of Supervisors of Elections of Calvert County (Maryland) has for sale 67 reconditioned, 40-column AVM Print-o-Matic Voting Machines, series 130,000 through 150,000. It will be the sole responsibility of the buyer to pay any costs associated with removing the equipment, and removal must be completed within 30 days

after notification of award. For more information or to inspect the machines, contact Gail Hatfield, Elections Administrator, 410/535-2214 or 301/855-1376. Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Sealed proposals signed by an authorized agent are to be sent to Charlotte DeStephano, Purchasing Office, 150 Main Street, Suite 105, Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678, and are to be received no later than close of business Friday, November 15, 1996.



CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

(Population: 43,910)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR

Compensation: Salary is open and competitive with outstanding management benefits.

Highly respected full service South Florida community. Stable Council/Manager government. Present Manager on job more than 8 years. Seeking an experienced professional to join the City's senior management team and lead the City's Information Technology/Telecommunications function into the 21st century. The ideal candidate will have at least 10 years of experience with the most recent 5 years being a Director or Assistant Director of Information Technology. Minimum education required is degree in computer sciences or related field. Extensive knowledge of PC networks, Microsoft NT, Unix, Rolm communications, and multi-unit portable radio systems is also expected. This position reports to the City Manager and will be responsible for developing and implementing plans and providing technical support, including training, to all City departments, providing leadership and participating in the development and implementation of information technology applications and projecting City-wide information system needs. If you meet these qualifications and want to become a part of the City's progressive management team, please mail or fax your resume to:

Robert E. Slavin, President

SLAVIN MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS, INCORPORATED

3040 Holcomb Bridge Road, Suite B-1
Norcross, Georgia 30071
Phone: 770/449-4656
Fax: 770/416-0848

Note: Under Florida law, applications for local government positions are "public documents" and must be made available upon request. If confidentiality is an issue, please call before applying for this position.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY RECRUITER/EMPLOYER



Notices

CONFERENCES

■ **NACo and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA)** are cosponsors for the 11th Annual Hazardous Materials Management Conference Nov. 6-9 in St. Petersburg, Fla.

The conference will focus on household, small business and universal waste issues, and speakers will recommend solutions to local officials facing the effects of such hazardous materials on municipal waste streams. The registration fee is \$200 for government/nonprofit, and \$275 for private business. To register contact Karen Smith at 202/962-3672 or e-mail: Ksmith@icma.org.

■ **"Land Use in America: Reflections and Directions,"** cosponsored by **Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, The Urban Land Institute and The Conservation Fund**, is a workshop that will present the results of the first comprehensive, independent review of land use issues facing the United States in almost 25 years. The session will be held on Nov. 20-21 in Long Beach, Calif. To register, call 617/661-3016, ext. 146, or e-mail mhvb@lincolnst.edu.

■ **The Reinventing Government Network** is conducting work-

shops on **"Transforming Government: Delighting Citizens Even When Resources Are Limited."** Workshops are scheduled for Seattle, Wash. on Nov. 19-20 and Atlanta, Ga. on Dec. 10-11. Next year's workshops will take place in San Francisco, Calif. on Jan. 28-29; Boston, Mass. on Feb. 11-12; Phoenix, Ariz. on March 18-19; and Chicago, Ill. on April 29-30.

Speakers will cover new ways to engage collective bargaining units in a collaborative process and how to manage the politics of transformation from "bureaucracy" to "service that delights." For registration information, write: Jim Masters, P.O. Box 5309, Berkeley, CA 94705, or e-mail: jmasters@cencom.fut.com., Phone: 510/339-3801, fax: 510/339-3803.

TELECONFERENCES

■ **The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)** will hold its Annual GAAP Update Seminar via satellite telecast on Nov. 18 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time). The telecast will cover the General Accounting Standards Board's new pension plan guide, a draft on its financial reporting model project, and a draft on significant changes in how governments account for and report on their investments. For more information, call GFOA at 312/977-9700.

PUBLICATIONS

■ **"GreenSense"** published by the **Trust for Public Land**, is a complimentary newsletter on financing parks and conservation that explains innovative ways for states, cities and communities to protect land and secure funds to pay for it. The list of readers includes

professionals in government and public finance, parks and recreation advocates, and the media. For a free subscription, call 800/714-LAND or order via the Trust's Web site at <http://www.tpl.org/tpl>.

■ **"Cities and Counties Project"** is a compilation of 30 case studies of innovative and exciting ways that energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies are being used in counties all across America. To obtain printed copies, call the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Clearinghouse (EREC) at 800/363-3732, or order via the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Network (EREN) at <http://www.eren.doe.gov> (look under the Energy and Environment heading.)

FREE SUPPLIES

■ Over \$100 million worth of new products donated by U.S. corporations are available to nonprofit organizations and schools at no cost. Available goods include office supplies, computer software, hand tools, janitorial items, toys and games, clothing, safety supplies, audio and video tapes, electrical and plumbing fixtures, personal care products, and holiday party goods. The products are free with membership to the **National Association for the Exchange of Industrial Resources (NAEIR)**. Membership ranges from \$25 to \$595. For a free information kit, call NAEIR at 800/562-0955.

(Notices is compiled by Victoria Vickers, special correspondent.)

Job Market - Classified Rate Schedule

- **Line Rates:** \$5 per line, NACo member counties; \$7 per line, others.
- **Display Classified:** \$30 per column inch, NACo member counties; \$50 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.
- Be sure to include billing information along with copy.

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