

Courthouse Journal

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Washington State Association of Counties
Washington Association of County Officials

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Journal*

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**Don't Forget!
WSAC
Legislative
Rally**

February 13

Remember to Mark Your Calendar! WSAC Legislative Rally Coming Soon

Commissioners, councilmembers and county executives from all of Washington's counties were mailed the WSAC Legislative Rally registration and information this week. Please mark your calendar and remember to send in your registration as soon as possible for this important event taking place February 13. Plan on spending some time meeting with your legislators. WSAC has arranged a legislative briefing and lunch from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and will host a reception for WSAC members that evening. The WSAC Legislative Steering Committee will meet the morning of February 14. **PLEASE NOTE** the Urban County Caucus meeting originally planned for the evening of the 13th has been cancelled.

If you have not received your information packet, or if you have any questions, please call the WSAC office.

Legislature Comes to Town Starting Monday

The Regular Session of the 58th Legislature begins on Monday, January 13. Because this is the year in which a biennial budget is crafted, by statute, the Legislature is scheduled to meet for 105 days and adjourn on April 27, 2003.

In addition to the ceremony of swearing

in new House and Senator members on Monday, the Governor will issue his State of the State message on Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. A full slate of committee meetings begins on Monday as well. The committee schedules and agendas can be found at

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/calendar.cfm>.

Sales Tax Streamlining Bill Cleared for Introduction

The Governor has decided to request the Legislature to act this session to implement "streamlining" of sales tax administration. The proposal is based on the multi state effort to respond to business complaints about sales tax administration. By addressing these complaints, states hope they can convince Congress to grant states the power to tax catalogue and internet sales.

Counties need to be aware of the pros and cons of this proposal.

The pros include:

- Jurisdiction in which the customer takes

delivery of the goods. This means big ticket item sold in cities, but delivered to customers in the unincorporated area will generate sales tax for counties.

- There is a chance that Congress will permit the states (and their local governments to tax catalogue and internet sales.

The cons include:

- Sellers will be compensated for the cost of administering the tax out of the sales tax. The rate of that compensation will be deter-

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mined by a national committee at some future date.

- California and New York are not participating in the "streamlining" process, making it less likely that Congress will grant the states power to tax catalogue and

internet sales.

- Border counties will not benefit from this proposal if the neighboring state does not participate in the "streamlining" agreement. Oregon is not a participant.

- If you have a major call center that is currently paying tax on its sales to you, this

proposal would spread that revenue to the customer's counties.

We will keep you informed as this proposal is considered by the legislature.

Environment, Land Use and Resources

Gov. Gary Locke Approves Power Plant Site

On Dec. 20, 2002, Gov. Gary Locke approved a siting application for Wallula

Generation, LLC enabling the company to proceed with plans to build a power plant in Washington state.

The proposed 1,300-megawatt, gas-fired, combined-cycle power plant will be located near Wallula, south of Pasco in Walla Walla County.

Wallula Generation's speed in settling all project-related issues allowed the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) to unanimously recommend approval for the plant. The company applied for its application with EFSEC in August 2001.

"I want to commend the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council and Wallula Generation for their efforts," said Locke. "Wallula Generation's proactive approach to addressing public and environmental concerns can serve as a useful model for others seeking prompt review of its site certification request."

p.m. at the following times and locations:

Wenatchee Monday January 27, 2003
Chelan County Auditorium
400 Douglas

Spokane Tuesday January 28, 2003
Spokane Falls Community College
Student Union Bldg. 17, Lounge AB
3410 W. Fort George Wright Dr.

Pasco Wednesday January 29, 2003
Columbia Basin College
2600 N. 20th Ave.

Yakima Thursday January 30, 2003
Ecology Central Region Office
15 West Yakima Ave. Suite 200

Bellingham Monday February 3, 2003
Whatcom County Courthouse
311 Grand Avenue

Seattle Tuesday February 4, 2003
Seattle Center
Northwest Rooms: Lopez Room
305 Harrison Street

Port Angeles Wed. February 5, 2003
Vern Burton Center
308 E. 4th St.

Vancouver Thursday February 6, 2003
Water Resources Center
4600 SE Columbia Way

Comments may be submitted at the public hearings, on the webpage, through e-mail at swqs@ecy.wa.gov, or by fax to Susan Braley, 360-407-6426.

The Courthouse Journal

Published weekly by the Washington Association of County Officials (WACO) and the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC).

We welcome your suggestions and contributions. The weekly deadline is noon Wednesday.

Direct inquiries and correspondence to *The Courthouse Journal*, 206 Tenth Av SE, Olympia, WA 98501-1131 or www.wacounties.org

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New Water Quality Standards Proposed

The Department of Ecology has filed a major revision to the water quality standards rule initiating the formal rulemaking process. The public comment period will run through March 7, 2003.

This is the first major change to the federally required water quality standards in 10 years. Key changes include revised temperature standards to better protect fish, more clarity on how antidegradation provisions in the current standards should be implemented, changes to bacteria standards to better protect public health and reformatting the standards to allow for more tailoring of the standards in the future. Materials on these changes can be found at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/swqs/index.html>

Eight workshops and hearings are scheduled around the state beginning Monday, January 27 through Thursday, February 6, 2003. All workshops begin at 6:00 p.m. and the public hearings begin at 8:00

Public Health and Human Services

Association of County Human Services (ACHS) Holds Its Bi-monthly Meeting in Olympia

Continuing the tradition of meeting in Olympia in January, ACHS will be holding its meeting on January 15 – 17 at the Ameritel Motel in Olympia. The customary rotation has now occurred and Mental Health will be meeting on Wednesdays, Chemical Dependency on Thursdays and Developmental Disabilities on Fridays.

On January 15 the Mental Health Section will begin the day at 9 AM and run until 4 PM. They will be discussing the results of the adult consumer satisfaction survey with Dennis McBride from the Mental Illness Research Institute out of Western State Hospital in the morning. This survey is one of the components of the outcome measurements mandated by the legislature and the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee in recent years. This will be followed by updates on the recent mental health summit attended by the Division, the RSNs, NAMI, and the Council representatives at which some common goals were reached concerning the upcoming session. There will also be

coverage of other legislative issues such as the RSN reserves and the Governor's 2003 – 2005 budget. In the afternoon, the Mental Health Division will join the section.

On Thursday, the Chemical Dependency Section will meet from 9 – 4. The morning will include the county roundtable discussion and work group reports from sentencing reform, the legislative committee, the prevention committee, and the Economic Services Advisory Board. The afternoon will include an update on the work done by the cross-systems crisis response group and the usual central office update including any legislative news. Thursday will also include the ACHS Business Meeting from 11:30 – 12:00. Sherri McDonald, Director, Thurston County Public Health and Social Services will be the special guest and discuss emergency preparedness connections. There will be a cross-systems update, and confirmation of the annual legislative conference calls with DSHS and WSAC.

On Friday, the Developmental Disabilities Section will meet from 9 – 4. Hot on the agenda is a discussion of the draft legislation from the Aging and Disabilities Services Administration rewriting RCW 71A, Services to Persons with Develop-

mental Disabilities as well as the implementation of a Section legislative committee, the CAC report, and an update on the ARC lawsuit. At lunch, the Section will be joined by representatives of the Parent Coalitions (lunch will be brought in). In the afternoon, the DDD headquarters staff will join the group and cover the Governor's budget, SSP, and Community Markers.

ACHS wants to thank Thurston County and especially Donna Bosworth and her staff, Tina Gehrig, for their help in organizing the January meeting in Olympia.

WSAC wants to take this opportunity to encourage ACHS members to make appointments with their legislators and go and visit them. They are always receptive to people from home and no one but you can tell the stories of why the services you provide are important like you, the ones who administer and provide these services.

General Government and Miscellaneous

WACO Board Vacancy Filled

The WACO Board of Trustees has appointed Skamania County Clerk Rena Hollis to the Board to fill the unexpired term of former Lincoln County Clerk Joyce Denison, who left office the end of December. Rena will serve as the trustee-at-large representing counties with populations of less than 12,000. Rena has served as Skamania County Clerk since 1986 and prior to that worked for the Skamania County Superior/Juvenile Court for over 10 years. She is currently president of the Washington State Association of County Clerks. Welcome aboard Rena!

NACo Achievement Awards

The beginning of 2003 marks Achievement Awards season!!! The National Association of Counties (NACo) encourages you to submit your county's Best Practices for 2002, especially in the field of Community and Economic Development.

Visit the NACo Website for a copy of the 2003 Application form, or if you are reading this online, you'll find the link at: [2003 Application Form](#) (pdf)

Begun in 1970, the annual Achievement Award Program is a non-competitive awards program which seeks to recognize innovative county government programs called [County Model Programs](#). Created as a part of NACo's New County, USA cam-

paign, the Achievement Award Program continues to embody the grassroots and local government energy the program was designed to promote. The main emphasis of the New County, USA campaign was to modernize and streamline county government and to increase its services to its citizens; goals that are still the main emphasis of the Achievement Award Program today.

County governments across the country, working alone and in cooperation with other governments at the municipal, state and national levels, continue to develop innovative and successful programs in a wide range of service areas, including arts and historic preservation, children and youth, community and economic develop-

ment, corrections, county administration, emergency management, environmental protection, health, human services, libraries, parks and recreation, transportation, volunteers and much more. The Achievement Awards Program gives national recognition to county accomplishments, and has enabled NACo to build a storehouse of county success stories that can be passed on to other counties.

Applications for this award program are due back in the first week of February.

Good Things

Progress in Farm Worker Housing Noted in the Press

Although not called out by name, the work done by WSAC's Jim Potts in Eastern Washington in improving the status of farm worker housing was publicized twice recently as both a news article and editorial covered the work done at Monitor Park in Chelan county. The Seattle Times noted in its editorial from January 5 that "state investments in temporary housing for migrant farmworkers who harvest Washington's signature crops are a successful work in progress."

The state-funded camp near Monitor in Chelan County provided safe, clean shelter for nearly 10,000 workers from

June to early November. The camps stayed open beyond the three-week cherry harvest this year and provided housing into the fall apple season. While occupancy tapered off, officials shouldn't be discouraged. Having the camps open into apple and pear season is a service to both workers and growers and helps amortize the costs.

In past years, the Times noted, thousands of farmworkers lived in squalid conditions along river banks and into the bushes during the intense cherry harvest. One of the answers has been the creation of state-subsidized labor camps with modular bunkhouses and walled tents with wooden floors. There is a five-year contract with Chelan County to lease the park

site next year and pay operating expenses and maintenance. Chelan County Commissioner Ron Walter noted the length of the contract will allow for capital improvements at the site.

The continued assistance of folks like Jim Potts and Ray Price, Assistant Director for Housing at the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development is integral to the successes the state has had in improving the status of migrant housing. We look forward to the improvements the new year will bring as they continue their good work.

Courthouse Ramblings

The new (acting) Superintendent of Elections in King County is **Julie Moore**.

There will be a retirement dinner for newly retired Clark County Assessor **Ben Gassaway** on Friday, January 24, at 7:00 p.m. at

the Water Resource Center, 4600 SE Columbia Way, in Vancouver. Cost is \$16 per person. Please RSVP by January 15 to: Assessor's Office, Attn: Barbara George, P.O. Box 5000, Vancouver, WA 98666, or call (360) 397-2391. Ben retired the end of

December after 25 years in office. Many congratulations to him and wishes for a very happy retirement!

Upcoming Events and Training

Economic Development Leadership Training

The Washington Economic Development Association (WEDA) is offering an Economic Development Leadership Training for newly elected officials, board members, and community stakeholders. WEDA has scheduled this highly-recommended training for Wednesday February 12, 2003 in conjunction with the WSAC Legislative Rally the following day.

The Economic Development Leadership Training will take place at the Governor's House Ramada Inn. Participants will:

- Learn how to provide leadership in their community that makes for a strong economy.
- Comprehend basic principles and strategies of economic development.
- Network with colleagues from throughout the state.
- Understand how the current economy will affect community strategies.

Guest speakers include Martha Choe, Director of the Washington State Office of

Trade & Economic Development; Gary Smith, Economist, Washington State University; Maury Forman, Trainer, Washington State Office of Trade & Economic Development.

Cost is \$60 for members and \$75 for non-members. Registration includes lunch and a copy of "Learning to Lead: A Primer on Economic Development Strategies". New members of WEDA get a discount. Register by calling WEDA at 509-777-0525. Additional information on this training can be found on the WEDA website at www.wedaonline.org

Mark the Dates: Puget Sound-Georgia Basin Research Conference

Scientists from universities, government agencies, tribes and consulting firms; managers and decision-makers from natural resource agencies; students; and citizens will learn and share at the **2003 Georgia Basin/Puget Sound Research Conference, in Vancouver, British Columbia,**

from Monday, March 31, through Thursday, April 3, 2003. The Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team, Canada's Georgia Basin Ecosystem Initiative Partners and numerous partner organizations are sponsoring the international research conference, which is expected to draw 800 participants to learn about emerging, new and on-going efforts to help ensure the sustainability of the Georgia Basin/Puget Sound ecosystem. The forum will build upon the successes of the five previous Puget Sound research conferences, as well as the significant trans-boundary work in the British Columbia and Washington and U.S. organizations.

To register for the conference and get more information, visit: http://www.wa.gov/puget_sound/Publications/2003research/RC2003.htm

January County Calendar

1 Terms begin for elected officials, partisan and nonpartisan, elected to office in the preceding November. RCW 29.04.170, RCW 36.16.020. District Court judges, however, take office the second Monday in January as stipulated in RCW 3.34.070.

1 On or before this date, the county assessor shall mail a personal property listing form to those persons liable to the assessment of personal property. RCW 84.40.040

1 Property shall be subject to taxation at 12 noon at the values as of this date. RCW 84.36.005, 84.04.020

6 The county treasurer shall establish tax rolls of the county as certified by the county assessor for such assessment year, and said rolls shall be preserved as a public record in the office of the county treasurer. The rolls shall be full and sufficient authority for the county treasurer to receive and collect all taxes levied. RCW 84.56.010

15 The county assessor to deliver tax rolls to the county treasurer by this date. RCW 84.52.080(4)

15 The county assessor shall transmit to the State Auditor a complete abstract of the tax rolls. RCW 84.48.050

20 Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday observed – Legal Holiday. RCW 1.16.050

31 Last day for county assessor to send senior citi-

zens/disabled persons, who were granted deferral of ad valorem taxes or special assessments for the previous year, renewal forms and notice to renew. RCW 84.38.050

31 Last day for county auditor to provide the Secretary of State a duplicate tape or data file for the records of the registered voters in that county. RCW 29.04.150

31 By this date, the county commissioners are to sign a resolution establishing the county prosecuting attorney's salary, and then have the resolution and a copy of the budget page showing such salary certified by the county auditor and sent to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer is to remit to each county one-half of the prosecuting attorney's salary, which is paid by the state in accordance with RCW 36.17.020, which provides for increase or decrease of county officials' salaries.

31 By this date, each county auditor shall forward to the State Auditor information concerning each special purpose district, located wholly or partially within the county that has been dissolved during the preceding year. The county auditor shall also forward to the State Auditor a summation of information gathered from special purpose districts relating to their descriptions and functions. RCW 36.96.090(2)

Calendar of Events

2003 MEETINGS

January 13
Legislative Session Begins

January 15-17
Association of County Human Services meeting, Olympia

January 27-28
County Treasurers' Legislative Meeting, Washington County Building, Olympia

January 29-30
County Auditors' Legislative Meeting, Washington County Building, Olympia

February 4-6
County Assessors' Legislative Meeting, Washington County Building, Olympia

February 13
WSAC Legislative Rally, Luncheon and Reception, Olympia

February 24 – 26
County Auditors Recording Conference Sun Mountain Lodge, Winthrop

February 28 – March 4
NACo Legislative Conference, Washington, DC

March 19-21
Association of County Human Services meeting, SeaTac

April 3 – 4
WSAC Western District Meeting, West-Coast Hotel, Olympia

April 6-12
National Counties Government Week

April 23-25
WAPA Spring Training Program, Tumwater

April 10-11
WSAC Eastern District Meeting, Quality Inn, Clarkston

May 1
L & I Retrospective Rating Meeting, Best Inn R&R, Ellensburg

May 5-8
County Auditors' Elections Conference Yakima

May 14-16
WAPA Support Staff Training Program, Sun Mountain

May 19–22
WASPC Spring Conference, WestCoast Grand Hotel, Spokane

May 21-23
Association of County Human Services meeting, Tri-Cities

May 29-30
WAPA District Court Training Program, SeaTac

June 10-12
Washington State Association of County Auditors' Annual Conference, Sun Mountain Lodge, Winthrop

June 16-18
Washington State Association of County Assessors Conference, Okanogan

June 16-20
Washington State Association of County Treasurers' Annual Conference, Davenport Hotel, Spokane

June 18-20
WAPA Summer Conference, Chelan

June 23-27
Washington State Association of County Clerks' Annual Conference, Silverdale Hotel, Silverdale

June 24–27
WSAC Summer Convention, Spokane

July 11–15
NACo Annual Conference, Milwaukee County, Milwaukee, WI

July 16-18
Association of County Human Services meeting, Vancouver

September 3-5
WAPA Special Assault Training Program, Leavenworth

September 7-9
WAPA Juvenile Training Program Leavenworth

September 17-19
Association of County Human Services meeting, Moses Lake

September 29–October 3
WACO/WSAC Joint Conference, SeaTac

November 17–20
WASPC Fall Conference, Campbell's Resort, Chelan

November 19-21
Association of County Human Services meeting, Seattle

2004 MEETINGS

April 21-23
WAPA Spring Training Program, Spokane

May 12-14
WAPA Support Staff Training Program, Chelan

May 24–27
WASPC Spring Conference, Yakima Convention Center, Yakima

June (Date TBD)
National Sheriffs' Association meeting, Seattle

June 22–25
WSAC Summer Convention, Sheraton Tacoma, Pierce County

June 23-25
WAPA Summer Conference, Chelan

July 16–20
NACo Annual Conference Maricopa County, Phoenix, AZ

October 4–8
WACO/WSAC Joint Conference, Spokane

November 15-18
WASPC Fall Conference, Shilo Inn, Ocean Shores

2005 MEETINGS

May 11-13
WAPA Support Staff Training Program, Spokane

May 23–26
WASPC Spring Conference, West Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel, Wenatchee

June 13-16
WSAC Summer Convention, Kennewick

June 22-24
WAPA Summer Conference, Chelan

July 15–19
NACo Annual Conference, City & County of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI

October 3-7
WACO/WSAC Joint Conference, Ocean Shores

Employment Opportunities

In our effort to hold down costs and save timber, we are asking for your help. You may submit a job opening to us for publication in the CHJ using MS Word. When submitting an article for the Courthouse Journal's Employment Opportunities section we ask that you use the following format and thank you for your help.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ⇒ County or Agency Name | ⇒ Application requirements
(Resume, Cover Letter, Application, Etc.) |
| ⇒ Position Title | |
| ⇒ Compensation – Salary/Hourly and Amount | ⇒ Where to submit application |
| ⇒ Brief description of duties & responsibilities (4-6 lines) | ⇒ Application submission deadline |
| ⇒ Minimum requirements (2-3 lines) | ⇒ Where to get more information (Web page, phone, etc) |

WALLA WALLA COUNTY: Department of Human Services County Designated Mental Health Professional (CDMHP, RCW 71.05/71.34). Salary negotiable. Walla Walla County is located in the heart of farm and wine country in the Southeastern corner of the state. Walla Walla, which is the county seat, has a population of approximately 30,000, is home to three colleges, and has been listed as one of the best 100 small towns in which to live. Essential duties include: Being an integral member of the Crisis Response Team; perform and/or coordinate crisis intervention, crisis stabilization, and emergency or intensive case management; perform assessments; provide crisis services; function as a CDMHP in regards to Washington State Involuntary Commitment laws; coordinate treatment process and other tasks as assigned. Minimum requirements: Qualifications normally associated with one who holds a Masters level degree in mental health or related field of study and min. 5 yrs experience in mental health/closely related field. Bi-lingual Spanish skills preferred. Application: Contact the Personnel Manager at (509) 527-3200. Visit our web site at www.co.walla-walla.wa.us This position is open until filled. AA/EOE

PIERCE COUNTY: Civil Engineer 1, Program Development Division (Job #2610), \$47,424 - \$60,257 Annually (2002 Rates). Closes: January 31, 2003. Public Works & Utilities Department. Perform entry level civil engineering in the areas of program and project development, project scoping, cost estimating, assist with Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan and Ferry Improvement Program, assist in grant development and administration, support development of a county-wide impact fee system, and perform routine transportation and related public works projects, utilizes computer programs, engineering plans, reports, studies, and related documents. Re-

quires a four year degree with major course work in civil engineering or closely related field or registration as an Engineering-In-Training with the State of Washington or four years of progressive responsible and broad based engineering experience. Must be able to meet the travel requirements. Union membership is required within 30 days of employment. Physical examination may be required prior to appointment. Pierce County Personnel Dept., www.co.pierce.wa.us/jobs, or (253)798-7480 or TDD (253)798-3965. EOE

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY: Communications Supervisor, \$3,437 - \$4,248 Responsible for technical oversight, preventive maintenance, long term planning of upgrades, implementation, evaluation, and budgeting of the County's radio, video, intercom, fiber and microwave systems. This is an exempt position. A complete job description, list of qualifications and applications are available at the Public Services Department, 100 W. Broadway Suite 31, Montesano, WA 98563 (360) 249-4222 Ext. 415 or you can download off the website at www.co.grays-harbor.wa.us. Open Until Filled. EOE

YAKIMA COUNTY: Assistant County Treasurer is currently recruiting for highly-skilled professional manager for this appointed position. For recruitment brochure, please contact Ilene Thomson, Yakima County Treasurer-Elect at P.O. Box 22530, Yakima, WA 98907-2530 or by phone at 509-574-2804.

STEVENS COUNTY: Planning Director full time position with benefits. Salary Range: \$38,000 to \$48,000/year. Job description and application available from the Stevens County Commissioners' Office, 215 S. Oak, #214, Colville, WA 99114. Phone (509) 684-3751. Position will remain open until filled. Applications are also

available at www.co.stevens.wa.us. Stevens County is a Drug Free Workplace and an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WHATCOM COUNTY,: Environmental Health Specialist I or II, DOQ, Health Department. Salary Range: EHS I \$16.84-\$18.54/hr., DOQ and EHS II: \$18.37-\$20.21/hr., DOQ. Requires a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Health. EHS II requires 2 yrs. of current experience and registration as a Sanitarian or EHS. Whatcom County offers excellent employer-paid medical, dental & vision benefits for employee and family. Generous vacation & sick leave package, average 12 holidays/yr., and WA State Retirement system (PERS). Optional deferred compensation plans & Flex 125 available. Application deadline: January 15, 2003. For more details & to request required application packet contact Whatcom County Human Resources, Bellingham, WA, (360) 676-6802 or visit www.co.whatcom.wa.us. Equal Opportunity Employer.

LEWIS COUNTY: Labor Relations Officer – Salary: \$51,710-\$60,074 annually. Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Public Administration, Psychology or a closely related field. Four years of progressively responsible labor relations experience in the public sector or a combination of education and/or experience. Application Requirements: Lewis County Employment Application, Authorization to Release Information, resumé and cover letter. Where to Submit: Lewis County Administration Office, 351 NW North Street, Chehalis, WA 98532. Applications must be received by January 20, 2003 at 5 p.m. Other Information: Telephone (360) 740-1419, TDD (360) 740-1480. Job description and application packet available at www.co.lewis.wa.us. Application packets may also be requested

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by calling (360) 740-1419, (360) 740-1480 TYY or email klduffey@co.lewis.wa.us.

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & PERMITS CENTER, SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON: Salary - \$5,753.74 to \$6,163.72 per month. Directs the administration of the Planning & Permit Center (Department) and is accountable for the efficient and effective performance of the Department, as well as the preparation of timely and professional service advice, analyses and reports as a basis for planning, funding and implementation of policy.

Requires a B.A. or B.S. degree (Master's degree preferred) in planning, natural resources, engineering, public administration, business, or a related field, and six years of progressively responsible related experience including three years of management/supervisory experience, or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience that provides the required skills, knowledge and abilities. Preference given to those with AICP certification. Prior experience in growth management, planning, and/or in the administration of land use and building codes is required. Must have a driving record that meets County standards and possess a valid driver's license at time of hire and through employment. Submit a letter of interest, resume & completed application to Skagit County Personnel Dept., 700 S. 2nd St., Mt. Vernon, WA 98273. The application form may be obtained at our website www.skagitcounty.net or by calling the Job Line at 1-800-548-7957. Application deadline is 4:30 pm on Friday, January 31, 2003.

BENTON COUNTY ASSESSORS'

OFFICE: Residential Appraiser (\$2,339 - \$2,386 as trainee position/ \$2,706 - \$2,957 if currently accredited by Dept. of Revenue). Measures, grades and verifies the condition of existing structures and new construction through field inspections. Researches, collects, updates and analyzes local market and field data such as comparable sales and construction costs to determine fair market value. Applies property trending techniques and depreciation tables to compute values. Develops spreadsheets and utilizes computer as necessary. Reads and understands Assessor's maps. Respond to citizen inquires regarding assessments and reassessments. Provides information regarding appraisal techniques and

methods. Defends valuations before the local Board of Equalization and/or State board. Assists where necessary and performs other related duties as required. High school diploma or G.E.D. with additional course work in real estate appraisal and two years appraisal experience; or any combination of education and experience which would provide the applicant with the desired skills, knowledge and ability required to perform the job. Will be required to meet accreditation guidelines set by the Department of Revenue within one year of employment in addition to course requirements set forth by Assessor. Candidate must possess/obtain a valid Drivers' License with a good driving record and maintain such. Selection based on qualifications, background check, oral interview and testing at management's discretion. Contact the Personnel Resources Department at (509) 737-2777 or (509) 786-5626 for application packet. Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. January 16, 2003. Mail to Benton County Personnel Resources, 7320 W. Quinault, Kennewick, WA 99336. Visit Benton County's website at www.co.benton.wa.us.

CITY OF MERCER: Department: Parks and Recreation - Salary: \$58,000-\$60,000 annually, depending on experience. General Responsibilities: The Parks Maintenance Manager is responsible for coordinating the operation of the Parks Maintenance Team within the Parks and Recreation Department to ensure maximum involvement and contribution from team members. This position manages 6 regular full-time union employees and up to 20 seasonal workers. The Parks Maintenance Manager is responsible for managing all maintenance activities in Mercer Island's 400-acre park system. This includes planning, organizing and coordinating the maintenance of City parks, athletic fields, park buildings, the I-90 facility, and landscaped or undeveloped open space areas. May also manage capital improvement projects related to parks.

This position reports to the Park and Recreation Manager and works in a management team along with the Director, Park and Recreation Manager, Recreation Supervisor, Special Events Coordinator, and Projects Administrator. This position is responsible for developing and managing an annual budget of over \$1 million dollars. Must be able to work cooperatively with

other departments, citizens, regional groups, and the City Council. Must have excellent communication and managerial skills and be willing to handle tough personnel issues in a union environment. Knowledge of recreation programming is desirable. Work on weekends, evenings and holidays including irregular hours or shifts may be required and subject to seasonal variations. Attendance at evening and weekend meetings is required. To Apply: submit a cover letter, resume, supplemental questionnaire, and City of Mercer Island Application Form, available at City Hall or on-line at www.ci.mercer-island.wa.us. If you would like a packet mailed to you, please call the 24-hour response line at (206) 236-3469 and a packet will be mailed to you as soon as possible. Submit completed application materials to City of Mercer Island, ATTN: Human Resources, #03-02; 9611 SE 36th Street; Mercer Island, WA 98040-3732. Application deadline is Tuesday, January 28, 2003 at 5:00pm.

CITY OF MERCER: Position: 4 -5 Seasonal Park Maintenance Workers - Parks/Landscape (Working full-time - February 3rd through October 31st, 2003). Work Shifts: Varied work shifts are required including weekends and evenings depending on the position. Salary: \$12.00 - \$15.00 per hour, depending on experience. General Responsibilities: to provide assistance in maintaining and repairing City parks, sport fields, landscapes, trails, planter beds and natural areas in order to ensure safety, cleanliness and aesthetic appeal, as well as to meet customer needs and standards.

Essential Job Functions:

- Perform restroom cleaning, litter control, and park inspection activities.
- Perform mowing, edging and weeding in parks, street ends and other City properties to maintain safe and aesthetic appearance of City assets.
- Identify and refer vandalism and needed repairs discovered in parks and street ends to parks staff.
- Maintain, trim and remove fallen or diseased trees and brush in City parks, rights of ways, trails and natural areas for safety and aesthetic purposes.
- Visually inspect trails and perform routine maintenance including brushing, grooming and laying gravel and build-

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

- ing and repairing steps.
- Prepare and maintain soccer, softball and football fields. Duties include dragging infields, watering, raking, setting bases and painting/chalking lines.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

To Apply:

To apply for this position, submit a cover letter, resume, supplemental questionnaire, and City of Mercer Island Application Form, available at City Hall or on-line at www.ci.mercer-island.wa.us. If you would like a packet mailed to you, please call the 24-hour response line at (206) 236-3469 and a packet will be mailed to you as soon as possible. Submit completed application materials to City of Mercer Island, ATTN: Human Resources, #03-02; 9611 SE 36th Street; Mercer Island, WA 98040-3732. Application deadline is Tuesday, January 28, 2003 at 5:00pm.

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

DEPARTMENT: Assistant Commissioner, Administrative Services ESS170 - The Washington State Employment Security Department (ESD) seeking an energetic, dynamic and innovative leader for Assistant Commissioner, Administrative Services. The Assistant Commissioner leads and directs a wide variety of core infrastructure functions in support of the agency's mission and vision. Applicants are encouraged to learn more about the Employment Security Department by visiting the ESD website at www.wa.gov/esd/. Overview: ESD is the state's largest employment agency, matching a person with a job every 90 seconds of every business day. Last year, ESD assisted nearly a quarter of a million unemployed people in Washington state by providing payments while they looked for new work. ESD has approximately 2,700 employees and an operating budget of \$258 million annually. ESD also administers the \$1.4 billion unemployment

insurance trust fund. Role: The Assistant Commissioner reports directly to the Commissioner and is responsible for directing core infrastructure and administrative functions provided by the Administrative Services Division, which employs approximately 130 staff and has an annual budget of \$7.7 million. Successful Candidate Profile: Expertise in all aspects of large-agency resource management including budgeting, fiscal and internal control principles; human resources management and contract administration; knowledge of office services including facilities management, procurement and inventory, mail services, duplicating and records management, safety and risk management, and fleet management; knowledge of and ability to measure and manage organizational performance, organizational development and change management; ability to lead and motivate peers and staff, with capacity to balance management and employee perspectives; ability to establish and enhance collaborative working relationships with a wide variety of internal and external stakeholders; excellent and persuasive oral and written communication skills with strong ability to negotiate and build consensus. Expertise in principles and tools of strategic and annual business planning. Ability to provide leadership to agency-wide business planning processes, accountability, feedback, and performance monitoring.

Knowledge of principles of organizational quality and continuous improvement. Ability to build business planning and measurement processes on quality principles. Ability to understand and integrate the role of technology in moving agency business forward and delivering customer services. Ability to promote proactive leadership of the mission, vision, values and strategic plans of the Department. Strong commitment to customer service and the philosophy and mission of ESD. Salary: \$78,880 – \$87,228. To Apply: Individuals interested in this position may apply by submitting a current chronological resume that includes

employment history and education. The resume should clearly address most of the elements mentioned in the Successful Candidate Profile section of this announcement. Only qualified individuals will be considered. Applicants of interest will be personally contacted by the recruiter for further and more detailed information. Resumes, in MS Word or text format, should be sent electronically to: Executive Search Services - ESS170 Click Here To Apply or if link is not working applications may be submitted at the ESS URL: <http://hr.dop.wa.gov/ess/> (click into "Positions Available")

Resumes must be received no later than January 24, 2003. Candidate evaluation will be ongoing, and it will be to the applicant's advantage to submit materials as soon as possible. The State of Washington actively supports diversity in the workplace and is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants wishing assistance or alternative formats in the process should contact Linda Riggie at (360) 664-1951, E-mail: lindar@dop.wa.gov, or TDD at (360) 664-6211.

News Clippings

Tuesday, December 31, 2002

Migrant Housing Project Gets High Marks

Chelan County Camp Gave Workers Shelter, Clean Water and Restrooms

By [Chris McGann](#)

Seattle Post-Intelligencer Reporter

The state's latest effort to subsidize safe temporary housing for migrant farm workers appears to be working in Chelan County, where money spent on better accommodations is also helping a riverside park.

The Temporary Farm Worker Housing Project at Monitor Park -- which provided shelter, clean water and bathroom facilities for about 10,000 migrant workers between June and November -- cost \$183,000 -- \$53,000 less than budgeted, according to a report issued this month.

That's a state subsidy of about \$18 for every night a worker or family member stays at the camp.

The remaining \$314,000 spent on the camp went into building new facilities, including a new septic and electrical system. That new construction will help Chelan County to keep open the Wenatchee River Park, a day-use picnic area and river access that had fallen into disrepair, officials said yesterday.

Chelan County Commissioner Ron Walter said he had hoped the camp during pear and apple season would have attracted more campers, but said he expects more workers as news of the camp spreads. But opening longer this year was worthwhile, he said.

"It provides safe, clean housing for the farm workers, and it helps provide a stable work force for the agricultural industry. Those are good things," Walter said.

"That benefits the whole state. Historically, when the state has been in depression, agricultural has led the way to recovery."

And in the long run, the state will save money on sewage hauling, thanks to the new treatment facilities. In the past, many orchard owners allowed the seasonal workers to camp on their property and provided water, toilets and other facilities.

But in 1999, the federal Occupational Safety & Health Administration stepped in and said tents used by farm workers did not meet federal standards, said Kirk Mayer, chairman of the Washington Grow-

ers Clearing House.

The federal government disallowed camping in orchards unless the housing meets code, essentially forcing 2,000 workers to find other accommodations because farmers could not afford upgrades, Mayer said.

Workers started camping on Public Utilities District, Forest Service and county property that had no services -- no toilets, showers or clean water, Mayer said. Federal and state campgrounds are restrictive because of rules barring longer stays and higher costs.

The camp's daily population peaked at 320 during the three busiest weeks of cherry harvest, camp manager Donn Etherington said. During the summer pear harvest, the population dipped to about 20 per day and then jumped to between 50 and 60 a day during the fall apple harvest.

"In terms of purely the economic value, one would have to question the costs of the camp," Etherington said in his report to the Chelan commissioners.

Between harvests, the number of workers staying at the camp hovered between 15 and 20, and sometimes less. "But it was a needed service that was provided by the state. Arguably, even at its lowest numbers, those 15 people needed a place to live. From the perspective of providing a service, it was positive," Etherington said.

Mayer said the Monitor camp is good for the workers because it provides needed services at a reasonable cost; it is centrally located, and it provides 24-hour security with a manager onsite.

In addition, housing workers at a central location allows day care and other services to set up nearby. The state could avoid almost all camp operating costs by providing grants to farmers who would build their own, in line with federal standards, Mayer said, adding that the project was still well worth the cost.

"It's considerably cheaper, compared to what a housing authority facility would cost," he said. "We supported this project because there was a shortage of temporary housing."

P-I reporter Chris McGann can be reached at 206-448-8169 or chrismcgann@seattlepi.com. This report includes information from The Associated Press.

Court OK's Recreation on Disputed Lots

December 31, 2002

by [Chris Winters](#), Journal Reporter

REDMOND -- Soccer fields or parks can be put on two parcels of contested land under a ruling Monday by the state Court of Appeals. Judge Glenna Hall ruled in favor of the city of Redmond and Lake Washington Youth Soccer Association in a case that stretches back to 1995 through many twists and reversals.

At issue is the city-owned 32-acre Benaroya property and the 37-acre Muller farm, which is now owned by the soccer association. Both are within Redmond city limits north of Northeast 116th Street. The case has pitted former Redmond City Councilman Richard Grubb against the city.

Grubb, who favors preserving farmland, had sued to reverse the city's decision in 1999 to permanently zone the parcels for urban recreational use.

Grubb was seeking to have the land revert back to agricultural zoning because he said the city's actions were not in compliance with the Growth Management Act.

The Growth Management Board agreed, but the city and the soccer association appealed the case to the Superior Court -- which upheld the Growth Management Board last May.

Less than two weeks later, the City Council rezoned the land for agricultural purposes in order to avoid sanctions by the state. The city then appealed the court's decision to the Appeals Court.

Monday's decision by that court reversed the board's ruling, saying in effect that due to the same procedural errors the city made when it first zoned the land agricultural in 1995, that original designation was invalid. Therefore the land can't be turned back into something that it never was.

The Appeals Court also remanded any further litigation back to the Growth Management Board.