

the Courthouse Journal

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*Washington Association of County Officials
Washington State Association of Counties*

**May 9, 2003
Issue No. 18**

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Budget and Finance Struggle Continues

During the legislative adjournment, budget conferees have continued to meet. Negotiators are Senators Rossi, Zarelli and Fairley and Representatives Sommers, Fromhold and Sehlin. As we reported last week, a number of local government issues are in dispute between the two chambers. The most significant dispute is over Public Health funding. The Senate provides two years of funding and the House provides only one year. The chambers are in agreement about the level of backfill funding for counties and cities. Unfortunately, the agreed upon level is not adequate. County officials need to continue educating legislators about the need to fix

both the Public Health and backfill problems. The full Legislature will return on May 12. Rumors persist that the House Republicans have enough votes from Democrats in the House to pass the Senate version of the budget. So far, the House Democrats have been able to hold their members. This week, however, the rumors were reinforced by the Senate's decision to announce that they would go into rolling recess when members returned. Republican Senators were saying they had no reason to negotiate because they "have the votes".

WSAC Offers On-line Registration for June Conference

The WSAC Annual Convention will be held in Spokane Valley from June 24 to 27. This year's conference theme is Fiscal Reality and the Future of Government. We will focus on the best ideas that counties around the state are using to balance their budgets. Your attendance at this year's conference will pay off back at the courthouse. WSAC is trying to improve its efficiency and customer service too. This year we are offering several ways to register:

1. **on-line with a credit card** - just go to our website <http://www.wacounties.org/wsac/index.htm> and click on the link for on-line conference registration,
2. **on line with a check** – just go to our website, click on on-line registration and send the confirmation you get at the end of the on-line registration to us with your check (this way you get instant confirmation),
3. **by mail** - register by using the form we mailed out (there is a copy on our website if you lost it) and mail it to us with a check, purchase order or warrant,
4. **FAX** – just fax us the registration and payment can follow

If you none of the above work for you (you hate the internet, lost the form, forgot Administrative Professional's day or you just love talking to the helpful folks at our front desk) call Barbara or Ginni at WSAC (360-753-1886) and they will get you a registration form. We

Read more about the WSAC Summer Convention on Page 2

Fall, 2006 Conference Bids Being Accepted – Eastside

WACO and WSAC are looking for a location on the east side of the state for the Annual WACO/WSAC Joint Conference in the fall of 2006. If you are interested in bringing the conference to your county, please submit a letter to the associations signed by members of both WSAC and WACO. The date needs to be as close to the first week of October,

as possible – Monday to Friday.

Conference location requirements are:

- 300 sleeping rooms (If hotel does not have 300 rooms available, **one** other nearby hotel will work)
- 11 meeting rooms, minimum; capacity 25 to 350
- Exhibit Hall for up to 50 vendors

Please check with Christina Bridston at WACO if you have questions about location suitability.

Please note that a bid from your county in no way obligates the county officials to plan the conference. All planning and details are handled by staff.

we hope that Secretary Thompson will share his views on the future of government, particularly the provision of health and human services programs and benefits at the federal level.

The annual barbecue will take place Thursday evening out at the Rockin B Ranch – great grub and Hollywood-calibre old West entertainment.

Finally, as part of our continuing commitment to member education, two CPO training sessions are being offered: an all-day Financial Management workshop on Tuesday preceding the Convention and Thursday's budgeting session mentioned above. Although a separate fee is charged for Tuesday's workshop, it will be well worth attending, especially for newer county officials and staff.

As stated on page one you can now register on-line for the first time.

Don't miss the 2003 WSAC Summer Convention in Spokane County!

The Courthouse Journal

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

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WSAC Summer Convention Update

With the incredible challenges our State and local governments continue to face, the 97th Annual WSAC Summer Convention will again focus on intergovernmental cooperation, and how to more effectively and collaboratively use our limited resources. This convention will have budget and organizational value for each and every county in the state!

Governor Locke joins us on Wednesday, June 25 to share his priorities for state government and then discuss with us the fiscal problems shared by counties and the state. Peter Hutchinson, who spoke at our convention last year and helped to design Governor Locke's 2003-05 budget proposal, will again focus our discussion on setting local priorities of government. Carl Neu, of the Center for the Future of Local Governance will share perspectives on strategic leadership.

Each WSAC affiliate also will share with us their success stories about how necessary services are provided to the public at a lower cost, or how better services are being provided within existing fiscal constraints. County engineers, human services, planning, emergency management, parks, local public health and county administrators all will share the stage at this Convention.

In addition, Commissioner of Public Lands Doug Sutherland will be joining us to provide his perspective on how these tough economic times are affecting state natural resources management – and what he plans to do about it. And, we have invited Secretary of Health and Human Resources Tommy G. Thompson from the Bush Administration. An early innovator in restructuring state services and benefits,

Beyond the Budget

While the budgeters met, other legislators continued to discuss various ideas to provide funding to counties and cities. Local options continue to be on the table, as well as various statewide “sin” related revenues. The good news continues to be that a significant number of members of both parties and both chambers continue to make local government a priority. The bad news is that we do not yet have funding bills on the Governor’s desk. Legislators need to continue to hear from you about the need to help all counties. That means local options for some and state revenues for others – but something for every county in the state.

Sales Tax Streamlining Bill on Governor’s Desk

SB 5783, implementing the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement recently passed the House (yeas, 83; nays, 14; absent, 0; excused, 1) and the Senate (yeas, 47; nays, 1; absent, 0; excused, 1).

As we reported during the session, **SB 5783** does not include the needed sourcing provision to bring Washington into compliance with the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement. A number of cities with high per capita sales tax revenue objected to the sourcing provisions. These provisions impose the sales tax at the rate of the jurisdiction in which the buyer takes delivery of the item. Most observers feel that this feature of the interstate agreement would result in increased sales tax receipts for most counties, even if currently exempt internet and catalogue sales are not taxed. The bill directs the Department of Revenue to conduct a study of the fiscal impact of implementing the sourcing provision. Those results are to be reported to the Legislature by December 1, 2003.

Indigent Defense Issues Gain Attention

Recent events near and far may help focus ongoing concerns about how best to ensure – and pay for -- quality legal representation for criminal defendants who are too poor to hire their own attorneys. The 1963 U.S. Supreme Court opinion in *Gideon v. Wainwright* guarantees legal counsel for indigent defendants facing felony charges.

Trial-level indigent defense has long been a serious issue for WSAC members, who reported spending nearly \$65 million to provide these services in 2001.

Close to home, following widespread complaints against counties and the lawyers they contract with to provide public defense services, the Washington State Bar Association has appointed a task force to review existing standards and practices statewide. The task force is scheduled to recommend improvements to the Bar's Board of Governors in December. Counties, through WSAC and WAPA, have two positions on the task force, which will hold its first meeting May 29.

In another development across the country, Quitman County, Mississippi is waiting for a ruling in its lawsuit that argued the state has a duty to help fund defense attorneys and ensure minimum performance standards for public defense. Public interest groups are moving away from futile post-conviction challenges based on claims of ineffective assistance of counsel, and are bringing systemic challenges arguing that states are violating the constitutional right to counsel by failing to properly regulate public defender caseloads and ensure adequate funding to support the services. Quitman is among the most ambitious of these cases and is being watched for its possible impact on similarly overburdened counties around the U.S.

Mississippi and Washington are two of only 11 states that rely exclusively on county resources for indigent defense.

Emergency Management Council Continues Local Assessment Task Force

The state Emergency Management Council (EMC) voted at its May meeting to continue a task force that is assessing local emergency management efforts.

The EMC, chaired by former Chelan County Commissioner Tom Green, formed the Task Force on Local Program Assessment to review local governments' ability to provide for comprehensive emergency management.

The task force, co-chaired by Thurston County Commissioner Diane Oberquell and Bridgeport Mayor Steve Jenkins, began its work in January with a limited-scope survey of emergency management planning and programs in counties and cities. All counties and 81 percent of cities responded to the initial survey; however, many jurisdictions provided conflicting and sometimes incorrect information.

This early data stimulated discussion among EMC members about local elected officials' knowledge of emergency management practices, inter-jurisdictional coordination, and whether adequate resources are being provided for local planning and programs. These likely are among the issues the task force will consider as it continues its assessment efforts. It is expected to meet in mid-May to discuss future work plans.

EPA's Regional Temperature Guidance Issued

After a three-year collaborative effort involving the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Washington Department of Ecology, NOAA Fisheries (formerly the National Marine Fisheries Service), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Nez Perce Tribe, and the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued its regional temperature guidance for water quality. See <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/water.nsf/Water+Quality/TempGuidFinal>

The guidance is intended to help states and Tribes adopt temperature water quality standards that EPA can approve, consistent with its obligations under the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The CWA requires states and authorized Tribes to adopt water quality standards, and requires EPA to approve or disapprove those standards. The ESA requires EPA, in consultation with the federal fisheries agencies, to assure that its approval of a state or Tribe's water quality standards does not jeopardize the continued existence of endangered or threatened species.

The federal agencies have encouraged Ecology to incorporate the guidance into its final Water Quality Standards. Ecology is considering that recommendation as it makes final decisions on Washington's updated Water Quality Standards. Ecology is still on schedule to adopt updated standards by July 1, 2003.

Spokane County Commissioners Concerned About Land Transfer

The state Department of Natural Resources wants to transfer ownership of a 240-acre chunk of state trust land in the Dishman Hills, southwest of the city of Spokane Valley to Spokane County but the Spokane County Commissioners have concerns. The land comes with a requirement that it be maintained for public use forever. The county, in turn, wants to transfer ownership to the nonprofit Dishman Hills Natural Area

Association, which plans to add the property to a natural area it is working to establish in the Hills.

County Commissioners Kate McCaslin and Phil Harris said they won't pull the trigger until DNR provides them with a letter saying the county has the right to give the property away. McCaslin and Harris don't want the county to own the land because it then would have the responsibility to maintain it and assume liability for it.

Although the Dishman Hills group is willing to assume the expense and risk, the county commissioners want to know who would be responsible for maintaining the land should the Dishman Hills Natural Area Association fold. The organization has been in existence for more than 35 years and owns and maintains hundreds of acres of land now.

Should the transfer not occur, Sutherland said he may be forced to close public access to the property, which has been open to the public since statehood, or to sell it at auction. "I have no money to maintain it," he said.

Preliminary Report on Pipeline Safety Program to be Released

The 2001 Legislature directed the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) to conduct a study of the state's pipeline safety office, which is located at the Utilities and Transportation Commission. Dan Silver, consultant to JLARC, and Heather Moss of the JLARC staff will present the preliminary report for this study on Thursday, May 15, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. in House Hearing Room B of the John L. O'Brien Building in Olympia.

The preliminary report is not a public document until the day of that meeting; copies of the report will be available at the meeting. Following the meeting, the report will also be available upon request or may be downloaded at <http://jlarc.leg.wa.gov>.

If you have comments or questions about the report, please contact Heather Moss at 360.786.5174, or Dan Silver at 360.754-9343.

Watershed Funding Sources Available

EPA has updated the Catalog of Federal Funding Sources for Watershed Protection. This website provides information for watershed practitioners and others on 84 Federal funding sources that may be available to help fund watershed-related projects. Go to <http://cfpub.epa.gov/fedfund/> to search for possible funding of your next project.

Area-Wide Soil Contamination Task Force Preliminary Recommendations Available for Review

Many areas of Washington State have soil with low-to-moderate levels of arsenic and lead caused by historical activities and sources. Over time, land development activities have created pressures for cleanup and raised a variety of health, environmental, and marketplace concerns. In 2002, the Departments of Agriculture, Ecology and Health and the Office of Community Development chartered a Task Force to make recommendations about a Statewide strategy for responding to these issues and concerns. Douglas County Commissioner Ken Stanton has been a member of the Task Force from county government. Randy Phillips, of the Chelan-Douglas Health District and Steve Marek of the Tacoma-Pierce Health Department also have participated.

The preliminary recommendations 1) describe where lead and arsenic area-wide soil contamination is most likely to be located, 2) provide guidance on assessments and sampling of individual properties, 3) outline a broad-based approach to education and awareness building about lead and arsenic soil contamination, 4) describe steps that should be taken in child-use, residential, and commercial areas and on vacant land to limit exposure to lead and arsenic in soil, and 5) address real estate disclosure issues and application of the Model Toxics Control Act in areas affected by area-wide lead and arsenic soil contamination.

Environment, Land Use and Resources (continued)

The preliminary recommendations are available for review on the project web page at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/area_wide/area_wide_hp.html or by contacting Dawn Hooper at Ecology at 360-407-7182 or dhoo461@ecy.wa.gov.

Comments can be provided online or sent directly to Dawn Hooper at dhoo461@ecy.wa.gov, or through the mail to Dept. of Ecology, PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600. Comments must be received by May 22, 2003.

Final Task Force recommendations will be submitted to the agencies on July 1, 2003.

HUD Announces Rural Housing and Economic Development (RHED) Grants

HUD has announced funding availability for the Rural Housing and Economic Development (RHED) grant program.

Nearly \$25 million is available this year for projects in two different categories:

1) capacity building grants up to \$150,000 and 2) innovative housing and economic development grants up to \$400,000. Special consideration is given to projects that serve areas with very small populations (2,500 or less), seasonal farm workers, or federally recognized Indian tribes.

The deadline for submitting an application is May 27, 2003. Program information and application materials are available from the following website. www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa/grprural.cfm.

Active Living / Environmental Studies Funding

The Active Living Policy and Environmental Studies Program (APLES) was created by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to stimulate and support research that will identify environmental factors and policies that influence physical activity. Findings are expected to inform environmental and policy changes that will promote active living among Americans. The program focuses on relationships among characteristics of natural and built environments, public and private policies, and personal levels of physical activity. Application deadline: September 2, 2003. For more information call (619) 260-5534 or visit www.alpes.ws.

Rural Healthcare Network Development Grants

The Health Resources and Services Administration's Network Development Planning Grants provide funding to rural communities needing assistance in the development of an integrated healthcare network. The planning grants are to be used to develop a formal network with the purpose of improving the coordination of health services in rural communities and strengthening the rural health care system as a whole. Applications will be available June 2. Application deadline is September 10, 2003. For more information, visit <http://ruralhealth.hrsa.gov/funding/networkplanning.htm>, or call Michele Pray-Gibson at (301) 443-0835.

Impact of Smallpox Vaccination Program on Local Public Health Services

In December 2002, the President launched a new smallpox vaccination program. Local public health agencies (LPHAs) have dedicated significant resources over the past several months to develop both pre- and post-event smallpox vaccination programs.

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)

conducted a web-based survey to capture local public health agencies experiences with smallpox vaccination program planning and implementation and Bioterrorism preparedness. Survey results indicate that the smallpox vaccination program is negatively affecting other Bioterrorism preparedness activities, such as development of response plans, disease surveillance systems, and epidemiologic capacities. According to the survey results, LPHAs are finding it difficult to maintain routine public health services, such as vaccination clinics, maternal and child health programs, and environmental health programs, while meeting the demands of planning and implementing the smallpox vaccination program and other Bioterrorism-related activities. While the impacts vary from one local health department to another in Washington, the national survey results are mirrored in Washington.

LPHAs were asked in the survey if smallpox preparedness efforts had taken away from other Bioterrorism preparedness efforts. Seventy nine percent of the respondents reported that smallpox vaccination preparations have negatively affected other Bioterrorism preparedness activities. Efforts to prepare for chemical, biological, and radiological terrorism have been taken off track in order to meet the demands of the smallpox vaccination program. LPHAs expressed concern about the country's vulnerability to attacks from agents other than smallpox, such as ricin, dirty bombs and anthrax.

LPHAs were also asked to characterize the impact of smallpox preparedness and other Bioterrorism planning efforts on their routine public health programs and activities. Approximately half (53%) of the respondents reported that Bioterrorism preparedness planning has taken away from their other public health programs and activities. Most reported that staff, resources, and monies were diverted from other public health activities and programs to help with smallpox vaccination planning and implementation.

On the positive side, one-third responded that Bioterrorism and other preparedness planning have helped their other public health programs and activities. Many of these respondents noted that smallpox and Bioterrorism planning have helped them establish better relationships with community partners. We have also heard this among local health departments in Washington as well.

The information collected in the survey provides a compelling picture of the tremendous challenge facing LPHAs to maintain their current levels of services, develop a smallpox vaccination program, and prepare for Bioterrorism events. Extremely limited resources and growing workloads prevent many LPHAs from providing equal attention to all three critical goals. Limited staffing and resources often force LPHAs to shift workers from other programs, such as communicable disease and immunization programs to the smallpox vaccination program. Continued diversion of these resources will increase communities' vulnerability to ongoing public health threats, such as influenza, West Nile Virus, food-borne illnesses, TB, and chronic diseases.

Notably, this level of disruption to the local public health system occurred before a single volunteer was vaccinated. The survey concluded that it can be expected that, without additional resources, the negative impact of the smallpox vaccination program on general Bioterrorism preparedness activities and routine public health services will increase.

Free Conference on Health Issues Facing Sexual Minorities Announced

The 4th Annual Saying It Out Loud Conference: "Inclusion is the Best Practice" has been announced. The conference addresses alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, mental health and other health issues facing the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning communities. It will take place June 6 from 7:30 to 4:30 at the Shoreline Conference Center at 18560 1st Ave. NE,

Public Health and Human Services (continued)

Shoreline (for non-King county folks that is just off the freeway in the north end of Seattle). The conference offers 7 CEU's and there is no cost. It is sponsored by the DSHS – Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse, DSHS – Mental Health Division – Sexual Minority Subcommittee, King County Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division, Public Health – Seattle & King County, Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Programs.

The keynote speaker will be Sean Cahill, Ph.D., the director of the Policy Institute of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), a think tank that conducts research, policy analysis, and strategy development to advance the equality and understanding of sexual minorities. The rest of the day will include a variety of workshops.

For further information please contact either Jim Vollendroff, King County at 206-205-1312 or Jean Robertson, King County at 206-205-1316.

Walla Walla County to Take Over Contract

The Walla Walla Union – Bulletin reports that Walla Walla County will begin handling the children's mental health contract and subcontract out two others. The County Human Services Department is launching a children's mental health unit to serve indigent mentally ill children and their families. This is the second time in the past 12 months that the County has opted to take over a contract and offer the service itself, at least in part, rather than subcontracting for it. They recently started doing crisis services themselves.

The County previously subcontracted for children's mental health, senior mental health and chemical dependency treatment with Palouse Counseling and Consulting. Palouse recently terminated all its county contracts. A new company, Senior Solutions, recently received the senior mental health contract. Another new company, Serenity Point Counseling Services, received the chemical dependency contract. The County was to begin providing children's services May 1.

Sharon Saffer, Director of Human Services, stated, "We're looking at the system and asking what isn't working, and asking how to make it work." Human Services expects initially to serve an average of around 60 children and families. They will do intake, screening and assessment of the child's and family's needs. It will then subcontract for the counseling and other services from other agencies in the community. The Department will hire four additional staff and part of a fifth but the budget will not be increasing. They will just be using the same funds they previously gave to an outside agency.

Pierce County Attempts to Establish Juvenile Assessment Center

Pierce County is attempting to begin a three-year pilot project that would divert nonviolent youthful offenders from Remann Hall, the County's detention facility. Currently all youthful suspects are booked at the detention facility regardless of the offense.

A report last year by the City Club of Tacoma recommended a better approach: separate young nonviolent offenders – who would be subject to non-custodial supervision – from those who pose a clear threat to public safety. The proposed Youth Assessment Center (YAC) would work with the prosecuting attorney's office, the juvenile court and law enforcement to determine which youths should be kept out of detention. YAC counselors would then provide supervision, crisis intervention, anger management and other services to youthful offenders who aren't flight risks and have been determined to pose no threat to public safety. The youth would have an incentive to cooperate since their choice would be that or detention. YAC staff would also help out troubled juveniles and their parents who voluntarily come to the center.

The immediate task is to raise the funds – about \$600,000 in startup costs for the first two years of operation – to get a county-wide 24-hour assessment center on line by September. Pierce

County will pay for some of the costs and cities are also being asked to contribute. It is estimated that the number of youth in detention could be reduced by as much as 50% with a cost of only \$674 total compared to \$125 per day.

\$4 Million Available for Expansion of Interventions to Prevent Use of Ecstasy and Other Club Drugs

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is accepting applications for cooperative agreements to expand prevention activities related to use of ecstasy and other club drugs, including GHB, ketamine, Rohypnol and LSD. Approximately \$4 million in funding will be available in 2003 to fund 14 one-year cooperative agreements ranging from \$300,000 to \$350,000 each. Depending on funding availability, grantees may be able to apply for limited competitive renewals for two more years. The program is funded by the Ecstasy Anti-Proliferation Act of 2000.

SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) will administer the agreements under the Targeted Capacity Expansion Program that provides funding to localities trying to address emerging substance abuse or expand needed services. Eligible applicants for the grants are public and domestic private non-profit entities such as units of state and local government, Indian tribes and tribal organizations, community-based organizations, managed care and other health care delivery systems, universities and colleges, faith-based organizations and local law enforcement agencies. The program announcement is available on SAMHSA's web site at www.samhsa.gov or by phone from their Clearinghouse at 1-800-729-6686. The grant number is RFA-SP03-007. Applications are due by July 22, 2003.

U.S. General Accounting Office Reports on Voluntary Placement to Obtain Mental Health Services

A new U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) report documents the lack of mental health services for children with severe mental illness, forcing some parents to place their children in the child welfare or juvenile systems to get help. The new release, "Federal Agencies Could Play a Stronger Role in Helping States Reduce the Number of Children Placed Solely to Obtain Mental Health Services" does not address the additional problems of unavailable and inadequate services within child welfare or juvenile justice for those in state custody. Senator Collins (R-ME) and Reps Stark (D-CA) and Kennedy (D-RI) requested the study of factors influencing placement and state and local practices to reduce the need for such placements. GAO surveyed child welfare directors in all states and juvenile justice officials in 33 counties. Most states did not provide data; several reported that such placements occurred but had no estimates. There is no formal or comprehensive federal or state tracking of voluntary placements.

Eleven states allow parents to voluntarily place children in child welfare to access mental health services without relinquishing custody to the state. Eight jurisdictions do not permit such placements. The report also described the confusing roles of the federal departments with responsibilities for services and care for children with serious mental illness.

Many factors contribute to placements: health insurance restrictions, inadequate supply of mental health services, limited resources, conflicts regarding community-based vs. residential placement, differing eligibility requirements and misunderstandings about agency roles and functions. The study found practices in some states that appear to help reduce the need for voluntary placements.

GAO recommends that the federal Departments of Health and Human Services, Education and Justice evaluate

promising practices and develop an action plan.

The full report (GAO-03-397) is available online at www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-O3-397.

Commissioner Roskelley Attempts to Reach Summit of Mount Everest

The Associated Press reported on May 8 that despite bad weather and health problems suffered by other members of their climbing party, Spokane County Commissioner John Roskelley and his 20-year old son Jess, plan to continue their attempt to reach the summit of Mount Everest this week. A spokesman for the climbing team said that Commissioner Roskelley reported a fierce and relentless windstorm lasting five days shredded tents and scattered supplies of the four-man climbing team and their support personnel.

The two climbers heading back down the mountain due to health problems likely will turn their equipment over to the Roskelleys to help their effort succeed. While both are experienced climbers, this is the first Everest attempt for the father-son team. For the full story go to:

<http://www.everestnews.com/everestnews3/bassdis6.htm>

Training and Upcoming Events

Mark your Calendars **CPO 2003 - Hold the Dates**

Have you registered for next week's CPO Class? There is still space available on May 15 in Puyallup for the Effective & Responsible Decision-Making Course. This is a full day class, with 4 Elective Course Credits.

2003 CPO Scheduled Courses

<u>May</u>	Effective & Responsible Decision-Making in the Workplace (Full day Elective course – 4 credits)	May 15, Puyallup
	Setting the Price of Government – Smarter Spending to Balance Your Budgets (Two day Elective course – 8 credits)	May 21, 22
<u>June</u>	Risk Management (Full day Core course – 4 credits)	June 5, Puyallup June 24, Spokane
	Leadership Workshop –Building county MUSCLEPOWER for success in these challenging and frustrating times (Half day Elective course – 2 credits)	June 24, Spokane
<u>July</u>	RESOLVE Conflicts and Build Relationships (Full day Elective course – 4 credits)	July 29, Spokane
<u>September</u>	Ethical Dilemmas: Integrity as a Tool for Successful Public Officials (Full day Core course – 4 credits)	September 30, SeaTac
<u>November</u>	Making a Difference in County Communication: Speak and Write More Confidently (Full day Elective course – 4 credits)	November 6 Location TBD

Other training workshops and courses are in the development phase and may be added later in the year.

CPO Credit Update: Your CPO Transcripts have been updated with the 2003 course credits. If you would like to check your credit totals, request your transcript. We have several county officials who will receive their CPO designation at the Joint Fall Conference. If you have completed three of your four Core Courses, sign up now for the Risk Management course to be held on June 5 in Puyallup and June 24 in Spokane.

Contact: dharris@wacounties.org

Training and Upcoming Events (continued)

It's Not too Late to Register for the 2003 NACo Western Interstate Region Conference!

Don't miss this exciting and informative event taking place May 28-31, 2003 at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Washoe County, Reno/Sparks, Nevada.

Featured General Session speakers include Mark Rey, Under Secretary for Natural Resources & Environment, US Department of Agriculture and Craig Manson, Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife & Parks, US Department of the Interior. Mr. Rey oversees the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service. Manson oversees the National Parks Service and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. He has responsibility for administration and enforcement of the Endangered Species Act.

For complete registration information, go to www.naco.org. Questions? Please call 202-661-8804.

Counties and Conservancy Boards Workshop

On June 12, WSAC is co-hosting with the Department of Ecology and Conservancy Boards a workshop on conservancy board operations. The workshop will take place at the Ellensburg Inn from 10:00 to 2:00 p.m. This is the first-ever meeting of conservancy board members from around the state. The agenda will include funding of conservancy board operations, liability, and other topics of joint interest to counties and the conservancy boards.

Invitations to the workshop will be sent soon to conservancy board members, and to county commissioners, councilmembers, and prosecutors in counties with conservancy boards.

Courthouse Ramblings



Governor Locke awarded three law enforcement officers with the state's highest law enforcement distinction, the Law Enforcement Medal of Honor, last week. Joining the governor to present the awards was state Attorney General Christine Gregoire.

"Today we pay tribute to three men who embody the solemn oath to uphold our laws, liberties and communities, even at the expense of their own personal well-being," Locke said. "Each recipient is richly deserving of this honor and our heartfelt appreciation."

The annual honor recognizes exceptionally meritorious conduct, serious injury or death in the line of duty.

One of the recipients was King County Deputy Sheriff **Richard Herzog**, who was awarded the award posthumously. Deputy Herzog was killed in the line of duty last June 23 by a mentally ill man who had been running in and out of traffic in Newcastle. Herzog's wife and two daughters accepted the medal on his behalf.

The other recipients were Sergeant **Larry Evans**, Spokane Police Department, who entered a burning house twice in December of 2001 to rescue two people who were trapped inside, and Trooper **Elliott George**, Washington State Patrol, who pulled an accident victim from a burning car on I-5 in Milton last August 5.

Candidates for this honor are nominated by their respective law enforcement agencies. All nominations are reviewed and approved by the Law Enforcement Medal of Honor committee. The committee represents the Office of the Governor, Office of the Attorney General, the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, the Washington State Troopers Association, the Washington State Law Enforcement Association, and the Washington Council of Police and Sheriffs.

The Law Enforcement Medal of Honor was established by the state Legislature in 1994. There have been 213 honorees since its inception.

Calendar of Events

2003 MEETINGS

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

May 15
CPO Training, Effective & Responsible
Decision-Making, Puyallup

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

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

May 24
Washington Association of Coroners and
Medical Examiners' (WACME)
Training, Olympia

May 28 - 31
Western Interstate Region (WIR) Annual
Conference, Reno-Sparks, Nevada

May 29 - 30
WAPA District Court Training Program,
SeaTac

June 5
CPO Training, Risk Management,
Puyallup

June 11 - 13
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 - 19
Washington State Association of
Coroners and Medical Examiners
Conference Training, Spokane

June 18 - 20
WAPA Summer Conference, Chelan

June 18 - 20
Association of Washington Cities
(AWC) Annual Conference, Red Lion
Grand Hotel at the Park, Spokane

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

June 24
CPO Training, Navigating Through
Change and Risk Management, (in
conjunction w/WSAC Annual Summer
Convention), DoubleTree Valley Hotel,
Spokane

June 24
WCIF Board of Trustees - WSAC
Summer Conference/Spokane

June 24 - 27
WSAC Annual Summer Convention,
Doubletree Valley Hotel, Spokane

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

July 29-August 3
IACREOT Conference, Denver CO

July 30
CPO Training, WCRP Sponsored
Elective Course Title (TBD), Spokane

August 21
WCIP Board of Directors Rate Setting -
Wyndham Gardens at SeaTac

September 3-5
WAPA Special Assault Training
Program, Leavenworth

September 7-9
WAPA Juvenile Training Program
Leavenworth

September 8-11
Washington State Association of County
Assessors Fall Conference, Red Lion,
Kennewick

September 9-12
County & Regional Planning
Directors/City Planning Directors Joint
Conference, Campbell's, Chelan

September 11-12
WSAC Fall Eastern District Meeting,
Marcus Whitman Center, Walla Walla

September 17-19
Association of County Human Services
(ACHS) Meeting, Moses Lake

September 18
WCIF/WCIP Insurance Advisory
Committee 2004 Renewal Meeting,
WCIP Board of Directors, WCIF Board
of Trustees --- West Coast Hotel at
SeaTac

September 29-October 3
WACO/WSAC Joint Conference,
Doubletree Hotel, SeaTac

September 30
CPO Training, Ethical Dilemmas:
Integrity as a Tool for Successful Public
Officials, SeaTac

October 1
WCIF Board of Trustees (Conjunction
with the WACO/WSAC Joint
Conference)

October 2
WSAC Fall Western District Meeting
(Conjunction with the WACO/WSAC
Joint Conference)

October 15
WCIF/WCIP A.C.E. Committee
Meeting, Yakima

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

November 19-21
Association of County Human Services
(ACHS) Meeting, Seattle

2004 MEETINGS

February 27 - March 2
NACo Legislative Conference, Hilton
Washington & Towers, Washington
D.C.

April 21-23
WAPA Spring Training Program,
Spokane

Calendar of Events (continued)

April 8-9
WSAC Spring Eastern District Meeting,
Campbell's Resort, Chelan

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

April 22-23
WSAC Spring Western District Meeting,
Heathman Lodge, Vancouver

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 16-18
Association of County Human Services
(ACHS) Meeting, Vancouver

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

September 14-17
County & Regional Planning
Directors/City Planning Directors Joint
Conference, Campbell's, Chelan

October 4-8
WACO/WSAC Joint Conference,
Spokane

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

2005 MEETINGS

March 3-4
NACo Legislative Conference, Marriott
Wardman Park Hotel, Washington D.C.

May 11-13
WAPA Support Staff Training Program,
Spokane