

the Courthouse Journal

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

**October 14, 2005
Issue No. 29**

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Annual WACO Conference Rich in Content and Education: Meth Epidemic Covered from all Angles with Congressman Reichert, Attorney General McKenna, White House Drug Policy Representative and Former Meth Addict

Spokane County Clerk Tom Fallquist presided over a well-attended and content-rich Washington Association of County Officials' (WACO) Conference, in Vancouver, last week, the 47th annual gathering of association members. Attendance at the meeting, held at the newly opened Hilton, was up from previous years, beginning to end.

The program began Tuesday, October 4, with a WACO Board of Trustees' meeting, where legislative recommendations were presented by each affiliate group for inclusion in the 2006 WACO legislative package. Several affiliate groups met during the afternoon and a tour of the Clark County Administration Building was hosted by Clark County officials, featuring the one-stop service center they have in place for the offices of the assessor, auditor and treasurer. Bettie Johnson, Boone County (Missouri) Recorder of Deeds, attended meetings of the clerks, auditors and treasurers to encourage membership in the International Association of Clerks, Recorders, Election Officials and Treasurers (IACREOT), whose 2009 conference will be in Spokane. A welcoming reception was held in the evening.

The conference began in earnest, on

Wednesday, with a program that kept members in the sessions from the first to the last speaker of the day. Opening ceremonies came first with the Clark County Sheriff's Honor Guard presenting the colors and Pacific County Clerk Virginia Leach beautifully singing the National Anthem. Betty Sue Morris, Clark County Commission chair and immediate past president of the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC), welcomed the WACO members and President Fallquist set the stage for the conference program.

Keynote speaker, historic interpreter Patrick Lee, assumed the persona of Captain William Clark with his staging of "Conquering the Unknown: Lessons from the Lewis & Clark Expedition". In costume, with props and with his compelling story of how he and Meriwether Lewis led the Corps of Discovery to the Pacific Ocean and back, "Captain Clark" took the audience back to some great moments in the history of this country, a timely presentation during this Lewis & Clark bicentennial. Based on the many questions asked following his presentation, it was clear that everyone enjoyed Lee's portrayal of Captain Clark. Lee is author of "Mosquitoes, Gnats & Prickly Pear Cactus: The Lewis & Clark

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The Courthouse Journal

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

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CPO PROGRAM

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Review.”

The conference agenda then turned to a series of speakers addressing the methamphetamine epidemic that is overwhelming law enforcement and county resources not only in this state, but across the country. Congressman Dave Reichert (8th Congressional Dist.) began by describing his involvement with the meth problem first-hand when he was King County Sheriff. He portrayed the heartbreaking result of babies born to meth addicted mothers and the treatment they undergo. Congressman Reichert then outlined two bills he has introduced aimed at curbing the use of meth, the first to focus on funding and the second a study to assess the connection between meth crimes and identity theft crimes and examine parallel relationships.

Following the Congressman, Ashley Kerwin, a former meth user described how she fell into addiction at 16 years old and her struggle between wanting to keep using and wanting to stop, which finally led her parents to send her to rehab in Mexico. Beth and Mike Kerwin detailed the devastating affects of Ashley’s addiction on their entire family and their involvement now to help others. Ashley, 19, is now clean, attending college and plans to open a drug rehab center of her own someday.

The luncheon speaker was John Horton, associate deputy director for state and local affairs with the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy. His message was that the administration has made great strides in eliminating meth superlabs in the U.S. and in reducing meth use among teenagers. The

White House is taking an offensive position in the meth war now by working to reduce the supply of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, the main ingredients in the manufacture of meth, which is being exported from other countries. He also maintained that we must reduce the demand for meth in young people through education in curbing use of “gateway” drugs, such as marijuana, alcohol, inhalants and other psychoactive drugs.

Also speaking at lunch was the district deputy for Congressman Brian Baird (3rd Congressional Dist.), Pam Brokaw. Congressman Baird is one of the national leaders in the meth fight and has helped to draft the Methamphetamine Epidemic Elimination Act introduced in the U.S. House last month.

The afternoon session began with an excellent program with state legislators titled “The Big Picture Show”, moderated by President Fallquist and Chelan County Clerk Siri Woods. After legislators each got up to speak to various topics including local options, county funding, consolidation and delivery of services, sales tax streamlining and others, WACO members asked questions of each lawmaker and a healthy exchange of ideas was the result. Many thanks to the legislators who participated in the excellent discussion: Senator Dale Brandland (42nd Dist-R), Senator Karen Fraser (22nd Dist-D), Senator Joe Zarelli (18th Dist-R), Senator Mark Doumit (19th Dist-D), Representative Judy Clibborn (41st Dist-D), Representative Ed Orcutt (18th Dist-R), and Representative Bill Fromhold (49th Dist-D).

The final session of the day brought State Attorney General Rob

NOTE: Legislative Committee schedules and agendas can be found at <http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/calendar.cfm>

McKenna to the podium to speak about "Operation: Allied Against Meth", his three-pronged effort at the state level to provide direct assistance to county prosecutors, team with community-based organizations to educate and prevent meth use and develop long-term meth prevention strategies. General McKenna also discussed his model rules on public records laws, along with assistant attorney general Greg Overstreet. They have been around the state holding open forums to get input from citizens as they update the state's Public Disclosure Act, as mandated by the 2005 legislative session.

Following an absorbing day of inspiring and remarkable speakers, the evening was devoted to relaxation and unwinding at a Hawaiian-themed President's reception for Tom Fallquist, hosted by his affiliate, the county clerks. The county clerks presented Tom with an orchid lei and music and dancers from Kaleo and Company Polynesian Review provided much enjoyment for everyone.

Thursday, October 6, was devoted to the WACO affiliate groups as they conducted business meetings and training throughout the day, culminating with the Annual Banquet that evening. Wonderful entertainment was provided by the Melody Lane Singers, a group of nearly 30 children who traveled from Yakima to sing and dance using familiar and popular melodies from the past. They ranged in age from about 7 to 17, and the talent and array of costumes used for each was dazzling.

New officers and board members were installed, after having been elected by a unanimous ballot the previous day. Executive officers for the ensuing year are: Franklin County Coroner Dan Blasdel,

president; Snohomish County Sheriff Rick Bart, president-elect; Skagit County Assessor Mark Leander, vice president; and Island County Auditor Suzanne Sinclair, secretary-treasurer. Newly elected trustees are: Snohomish County Auditor Bob Terwilliger, Position 1; Mason County Treasurer Lisa Frazier, Position 3; and Lincoln County Auditor Shelly Johnston, Position 5.

During the week, the WACO membership passed the 2006 Legislative package (see article below), voted on several Bylaws changes and raised significant funds for the Washington Counties Scholarship Fund. An ice cream social was also held on Tuesday evening to raise money to help defray expenses not covered by insurance for two WACO members who have been struggling with cancer, Douglas County Sheriff Dan LaRoche and Mason County Coroner Martha Reed. Sadly, Martha passed away last week. The best news is that Dan is home after a stem cell transplant and is gaining strength each day.

The Friday morning business meeting wrapped up the conference with comments by outgoing president Tom Fallquist and new President Dan Blasdel. The membership voted to meet in Stevenson, in 2007 and in Spokane, in 2008. The 2006 conference is scheduled for The Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel, October 2-5.

Thank you to all of the WACO members who participated in this year's conference. Each one of you is what made it such a great success!

WACO Adopts 2006 Legislative Package

WACO President Dan Blasdel, Franklin County Coroner, has announced the adoption of the 2006 Legislative Package by the membership in Vancouver on

October 7, 2005:

- ◆ Require fiscal information on local tax ballot measure titles.
- ◆ Merge Open Space Timber statutes into the Designated Forest Land Statutes, eliminating the Open Space Timber Classification.
- ◆ Support legislative review of property tax exemptions at least once every six years.
- ◆ Support legislation that implements measures that are beneficial to counties and oppose proposals that are detrimental to county government's ability to provide services to the public.
- ◆ Increase the amount of time between the Primary and the General election by moving the Primary Election to the third Tuesday in August.
- ◆ Adopt legislation to locate and safely return missing persons; to improve the identification of human remains; and improve timely information and notification to family members of missing persons.
- ◆ Enhance the penalty for attempting to elude a police vehicle to include a mandatory sentence of twelve months in addition to the standard sentencing range if the defendant is convicted and the court finds that another person was threatened with physical injury or harm by the fleeing defendant.
- ◆ Support the 2006 Supplemental Budget staffing request of the crime laboratories submitted by the Washington State Patrol with the support of the Forensic Investigations Council.
- ◆ Provide a seriousness level ranking for the felony crime of Failure to Register as a sexual offender.
- ◆ Modify RCW 2.08.050 so that official seals may be embossed, inked or printed to allow for the certification of electronically transmitted documents and modify

RCW 5.52.040 to broaden the allowance for telegraphic transmission of court documents to include other forms of electronic transmission.

The entire WACO Legislative Recommendations and Explanations are available on the WACO website at www.wacounties.org.

Lots of Changes at WACO

Christina Bridston has accepted the position of WACO Deputy Director and her official title became effective October 7. Chris joined WACO 28 years ago as the Public Information Officer and she has authored every press release and been responsible for every publication to go out the door since then. In later years, she assumed support of the county treasurers' and county auditors' legislative issues and has lobbied for them.

Chris deserves an enormous round of applause for the conference planning she does annually but a standing ovation is in order for the program she brought together for the recent WACO 47th Annual Conference in Vancouver.

Bob Carlton joined WACO a week ago but is no stranger to the county assessors and their issues. Bob was Columbia County Assessor from 1987 to 2003 when he moved west to enter private industry. He is letting no grass grow under his feet (West of the mountains we call it moss, Bob!). Bob took part in WACO Conference and spent part of this week with several eastern Washington assessors at a meeting in Spangle discussing the 2006 Legislative Package, public disclosure, and other issues. Bob prides himself on being the only assessor elected as a write-in candidate. Welcome aboard, Bob!

Bob will assume the tax-related duties of Michelle Hagen who began a new stint with the King County

Assessor on October 10. Good luck to Michelle too!

Washington Counties' Scholarship Challenge Awesome!

Annually the seven groups of elected and appointed officials who make up the Washington Association of County Officials (WACO) challenge one another for support of the Washington Counties' Scholarship Program and the benefit of children of county employees statewide. The 2005 challenge produced an overwhelming result of \$10,905 with the following detail: Assessors \$765; Auditors \$1,700; Clerks \$1,500; Coroners and Medical Examiners in memory of Mason County Coroner Martha Reed \$3,500; Prosecutors \$660; Sheriffs \$2,250; and Treasurers \$530.

The 2005 grand total for WACO comes to \$10,905. Collected to date for the fund this year, including pledges from prior years, is \$16,919 – A RECORD YEAR! Thank you for your generosity!

Coroners and Sheriffs Host Terrific Event

Millions of calories were in evidence in Vancouver the evening of October 4th when the coroners and sheriffs co-hosted an ice cream social in honor of Douglas County Sheriff Dan LaRoche and Mason County Coroner Martha Reed.

The event was spearheaded by Thurston County Judy Arnold and Stevens County Sheriff Craig Thayer to recognize the inspiration Martha and Dan have been to all of us and to let them know they are loved and missed. Sheriff LaRoche joined the fun by phone and Martha's caregiver assured us Martha heard the message that was sent to her.

We are delighted to report Sheriff LaRoche sounds great. He is recovering from lymphoma at his

home in East Wenatchee. He has been armed with over 160 photos taken during the WACO Conference in Vancouver.

Martha lost her heroic battle with leukemia a little over a day later. Her friends and family celebrated her life, one of compassion and caring for others, in Shelton last Sunday.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
WSAC 2006 Annual Conference
Date Change
PLEASE mark your calendar for an important change to the 2006 WSAC Annual Conference. Since the Primary Election is September 19, it was deemed prudent to change the date to the following week in order to accommodate our members who will be knee deep in election. The Doubletree Hotel Spokane City Center conference Gods were with us and we were able to change those dates. We will now meet the week of September 25 - 29, 2006.

Legislator Focuses on Court Efficiencies in Local Visits

State Representative Pat Lantz, chair of the House Judiciary Committee, was busy this week visiting with county and city officials to learn more about local court structures and operations. She was in Port Orchard and Aberdeen on Tuesday, and was to be joined by other committee members in Spokane on Friday.

The primary purpose for the field trips was to transport legislators beyond statutes, court rules and legal theories, and offer them a better understanding of how district and municipal courts operate "on the ground." In particular, the committee is interested in learning about local government relationships and practices that contribute to efficiencies while still ensuring access to court services for all citizens. For example, in Kitsap County, while the cities operate separate municipal courts, the county prosecutor's office provides all the prosecution services for misdemeanors, including in the municipal courts.

If you believe the district and municipal courts in your county have developed some especially good practices – or could do so if certain state laws were amended or clarified – please contact WSAC policy director Sophia Byrd McSherry at 360-753-1886, 360-561-6547 or sbyrd@wacounties.org.

Law Review to Publish Attorney General's Article on Governmental Liability

Washington Attorney General Rob McKenna has co-authored a comprehensive review of governmental tort liability issues in

Washington State, which concludes that case law has extended government liability far beyond what the Legislature intended when it waived sovereign immunity in 1961. The article further suggests that it is time for the Legislature to replace the broad waiver of immunity with statutes that precisely define the extent of liability for state and local governments.

To be published in mid-to-late October, the Seattle University Law Review article is titled "Washington State's 45-Year Experiment in Governmental Liability," and is authored by McKenna and Michael Tardif, a senior assistant attorney general in the AG office's torts division.

Among the key points of the article is that at the time the Legislature waived sovereign immunity the standard legal doctrine of the day allowed no liability for purely governmental functions, such as regulation, corrections, public welfare, and road design and improvement. However, beginning in the 1970s, the state Supreme Court began establishing liability for governmental functions without analyzing the private liability condition, the intent and context of the 1961 waiver, or the separation of powers issues that arise from liability for implementation of legislative and executive policy decisions.

McKenna and Tardif find that liability for purely governmental functions (e.g. corrections, road design) has been essentially rejected by the federal government and all other state governments, by statutes and/or court decisions. They find further that most of the liability in Washington State for such purely governmental functions does not

arise from a direct act by a public employee but from the alleged failure of government to prevent a third-party wrongdoer outside the government's control, such as a former prison inmate or drunk driver, from committing a crime or having an accident.

The Seattle University Law Review can be found at <http://www.law.seattleu.edu/lawrev>. The fall 2005 edition is expected to be available by the end of October, according to Law Review staff.

Budget, Finance and Taxes

Cities Resolve Differences on Sales Tax Streamlining

After two years of talks, representatives of winning and losing cities settled their differences over sales tax streamlining. Under streamlining legislation, taxes would be collected in the jurisdiction where the purchaser receives the goods or services. In general this change in the tax system will benefit counties and low sales tax cities.

The issue divided most cities into one of two camps. On one side were relatively low sales tax base cities and several large cities that stood to lose some revenue but felt that sales tax streamlining is essential to the long term health of local government. On the other side were cities that stood to lose revenue and felt that those losses were not acceptable and that they could not count on long term state mitigation.

At a meeting of the Tri-Association officers, which preceded the city agreement, there was a consensus that Streamlining would become part of the Tri-Association Agenda for the 2006 Session if the cities could bridge their differences.

Public Health and Human Services

Joint Select Committee on Public Health Funding Meets

September 20, 2005 was the first meeting of the Legislative Joint Select Committee on Public Health Funding. The Committee was created by [EHCR 4410](#), passed by the Legislature last session. The Resolution calls for the Joint Select Committee to examine the public health system in Washington (State and Local), understand what is currently being purchased, decide if that's adequate and if not, recommend additional funding for public health.

Members of the Joint Select Committee are Representative Shay Schual-Berke, Chair; Senator Pat Thibaudeau, Vice-Chair; Senator Rosa Franklin, Senator Alex Deccio, Representative Bill Hinkle, Representative Jim Moeller, and Representative Richard Curtis. One Senate Republican position is currently vacant. Commissioner Patty Lent represents WSAC in the process.

The first hearing on September 20 provided members with a "Public Health 101" presentation. Dr. David Fleming, Director, Gates Foundation

Global Health Strategies Program and Former Deputy Director, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention provided a broader context within which to consider the importance of public health. State and local public health presenters presented information that demonstrates what public health really means in their communities. The goal of the presentations was to help Committee Members understand what it means, for example, to say that public health protects people from Tuberculosis – the process, the time, the staffing, the media response, etc. that goes into a TB outbreak response. Members also received a briefing on the current funding for public health in Washington.

The next hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, at Central Washington University; Grupe Center, Bldg. #9, in Ellensburg from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The second meeting will follow a similar format to the first meeting and will address the general theme of "How can the performance of a public health system be measures, and how does Washington perform relative to

those measures. This meeting will provide the opportunity to make the Public Health Standards real for the Committee members and give them a chance to hear some results from the most recent round of standards performance evaluations.

The remaining scheduled meetings of the Joint Select Committee on Public Health Funding are next Tuesday, October 18 in Ellensburg; then November 10, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Vancouver - - which will focus on the appropriate levels of public health services and outcomes; and December 13, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Olympia which will focus on how the process to prioritize public health services should be designed and how the committee should address Phase II of the process, concerning resolution of the prioritization process and the identification of potential funding sources.

Goodbye

Last wish fulfilled for Mason coroner

By Scott Gutierrez, the Olympian

Her prognosis dim and her time growing short, Mason County Coroner Martha Reed wanted one more hunting trip with friends last weekend.



Despite feeling weak and short of breath from her lengthy battle with leukemia, Reed, an outdoors enthusiast, managed to make the trip to a property in northeastern Washington where she settled into a lounge chair in an outbuilding overlooking a field near Curlew.

She held a .50-caliber muzzleloader, propped on a sandbag in the windowsill. After three hours of waiting Saturday, a deer wandered into the field. Reed shot her last buck.

Reed, 59, died in her home Thursday after she was released from the University of Washington Medical Center, where she'd been undergoing treatment.

"She said the very last wish she had for life was she wanted to go to Eastern Washington to shoot a deer," said Bill Grayum, a longtime friend who took Reed on her last hunting

trip.

"She was the happiest camper you can believe through the whole thing," Grayum said.

Reed served as county coroner for more than 10 years. She was a licensed nurse practitioner and former paramedic. She worked part time at Mason General Hospital while serving as coroner.

She was diagnosed with leukemia in July and underwent a stem-cell transplant in August with cells provided by her brother, David Reed. She'd been undergoing chemotherapy since summer.

"She fought this leukemia for three to four months in three different hospitals," said Grayum, who worked with Reed as a paramedic.

Her hunting trip came three days after she was released from the University of Washington Medical Center. Her health had quickly deteriorated, and her doctors told her it would be best for her to go home and get comfortable, Grayum said.

"Things had progressed in her medical condition, and doctors made the decision that there was nothing more they could do," he said.

In an interview during the summer, Reed said she planned to resume her duties and run again for county coroner.

In July, several community members organized fundraisers to help Reed pay for the costs of her living and caretaking in Seattle.

Reed served with "great compassion and dedication," Mason County Commission Chairwoman Jayni Kamin said in a prepared statement.

"We are deeply saddened by the death of our friend and fellow

elected official, Coroner Martha Reed. She fought a heroic battle with leukemia with courage and great dignity and was an inspiration to all who knew and loved her," Kamin said.

A deputy coroner will continue to handle Reed's duties until the county commission appoints an interim coroner, who will serve until a new coroner is elected in the 2006 general election, Kamin said.

Reed enjoyed yearly hunting trips with Grayum and his wife, he said. She used to teach courses for Washington Outdoor Women, a program offered by the Washington Wildlife Federation to teach outdoor skills to women.

On her last trip, she was connected to a small oxygen tank. It reflected her strong will, Grayum said. People will miss her spirit and her drive, he added.

The deer was taken to a taxidermist and the head was mounted in time for Reed to see it Wednesday.

"She just bawled and bawled and bawled," he said.

Courthouse Ramblings

With the retirement of Franklin County Treasurer **Jenny Zacher**, September 30, the Franklin County Commissioners have appointed **Tiffany Coffland** to fill Jenny's unexpired term. Tiffany began her county employment in the auditor's office 16 years ago, first in the licensing department, then as licensing supervisor. Later, she moved to payroll, before taking the position with Human Resources. Tiffany's appointment as treasurer became effective October 3. Many congratulations to her!

* * * * *

It is with great sadness that we report that Mason County Coroner **Martha Reed**, 59, lost her long battle with leukemia, on October 6. A celebration of her life was held on Sunday, at the Little Creek Casino, where friends and family shared stories of Martha's life and her many contributions to her community. Please see the attached article from *The Olympian* outlining the incredible last days of her life. They were a testament to her strength and character.

* * * * *

Deployment to Katrina

by former Walla Walla County Coroner Stephen Ames

"It was a unique experience to be thrown into a totally devastated area with a very committed and professional group of people to help recover the remains of those unfortunate souls who would not or could not leave their homes in the face of Katrina.

"The hurricane itself would not have claimed so many had it not been for the levee failures. We had to stay in Baton Rouge, about 80 miles north, as New Orleans did not have any functional infrastructure so we commuted daily to work. I

worked Retrieval and then was assigned to be a liaison with the morgue to coordinate the efforts between Retrieval and the Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT).

"As I was working for a private company, Kenyon International, details of the work performed are confidential but anybody in the business of death investigations can appreciate the circumstances and conditions of the work involved. As the news articles have indicated, about 1000 bodies were recovered and a small crew will be staying around to make individual recoveries as they are discovered by the returning population.

"The one aspect of the deployment that stands out is the transformation of the city as the days progressed. My first day on the ground we were staying in Baton Rouge and convoyed to New Orleans with police escort. The freeway traffic became quite light as we approached the first checkpoint. Only emergency and military vehicles were present beyond this checkpoint. After staging near the Convention Center we picked up a military escort (82nd Airborne) who guided us throughout the city, trying to find routes to and from specific sites where recoveries were to be made. The streets were still littered with downed power lines, trees, vehicles, etc. Many routes still had significant amounts of water covering the roadway. As the days passed and water was pumped out, more routes became passable and crews were clearing more arterial streets so that the power company and other infrastructure crews could make repairs.

"After the first week and before "Rita" showed up, 80 to 90% of the

streets were passable. Also each day you could appreciate the life beginning to return to the city with signal lights beginning to work. So our progress actually slowed down because we had to be aware of traffic and significant numbers of news media types roaming around looking for stories.

"After ten days they moved us to Camp Riverdale near the Zoo area. This camp lasted a few days and then I was moved back to Baton Rouge to become the liaison with DMORT at the St. Gabriel Morgue. The rest of the teams were moved to Camp Villieri, near Slidell, LA, across Lake Pontchartrain. As it turns out it was a good move because with "Rita" approaching, New Orleans had to be evacuated again.

"Most of the time it was dormitory style living but I was able to be put up at a hotel the last six nights. This was a lot nicer as I don't do camping well! After the three weeks were up on September 29, I came home. I look forward to visiting New Orleans in a couple of years to see how it has done in the rebuilding process."

Remembering Former WSAC Executive Director Jim Metcalf and His Contributions to Counties

Former WSAC Executive Director Jim Metcalf died peacefully in his sleep the night of September 30th. Jim first worked for WSAC as a lobbyist in the late 1960s. He later served as a lobbyist for King County. Jim's return to WSAC as Executive Director in 1980 marked the beginning of nearly a decade of achievements for counties.

Jim was noted for having access on the hill and the ability to close

Courthouse Ramblings (continued)

tough deals. His successes included securing passage of the second half cent sales tax and real estate excise tax for counties. The 15% share of sales taxes within cities allocated to counties was championed by Jim. When the Legislature cut taxes for the struggling timber industry, Jim made sure counties were held harmless. He led the effort to pass legislation creating the Rural Arterial Program and the Transportation Improvement Board in addition to securing additional gas tax distributions for counties. Jim worked closely with then State Senator Jim McDermott in creating the Public Works Trust Fund, which is still going strong serving

communities across the state. Many counties rely on jails financed by \$300 million in jail construction funding obtained through Jim's leadership. He also played a crucial role supporting the efforts to provide funding for the Regional Support Networks and AIDs networks. He also worked, before his departure to set the table for passage of criminal justice funding for counties and cities. Within the Association, Jim oversaw the construction of the Washington Counties Building. After leaving WSAC Jim lobbied for public and private clients, but he remained passionate about counties and their issues. He continued working with local officials to

represent their issues in Olympia until his death.

Jim is survived by his daughter Allison Metcalf, his wife Helen Metcalf and many friends. Those of you wishing to contact Allison can reach her at alison_metcalf@att.net or by phone at 360-903-3484. You can write to Helen at 4218 SW Huber St. Portland OR 97219 or phone her at 360-903-3484.

Jim's friends will be joined by Alison and Helen for a celebration of Jim's life on Saturday October 29 from 1 to 3 at the restaurant at Tumwater Valley Golf Course in Tumwater. Friends from Jim's long years of public service are invited to attend.



The Interagency Committee of State Employed Women (ICSEW), sponsored by Governor Christine Gregoire, would like to invite your county to be represented at the ICSEW's Biannual Professional Development Conference held in Kennewick, Washington on May 8-10, 2006.

The theme of the conference is "Today's Women, Today's Leaders."

The ICSEW is asking that your county contribute a gift basket to the conference, filled with products either manufactured in or unique to your area of the state. The baskets will be displayed throughout the conference and then auctioned off with all proceeds going to benefit the Columbia Basin Community College, Adult Learning Center's child care program.

With over 31,000 women employed by various agencies in five regions of our state, chances are your county will be represented at the conference. The expertise Washington State workers gain at the conference will become part of the overall business workings for your county and area of the state.

For more information, including where to send the gift basket representing your county, please contact Patricia Thronson at 360-902-3470 or e-mail Patricia at PatriciaT@dis.wa.gov.

Calendar of Events

<u>NOVEMBER 2005</u>			
Washington Counties Risk Pool, Risk Managers Roundtable	Marcus Whitman Hotel, Walla Walla	November 2	(360) 586-7447, ext 104
Washington Counties Risk Pool, Autumn Board Meeting & Planning Session	Marcus Whitman Hotel, Walla Walla	November 2-3	(360) 586-7447, ext 100
VETERANS DAY	WA Counties Bldg CLOSED	November 11	(360) 753-1886
Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs' (WASPC) Annual Fall Conference	Red Lion Hotel, Olympia	November 14-17	(360) 753-7319
Assn of County Human Services	Ellensburg	November 16 - 18	(360) 753-1886
Washington Counties Insurance Fund (WCIF) Board Meeting	Red Lion at Columbia Center, Kennewick	November 17	(360) 586-0466
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY	WA Counties Bldg CLOSED	Nov. 24 and 25	(360) 753-1886
WA State Assn of Local Public Health Officials	SeaTac	November 29 - 30	(360) 753-1886
<u>DECEMBER 2005</u>			
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys' (WAPA) Winter Meeting & Banquet	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Seattle	December 8 - 9	(360) 753-2175
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	WA Counties Bldg CLOSED	December 25	
<u>JANUARY 2006</u>			
NEW YEARS HOLIDAY	WA Counties Bldg CLOSED	January 2	
Legislative Session Begins	Olympia	January 9	http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/calendar.cfm
WSAC Legislative Luncheon	Ramada Inn, Olympia	January 19 (11:30a)	(360) 753-1886
WSAC Legislative Reception	Ramada Inn, Olympia	January 19 (5:30p)	(360) 753-1886
County Treasurers' Legislative Conference	WA Counties Bldg Olympia	January 23-24	(360) 753-7319
County Clerks' Legislative Conference	WA Counties Bldg Olympia	January 25-26	(360) 753-7319
County Assessors' Legislative Conference	WA Counties Bldg Olympia	January 31-February 2	(360) 753-7319



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

We want your input! Please join us for our 2005 Roundtable Discussion.

The Department of Revenue is reaching out to local government officials across Washington to explore options for working more effectively with you.

I would like to invite you to participate in a roundtable discussion with me and other senior officials in our agency to discuss a variety of issues. We want your input on what we do well and, more importantly, what we can do better. We'll look at topics ranging from our information and communication tools to your experiences with agency programs, procedures, and policies. Your feedback will help us provide the services you need right now, and explore changes that will make our agency more responsive to your needs for the future.

If you would like to participate, please respond using this form. We will contact you later to confirm event details. One event is planned:

Friday, Nov. 18th	9:30 a.m. – noon	Olympia	Phoenix Inn Suites 415 Capitol Way, N.
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I appreciate your willingness to provide comments that will assist us in our strategic planning process. I am confident that our dialogue will result in improved service delivery and a better working relationship with the Department of Revenue.

Sincerely,

Cindi L.H. Yates
Director, Department of Revenue

YES, I would like to participate in the Department of Revenue's 2005 Roundtable discussion.

Your name _____

Type of local government/jurisdiction/office _____

Address _____

Contact name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Please return this form to: Taxpayer Services, PO Box 47478, Olympia, WA 98504
Fax: (360) 705-6655 Email penny@dor.wa.gov or call (360) 705-6622. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE
Preparedness and Response to Agricultural Terrorism
PER 322—ODP Approved

November 8-10, 2005
Moses Lake, WA (Location will be determined.)
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Lunch is on your own

Delivered by Louisiana State University (LSU), National Center for Biomedical Research and Training (NCBRT), a member of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC)

To register visit: www3.doh.wa.gov/waphtn/classlist.asp?id=687

Questions? Travis Skidmore, Region 7 Homeland Security, 509-793-1825
Theresa Fuller, Region 7 Public Health, 509-766-7960 x24

Purpose:

To provide participants with information on how to identify potential threats to the cultivation, production, processing, transportation, or distribution of the nation's food supply.

Cost

No Fee. Reimbursement for overtime costs associated with attending the course are available through Homeland Security. Contact your DEM for further information.

Target Audiences

- Agricultural business (Fertilizer distributors, feedlots, grain elevators, co-ops, etc.)
- Elected/appointed officials
- Regulatory/enforcement agencies (such as USDA, FDA, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), etc.)
- Trade associations (cattleman's association, food processing institutes etc.)
- Related industries: food producers/distributors (packaging, canneries, trucking)
- Research/extension services (agricultural supply services, crop consultants, etc.)
- Public utilities
- Homeland Security Officials
- Emergency Management
- Emergency response community
- Medical Community
- Public Health
- Veterinarians
- Wildlife Officials
- Public Information Officers (PIO)

Certificate

LSU National Center for Biomedical
Research and Training Certificate (2.4 CEU's)

**Eastern Washington
Council of Governments**

Chairman Mike Blankenship Ferry County Commissioner
Vice Chairman Rich Stevens Grant County Commissioner
Secretary Mary Lou Peterson Okanogan County Commissioner
Treasurer Ted Hopkins, Lincoln County Commissioner

September 12, 2005

NACO
440 First Street N.W. 8th, floor
Washington, D.C. 20001-2080

RE: Parish and County Family fund

Dear Bill Hansell,

The Eastern Washington Council of Governments (EWCOG) would like to donate \$1,000 to the Parish and County Family Fund to support your efforts to provide assistance to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Treasurer services for the EWCOG are provided by Lincoln County and they will be issuing a warrant this week that will be sent to you via separate cover.

The EWCOG is an organization of rural Eastern Washington Counties that have banded together to address regional issues.

We appreciate your efforts on behalf of our sister counties in the hurricane area and we pray that those affected by this natural disaster can have their lives returned to normal as soon as possible.

Respectfully,

Mike Blankenship
Chairman, Ferry County Commissioner

CC WSAC
Senator Morton
Representative Kretz
Representative Sump