

# the Courthouse Journal

W A C O U N T I E S . O R G

May 11, 2006  
Issue No. 17

*Inside the  
Courthouse Journal*

Budget, Finance & Taxes

Courts, Public Safety, Law  
& Justice

Elections, Licensing  
& Recording

Environment, Land Use &  
Resources

General Government Issues

Public Health & Human  
Services

Transportation &  
Public Works

Association News

Boards & Commissions

Training & Upcoming  
Events

Courthouse Ramblings

Calendar of Events

Featured Courthouse

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

## The Washington Counties Scholarship Fund Announces Winners

Two independent selection committees have chosen the following children of county employees to receive a \$2500 Washington Counties Scholarship for the 2006/07 school year! (in alphabetical order) **Adrianna Creasey, Nicole Drake, Michael Sterling Goins, Chiho Lai and Gina Ticenor.**

*Continued on page 2*

## WSAC President Burton Seeking LSC Members

The WSAC Board of Directors policy now states that "each year the President shall request letters of interest from any WSAC Elected Official who wants to be on LSC and who is willing to commit the time necessary to fulfill their responsibilities". The member must submit their request in writing; therefore, any WSAC elected officials interested in serving on the Legislative Steering Committee must submit a letter of interest and a completed application form. To get an application form click this link – [LSC APPLICATION](#)

Your letter of interest should be addressed to Dean Burton, WSAC President. Please send your application packet (letter of interest & completed application form) to Barbara Warden at [bwarden@wacounties.org](mailto:bwarden@wacounties.org), if by mail, 206 Tenth Av SE, Olympia, WA 98501 or fax 360.753.2842. If you have any questions regarding the application process please contact Barbara (360.586.4219 ext 120). Commissioner Burton may be reached at 509.843.1391 or [dnburton@pomeroy-wa.com](mailto:dnburton@pomeroy-wa.com).

*Additional LSC Policy Guidelines include:*

- The President shall appoint the LSC Co-Chairs for staggered two year terms.
- WSAC Executive Committee members are automatic members of the LSC.
- All LSC terms are for one year per the WSAC bylaws.
- WSAC President may appoint additional members to assure all interests of the Association are adequately represented.
- The President makes the final decision on all applications for appointment

*Continued in Boards & Commissions - page 9*

**Want to post a job announcement on our webpage?**

E-mail your info to [bwarden@wacounties.org](mailto:bwarden@wacounties.org)

**What information do you need to include in your e-mail?**

Visit [Employment Opportunities](#)

**Continued from page 1 "Scholarship Winners"**

**Adrianna Creasey**, daughter of Carol Creasey, Clallam County Community Development, and Stanton Creasey, Clallam County Auditor's Office. Adrianna graduated from Sequim High School and took a "gap year" while she lived in Chile, learned to speak fluent Spanish, and decided to pursue a major in nutrition, where she can combine science and medicine with a practical application, and will minor in Spanish.

**Nicole Drake**, daughter of Penny Drake, Pacific County Sheriff's Office, and Rick Drake, Pacific County Public Works. Nicole has worked both in senior assisted living settings and caring for a young man who became a quadriplegic following a car accident. It is those life experiences that compel her to complete a licensed practical nursing program and ultimately become a registered nurse.

**Michael Sterling Goins**, son of Karen Sterling Goins, Whatcom County Human Resources, and Michael Sterling. Michael admits he has a "longstanding infatuation with literature" and "the only thing that can challenge a good book is an even better computer programming project." He believes the value of education lies in multiple challenges and exposure to a diversity of subjects. He is graduating from Sehome High School.

**Chiho Lai**, son of Lorraine Lai, King County Dept. of Transportation, and Louis Lai. Chiho will be graduating from Western Washington University in 2007 with a Bachelor of Arts in History and a minor in accounting before pursuing a Masters in Public Administration. He says he is guided by an ancient Egyptian concept of universal duty and plans to "dedicate his work to the public good, be it through community service at the local level, or improving health care and education in the national political arena."

**Gina Tichenor**, daughter of Carol Cummings, King County Sheriff's Office, and Lance Tichenor. Gina says she "has come far and learned liberally" and that "conviction and perseverance can conquer just about anything" as she worked hard to find new ways to learn after being diagnosed early-on with a learning disability. Her triumph came when her name appeared on the honor roll and it will undoubtedly appear many more times and she moves on from high school to law school with her focus on criminal justice.

Two alternates were also selected in the event any of the winners are unable to utilize the scholarship and they are Claire Rose Mikalson, daughter of Christine Mikalson of the Whitman County Auditor's Office, and the late Robert Mikalson; and, Scott Henderson, son of Heidi Henderson, Thurston County Public Health and Social Services, and Thomas Henderson. Congratulations to the winners! The Washington Counties Scholarship Fund is a joint effort of WACO and WSAC.

**The Courthouse Journal**

Published weekly (during Legislative Session) and Bi-weekly (other than Session) by the Washington Association of County Officials (WACO) <http://wacounties.org/waco> and the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) <http://wacounties.org/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 or [wacounties.org](http://wacounties.org)

**WACO STAFF**

Phone (360) 753-7319 / Fax (360) 664-2812

**Debbie Wilke**, Executive Director  
**Christina Bridston**, Deputy Director  
**Bob Carlton**, Research Associate  
**Kathie Houts**, Administrative Assistant

**WSAC STAFF**

Phone (360) 753-1886 / Fax (360) 753-2842

**Bill Vogler**, Executive Director  
**Eric Johnson**, Assistant Executive Director  
**Maureen Morris**,  
Urban Counties Deputy Director  
**Sophia Byrd McSherry**, Policy Director-  
Courts, Public Safety, Law & Justice  
**Jean Wessman**, Policy Director-  
Human Services, Juvenile Justice & Housing  
**Julie Sexton**, Policy Director-  
Transportation, Finance & Budget  
**Vicki Kirkpatrick**, Policy Director-  
Public Health & WSALPHO Administrator  
**Tom Robinson**, Coordinator-Timber  
**Trina Bannister**,  
Finance & Administration Director  
**Ginni Peppert**,  
Events Planner & Administrative Assistant  
**Barbara Warden**,  
Business & Administrative Assistant  
**Tom Jensen**, Technology Project Manager

**CPO PROGRAM**

**Julie Kaufman**,  
Certified Public Official Coordinator

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

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## ***Budget, Finance and Taxes***

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### **Governor Convenes Tribal Tax Work Group**

On May 1, the first meeting of the Governor's Tribal Tax Work Group met at the Little Creek Casino and Hotel, in Shelton. WSAC was invited to participate in the Work Group along with the Association of Washington Cities as representatives of local government. The Work Group was formed to continue discussions that began at the last November's Centennial Accord with the state's tribes.

Representatives from several of the state's 29 federally recognized tribes, the governor's office, the departments of transportation, licensing and revenue, and the Liquor Control Board attended. Several state legislators also took part.

Led by Tom Fitzsimmons, the Governor's Chief of State, the agenda for the three-hour session was to lay out issues and figure out how the panel will address them. Tribal governments, state government, and local government have overlapping tax jurisdictions, which have led to disputes over taxes. Tribal representatives expressed a keen interest in reviewing property tax, sales tax, and fuel tax issues.

However, those discussions have not begun. The Work Group recognized that before any meaningful discussion could take place about revenues, more information and education was necessary on each government taxing authority and the services that are supported by those taxes. A sub-group of the Work Group was formed to prepare such information to be shared and discussed at the next meeting.

WSAC has opposed past proposals to share sales tax revenues with tribal jurisdictions without assumption of county and/or city responsibilities by tribes. WSAC also requested a process be convened to fully discuss the roles and responsibilities of "tribal cities." The Governor's Tribal Tax Work Group is such a forum and WSAC will be taking an active role in those discussions. The next meeting of the Work Group is scheduled for June 8, from 2:00 – 5:00 pm at the Little Creek Casino and Hotel in Shelton.

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## ***Courts, Public Safety, Law & Justice***

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### **Superior Court Announces Appointment of Bob Terwilliger**

Snohomish County Superior Court Presiding Judge Wynne, May 5, announced the appointment of Bob Terwilliger as Snohomish County Superior Court Administrator to replace Richard Carlson who is retiring effective December 31, 2006.

Terwilliger will report to the Presiding Judge on all operational aspects of the court. He will be responsible for the oversight of daily court operations for both Superior and Juvenile court, planning and directing court programs and services, development and implementation of policies, preparation and presentation of the annual budget, purchasing and accounts payable, oversight of projects, grants and contracts. He will provide direction for case-flow, jury management, court records and physical plant and equipment needs of the court.

Bob is a known commodity to Snohomish County serving as the elected Auditor since 1993. His career began in Snohomish County Prosecutor's Office as legal advisor to the auditor, clerk, planning director and county executive in 1978. His years of service include serving as the Chief Deputy Auditor and some time as an Associate Attorney specializing in land use. Bob has served on a variety of state committee's and national boards. His community service with United Way, Everett Chamber of Commerce and Everett Rotary speaks to his dedication to our community. Bob's 28 years of public service and experience as an elected official will be an asset to this important position for the courts. Judge Wynne says, "The bench is excited to begin working with Bob as he brings not only the knowledge of the law with his credentials and work experience, but also many years of experience as a top notch administrator which will assist the court in moving forward to provide services to our citizens in Snohomish County."

Bob is a former president of the Washington State Association of County Auditors and is a current member of the WACO Board of Trustees.

## Applications Coming Soon for New Emergency Management Grants

The 2006 Legislature appropriated \$1.6 million for new local Emergency Management preparedness Assistance Grants, and electronic applications will be distributed soon, according to the state Emergency Management Division (EMD).

Check for updated application information on the EMD website at [www.emd.wa.gov](http://www.emd.wa.gov), and read a more-detailed article in the Emergency Responder newsletter at <http://emd.wa.gov/4-pio/newsletters/nltr-mar-apr-06.pdf>.

The grant funds must be used within 12 months, so EMD recommends that applicants focus on short-term, high-impact projects. Eligible projects under the Emergency Management Preparedness Assistance Grant (EMPAG) include:

- Development and coordination of comprehensive emergency management plans.
- Training of elected and appointed officials on state laws, local ordinances, disaster command and response structures, and the roles and responsibilities of officials before, during and after a disaster.
- Administration of joint emergency management training exercises; or
- Implementation of projects that will strengthen emergency response, mitigation, preparation and coordination.

For more information, contact [emgrants@emd.wa.gov](mailto:emgrants@emd.wa.gov) or Rachel Glahe at 253.512.7000.

## State Adds Five Counties to Public Defense Program for Dependencies

The state Office of Public Defense (OPD) has added five counties to its program that provides public defense for indigent parents involved in child dependency and termination cases. Clallam, Clark, Kitsap, Snohomish and Spokane counties will bring the new state program to a total of 18 counties. The Legislature intends to expand the program to all counties over the next few years.

The state OPD is working with the county commissioners, juvenile court administrators, superior court judges, and existing defense attorneys in the five new counties to migrate the programs from the county to the state, according to OPD Director Joanne Moore.

The 2006 Legislature added \$4.5 million in the supplemental budget to nearly \$7 million it appropriated in 2005 to continue taking over this costly defense function from the counties, which historically have operated widely disparate programs. The state Attorney General and Department of Social and Health Services bring the cases against parents, and typically spend more than twice as much money in prosecuting the cases as counties can afford in providing constitutionally mandated defense counsel for the parents.

WSAC has for many years lobbied for state participation in providing public defense services. The statewide expansion follows on the success of two pilot projects that operated for several years in Pierce County and Benton-Franklin judicial district.

The five counties added to the program this year were chosen by OPD based on applications submitted by the superior courts of those counties and several criteria, including attorney caseloads and contract terms, successful family reunification rates and whether the courts and the attorneys were willing to work collaboratively with OPD to improve both procedural efficiencies in the courts as well as outcomes for the children involved.

## May 18 Meeting for Task Force on Offender Issues

The vast majority of all incarcerated offenders eventually leave prison and return to living in the community. **SSB 6308**, passed by the 2006 Legislature, seeks to improve both prisoner rehabilitation and public safety by examining possible reforms to programs in both prisons and communities.

The bill establishes a Joint Legislative Task Force on Offender Programs, Sentencing and Supervision made up of two Senators, two House members, representatives of the Attorney General, the director of Corrections, and the director of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission. The bill directs these permanent Task Force members to consult with numerous stakeholders, including counties.

The Task Force will submit recommendations to the governor and the appropriate legislative committees by November 15, 2006, for consideration by the 2007 Legislature.

WSAC members interested in attending meetings or otherwise participating in Task Force activities should contact WSAC staff Sophia Byrd McSherry at [sbyrd@wacounties.org](mailto:sbyrd@wacounties.org). County commissioners, councilmembers and executives are strongly encouraged to participate and have a voice in the resulting recommendations and possible legislation. **The next meeting of the Task Force is 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday, May 18, at the John L. O'Brien office building on the Capitol campus in Olympia.** Anyone interested in attending should contact Sophia at WSAC or legislative staff Shani Bauer at [bauer.shani@leg.wa.gov](mailto:bauer.shani@leg.wa.gov) or 360.786.7468 .

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## ***Environment, Land Use & Resources***

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### **Columbia River Basin Management Meetings Scheduled**

State officials are planning four public meetings in Eastern Washington this month to discuss how to implement **E2SHB 2860**, the Columbia River Basin management plan legislation signed into law earlier this year. The new bill seeks to make more water available by increasing storage in new reservoirs. It also allows the state to sign regional agreements with communities or other groups seeking new water rights in the near-term in exchange for mitigation efforts to preserve stream flows.

The workshops are part of an initial scoping process that will result in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Columbia River Water Management Program. Interested agencies, local governments, tribes and the public will have the opportunity to comment on issues they would like to see focused on in the EIS. Scoping comments will be accepted through June 5, 2006.

Staff from the Washington State Department of Ecology as well as outside facilitators will be available at the open houses to answer questions and share insight on the implementation of the bill. The open houses will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. at these locations:

- May 17 - Wenatchee Convention Center (Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel), Gala Room, 201 N Wenatchee Av.
- May 18 - Colville Agricultural Trade Center, 317 W Astor
- May 22 - Moses Lake Fire Department Multi-Purpose Room, 701 E Third Av
- May 23 - Kennewick Three Rivers Convention Center, Meeting Room C, 7016 W Grandridge Blvd

#### ***Topics to be addressed include:***

- Developing a way to deliver Columbia Basin Project water to lands in the Odessa Ground Water Management Subarea (Odessa Subarea) currently served by local ground water.
- Creating a secondary route for delivering water to the Potholes Reservoir from Pinto Dam to help ensure reliability of water supply.
- Evaluating the feasibility of new off-channel storage facilities to augment supplies of water for instream and out-of-stream use in the Columbia River Basin.
- Continuing efforts to secure water from additional drawdown of Lake Roosevelt, including work with the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation to identify and implement appropriate mitigation.
- Conducting water conservation projects in cooperation with the Washington Conservation Commission, conservation districts, irrigation districts, and other local partners.
- Creating a water resources information system for the Columbia River to support effective mainstem water resource planning and management;
- Administering a program for entering into voluntary regional agreements to provide new water for out-of-stream use, streamlining permitting processes, and protecting instream flows.

### **Farmland Preservation Advisors Sought**

The state Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC) is looking for volunteers to serve on an advisory committee for a new farmland preservation grant program.

The program provides grants to cities and counties to help preserve viable farmland. Grants also can be given to enhance the productivity and improve or restore the ecological functions of preserved farmland. Grants are used to compensate farmers for their development rights, thereby ensuring the land remains available for farming in the future. Landowner participation is voluntary; no land condemnation is allowed.

The Farmland Advisory Committee will advise IAC on program policies and recommend projects for funding. Members will be asked to attend the following meetings in Olympia:

- July 10-12, 2006 to review project applications
- August 14-15, 2006 to evaluate grant presentations
- August 23, 2006 for a two-hour, post evaluation meeting (may participate via teleconference)
- Two to four meetings (locations TBD) between October 2006 and December 2007 to discuss program policies and make recommendations for changes for 2008 grants

When the budget allows, travel expenses are provided. The ideal candidate has firsthand knowledge of farming in Washington, is recognized for leadership in farmland or community organizations and is knowledgeable of farmland issues. Candidates selected should be able to fully participate in the calendar of committee activities referenced above. IAC will seek to form a committee that represents the state's diversity of agricultural commodities and regions.

Farmland preservation is a new grant category within the popular Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, one of the state's largest grant programs for parks and conservation measures. This is the first year that farmland proposals will be accepted. Advisory committee members will play an important role by evaluating the first set of applications, reviewing the program's first year of operation and potentially recommending policy direction for future grants.

To apply for the advisory committee, send a completed application to IAC no later than **June 2, 2006**. Applications are available online at [http://www.iac.wa.gov/Documents/IAC/Grants/Farmland\\_Pres\\_Prog/farmland\\_adv\\_form.doc](http://www.iac.wa.gov/Documents/IAC/Grants/Farmland_Pres_Prog/farmland_adv_form.doc) or by contacting Lorinda Anderson at 360-902-3009 (TDD 360-902-1996) or [LorindaA@iac.wa.gov](mailto:LorindaA@iac.wa.gov)

## **News from the National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition**

### *NFCSC Conference Highlights*

The 2006 NFCSC Conference was a roaring success. Over 200 participants listened to the following keynote speakers: U.S. Senator Larry Craig; Under Secretary of Agriculture Mark Rey; noted forest scientist Dr. John Sessions; Dr. William Smith, Director of the Center for Rural Education at the U.S. Office of Education; and Dr. Jonathon Kusel, Executive Director of the Sierra Institute for Community and Environment. On Friday evening, six exemplary Resource Advisory Committees were presented plaques in honor of their outstanding projects. Descriptions of those projects will be on the NFCSC website. Another major focus of the conference was providing county level officials with information about materials and training programs to assist counties in achieving Cooperating Agencies Status under NEPA and in preparing themselves to engage in cooperative land use planning. And, given the need for effective advocacy skills, conference participants received training in "Selling the Reauthorization of Secure Rural Schools" by NFCSC Board Members Mary Kusler, Greg Stanko, Don Emch and Tony Bieda, Lane County Intergovernmental Relations Manager. This year's conference was not all work as participants were entertained by Past Grand National Fiddle Champion Randy Pollard; Jim French, NFCSC Board Member and Guitarist extraordinaire; and the Poet Laureate of the NFCSC Jim Parsons, who again wowed the crowd with Cowboy Poetry – Alpine County style. A good time was had by all!

### *NFCSC "Save Our Rural School and Communities" Fly-In – September 13 & 14, 2006*

The NFCSC will host its first annual Save Our Rural Schools and Communities – Washington, DC Fly-In on Wednesday, September 13 and Thursday, September 14. We need over 150 forest county citizens to come to Washington, DC for the Fly-In. Tuesday, September 12 will be a travel day and the Fly-In will involve participants all-day on Wednesday and Thursday (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.). Wednesday morning participants will be briefed by Members of Congress and their staff followed by one and a half days of active congressional office visitations on Capital Hill. No previous advocacy experience is necessary as each participant will be placed on a team led by an experienced Capital Hill advocate. Our goal is to meet with all 100 U.S. Senators offices and all 435 U.S. Representatives offices. All participants will be given a Kelly green polo shirt with a "Save Our Rural Schools and Communities" slogan and logo. The Fly-In will

include several media opportunities as well as an active schedule of Congressional Office Appointments. We need rural citizens from forest counties across the nation from all segments including county government, education, business and industry, labor, RAC members, and parents/private citizens.

We need to tell the story of the forest counties and how important reauthorization is to our counties, by the end of 2006. Registration for the Fly-In will be free of charge to participants. A block of hotel rooms will be held until August 11 and participants will need to call and reserve their own rooms. The cost for hotel and flights to and from Washington, DC will be the responsibility of each participant and/or their sponsoring agency.

This will be the last major opportunity to convince Congress to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Act before it expires on September 30, 2006. By Monday, May 15 the Fly-In Registration and Hotel Registration information will be on the new NFCSC website address at [www.forestco.net](http://www.forestco.net). Please sign-up today – we need your help!

#### ***New and More User-Friendly Website Address***

We have revised our website address to make it more user-friendly to our members. The new website address will be [www.forestco.net](http://www.forestco.net). We believe that this shorter and more direct web address will be easier for everyone to use.

#### ***Our Bill Co-Sponsors are Growing, but We Need More!***

We now have 90 co-sponsors for **HR 517** in the US House and 27 co-sponsors for **S 267** in the US Senate. Please keep pushing for additional co-sponsors. A long list of co-sponsors is absolutely essential in order to move these bills in the current congressional environment. The current co-sponsor list is on our website under “Reauthorization.”

#### ***Additional Washington, DC – Mini Team Fly-Ins***

Teams will also be visiting Capital Hill on June 19-23, 2006 and July 17-21, 2006. If you want to join these teams, please call the Coalition office at 530-527-0666 and add your name to the list of action team members. Now is the time to help!

#### ***Contact your US Senators and Representatives during the Fourth of July and August Recess***

An excellent opportunity to contact your members of Congress is during the July 4 and the August Congressional Recess. Members will be at home and will be visiting many of your counties. Call their state or district offices and arrange for a delegation of leaders from your community to meet with them while they are in their state and district. Please impress upon them 1) How successful PL 106-393 has been in your county and 2) How important it is for them to insist that Congressional leadership puts reauthorization of PL 106-393 on the short list of “must pass” legislation in this session of Congress. Time is running out! Call your members of Congress today!

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## ***Association News***

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### **90+ Attend WSAC Eastern District Spring Meeting**

Chelan County Commissioner Buell Hawkins, Wenatchee Mayor Dennis Johnson, and Eastern District President/Stevens County Commissioner Merrill Ott, welcomed over 90 County Commissioners, staff and others to the Spring Eastern District Meeting in Wenatchee on Thursday, May 4, 2006. As part of their business meeting, Eastern District Members concurred with the Western District to cancel the Spring District Meetings and hold them in conjunction with a Summer Convention.

A broad array of sessions and issues were presented and discussed at the Western District Spring meeting. Here are the highlights:

- WSAC Deputy Director Maureen Morris, Jackie White, AWC, and Consultant Andy Meyer provided an overview of WSAC’s work with the Transportation Permitting Efficiency and Accountability Committee (TEAPAC). WSAC and the Association of Washington Counties (AWC) are spearheading pilot projects in Lewis and Clark counties to link transportation project mitigation requirements with mitigation banks, watershed plan implementation and other creative off-site mitigation opportunities.

- Mary Jane Ferguson, deputy director of the state Office of Public Defense (OPD), shared information on how counties can apply to receive their share of \$3 million in new state funding for criminal indigent defense. Although the grants are relatively small, this marks the first time that the state has ever contributed to funding trial-level criminal indigent defense. Each county's share is determined by a formula adopted by the Legislature in 2005 (**HB 1542**) that considers felony filings and population. Counties are not required to accept the new grants, but those that do accept the funding are expected to demonstrate improvements in their public defense programs.
- Kathleen Davis, Director of WSDOT Highways & Local Programs Division, provided the group with an overview of the legislative changes made to distributions of federal funding under SAFETEA-LU. Beginning in 2008, MPOs, RTPOs, and counties will be required to distribute such funds through a competitive process and report back to the legislature each year. Information was also distributed on Transportation Benefit Districts (TBDs). TBDs are separate taxing districts that can raise vote-approved taxes and fees for any transportation project or priority in a state or regional transportation plan that will reduce current or projected traffic congestion. TBD can be formed and governed by county legislative authorities. If you are interested in more information on TBDs, contact Julie Sexton at WSAC ([JSexton@wacounties.org](mailto:JSexton@wacounties.org)) for the informational hand-out.
- 12<sup>th</sup> District State Senator Linda Evans Parlette, Republican Deputy Leader, provided the keynote luncheon address recapping the 2006 legislative session and sharing her thoughts on what lies ahead for 2007.
- Seventh District State Senator Bob Morton, Ranking Minority, Water, Energy and Environment, was joined by Jerry O'Keefe, Department of Ecology and Paul Stoker, representing the Columbia Basin Groundwater Management Association. The group discussed the implementation **HB 2860** and the management of Columbia River, the Odessa Aquifer, and a variety of instream and water storage issues.

Closing the Eastern District Spring meeting was an outstanding and engaging roundtable discussion with 25<sup>th</sup> District State Senator Jim Kastama, Chair, Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee, 46<sup>th</sup> District State Representative Jim McIntire, Chair, House Finance, and 12<sup>th</sup> District State Representative Cary Condotta, Ranking Minority, House Labor and Commerce Committee. While the subject was focused on "New Ideas for Stable County Financing" the three provided a wide range of thoughts on issues pertaining to county government and Washington State.

Eastern District Commissioners were also joined by 9<sup>th</sup> District State Senator, Mark Schoesler, Republican Whip, 12<sup>th</sup> District State Representative, Deputy Minority Leader Mike Armstrong and former Kittitas County Commissioner, 13<sup>th</sup> District State Representative Bill Hinkle.

## **NACo Gearing up for Annual Conference in Cook County, Illinois**

Attendees and exhibitors alike are registering for NACo's 71st Annual Conference. Optional activity information will be available soon for attendees' guests who wish to see a bit of Chicago during their visit. Cook County is rolling out the red carpet for NACo and will host a fantastic conference-wide event at Navy Pier, Sunday, August 5. The Early Bird Registration fee is available through July 6. In addition to exemplary educational and networking opportunities always offered at this conference, more than 150 suppliers of products and services have signed up for exhibit space. To see the listing of exhibitors, company profiles, and further information about the annual conference, please visit: [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org). For more information, contact Kim Struble at 202-942-4288 or [kstruble@naco.org](mailto:kstruble@naco.org)

## **NACo Center for Sustainable Communities Presents Awards**

The NACo Center for Sustainable Communities conducted its 2005-06 awards presentation ceremony April 27 in Washington, D.C. One hundred recipients and guests helped honor 12 counties and their partners for creating partnerships that promoted economic development, environmental stewardship, and social equity. NACo Immediate-Past President Angelo Kyle presided over the evening's festivities, joined by NACo 2nd Vice-President Don Stapley, whose county, Maricopa County, Ariz., was also an award recipient.

The Conservation Fund's President/CEO Larry Selzer joined the center in announcing their new partnership to combat climate change. The awards ceremony was an official "Go Zero" event in which the center offset 100 percent of the

awards ceremony's carbon dioxide emissions by investing in a reforestation project to reforest important lands in the Mississippi Delta region. The full list of winners can be seen at [www.naco.org/sustainableaward](http://www.naco.org/sustainableaward) . For more information, contact Martin Harris at 202-661-8805

## NACo Accepting Applications for County Courthouse Awards

NACo is currently accepting applications for the 2006 County Courthouse Awards. Application information can be found at: [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org) under the Awards section.

Established five years ago, the County Courthouse Awards are sponsored by Siemens and recognize innovative governance by county elected officials. Award winners receive an engraved plaque that they can display in their county, recognition at the 2006 NACo Annual Conference in Chicago and a \$5,000 college scholarship to present to a graduating high school senior. Awards will be given out in three categories: rural, suburban and urban. All NACo members are encouraged to apply. Applications must be postmarked by May 8 to be considered. For more information, contact Joe Dunn at 202-942-4207 or [jdunn@naco.org](mailto:jdunn@naco.org) or Dalen Harris at 202-942-4236.

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## **Boards & Commissions**

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### Continued from page 1 "LSC Application Process"

The 2006-07 LSC Co-chairs, Commissioner Munks and Commissioner Hunt, will be meeting with County Officials around the state over the next several months. The dates for the LSC Forums are:

- May 31            Lincoln County            2 – 4 pm
- June 1            Benton County            10 am – Noon
- June 6            Snohomish County        10 am – Noon
- June 29          Lewis County            2 – 4 pm

The 2007 WSAC Legislative Steering Committee and Sub-committee meeting schedule in Olympia follows:

- January 10      Urban County Caucus            6:30 – 8:30 pm    Mercato's Ristorante'
- January 10      Rural Issues Sub-committee      6:30 – 8:30 pm    Ramblin' Jacks
- January 11      LSC                                    8 – Noon            WA Counties Bldg
- January 24      Urban County Caucus            6:30 – 8:30 pm    Mercato's Ristorante'
- January 24      Rural Issues Sub-committee      6:30 – 8:30 pm    Ramblin' Jacks
- January 25      LSC                                    8 – Noon            WA Counties Bldg
- February 8      WSAC Legislative Rally            Luncheon & Reception – Location TBD
- February 21     Urban County Caucus            6:30 – 8:30 pm    Mercato's Ristorante'
- February 21     Rural Issues Sub-committee      6:30 – 8:30 pm    Ramblin' Jacks
- February 22     LSC                                    8 – Noon            WA Counties Bldg
- March 7          Urban County Caucus            6:30 – 8:30 pm    Mercato's Ristorante'
- March 7          Rural Issues Sub-committee      6:30 – 8:30 pm    Ramblin' Jacks
- March 8          LSC                                    8 – Noon            WA Counties Bldg
- March 21        Urban County Caucus            6:30 – 8:30 pm    Mercato's Ristorante'
- March 21        Rural Issues Sub-committee      6:30 – 8:30 pm    Ramblin' Jacks
- March 22        LSC                                    8 – Noon            WA Counties Bldg

Please keep in mind that these dates are tentative and subject to change. Any schedule changes will be reflected at [wacounties.org/Calendar of Events-WEB.pdf](http://wacounties.org/Calendar of Events-WEB.pdf) .

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## **Training & Upcoming Events**

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### **WSAC Conducting Four Legislative Listening Forums**

Legislative Co-Chairs **Mary Hunt**, Douglas County, and **Don Munks**, Skagit County, are hosting four Regional Legislative Forums to take suggestions on issues and priorities for the 2007 WSAC Legislative Package. All county commissioners, county council members, county executives and key county department staff are invited to attend one of the forums. **The four Regional Forums will take place:**

- May 31,2006      2 pm – 4 pm                  Lincoln County Courthouse (Davenport)
- June 1,2006      10 am – Noon                  Benton County Justice Center (Kennewick)
- June 6,2006      10 am –Noon                  Snohomish County, E. Admin Building (Everett)
- June 29,2006      2 pm – 4 pm                  Lewis County Courthouse (Chehalis)

Suggestions made at these forums will be collected and presented to WSAC Legislative Steering Committee members prior to their first meeting in July. Combined with the WSAC's 2006 Legislative Priorities that need continued legislative action, the suggestions made at the forums will assist in establishing legislative priorities for the 2007 session.

Those elected officials and staff planning to attend these forums are encouraged to review the current WSAC Legislative Policy Statement found at [http://wacounties.org/wsac/about\\_policy](http://wacounties.org/wsac/about_policy) and the WSAC 2006 Legislative Priorities at <http://wacounties.org/wsac/index>. The WSAC Legislative Policy Statement, which is adopted by the membership each year, serves as the foundation for WSAC positions on legislation and annual legislative priorities. For more information, please contact Eric Johnson at 360.753.1886 or [ejohnson@wacounties.org](mailto:ejohnson@wacounties.org).

### **Training Opportunity Still Available**

The Washington Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (WACME) Incident Command Training scheduled for May 31 – June 2, in Pasco, still has space available for command level responders in fire service, law enforcement, emergency medical service, emergency management and emergency communications, or other emergency response professions, as well as coroner and medical examiner staff. The training course is being provided by WACME at no charge to the registered participants.

The WMD Incident Command Training Course is 3-days of in-depth training that take the attendee through the entire spectrum of command of a WMD terrorist event. The course provides instruction on WMD, the incident command system coupled with the Federal response, and examines the complexities of operational considerations and actions of command at a WMD event. The course takes the attendee through pre and post considerations by incorporating a segment on planning for the response using techniques that allow the commander to determine the correct composition of the planning team, evaluating the threat to the jurisdiction, identifying and prioritizing probable targets, measuring required capabilities, and developing a local incident response plan to a WMD terrorist incident. The course culminates with the attendee participating in an eight-hour real time tabletop exercise using the materials developed in the previous sessions to plan for and command the emergency response resources at the incident site. **Please contact WACO for further registration information – 360.753.7319 or [dwilke@wacounties.org](mailto:dwilke@wacounties.org)**

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## **Courthouse Ramblings**

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We are saddened to hear of the passing of **Dorothy Towne** former Franklin County Auditor. Dorothy passed away earlier this week while out walking. She served as Franklin County Auditor from 1957-1979. Dorothy was born in Pasco and remained a resident there all of her 89 years. We will forward information regarding the service arrangements as they become available.

**Phil Sanders** has been named as the Treasury Operations Manager in King County's Finance and Business Operations Division. Phil has been a part of the Treasury Operations team since 1979 and has been serving as the Interim Treasury Operations Manager for the past 10 months. Prior to that, he headed up the Property Tax Division. Congratulations to Phil and we look forward to his continuing to be an active member of both the Treasurers' Association and WACO!

## Calendar of Events

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Information</i>
<b>For your convenience training and workshops are bolded.</b>			
<b><u>MAY 2006</u></b>			
Assn of County Human Services (ACHS)	Sun Mountain Lodge, Okanogan County	May 17 - 19	(360) 586-4219 ext 106 or (360) 561-6317
WA Assn of Sheriffs' and Police Chiefs' (WASPC) Spring Conference	Doubletree, Spokane	May 22 - 25	(360) 753-7319
<b>WA Assn of Coroners and Medical Examiners' Training</b>	<b>Tri-Cities</b>	<b>May 30-June 2</b>	<b>(360) 753-7319</b>
<b><u>JUNE 2006</u></b>			
<b>WA Assn of Prosecuting Attorneys' District Court Training</b>	<b>Icicle Inn, Leavenworth</b>	<b>June 1 - 2</b>	<b>(360) 753-2175</b>
WA State Assn of County Auditors' Elections Conference	Red Lion Hotel at the Park, Spokane	June 6 - 9	(360) 753-7319
WA State Assn of County Assessors' 108 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference	Hampton Inn and Conference Center, Bremerton	June 12 - 15	(360) 753-7319
National Sheriffs' Annual Conference	Orlando, Florida	June 17 - 21	(360) 753-7319
International Assn of Coroners' and Medical Examiners' Annual Conference	York, Pennsylvania	June 18 - 21	(360) 753-7319
WA State Assn of County Clerks' 100 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference	Red Lion, Pasco	June 19 - 23	(360) 753-7319
WA State Assn of County Treasurers' 100 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference	Hampton Inn and Conference Center, Bremerton	June 19 - 23	(360) 753-7319
Assn of Washington Cities' (AWC) Annual Conference	Red Lion Hotel at the Park, Spokane	June 20 - 23	(360) 753-4137
<b>WA Assn of Prosecuting Attorneys' Summer Training Program</b>	<b>Campbell's Lodge, Chelan</b>	<b>June 21-23</b>	<b>(360) 753-2175</b>
<b><u>JULY 2006</u></b>			
IACREOT 35th Annual Conference	San Francisco, CA	July 4 - 8	(360) 397-2003 or <a href="mailto:joanne.mcbride@clark.wa.gov">joanne.mcbride@clark.wa.gov</a>
WACO Board of Trustees Meeting	Olympia, WA	July 19-20	(360) 753-7319
Assn of County Human Services (ACHS)	Grays Harbor County	July 19 - 21	(360) 586-4219 ext 106 or (360) 561-6317
WA Counties Risk Pool Summer Conference	The Enzian, Leavenworth	July 26 - 28	(360) 586-7447 ext 100
WSAC Executive Committee Retreat	Pomeroy (Garfield County)	July 27 - 28	(360) 753-1886
National District Attorneys' Assn (NDAA) Annual Summer Conference	Eldorado Hotel, Santa Fe, New Mexico	July 30 - Aug.2	(360) 753-2175
<b><u>AUGUST 2006</u></b>			
NACo Annual Conference	Chicago, IL (Cook County)	August 4 - 8	<a href="http://www.naco.org">www.naco.org</a>
WCIF/WCIP Board Meeting	SeaTac	August 17	(360) 586-0466
WSAC Board of Directors	WA Counties Bldg	August 18/10:30 am - 2:30 pm	(360) 753-1886

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## Featured Courthouse

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This week's feature –

Cowlitz County –

The Gateway to Mount St. Helens...

Visit us [www.co.cowlitz.wa.us](http://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us)



< THEN

Cowlitz County was organized in 1854, one of eight original counties created by the first session of the Territorial Legislature 35 years before Washington became a state. The county's early political history was marked by

a decades-long tussle between Kalama and Kelso for the site of the county seat, which Kelso finally won in the general election of 1922. Though once primarily based on timber, the local economy has diversified substantially with tourism becoming increasingly significant since the designation of the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument.

And NOW >



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## Attachments

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### Welcome to the U.S. Communities Purchasing & Finance Agency

#### (U.S. Communities) website <http://www.uscommunities.org/>

The Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO), the National Association of Counties (NACo), the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP), the National League of Cities (NLC), and the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM), jointly sponsor the

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**Ray Burnett,**  
**Commissioner of Purchases and Supplies**  
**Kansas City, MO.**