

the Courthouse Journal

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

July 20, 2006
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*Washington Association of County Officials
Washington State Association of Counties*

Stevens County Clerk Named "Clerk of the Year"

During a recent conference in Pasco to celebrate 100 years in existence, the Washington State Association of County Clerks (WSACC) awarded Stevens County Clerk Patty Chester its most prestigious award. The award was instituted in 1984 but is not given on an annual basis, only when a county clerk has shown exceptional dedication to the association and worked beyond the norm to further the goals and objectives of the group.

In making the award, WSACC President Snohomish County Clerk Pam Daniels commended Chester as "a dedicated Clerk with a professional attitude and the highest standard for integrity. She has been a valuable mentor. Patty has willingly served on committees both for the Clerk's Association and statewide. Patty is the Co-Director of Education, working hard to ensure the success of our educational programs and annual conference. She has been our Treasurer for six years. Patty is an asset to our association and deserves recognition for the sacrifice she makes to be so actively involved when her resources and staff are stretched so thin."

Second Round of Historic County Courthouse Rehabilitation Grant Awards Announced

With the gleaming dome of the recently rehabilitated Franklin County Courthouse serving as the backdrop, on May 17 the Steering Committee of the Historic County Courthouse Rehabilitation Grant Program awarded \$430,000 in grant funds to five counties across the state. "With the remaining funds available in the program's second grant round, the committee will assist several counties in their efforts to rehabilitate the architectural jewels representing Washington's civic duty and pride" stated Dr. Allyson Brooks, State Historic Preservation Officer. "We are thrilled that in the program's first two funding rounds, 13 counties have been awarded nearly \$5M in grants. It is our belief that the rehabilitation of Washington's courthouses will boost economic development and instill a preservation ethic in communities throughout the state."

Grant recipients from the second funding round include Columbia, Ferry, Pend Oreille, Snohomish and Walla Walla County. Projects range from replacing non-historic existing windows with historically appropriate versions to salvaging original clay tiles as part of a roof replacement. Such capital improvements will work to enhance the historic character of our houses of justice. Overall, historic county courthouses statewide are facing over \$90 million in estimated need.

Grant funding assists county governments in rehabilitating their historic county courthouses. Together with matching funds raised locally, this money will foster

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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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economic development in numerous communities while working to preserve public buildings vital to the architectural and cultural heritage of Washington.

To receive funding, all rehabilitation work must meet historic preservation standards known as the *U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*. For more information about these preservation standards, visit the following website address:

www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/standguide/rehab/rehab_index.htm.

For more information about historic county courthouses, the National Register of Historic Places and other historic preservation programs, visit the DAHP website at www.dahp.wa.gov or contact:

Greg Griffith, Dept. of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, 360-586-3073, Greg.Griffith@dahp.wa.gov

Chris Moore, Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, 206-624-9449, cmoore@wa-trust.org.

Chelan County Clerk Appointed to National Court Technology Working Group

Chelan County Clerk Siri Woods has accepted a position on the National Institute of Justice-sponsored Technology Working Group on Court Technology. The Office of Science and Technology within the NIJ is the national focal point for research and development of new technology to support the criminal justice system. The Office is charged with carrying out programs that improve the safety and effectiveness of criminal justice technology through the provision of equipment, training and technical assistance.

Several Technology Working Groups (TWGs) of 10-20 members from throughout the country are being formed to support the Research, Development, Test and Evaluation process within the Office of Science and Technology. The process will involve five phases: identification of technology needs and definition of operational requirements; planning a multi-year research program in each area of need; performance of research and development from concept to field-ready prototype; demonstration, testing and evaluation of the new technology; and assistance to practitioners in the use of the new technology.

Woods first meeting will be in Washington, D.C., on July 25.

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

Courts, Public Safety, Law & Justice

Counties Receive First State Emergency Management Grants

Earlier this month Governor Christine Gregoire awarded Washington's first Emergency Management Assistance Preparedness Grants, including nearly \$600,000 to 12 counties. Another \$1 million went to a variety of non-state emergency management organizations, including cities, public utility districts, tribes, regional agencies, regional incident management teams, and private non-profits.

These competitive, no-match grants were authorized for the first time by the 2006 Legislature, with the support of WSAC. They are the first state-funded grants that have been made available to community-based emergency management organizations for high impact, short-term projects.

Eligible projects included a broad range of purposes, such as training for public officials; completion of local comprehensive emergency management plans; implementation of joint exercises; and other projects to strengthen emergency response, mitigation, preparedness and coordination.

Counties receiving awards are: Chelan, Columbia, Ferry, Grant, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, San Juan (2 projects), Skamania, Snohomish, Thurston, Walla Walla, Yakima.

A complete list of recipients and projects is available on the website for the state Emergency Management Division, www.emd.wa.gov. Eighty-nine applicants submitted requests totaling more than \$8 million.

Transportation & Public Works

Public Comment Period on Washington Transportation Plan Begins

The Washington State Transportation Commission has released the Draft Washington Transportation Plan (WTP) and is seeking feedback on the plan. The WTP guides transportation policy and investment decisions at all levels throughout the state and meets federal and state planning requirements. The Draft WTP update is the result of a two year process that involved reviewing data and meeting with transportation interest groups statewide to identify the state's top investment priorities. It continues to be a collaborative effort that involves transportation interests from across the state to address Washington's transportation challenges by making targeted, prioritized investments to achieve the greatest benefit with limited funding. The Commission developed five investment guidelines that set overall priorities and form the basis of the plan:

- Preservation – take care of past investments.
- Safety – reduce the societal costs due to collisions.
- Economic vitality – support our states growing economy.
- Mobility – improve travel time reliability and improve the movement of people and goods.
- Environmental quality – support investments that lead to healthier communities.

The Commission, along with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Regional Transportation Planning Organizations and Scenic Byway leaders will host a series of outreach meetings around the state. Eleven open houses will be held to present information about the WTP and gather comments from participants.

Date	Time	Location
July 25	5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Yakima Convention Center, Address: 10 N. 8th Street
July 27	3:00-7:00 p.m. (Presentation times are 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.)	Colfax Education and Training Center, 119 N. Main St.
July 31	3:00-7:00 p.m. (Presentation times are 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.)	Olympia - WSDOT HQ Large Commission Board Room, 310 Maple Park Avenue SE
August 1	3:00-7:00 p.m. (Presentation times are 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.)	Grant County Public Works Large Conference Room, 124 Enterprise St. SE
August 2	5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Wenatchee Valley Community Center, 504 S.

		Chelan St.
August 3	5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Stevens County Sheriff's Ambulance Training Center, 425 N. Highway 395
August 10	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Spokane Transit Board Room, W. 1230 Boone Avenue
August 22	5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	(Vancouver) Southwest Regional Transportation Council, 1300 Franklin St.
August 23	3:00-7:00 p.m. (Presentation times are 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.)	Seattle Public Library, 1000 4th Avenue
August 24	1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	(Mt. Vernon) Farmhouse Restaurant, 13724 La Conner-Whitney Road
August 30	5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	(Port Angeles) Red Lion Hotel Crab House Restaurant, 221 N. Lincoln

Those who are not able to attend the statewide open houses can go to WSDOT's Web site to view the plan: www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/wtp. If you wish to comment on the draft plan or obtain a copy of the plan, please call 1-800-606-3868; email WTPUpdate@wsdot.wa.gov; submit comments through the Commission's website <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/wtp> by clicking on "Tell Us What You Think About the WTP;" or write to WSDOT HQ Planning Office, Attn: WTP Update, PO Box 47370, Olympia, WA 98504-7370.

Paul Parker Joins Transportation Commission

Paul Parker, former WSAC Assistant Executive Director, has joined the Washington State Transportation Commission as a Senior Policy Analyst. In his position as Senior Policy Analyst, some of his responsibilities will include the formulation of Commission policy guidance and recommendations to be offered to the Governor and the Legislature; organizing various types of public forums and outreach efforts at the local, regional and state level; and developing an annual report to the Legislature and the Governor that compiles information gathered at the various Commission meetings and outreach efforts.

Congratulations to Paul!

Commute Trip Reduction Implementation Underway

This 2006 Legislature enacted changes to the Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) law to better support investments in the state highway system and more closely align with planning under the Growth Management Act. Implementing the legislation will require updating the current CTR guidelines into rules, creating regional plans, and updating local plans and policies. Building on the existing CTR guidelines, the new rules will specify the requirements in the CTR Efficiency Act for:

- Program goals and measurement
- Local CTR ordinances, plans, and administration
- Regional CTR plans
- State CTR plan and role of the CTR board
- Growth and Transportation Efficiency Centers
- Other details related to the Act

For more information, visit the CTR Efficiency Act website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/tdm/taskforce/tfmaterials.cfm#program or contact Keith Cotton, WSDOT Commute Options Developer, at (360) 705-7910 or cottonk@wsdot.wa.gov.

Estimated 2007 County Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax & CAPP Revenues

The County Road Administration Board (CRAB) has released its estimates of the amounts to be distributed to counties from the motor vehicle fuel tax and for the County Arterial Preservation Program. Attached are the estimated revenues to be distributed to each county for these two programs in calendar year 2007. These amounts are based on the 2007 allocation factors and the latest WSDOT fuel tax collection estimates of June 2006. Remember these are ESTIMATES. Actual revenues will depend on the amount of fuel sold, which due to high prices has been forecasted to decrease.

**ESTIMATED 2007 REVENUES
MOTOR VEHICLE FUEL TAX**

June 2006 Revenue Forecast		\$155,038,000
County Road log Certified January 1, 2005	2007 Allocation	Estimated
<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
Adams	2.6794	\$4,154,088
Asotin	1.0042	\$1,556,892
Benton	2.1755	\$3,372,852
Chelan	1.5718	\$2,436,887
Clallam	1.3004	\$2,016,114
Clark	4.3649	\$6,767,254
Columbia	0.9569	\$1,483,559
Cowlitz	1.5883	\$2,462,469
Douglas	2.4293	\$3,766,338
Ferry	1.1550	\$1,790,689
Franklin	1.8590	\$2,882,156
Garfield	0.8522	\$1,321,234
Grant	4.1297	\$6,402,604
Grays Harbor	1.5454	\$2,395,957
Island	1.5286	\$2,369,911
Jefferson	0.9299	\$1,441,698
King	10.2197	\$15,844,418
Kitsap	3.7054	\$5,744,778
Kittitas	1.3096	\$2,030,378
Klickitat	1.7922	\$2,778,591
Lewis	2.2588	\$3,501,998
Lincoln	2.7965	\$4,335,638
Mason	1.4882	\$2,307,276
Okanogan	2.2558	\$3,497,347
Pacific	0.9195	\$1,425,574
Pend Oreille	1.0634	\$1,648,674
Pierce	7.5852	\$11,759,942
San Juan	0.6231	\$966,042
Skagit	2.1662	\$3,358,433
Skamania	0.5754	\$892,089
Snohomish	6.9672	\$10,801,808
Spokane	6.4866	\$10,056,695
Stevens	2.4644	\$3,820,756
Thurston	3.3833	\$5,245,401
Wahkiakum	0.5528	\$857,050
Walla Walla	1.9435	\$3,013,164
Whatcom	2.6272	\$4,073,158
Whitman	2.7544	\$4,270,367
Yakima	3.9911	\$6,187,722
TOTAL	100.0000	\$155,038,000

**COUNTY ARTERIAL PRESERVATION PROGRAM
2007 CAPP ALLOCATION FACTORS
ESTIMATED 2007 REVENUES**

June, 2006 Revenue Forecast

\$15,270,400

County Road log Certified January 1, 2006

COUNTY	2007 Allocation <u>Percent</u>	2007 Estimated <u>Revenue</u>
Adams	4.198	\$641,100
Asotin	0.763	\$116,500
Benton	2.345	\$358,100
Chelan	1.830	\$279,400
Clallam	0.999	\$152,600
Clark	3.797	\$579,800
Columbia	1.084	\$165,500
Cowlitz	1.728	\$263,900
Douglas	2.243	\$342,500
Ferry	1.440	\$219,900
Franklin	2.672	\$408,000
Garfield	0.971	\$148,300
Grant	6.433	\$982,200
Grays Harbor	1.865	\$284,800
Island	1.669	\$254,900
Jefferson	1.000	\$152,700
King	4.385	\$669,600
Kitsap	2.446	\$373,500
Kittitas	2.353	\$359,300
Klickitat	2.542	\$388,200
Lewis	2.205	\$336,700
Lincoln	2.908	\$444,100
Mason	2.025	\$309,200
Okanogan	3.152	\$481,300
Pacific	0.920	\$140,500
Pend Oreille	1.292	\$197,300
Pierce	5.482	\$837,100
San Juan	0.667	\$101,900
Skagit	2.735	\$417,600
Skamania	0.662	\$101,100
Snohomish	3.929	\$600,000
Spokane	5.572	\$850,900
Stevens	3.584	\$547,300
Thurston	2.739	\$418,300
Wahkiakum	0.607	\$ 92,700
Walla Walla	2.991	\$456,700
Whatcom	2.800	\$427,600
Whitman	3.222	\$492,000
Yakima	<u>5.745</u>	<u>\$877,300</u>
TOTAL	100.000	\$15,270,400

Boards & Commissions

Current Vacancy on the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

The WSAC Board is seeking a member to fill the vacancy left by Garfield County Commissioner Butch Klaveano. He recently resigned from the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board (WSNWCB); his term runs until February 12, 2007.

Chapter 17.10.030 of the Revised Code of Washington defines nine voting seats on the Board. The RCW states that: "The Washington State Association of Counties appoints one voting member who shall be a member of a county legislative authority." Board member terms are three years from the date of appointment. Chapter 16-750-120 of the Washington Administrative Code states: "Board members appointed to fill vacancies will serve out the existing term."

The WSNWCB is the state policy-making body for invasive plants. Anyone wanting to learn about the Board and its mission can download our 2006 report from our website at www.nwcb.wa.gov. You can contact Steve McGonigal, NWCB Executive Secretary, will mail a paper copy of the report per your request; or supply you with further information – SMcGonigal@agr.wa.gov or 360.902.2053.

The Board's regular meetings are held on the third Wednesday of odd-numbered months. Here is the upcoming meeting schedule:

- July 19, Wenatchee (8:30 a.m., Wenatchee Public Library, 310 Douglas St.)
- September 20, Mt. Vernon
- November 15, Ellensburg (includes a public hearing about the 2007 Noxious Weed List)
- January 17, probably in Olympia

Board members are reimbursed for travel expenses under the same per-diem rules that apply to state employees, and are supplied with telephone credit cards for Board-related business. After being on the Board for a while, members are typically asked to serve on one or more of the Board's 12 committees. Committee meetings are frequently held on the Tuesdays preceding Board meetings.

If you are interested in this position please send you letter of interest as soon as possible to Eric Johnson, WSAC Assistant Executive Director – ejohnson@wacounties.org.

Courthouse Ramblings

Get well wishes to Dave Houts, WACO staffer Kathie Houts' husband, who underwent heart bypass surgery recently. He's doing well with his recovery and we hope he continues to do so.

* * * * *

Whitman County Clerk **Shirley Bafus** had the opportunity to run an Iditarod dog team on her own in Alaska last month, on her birthday. She was on a "quilting cruise" and decided to take a side trip for a once in a lifetime chance to "mush", taking a helicopter to the top of a glacier to run her own dog team. She reports that it was the best birthday of her life and her only regret was that it was raining too hard on another day to go kayaking with the Orca whales.

Calendar of Events

Meeting	Location	Date	Information
<i>For your convenience training and workshops are bolded.</i>			
<u>JULY 2006</u>			
Legislative Steering Committee	West Coast Wenatchee, Wenatchee	July 21 10:00am - 4:00 pm	(360) 753-1886

Meeting	Location	Date	Information
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
<u>AUGUST 2006</u>			
NACo Annual Conference	Chicago, IL (Cook County)	August 4 - 8	www.naco.org
WCIF/WCIP Board Meeting	SeaTac	August 17	(360) 586-0466
Legislative Steering Committee	WA Counties Bldg, Olympia	<u>August 17</u> 2:00 - 7:00 pm	(360) 753-1886
WSAC Board of Directors	WA Counties Bldg	<u>August 18</u> 10:30 am - 2:30 pm	(360) 753-1886
<u>SEPTEMBER 2006</u>			
Holiday Closure	WA Counties Building	September 4	
WA Assn of Prosecuting Attorneys' Juvenile Training	Icicle Inn, Leavenworth	September 10 - 12	(360) 753-2175
WA Finance Officers' Assn Annual Conference	Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center, Tacoma	September 12 - 15	(360) 753-7319
<u>WA Assn of Prosecuting Attorneys' Prosecution of Drug Cases Training</u>	<u>Icicle Inn, Leavenworth</u>	<u>September 13-15</u>	<u>(360) 753-2175</u>
WA Counties Insurance Fund/WA Counties Insurance Pool Board & Insurance Advisory Committee (IAC)	SeaTac	September 14	(360) 586-0466
WSACRPD Annual City/County Planning Directors Conference	Chelan	September 20 - 22	Jerrold MacPherson (509) 545-3521
WSAC 100th Annual Conference	Doubletree Hotel - Spokane City Center, Spokane	September 25 - 29	www.wacounties.org/wsac
Urban County Caucus	Doubletree Hotel - Spokane City Center, Spokane	<u>September 26</u> Noon - 1:30 pm	(360) 753-1886
Rural Issues Sub-committee	Doubletree Hotel - Spokane City Center, Spokane	<u>September 26</u> Noon - 1:30 pm	(360) 753-1886
Legislative Steering Committee	Doubletree Hotel - Spokane City Center, Spokane	<u>September 26</u> 1:30 - 3:15 pm	(360) 753-1886
WSAC Board of Directors	Doubletree Hotel - Spokane City Center, Spokane	<u>September 26</u> 2:00 - 5:00 pm	(360) 753-1886
Assn of County Human Services (ACHS)	Doubletree Hotel - Spokane City Center, Spokane	September 27 - 29	(360) 586-4219 ext 106 or (360) 561-6317
<u>OCTOBER 2006</u>			
WA Assn of County Officials (WACO) 48 th Annual Conference	The Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel, Wenatchee	October 3 - 6	www.wacounties.org/wsac
International Assn of Assessing Officers' (IAAO) Annual Conference	Milwaukee, Wisconsin	October 8 - 11	(360) 753-7319
WA Counties Insurance Fund ACE	SeaTac	October 18	(360) 586-0466

Featured Courthouse

Grant County

Then



Now



Grant County, one of the youngest counties in the state, was created by the Washington Legislature in 1909 and was named for President Ulysses S. Grant. The county was partitioned from what had been the southeastern area of Douglas County, along the natural dividing line of the Columbia River.

Since the 1880s, agriculture has been the backbone of the local economy. Severe drought and the Great Depression of the 1930s drove many residents out of the area in search of work elsewhere. But following construction of the Grand Coulee Dam and the Columbia Basin Project, which brought irrigation to Grant County, agriculture blossomed again. The irrigation system currently serves about 550,000 acres and 6,000 farms.

The Grant County Fair will be "Runnin' Wild" August 15-19 at the fairgrounds in Moses Lake. Visit Grant County at www.co.grant.wa.us.

Attachments

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.