

# the Courthouse Journal

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

July 16, 2009

Issue No. 21  
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Courthouse Journal*

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

## Treasurers Meet in Benton County

*by James McMahan, WACO Staff*

The Washington State Association of County Treasurers (WSACT) met for the 104<sup>th</sup> Annual WSACT Conference in mid-June in Benton County. The conference was well attended by treasurers and deputy treasurers alike. The annual conference is the one and only WSACT conference each year, and Treasurers took full advantage of the entire week's agenda. The conference chair (and host) was Benton County Treasurer Duane Davidson, who, working with his staff and other WSACT officers, put together a comprehensive agenda of meetings, trainings and entertainment. Monday kicked off with a full legislative day with Lewis County Treasurer Rose Bowman facilitating a review of the 2009 legislative session and fielding requests and suggestions for the 2010 WSACT Legislative Agenda. Deputy Treasurers met concurrently in a cash handling workshop training.

Tuesday began with opening ceremonies, including a welcome from Benton County Commissioner Max Benitz, Jr. The keynote address was delivered by Hugh Spitzer, who made a very interesting presentation on the history of the Washington State Constitution, its origins and application, and how it shaped counties to what they are today. Mr. Spitzer was followed by Steve Lundin, who built on Mr. Spitzer's presentation to discuss the history of the county treasurer, inspiring discussions that embraced the theme of the conference well: "Honoring the Past, Creating the Future."

Tuesday continued with a presentation on finance measures contained in the Federal Stimulus Act from Jeff Nave; an update from Cindi Holstrom, Director of the State Department of Revenue; and a number of work sessions on issues including web content, foreclosure scams, U.S. mail requirements, distraint, and tools for analyzing banks.

Tuesday evening broke the mold on conference receptions with a "Survivor" themed President's Reception. With Hawaiian décor and entertainment provided by a local steel drum band, attendees were in the mood for a "Survivor" showdown. After several elimination rounds of county history trivia and a balloon toss, the "final four" faced off in an old-fashioned tug-of-war. Two finalists emerged and were set to face yet-unknown challenges to come later in the week.

**Job announcements & links to County Employment pages at:**

<http://wacounties.org/>

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Wednesday kept deputy treasurers busy with an all day cash handling workshop while treasurers met for a legislative follow-up, discussed 'post issuance bond requirements,' and a treasurers roundtable discussion.

Wednesday afternoon was an opportunity for conference attendees to explore and learn more about the Benton County/Kennewick area – tour a local winery, test the local golf course, or simply catch up on voice mails and emails from home.

Thursday morning kicked off with a discussion with the State Auditor's office, followed by similar discussions with the State Treasurer. The day concluded with a WSACT business meeting and seminar on E-payment and accounting. Thursday evening brought the transition of officers during the banquet. Outgoing President Lisa Frazier was honored and thanked, and incoming President Bob Lothspeich was sworn in and welcomed. Lothspeich was also crowned "Survivor" as the winning vote-getter from the video follow-ups to Tuesday's contest.

Evening entertainment was provided by Duane Davidson, with a presentation that introduced each county courthouse and a brief history of the office of each county treasurer. Treasurers learned (the hard way) to always respond to requests from Duane!

Friday concluded the week of business with WSACT memorials and resolutions.

## New Officers in WSACT

by James McMahan, WACO Staff

The Washington State Association of County Treasurers (WSACT) recently elected a new slate of officers:

President: Whitman County Treasurer Bob Lothspeich  
Vice President: Kitsap County Treasurer Barbara Stephenson  
Treasurer: Benton County Treasurer Duane Davidson  
Secretary: Walla Walla County Treasurer Gordon Heimbigner

## Legislative Committee Schedules and Agendas:

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

Bill Information: [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

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## **WACO Spotlight**

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### **Clark County Sheriff**

It was the year that the Republican National Convention nominated Richard Nixon and Spiro Agnew as candidates for President. The TET Offensive was launched, as was Apollo 7. And the Beatles released their "White Album": 1968.

On January 1 of that year I walked into the Clark County Sheriff's Office and then Sheriff Clarence McKay handed me a hat badge, a shirt badge, and a set of patrol car keys and told me to go commit law enforcement. We bought our own uniforms, firearms, and equipment. Training consisted of a week riding along with an experienced deputy.

There were around 90,000 people residing in the county at the time, about half of them living in the unincorporated area. The sheriff had 44 total employees, and a budget of around 500 thousand dollars. We had no portable radios, bullet resistant vests, and scarcely little formal training.

In the intervening years the county has elected three sheriffs: Eugene Cotton, Frank Kanekoa and myself. I found myself promoted to sergeant and lieutenant early in my career, and had the privilege of being selected to attend the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, in 1975. The next area of service was as Chief Criminal Deputy.

Over the last forty-plus years much has changed, most for the positive. The county now has more than 420 thousand residents. The sheriff has around 400 employees and an annual budget of close to \$50 million. The staffing level of our office has always been woefully inadequate, but the equipment and training has improved immensely. One of my underlying philosophies has been that I may not have an adequate number of employees, but those we have should have the best tools and training that we can afford to provide.

Among my many blessings are the dedicated and innovative people who work for our agency. They achieved national accreditation in 1988, and have maintained that status since. For each challenge they face, they respond with creative solutions. Their dedication to their profession and the people they serve is, in my opinion, unsurpassed. During my watch Deputy Martin Sowders and Sergeant Brad Crawford have given their lives in the performance of their duty.

I have had the further blessing of serving a great community. There are many in our society who choose to complain about their circumstances and problems. We in Clark County have literally thousands of people who volunteer their time, talent, and resources to be a part of the solution.

I chose to apply to become a Clark County Deputy because I was bored in my former job. I can truly say that I have never had a boring day on the job in the past 41 years!

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## **Budget, Finance and Taxes**

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### **Election '09: Eyman's Initiative 1033 Cleared for November Ballot**

Secretary of State Sam Reed announced Wednesday that Initiative 1033, Tim Eyman's measure dealing with revenue limits and property tax relief has enough valid signatures to qualify for a spot on the statewide ballot in November.

According to elections officials, a random check of petition signatures submitted in support of the proposal showed that the measure meets the constitutional requirement for a minimum of 241,153 valid signatures of registered voters.

The measure will be the only citizen initiative on the Nov. 3 General Election ballot.

Sponsors of Referendum 71, who seek a public vote on the newly passed “everything-but-marriage” domestic partnership measure (Senate Bill 5688), have indicated they are scrambling to meet a July 25 deadline to submit signatures. Over the weekend, sponsors said they have at least 75,000 signatures on hand. It takes 120,577 valid signatures to qualify a referendum for the ballot, but the state Elections Division suggests sponsors try to turn in about 150,000, to cover invalid or duplicate signatures, which can run 20 percent or more.

The official ballot summary prepared by the state Attorney General for I-1033 says, “This measure would limit growth in state revenues deposited in funds subject to the state expenditure limit, and limit growth in county and city revenues deposited into the county and city current expense funds. The limit would be adjusted based on annual growth in inflation and population. The limit also would apply to revenues transferred out of these funds. The limit would exclude voter-approved revenue increases. Revenues above the limit would reduce property tax levies.”

The complete test is available online at: <http://www.secstate.wa.gov/elections/initiatives/people.aspx?y=2009>

Sponsors of I-1033 submitted 315,444 signatures to the Secretary of State by the July 2 turn-in deadline. Election officials conducted a 3 percent random sample of 9,614 signatures, checking that the person was a registered state voter and that the signature matched the one on file. The check showed that 976 were invalid or duplicate signatures, an unusually low invalidation rate of 12 percent. That test showed that Eyman’s initiative secured more than enough signatures.

## Reminder on the Use of Public Offices

Invariably, as election season approaches, elected official offices are presented with the quandary of what type of information they should or could present for the benefit of the voting public. It might be helpful to take a few moments and familiarize yourselves with the applicable and most current RCW statute below.

### RCW 42.17.130

Use of public office or agency facilities in campaigns — Prohibition — Exceptions.

No elective official nor any employee of his [or her] office nor any person appointed to or employed by any public office or agency may use or authorize the use of any of the facilities of a public office or agency, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of assisting a campaign for election of any person to any office or for the promotion of or opposition to any ballot proposition. Facilities of a public office or agency include, but are not limited to, use of stationery, postage, machines, and equipment, use of employees of the office or agency during working hours, vehicles, office space, publications of the office or agency, and clientele lists of persons served by the office or agency. However, this does not apply to the following activities:

(1) Action taken at an open public meeting by members of an elected legislative body or by an elected board, council, or commission of a special purpose district including, but not limited to, fire districts, public hospital districts, library districts, park districts, port districts, public utility districts, school districts, sewer districts, and water districts, to express a collective decision, or to actually vote upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance, or to support or oppose a ballot proposition so long as

(a) any required notice of the meeting includes the title and number of the ballot proposition, and

(b) members of the legislative body, members of the board, council, or commission of the special purpose district, or members of the public are afforded an approximately equal opportunity for the expression of an opposing view;

(2) A statement by an elected official in support of or in opposition to any ballot proposition at an open press conference or in response to a specific inquiry;

(3) Activities which are part of the normal and regular conduct of the office or agency.

[2006 c 215 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 265 § 2; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 112 § 6; 1973 c 1 § 13 (Initiative Measure No. 276, approved November 7, 1972).]

Notes:

Finding -- Intent -- 2006 c 215: "(1) The legislature finds that the public benefits from an open and inclusive discussion of proposed ballot measures by local elected leaders, and that for twenty-five years these discussions have included the opportunity for elected boards, councils, and commissions of special purpose districts to vote in open public meetings in order to express their support of, or opposition to, ballot propositions affecting their jurisdictions.

(2) The legislature intends to affirm and clarify the state's long-standing policy of promoting informed public discussion and understanding of ballot propositions by allowing elected boards, councils, and commissions of special purpose districts to adopt resolutions supporting or opposing ballot propositions." [2006 c 215 § 1.]

Disposition of violations before January 1, 1995: "Any violations occurring prior to January 1, 1995, of any of the following laws shall be disposed of as if chapter 154, Laws of 1994 were not enacted and such laws continued in full force and effect: RCW 42.17.130, chapter 42.18 RCW, chapter 42.21 RCW, and chapter 42.22 RCW." [1994 c 154 § 226.]

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

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### **Department of Natural Resources Cuts Recreation Program**

As a result of legislative budget cuts during the 2009 legislative session, the Department of Natural Resource (DNR's) Recreation Program has been reduced by nearly 50 percent.

DNR manages more than 5 million acres of state-owned forest, aquatic, agricultural, conservation and urban lands. Most recreation on these lands takes place in the 2.1 million acres of forests that DNR manages as state trust lands. Prior to the reductions, DNR maintained 143 recreational facilities and more than 1,000 miles of trails.

In order to implement the reductions, the agency reduced staff in the Recreation Program, reduced training and travel for staff, and decreased spending on many of the goods and services that help maintain recreation opportunities. DNR also reduced services to many designated recreational facilities across the state.

A list of the sites impacted, their legislative district, cost savings information, and a timeline can be found on DNR's Web site at: [www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amr\\_rec\\_sites\\_list\\_reduced\\_services\\_063009.pdf](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amr_rec_sites_list_reduced_services_063009.pdf)

There is also a map showing the affected sites at:

[www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amr\\_rec\\_sites\\_reduced\\_services063009.pdf](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amr_rec_sites_reduced_services063009.pdf)

Levels of service reduction vary by site. Changes include removing facilities from a site, changing a campground to day-use only, changing a year-round facility to a seasonal closure, or reducing the level of maintenance and service of facilities. The public can still recreate on state trust lands in accordance with agency rules (WAC 332-52), but many of the facilities such as picnic tables, outhouses, signs, etc., will no longer be available. The public is being asked to pack out what they pack in.

### **Flood Prevention Grants Available from Department of Ecology**

The 2009 Legislature provided the Department of Ecology (Ecology) with \$1,350,000 in the capital budget for the 2009-11 Biennium for grants to local governments for projects that will prevent flood damage. The legislation provides specific criteria that Ecology must use to select projects for this funding: The applicant and project must be in an area that is at risk of flooding; those applicants least able to fund such mitigation projects with local resources shall have higher priority; those applicants most ready to proceed with construction of the project shall have higher priority; applicants will be selected with consideration for achieving a balance of the needs of different regions of the State. No match is required, but matching funds are welcome.

A county, city, town, or tribal government is eligible to apply for these funds if: The jurisdiction is currently enrolled in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP); the jurisdiction or its project is in an area at risk of flooding; either the project has been previously identified in a local Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan or Hazard Mitigation

Plan, or the applicant can document that the project has the approval of the county engineer for its jurisdiction; the jurisdiction is ready to proceed with the project in a timely manner; the jurisdiction certifies that the project cannot be implemented solely with local resources during the 2009-11 Biennium.

Applicants must use Ecology's form "Application for Flood Damage Prevention Projects" provided by Ecology. All local jurisdictions must submit applications directly to Ecology. Application Forms can be obtained at the following web address: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/grants/flooddamageprevention/>

### **Department of Fish and Wildlife Releases Draft Guidance**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife is currently taking comments on a draft document titled: *Land Use Planning for Salmon, Steelhead and Trout*. The guidance is intended to assist the integration of local land use planning programs and salmonid recovery efforts throughout the state. Comments are due by **August 1**. The document is available at: [http://wdfw.wa.gov/habitat/plannersguide/psst\\_externalreviewdraft\\_june152009.pdf](http://wdfw.wa.gov/habitat/plannersguide/psst_externalreviewdraft_june152009.pdf)

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## **General Government Issues**

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### **Voting and Employment Resource for Employers of the Military**

WACO Past President and retired Franklin County Prosecutor Jim Rabideau has provided us with information of an ombudsman to assist both military service members and their employers. The position was recently established by the Employer Support of Guard and Reserve (ESGR), a group of volunteers who assist in resolution of employment problems caused by military service and mobilizations.

### **ROA Establishes Service Members Law Center**

On June 1, 2009, the Reserve Officers Association (ROA) established the Service Members Law Center (SMLC), with Captain Samuel F. Wright, JAGC, USN (Ret.) as the SMLC's first director. You can reach Captain Wright toll-free at 800-809-9448, ext. 730. His e-mail is [swright@roa.org](mailto:swright@roa.org). Please contact him if you have any questions about military voting rights, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA), or other military legal topics.

The SMLC will build upon the "Law Review" column that Captain Wright established for ROA in 1997, for ROA's magazine and website. We invite your attention to <http://www.roa.org/>. Click on "Service Members Law Center" then "Law Review Library." You will find more than 500 articles, mostly by Captain Wright and mostly about USERRA and related laws. You will find about 40 articles about military voting rights. A detailed subject index will help you find articles about very specific topics, especially relating to USERRA.

The SMLC will advocate at federal and state levels for improved legal protections for members of the Armed Forces (especially the Reserve Components) concerning voting, reemployment rights, rights in child custody and other civil litigation matters, and other military-legal matters. The SMLC will train service members, employers, attorneys, and others about USERRA and other matters. The SMLC will file amicus curiae (friend of the court) briefs in USERRA and SCRA cases. The SMLC will serve as a go-to source of information about these topics for service members, employers, attorneys, federal and state legislators and legislative staffers, reporters, and others.

### **Community Athletic Programs and the Washington Law Against Discrimination, RCW 49.60**

During the 2009 legislative session, the Legislature passed ESSB 5967. Governor Chris Gregoire signed the bill; the new law will become effective on July 26, 2009. This law prohibits cities, towns, counties and districts from discriminating against any person on the basis of sex in the operation, conduct, or administration of community athletics programs for youth or adults. Third parties who receive leases or permits from a city, town, county, district or school district for a community athletics program are also prohibited from discriminating on the basis of sex.

This does not represent a dramatic change to the law – sex discrimination in places of public accommodation is already prohibited under existing state and federal law. However, this new law does add some requirements involving non-discrimination policies.

The Washington Law Against Discrimination (RCW 49.60) prohibits discrimination in places of public accommodation based on a person's protected class. Protected classes in Washington State include: race/color, creed (religion), national origin, sex (including pregnancy), age over 40, disability, use of a guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability, HIV/AIDS or hepatitis C status, sexual orientation/gender identity, and honorably discharged veteran and military status. The WSHRC enforces RCW 49.60, and investigates discrimination complaints.

This guide is for local government officials, advocates, and others who want to know more about how to properly implement the new law. If you have additional questions, please contact the Washington State Human Rights Commission (WSHRC) at 1-800-233-3247. You can learn more about the WSHRC at [www.hum.wa.gov](http://www.hum.wa.gov).

Below are some questions that may arise when entities implement this new law.

### **What is a community athletic program?**

A community athletic program is any athletic program that is organized for the purposes of training for and engaging in athletic activity and competition and that is in any way operated, conducted, administered, or supported by a city, town, county, district, or school district (other than those athletic programs offered by the school and created solely for the students by the school).

### **What is a district?**

Districts include metropolitan park districts, park and recreation service areas, and park and recreation districts.

### **What does the new law require?**

#### **1. Non-discrimination**

Cities, towns, counties and districts are prohibited from discriminating on the basis of sex in the operation, conduct, or administration of community athletics programs. Third parties who receive a lease or permit from such entities to operate, conduct, or administer a community athletics program are also prohibited from discriminating on the basis of sex.

#### **2. A non-discrimination policy**

Under RCW 49.60, all cities, towns, counties, or districts that operate community athletics programs or issue permission to a third party to use its athletic facilities must adopt a policy that specifically prohibits sex discrimination in the operation, conduct, or administration of community athletics programs for youth or adults. School districts that issue permission to a third party for the operation of a community athletics program at its facilities also need a policy, but can modify and use an existing school district policy if possible.

#### **3. Publication and dissemination of policy; contact person**

Entities must publish and disseminate the non-discrimination policy, and need to include this policy in any publication that includes information about the entity's athletics programs or about obtaining a permit for operating athletics programs. The entity must also publish the name, office address, and office telephone number of the employee or employees responsible for compliance. Entities must also post the policy on their websites.

### **What should be included in a model policy?**

A comprehensive non-discrimination policy should cover an entity as an employer and as a public accommodation.

The policy can reference specific laws such as the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Washington Law Against Discrimination.

The policy should provide information for people with questions or concerns about violations. The policy should include contact information for the person within the organization who handles questions and complaints related to discrimination issues. The policy may also direct people to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the Washington State Human Rights Commission.

### **Where should the policy be posted?**

The nondiscrimination policy should be posted on the entity's website, on bulletin boards, on sign-up materials for athletics, and in all brochures or publications that inform or advertise about community athletics programs or the availability of facilities for the athletics programs of third parties.

### **Sample Language**

The [CITY NAME] prohibits sex discrimination in the operation, conduct, or administration of community athletics programs for youth or adults. Third parties who receive leases or permits from the [CITY NAME] for a community athletics program are also prohibited from discriminating on the basis of sex. In addition, the [CITY NAME] does not discriminate on any other basis protected by federal or state law, including race/color, creed (religion), national origin, sex, disability, use of a guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability, HIV/AIDS or hepatitis C status, sexual orientation/gender identity, or honorably discharged veteran and military status. If you have questions or wish to file a complaint, contact [NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION]. If you require a reasonable accommodation for a disability, contact [NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION].

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## ***Good Things***

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### **Update on 2001 Washington Scholarship Winner Megan Cartwright**

It is always remarkable to hear some great story of a student finally making "the grade." In this instance, it certainly is true of one bright young student named Megan Cartwright who was awarded a \$1,500 scholarship in 2001.

Her proud parents are Dana and Diana Cartwright of Bellingham. Her sister Sara recently graduated from Western Washington University. Her mom Diana works for Whatcom County Superior Court and it was she who phoned WACO this week to let us know what Megan has accomplished since receiving her scholarship in 2001.

Megan attended school at Mount Baker High School where she got the Sygitowicz scholarship. Ms. Sygitowica was also a graduate of Mount Baker High School and was the first female Physicist in the United States.

Megan then went on to the University of Washington where she received both a BS in Physics and a BS in Astronomy in 2003. From there she attended the University of California at Los Angeles where she received her MS in Geophysics and Space Physics in 2005 and just last month she received her PhD in Geophysics and Space Physics from UCLA. She will now be working at UC Berkeley for two years of post doctorate research. What an accomplishment!

The Washington Counties Scholarship Fund is proud to congratulate Megan on her hard work and great achievement. We also know that a supportive family in the background can make all the difference in the world to a student. Good work, Mr. and Mrs. Cartwright and congratulations, Megan!

### **New Building Brings Kitsap Coroner's Office into the 21st Century**

By Josh Farley, Kitsap Sun, Tuesday, June 30, 2009

For years, Kitsap County's death investigations have been conducted in a dilapidated house on Sidney Avenue in Port Orchard that fire officials had condemned as uninhabitable.

"This is a county of almost 250,000," Kitsap County Coroner [Greg Sandstrom](#) said, "and we've been working out of a house that isn't even legal to occupy."

Thanks to decades of lobbying the county commissioners, years of planning and 3.6 million taxpayer dollars, that has all changed. The Kitsap County Coroner's Office, which not long ago had one of the most antiquated autopsy facilities in the state, now has one of the most sophisticated.



It is located off Union Avenue in West Bremerton, near the Kitsap Readiness Center and Pendergast Park. The new facility has been in use since early June.

"It's probably the best one right now in the state," said Dr.

Emmanuel Q. Lacsina, a private forensic pathologist who has a contract to perform the county's autopsies at \$1,200 a pop. "It's just like a dream come true."

The former Kitsap County Coroner's Office had one "station" for autopsies and an old walk-in cooler that had been donated by the Navy and could hold up to 10 bodies. The cooler had a habit of breaking down from time to time.

And each time a body was taken to or from the old house, it was in full view of the public, a security issue given the high-stakes nature of some death investigations.

Since the investigations that take place inside a coroner's office often contribute evidence to criminal cases and lawsuits, a shoddy facility just wasn't good enough, Jan Angel said.

Angel was a proponent of the new facility when she was a Kitsap County commissioner. She is now a Republican state legislator.

"You've gotta make sure you have a facility where you're able to do the job," she said.

The new facility has three autopsy stations and room for a fourth. Two coolers in the facility have a combined capacity of 20 bodies.

There is also an "isolation" cooler for bodies that have decomposed or are badly diseased.

And there is ventilation.

In the old facility, the odor of death was inescapable. The new office has three ventilation systems — one in the office, one in the examination room, and another in the isolation exam room — to ensure the smell does not permeate the walls of the 6,500-square-foot facility.

"We don't have to deal with that smell," said Lacsina, who performed his first autopsy at the old county facility in 1984.

There's also a conference room in which office staff can talk to grieving families. A monitor in that room allows family to view loved ones' remains to confirm identity.

Such a gesture helps some relatives with closure, Sandstrom said.

The new facility also benefits detectives, who no longer have to don scrubs and be in the room where the autopsy is conducted. Instead, they can watch from behind glass and snap pictures using a camera suspended over the body.

The new building also includes office space for Sandstrom, his chief deputy coroner Al Gerdes, and a team of four to five deputy coroners. Previously, the administrative offices were in a different building.

Sandstrom said he plans to talk with officials from smaller neighboring counties about having their death investigations done in Kitsap. That would give them the benefits of the new facilities, and since Lacsina conducts other counties' death investigations, it would give him a central place to do business.

Sandstrom is also looking into the possibility of renting out some coroner's office space to medical harvesters, who remove body parts such as skin to be used for burn victims.

Sandstrom believes the facility can last at least 30 years.

#### **See the new coroner's office**

A community grand opening for the new Kitsap County Coroner's Office will be held at 1 p.m. July 8. The new office is located at 5010 Linden Street, next to the Kitsap Readiness Center.

#### **What does the coroner's office investigate?**

The Kitsap County Coroner's Office conducts death investigations on people who died in traumatic or suspicious circumstances. They also perform investigations on most infants who've died or people who die in the Kitsap County jail.

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## ***Training & Upcoming Events***

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**Washington Counties** – [wacounties.org/Calendar of Events](http://wacounties.org/Calendar%20of%20Events)

**County Training Institute** – [www.countytraininginstitute.org](http://www.countytraininginstitute.org)

#### **Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority 2009 Recognition Awards**

The Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority is seeking nominations for recognition of individuals and teams that have had significant impact on the motor vehicle theft problems in Washington State over the past 18 months (January 2008-June 2009). Those selected for recognition will be honored guests at a luncheon at Campbell's Resort in Chelan on November 5, 2009 during the WATPA 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Auto Theft Conference. Nomination forms are attached to this journal. The nominations are due to WATPA no later than 5 p.m. on Sep

# Attachments

## Mark Leander Retirement Celebration

# ASSESSOR'S RETIREMENT & STAFF APPRECIATION PARTY



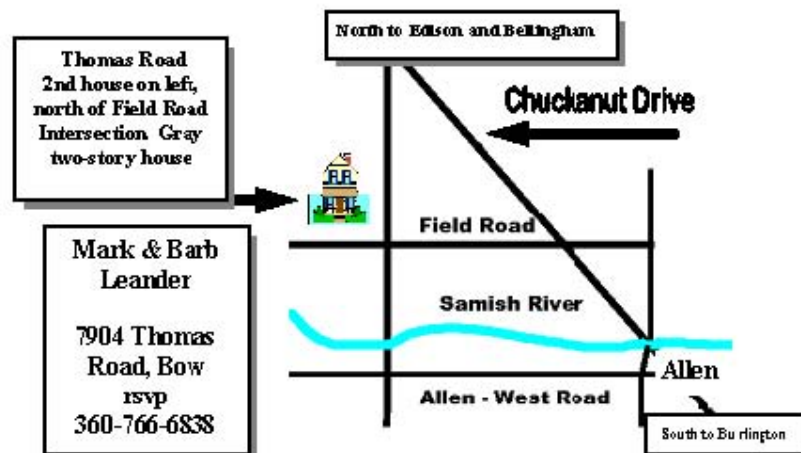
**Saturday, August 15, 2009 3:00—6:00**

## **MARK LEANDER RETIREMENT AND STAFF APPRECIATION PARTY**

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

**WHERE: THE LEANDER HOUSE**

**WHAT: HAMBURGERS—HOT DOGS—PICNIC FARE  
MARK'S SPECIALTY OYSTERS ON THE GRILL**



For those of you that cannot attend the Retirement party in person, Mark would most certainly like to hear from you. If anyone would like to brighten his day with a hello, he always has his cell phone with him (360-770-6663). WACO has it on good authority from an inside source that so far the benefits of retirement have equaled a gorgeous vegetable garden and a lawn that is never wanting for the attention of a lawn mower! Congratulations Mark!

# 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

## U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance (U.S. Communities)

Designed in cooperation with an Advisory Board of local government purchasing officials, U.S. Communities pools the purchasing power of public agencies, achieves bulk volume discounts on behalf of public agencies, competitively solicits quality products through a lead public agency and provides a purchasing forum for public agencies nationwide.

You can obtain information on how to contact all U.S. Communities suppliers by telephoning (866) 472-7467 or by sending an email to [info@uscommunities.org](mailto:info@uscommunities.org)

**U.S. Communities | 2175 North California Blvd., Suite 550, Walnut Creek, CA 94596**

**(866) 472-7467 | [info@uscommunities.org](mailto:info@uscommunities.org)**

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"Results from our internal customer satisfaction survey show that our customers want two things from Purchasing. First save us time in the procurement process and second save us money. When Kansas City, Missouri uses a U.S. Communities contract we save both time and money for our customers."

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



**Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority**

*2009 WATPA Recognition Awards*

*Nomination Form – deadline for submission is September 1, 2009, 5:00 p.m.*

*The WATPA Recognition Ceremony will take place during a luncheon at the Campbell's Resort in Lake Chelan, Washington on November 5, 2009 during the WATPA 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Auto Theft Conference.*

Nominee or  
Group/Unit Name:

Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Title:  
(if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominating  
Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominating  
Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Award Categories: check the appropriate category for accomplishments during 2008/2009 (select only one per form)**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Auto Theft Task Force of the Year - a high performing task force or team
<input type="checkbox"/>	Auto Theft Agency of the Year – an agency that has a multi-faceted approach to Motor vehicle theft – law enforcement or prosecutor's office
<input type="checkbox"/>	Auto Theft Special Project of the Year – this can be any project involving the reduction of motor vehicle including investigation, prosecution, analysis, public awareness/education, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Auto Theft Detective of the Year
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patrol/Uniform Officer of the Year Auto Theft Detective of the Year
<input type="checkbox"/>	Auto Theft Prosecutor of the Year
<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Investigator of the Year (Insurance SIU)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Auto Theft Crime Analyst of the Year
<input type="checkbox"/>	Auto Theft Crime Prevention Person of the Year – commissioned or civilian crime prevention personnel or volunteers, public awareness/education personnel, community service unit personnel. Any agency personnel or volunteers who have shown significant results in the area of public awareness, education or crime prevention.

