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County Information and Data Service

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DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 4, 2008	CCAO HUMAN SERVICES & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, ODJFSDA BOARD ROOM, 37 W BROAD STREET – FLOOR 11, COLUMBUS
APRIL 6-12, 2008	NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEEK (WWW.NACO.ORG)
APRIL 14, 2008	CCAO FISCAL, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
APRIL 21, 2008	NW OHIO COMMISSIONERS AND ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING, ROMER'S CATERING & ENTERTAINMENT FACILITY, MERCER COUNTY (CELINA)
APRIL 25, 2008	CCAO PUBLIC SAFETY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
APRIL 25, 2008	CCC/ESAO NORTHWEST REGIONAL MEETING, HENRY'S RESTAURANT, HARDIN COUNTY (KENTON)
MAY 5, 2008	SE OHIO COMMISSIONERS & ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION, MUSKINGUM COUNTY, (ZANESVILLE)
MAY 9, 2008	CCC/ESAO NORTHEAST REGIONAL MEETING, UPSTAIRS RESTAURANT, MAHONING COUNTY (YOUNGSTOWN)
MAY 21-23, 2008	NACo WESTERN INTERSTATE REGION CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON COUNTY (ST. GEORGE), UTAH (WWW.NACO.ORG)
JUNE 8-10, 2008	CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE, RENAISSANCE QUAIL HOLLOW, LAKE COUNTY (PAINESVILLE)
JULY 11-15, 2008	NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE, JACKSON COUNTY (KANSAS CITY), MISSOURI (WWW.NACO.ORG)
AUGUST 19-20, 2008	COUNTY COMMISSIONER DAYS, ROSS COUNTY (CHILLICOTHE)

ASSOCIATION NEWS

MERCER COUNTY TO HOST NW COMMISSIONERS & ENGINEERS ASSN

Mercer County Commissioners John Bruns, Jerry Laffin and Bob Nuding and County Engineer James Wiechart will host the next meeting of the Northwest Ohio Commissioners and Engineers Association on April 21, 2008. Registration and dinner will be held at Romer's Catering & Entertainment Facility, 1101 – A West Bank Road (U.S. Route 127) in Celina. Registration begins at 12:15 p.m. The following tours leave at 1:00 p.m.:

- Tour 1 – Agriculture
Mercer Landmark Soybean Extrusion Plans and Burtch Seed Company
- Tour 2 – Small Business
Coldwater Machine and Signature4

The business meeting begins at 4:00 p.m. followed by the social hour and dinner. Registration fee: \$10 per person. Deadline: April 7, 2008. Cancellation deadline: April 11, 2008. For more information please contact the Mercer County Commissioners Office, 220 West Livingston Street, Celina, OH 45822 or (419) 586-3178.

2008 CCC/ESAO REGIONAL MEETINGS SCHEDULED

Over the past five years, the County Commissioners Clerks and Engineers Secretaries Association of Ohio (CCC/ESAO), CCAO's first and oldest affiliate organization, have held a series of very successful regional meetings around the state. The purpose of these meetings is for CCC/ESAO members to share their knowledge with other clerks and secretaries that are unable to attend conferences and workshops.

Due to the overwhelming success, CCC/ESAO has scheduled four regional meetings in 2008. These informal meetings are open to all commissioners' clerks, deputies, engineers' secretaries, or administrative assistants to discuss various topics of concern in your county. The meeting topics are tailored to meet the needs of each district. All meetings will start at 10:00 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. There is no charge to attend. Lunch will be

sponsored by CCAO/CEAO. **The CCAO Board of Trustees encourages all county commissioners to permit their clerks and other office support staff to attend one of the following meetings.**

APRIL 25, 2008 – NORTHWEST REGION - HARDIN COUNTY

LOCATION: Henry's Restaurant, 995 North Detroit Street, Hardin County (Kenton)

For more information, please contact CCC/ESAO NW District Representative Rhonda Slauterbeck, Clerk/Assistant Administrator, (419) 734-6720 or rslauterbeck@co.ottawa.oh.us.

MAY 9, 2008 – NORTHEAST REGION – MAHONING COUNTY

LOCATION: Upstairs Restaurant, 4500 Mahoning Avenue, Mahoning County (Youngstown)

For more information, please contact CCC/ESAO NE District Representative Nancy Walega, Administrative Assistant, Mahoning County Engineer's Office, at (330) 799-1581 or nwalega@mahoningcountyoh.gov.

SEPTEMBER 26, 2008 – SOUTHEAST REGION – ATHENS COUNTY

LOCATION: To-be-announced

For more information, please contact CCC/ESAO SE District Representative Crystal Digenova, Administrative Assistant, Tuscarawas County Commissioners, at (330) 365-3240 or commissioners@co.tuscarawas.oh.us.

OCTOBER 24, 2008 – SOUTHWEST REGION – CLARK COUNTY

LOCATION: To-be-announced

For more information, please contact CCC/ESAO SW District Representative Dianna Harris, Administrative Assistant, Montgomery County Engineer's Office, at (937) 225-4904 or harrisd@mcohio.org.

For more information, please contact the 2008 CCC/ESAO President Susan Schmunk, Administrative Assistant, Williams County Engineer's Office, (419) 636-2454 or sschmunk@wmsco.org.

CCAO FISCAL, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE – APRIL 14

Gerald Potter, Hardin County Commissioner and CCAO Fiscal, Economic Development & Infrastructure Committee Chair, has scheduled a committee meeting on April 14, 2008 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the CCAO offices in Columbus. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss a County Treasurers' Association of Ohio (CTAO) proposal to revise treasurer settlement fees and also review CCAO's policy with respect to the governance and levying of assessments by conservancy districts.

Lunch will be served immediately following the conclusion of the meeting. Please RSVP your attendance by April 7 to Janet Erwin, CCAO Administrative Assistant, at (614) 220-7986, (888) 757-1904 or jerwin@ccao.org. If you have any questions about the meeting agenda please contact Brad Cole, CCAO Senior Policy Analyst, at (614) 220-7981, (888) 757-1904 or bcole@ccao.org.

OHIO STATEHOUSE MUSEUM PHOTO PROJECT; PHOTOS DUE APRIL 1

The Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board (CSRAB) has developed a design plan to create updated, high-tech, interactive exhibits and educational programs at the Ohio Statehouse. CSRAB and CCAO have partnered on this project and are seeking the assistance of all counties. Information about the project is posted on CCAO's front page at www.ccao.org.

Thanks to the 30 counties who are actively compiling photos for the new Ohio Statehouse Museum project, which will be housed on the ground level of the Statehouse! These photos highlight individuals who have come to serve their fellow citizens and make a difference either as governors, legislators, business people, farmers, concerned citizens and even school children.

The Ohio Statehouse Web site highlights plans of the interactive museum, including a fly-through video. The Ohio Statehouse Museum Web site portal is featured on the front page and under the education tab of the Statehouse Web site – www.ohiostatehouse.org. The new Ohio

Statehouse Museum is scheduled to be completed in early March 2009.

How can counties participate? Photos are requested that represent Ohioans from all races, genders, socio-economic backgrounds, professions, educational backgrounds and regions of the state. The images will include some of Ohio's first citizens as well as some of its most recent. Specifically, your county is invited to submit the images of up to 25 individuals. Please review the memo and criteria sheet for detailed information.

In order to maintain the aggressive design schedule, we ask that all submissions must be received by CSRAB by **April 1, 2008**. If you have any questions, please contact the Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board at (614) 752-9777.

CCAO SERVICE CORPORATION PROGRAM NEWS

CCAO DEFERRED COMPENSATION PROGRAM "GREEN" STATEMENT INITIATIVE

GREEN IS TWICE-AS NICE! Participants in CCAO's Deferred Compensation Program are already saving the green by investing in their retirement plan, but did you know that you can also receive your quarterly statements and stuffers electronically? Visit <https://www.gwrs.com/login.do> to sign up for Online File Cabinet. It's fast and easy, plus Great-West Retirement Services will donate \$1.00 to the National Arbor Day Foundation for every person who signs up during 2008. Working together to preserve your financial future and our national forests...now, that's savvy investing!

STATE ACTIVITIES

"BUILDING OHIO JOBS" REGIONAL MEETINGS

Governor Ted Strickland's "Building Ohio Jobs" initiative would be submitted to the voters at the November General Election. If approved, it would provide for the issuance of \$1.7 billion in bonds by the state for various economic development and infrastructure investments. The Governor's plan would create a projected 80,000 jobs. The issue

was unanimously endorsed by the CCAO Board of Trustees at their March meeting.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend one of the following nine “Building Ohio Jobs” regional meetings held throughout the state during early April.

April 3, 2008 @ 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. - Toledo

Presented by Lieutenant Governor Lee Fisher
University of Toledo – Health Science Campus,
Dana Conference Center, Williams-Defiance Room,
3110 Glendale Avenue, Toledo, OH 43614
For more information, please call Eileen Granata or
Dani Boss at (419) 245-2445. RSVP attendance to
dboss@odod.state.oh.us

April 4, 2008 @ 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. – North Canton

*Presented by Kim Zurz, Director, Ohio Department
of Commerce, and former Summit County Council
Member*
Stark State College, Auditorium – Building G, 6200
Frank Ave N.W., North Canton, OH 44720
For more information and to RSVP, contact
icline@odod.state.oh.us by April 2.

April 4, 2008 @ 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. – Akron

*Presented by Kim Zurz, Director, Ohio Department
of Commerce, and former Summit County Council
Member*
Akron Public Library, Auditorium, 60 South High
Street, Akron, OH 44326
For more information and to RSVP, contact
icline@odod.state.oh.us by April 2.

April 4, 2008 @ 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. - Cleveland

*Presented by Pari Sabety, Director, Ohio
Department of Budget and Management*
CSU Levin College of Urban Affairs Atrium, 1717
Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115. Use
Playhouse Square or CSU parking.
For more information and to RSVP, contact
Cleveland.GovernorsOffice@governor.ohio.gov.

April 4, 2008 @ 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. – Elyria

*Presented by Pari Sabety, Director, Ohio
Department of Budget and Management*
Lorain County Community College, The Spitzer
Conference Center, Room 118, 1005 Abbey Road
North, Elyria, OH 44035

For more information and to RSVP, contact
Cleveland.GovernorsOffice@governor.ohio.gov

April 7, 2008 @ 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. – Geneva-on-the-Lake

*Presented by Bob Boggs, Director, Ohio
Department of Agriculture, and former Ashtabula
County Commissioner*
The Lodge and Conference Center at Geneva
State Park, 4888 North Broadway (State Route
534), Geneva-on-the-Lake, OH 44041
For more information and to RSVP, contact Susan
Watson, Administrative Assistant, Governor’s
Regional Office, at (330) 797-6301, fax (330) 744-
1822 or swatson@odod.state.oh.us.

April 7, 2008 @ 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. – Youngstown

*Presented by Bob Boggs, Director, Ohio
Department of Agriculture, and former Ashtabula
County Commissioner*
Youngstown State University, Stadium Club, One
University Plaza, Youngstown, OH 44503. Parking
available next to the stadium.
For more information and to RSVP, contact Susan
Watson, Administrative Assistant, Governor’s
Regional Office, at (330) 797-6301, fax (330) 744-
1822 or swatson@odod.state.oh.us.

April 10, 2008 @ 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. – Marietta

*Presented by Sean Logan, Director, Ohio
Department of Natural Resources, and former
Columbiana County Commissioner*
Washington County Career Center, 21740 State
Route 676, Marietta, OH 45750
For more information and to RSVP, contact Julie
Graham at (740) 373-5150 or
Governors.MariettaOffice@governor.ohio.gov.

April 10, 2008 @ 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. – Nelsonville

*Presented by Sean Logan, Director, Ohio
Department of Natural Resources, and former
Columbiana County Commissioner*
Tri-County Joint Vocational School, 15676 State
Route 691, Nelsonville, OH 45764
For more information and to RSVP, contact Julie
Graham at (740) 373-5150 or
Governors.MariettaOffice@governor.ohio.gov.

CHRONIC DISEASE COSTS OHIO \$57 BILLION A YEAR, STUDY SAYS

The seven most common chronic diseases afflicting Ohioans cost the state's economy nearly \$57 billion a year, but much of that is avoidable, according to a recent study. About \$43.4 billion of that total represents the cost of lost productivity each year for workers afflicted by cancer, diabetes, hypertension, stroke, heart disease, pulmonary conditions and mental illness, according to the Milken Institute, a think tank based in Santa Monica, California. Nationally, common chronic diseases cost the economy about \$1 trillion annually and could swell to nearly \$6 trillion by the middle of the century, the report says.

However, if Ohio made "modest improvements" in disease prevention it could avoid 1.5 million cases of chronic conditions in 2023 and reduce future economic costs by \$40 billion, or 27% annually, the study says. That would be possible through productivity gains of about \$32 billion and almost \$9 billion in reduced spending on treatment. To help prevent chronic diseases, the report calls for incentives to promote prevention and early intervention and a renewed national commitment to reduce obesity. The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) funded the Milken Institute study and the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease, which launched an Ohio chapter in November, promoted the findings. To read a copy of the report go to www.chronicdiseaseimpact.com/.

Recently, the CCAO Board of Trustees endorsed the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease. See the link on the front page of www.ccao.org.

JANUARY UNEMPLOYMENT IN OHIO DROPS SLIGHTLY TO 5.5%

The state's unemployment rate dropped slightly in January, falling to 5.5% from the 5.8% rate in December, the Department of Job & Family Services announced. The decrease in the state rate was attributed to improved hiring in both the goods producing and service industries. Service producers added nearly 18,000 jobs last month, with educational and health services leading the way, the agency reported. The leisure and

hospitality sector and professional and business services field also recorded notable advancements. Goods producers added 800 jobs in the month, with the largest increases coming in construction and mining. Overall, the number of unemployed Ohioans last month was 328,000, down from 347,000 in December. Over the last year, the number of unemployed Ohioans has increased by 6,000. The national unemployment rate last month was 4.9%, down from 5% in December.

OHIO PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PLAN REMINDER

Just a reminder if you have not registered to participate on a regional committee for implementing the Physical Activity Plan (PA Plan), you still have time. The purpose of these groups is to look at the short-term opportunities in the PA Plan that each region will be able to implement through collaborative efforts and/or legislative connections on the local level. tentative regional committee meeting dates have been scheduled. Each meeting will be facilitated by a member of American Heart Association, American Cancer Society, or Ohio Parks and Recreation Association. All locations are still being arranged and you will be contacted in early April with the location of the meeting.

Regional Committee Meeting Dates:

- April 28, 2008 - Southwest Ohio 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- April 29, 2008 - Southeast Ohio 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- April 30, 2008 - Northwest Ohio 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- May 1, 2008 - Central Ohio 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- May 2, 2008 - Northeast Ohio 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

The Physical Activity Plan needs your endorsement. **The CCAO Board of Trustees has endorsed the Ohio Physical Activity Plan to support long-term changes to create a statewide environment that can increase physical activity to all Ohioans.** (See story on the front page of www.ccao.org.) Check out www.foryourhealthohio.org for continual updates. For more information please contact Mary Beth

Thaman at (937) 296-2454 or marybeth.thaman@ketteringoh.org.

Policy Analyst, at (614) 220-7996, (888) 757-1904 or btsvetkoff@ccao.org.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

LEGISLATION TO DELAY MEDICAID REGULATIONS INTRODUCED IN HOUSE

CCAO, along with the Public Children Services Association of Ohio (PCSAO), Ohio CSEA Directors Association (OCDA), and Ohio Job & Family Services Directors Association (OJFSDA), has signed on to a letter supporting bipartisan legislation that was just introduced in the House to delay implementation of harmful Medicaid regulations. The bill was introduced by Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman John Dingell (D-MI) and Congressman Timothy Murphy (R-PA) and imposes a one year moratorium on the seven Medicaid regulations recently issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The bill, H.R. 5613, the "Protecting the Medicaid Safety Net Act of 2008," would prohibit CMS from taking action to implement these regulations until April of 2009. The regulations include CMS regulations limiting Medicaid payments for targeted case management services, rehabilitation services, school-based transportation and outreach services, governmental providers, provider taxes, and hospital outpatient services.

In addition, Senator Rockefeller (D-WV) is very close to reaching an agreement with lead cosponsors on a similar one-year moratorium on the Medicaid regs as well as the August 17 SCHIP Directive. His goal is to introduce the bill the first week back from recess!

Action Needed: County officials should be calling on their U.S. House Members to cosponsor H.R. 5613. U.S. Senators should be urged to work with Senator Rockefeller on a Senate moratorium.

Please see CCAO's website (www.ccao.org) for a copy of the support letter. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Beddoe, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4234 or pbeddoe@naco.org, or Beth Tsvetkoff, CCAO

FARM BILL EXTENDED AGAIN

Farm Bill negotiators are closer to a final deal, but needed to extend the bill for a likely last time until April 18 to finish. Many congressional leaders will hold town hall meetings in their districts during the next two weeks, which provides a great opportunity for county officials to continue to weigh into the debate. Please urge your Congressional Delegation to support the \$400 million in mandatory spending for investments in rural development contained in the Senate version of the Farm Bill. A total of \$135 million will go toward the Rural Collaborative Investment Program (RCIP), an innovative new program for rural communities. A ready-made template found on NACo's Legislative Action Center can be used as talking points <http://capwiz.com/naco/issues/alert/?alertid=10862826> and to learn about town hall meetings in your district email yjiang@naco.org. Contact: Erik Johnston, NACo Associate Legislative Director, (202) 942-4230 or ejohnston@naco.org.

NACo ACTIVITIES

NACo GREEN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE EXPANDED

Through the National Association of Counties (NACo) Green Government Initiative, the association has launched a "green counties" searchable database of counties implementing pro-environment and energy efficient practices, policies and programs. The database contains copies of county policies, program descriptions, case studies, job descriptions, resolutions and more. Users can search by keyword, state, county size, type of document or issue areas such as climate change, green buildings, renewable energy, land use, purchasing and waste management to learn about their programs and initiatives.

Launched in 2007, the NACo Green Government Initiative provides comprehensive resources for local governments on all things green, including energy, air quality, transportation, water quality, land use, purchasing and recycling. NACo serves

as a catalyst between local governments and the private sector to facilitate green government best practices, products and policies that result in financial and environmental savings.

Through the Green Government Initiative, NACo is increasing education and outreach on all things green; helping educate counties and helping them educate the public; promoting environmentally-preferable purchasing practices and facilitating open dialogues with the private sector. Various green policies and programs benefit communities through lower energy bills, open space preservation, air quality improvements, reduced traffic congestion, improved transportation choices, and economic development and job creation through energy conservation and new technologies.

For more information, visit www.greencounties.org or contact Kelly Zonderwyk, NACo Senior Associate – Community Services, at (202) 942-4224 or kzonderwyk@naco.org.

BROWNFIELDS: THE BASICS & BEYOND

Join the National Association of Counties (NACo) for Webinars on “Brownfields: The Basics and Beyond – Strategies for Counties in Mitigating Risk and Creating Value.” As development has moved into rural and unincorporated areas, counties across the nation are increasingly left to provide solutions for these vacant properties. Brownfields are no longer an urban/metropolitan problem. Participate in one of the following sessions!

- Session II – April 11, 2008, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Repositioning Sites: Unlocking the Potential of Tough Properties
Key Topics: Key Impediments to Redevelopment, Approaches to Unlocking Potential, Entitlement Issues, Repositioning, Parceling/Assembling Sites, Creating Portfolios, Green Development, Attracting Developers to Tough Sites
- Session III – April 25, 2008, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Making the Most of Valuable Properties
Key Topics: What Makes a Valuable Property?, Quantifying the Value of Sites, Insuring Appropriate Uses, Addressing

Environmental Liabilities, Meeting Public Needs, Developing an Appropriate Disposition Process, and Negotiating with Developers

Registration fee: FREE - NACo invites all counties to participate. For more information on these Webinars and to register, contact James Davenport, NACo Project Manager – Community Services, at (202) 661-8807 or jdavenport@naco.org.

NACo Membership Information - If your county is not a NACo member and you would like to find out about the benefits of belonging to the only association that represents counties on the national level, please contact Andrew Goldschmidt, NACo Director of Membership/Marketing, at (202) 942-4221 or agoldschmidt@naco.org.

CLASSIFIEDS

WASTEWATER DIVISION MANAGER

The Greene County Sanitary Engineer seeks a wastewater division Manager to supervise management staff within division; set priorities and assigns tasks; monitor performance and work quality; interview and recommendation hiring, disciplinary actions and termination; assess employee training. For detailed information go to www.co.greene.oh.us.

Training And Experience Required: Bachelor's degree in a closely related field with five years of progressively responsible experience; or, an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties of the position.

Licensing Requirements: A current Ohio Class IV Wastewater Certification and a valid Ohio driver's license is required.

Applications Deadline: **April 10, 2008, at 4:00 p.m.**
EOE.