



---

# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

*Published weekly by: County Commissioners Association of Ohio*

209 East State Street • Columbus, Ohio 43215-4309  
Phone: 614-221-5627 • Fax: 614-221-6986 • [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org)

---

VOLUME XXXXVIII

NO. 4

JANUARY 30, 2009

### DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY 6, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, THE RUSTY NAIL, PORTAGE COUNTY (KENT)
FEBRUARY 9, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, RED PIG INN, PUTNAM COUNTY (OTTAWA)
FEBRUARY 9, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, HOLIDAY INN FRENCH QUARTER, WOOD COUNTY (PERRYSBURG)
FEBRUARY 13, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, RAMADA HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER, MUSKINGUM COUNTY (ZANESVILLE)
FEBRUARY 13, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, CAFÉ 422, TRUMBULL COUNTY (WARREN)
FEBRUARY 19, 2009	CCAO GENERAL GOVERNMENT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
FEBRUARY 23-25, 2009	COMMISSIONERS TRAINING SEMINAR, DEER CREEK RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTER, PICKAWAY COUNTY (MT. STERLING)
MARCH 2, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, CINCINNATI MARRIOTT NE, WARREN COUNTY (MASON)
MARCH 2, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, PUMP HOUSE CENTER FOR THE ARTS, ROSS COUNTY (CHILLICOTHE)
MARCH 7-11, 2009	NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, MARRIOTT WARDMAN PARK, WASHINGTON, D.C.
MARCH 11, 2009	OHIO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION BREAKFAST, CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER – ROOM 201, U.S. CAPITOL, WASHINGTON, D.C.
MARCH 13, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, HOLIDAY INN, MONTGOMERY COUNTY (ENGLEWOOD)
MARCH 13, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, CELBRATIONS BY SALLIE, ASHLAND COUNTY (ASHLAND)

<b>MARCH 13, 2009</b>	<b>CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, MARION COUNTRY CLUB, MARION COUNTY (MARION)</b>
<b>MARCH 27, 2009</b>	<b>CORSA RENEWAL MEETING, QUEST CONFERENCE CENTER, COLUMBUS (FRANKLIN COUNTY)</b>
<b>JULY 24-29, 2009</b>	<b>74<sup>TH</sup> NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION, DAVIDSON COUNTY (NASHVILLE), TN</b>

**ASSOCIATION NEWS**

OHIO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION BREAKFAST – MARCH 11

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Ohio Congressional Delegation Breakfast to be held at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 11 in the Capitol Visitor Center – Room 201, at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. Letters of invitation have been sent to the Ohio Congressional Delegation. Call now to make your appointments to meet with your member(s) during the conference!

The Capitol Visitor Center, the new main entrance to the U.S. Capitol, is located below the East Plaza of the Capitol between Constitution and Independence Avenues. Transportation WILL NOT be provided to the breakfast. Please do not attempt to drive and park on Capitol Hill! The Capitol can be reached by taking the Metro (red line) to Union Station exit or the Metro (red line) to Metro Center and transfer to the blue or orange lines and exit at Federal South or you can travel by taxi.

A full breakfast will be served and attendance must be guaranteed in advance. There is no charge to attend the breakfast. Attendance at the breakfast is open to all Ohio conference attendees and their traveling companions. Registration deadline: February 27, 2009. For more information about the conference or to register for the Ohio Congressional Delegation Breakfast, please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 775-1904, or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).

2009 CCAO COMMISSIONERS TRAINING SEMINAR

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the CCAO Commissioners Training Seminar to be held February 23-25, 2009 at Deer Creek Resort and

Conference Center, 22300 State Park Road 20, in Mt. Sterling. This popular conference is an excellent opportunity for new and veteran commissioners, administrators, and commissioners' clerks to meet with other officials.

Registration materials and an agenda are posted at [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org). Conference registration deadline: February 13, 2009. The hotel room reservation deadline is today - January 30, 2009. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904, or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).

2009 CCAO ROSTER UPDATES

Yes, it's that time again...time to update information for the *2009 CCAO Roster*! There will be a lot of changes in the Roster this year. The accuracy of the data in the Roster is of utmost importance. Please update the information after reorganization of the Board of County Commissioners.

Newly appointed commissioners and veteran commissioners that want to update their photos should e-mail them in a high resolution, jpg format. If you send a photo, please write the name of the person and their county on the back of the photo. Please do not staple, fax photos, or send photos from the newspaper, because the reproduction quality is poor.

All information and photos should have been returned to CCAO by **January 16, 2009**. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904, or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).

## **CCAO STAFF NEWS**

### JAY RANDALL

This week, CORSA announced that Jay Randall, Senior Claims Representative, has taken a new position with Principal Financial Services. Jay joined the staff in 2006. He will be leaving CCAO on February 13. Please join us in thanking Jay for his contribution to CCAO/CORSA and his service to Ohio counties. Congratulations, Jay! We wish you success in your new endeavors.

## **COUNTY ACTIVITIES**

### A HOUSE WITH NO WALLS: JONES STARS IN PLAY

Cuyahoga County Commissioner Peter Lawson Jones is starring in *A House with No Walls* which runs from January 23 to February 15, 2009 at Karamu House, 2355 East 89<sup>th</sup> Street, in Cleveland. The play, written by Thomas Gibbons and directed by Terrence Spivey, was inspired by real life events in Philadelphia. It dramatizes the conflict between a conservative African-American academic and an ultra-liberal, Afro-centric political activist as they battle over a proposed site for a new American Liberty Museum, which happens to be on the grounds of George Washington's Philadelphia home and slave quarters. The play is a volatile exploration of whether or not African Americans should embrace the legacy of slavery as their primary cultural identity or discard this mantle of "victim hood." For ticket information contact the box office at (216) 795-7077 or [www.karamu.com](http://www.karamu.com).

### PORTAGE COUNTY MASTER GARDNER PROJECT RECEIVES AWARD

The Portage County Master Gardner Project has received a state-wide excellence award in community service for a project the group conducted with the Portage County Solid Waste Management District Recycling Center.

The Outstanding Master Gardener Volunteer Project Excellence Award in Community Service was awarded by OSU Extension for the plastic garden pot recycling project in Portage County. Plastic garden pots collected were brought back to the Recycling Center and sent to a recycler to be

compacted, with most being made into plastic furniture and plastic lumber.

Since 2006, 145 cubic yards of plastic have been diverted through this program, according to Wendelin Taylor, Special Project Coordinator at the Recycling Center, who is also a volunteer with Master Gardeners. Taylor accepted the 2008 award for the group at the state Master Gardener Conference. Thirty groups and projects throughout the state were competing for the award for excellence in programming. Master Gardener in Portage County, the only program in the state that works with Master Gardeners on garden pot collection for recycling, is a volunteer program through the OSU Extension office in Ravenna.

## **STATE ACTIVITIES**

### OHIO BUSINESS-TAX REVAMP CONTRIBUTES TO STATE'S FISCAL WOES

Ohio's revamp of its business-tax system in 2005 has contributed importantly to the state's budget deficit, according to a new report issued by the nonprofit research institute Policy Matters Ohio. The report, "Business Tax Revamp: A Deficit in the Making," concludes that businesses saved more than \$500 million during the state's 2008 fiscal year ended last June.

Overall, when fully implemented, the business tax changes are likely to reduce total state revenue by \$1 billion or more a year. The business share of Ohio's state and local taxes remains far lower than it was 30 years ago. This is partly because the two taxes being phased out under the 2005 overhaul had been weakened over the years or remained stagnant in real terms.

In 2005, the Ohio General Assembly approved an overhaul of the state's tax system. Besides cutting the personal income tax and making other changes, the legislature phased out two of the most significant taxes on business: Corporate Franchise Tax on nonfinancial companies, which is the state's corporate income tax, and Tangible Personal Property Tax, a local tax imposed on machinery, equipment, inventories, furniture and fixtures used in business in Ohio. It replaced them with a new Commercial Activity Tax (CAT), based on gross receipts in Ohio.

The study reviews the effects to date of those changes on state and local government revenues, what the overhaul has meant for different types of companies and industries and how the effects have compared with how the reform was promoted. It analyzes available data on the size and industry of taxpayers paying the new CAT, their location, and the extent to which the tax overhaul has affected economic development incentives.

- Policy Matters Ohio recommends that the state: Retain and strengthen the franchise tax;
- Mandate that nonfinancial companies pay the franchise tax or the CAT, whichever is higher;
- Adjust the rate of the CAT, so that these two business taxes bring in as much inflation-adjusted revenue as the franchise tax and the tangible property tax produced in 2005, prior to the tax overhaul. This would provide significant revenue for the state, while leaving the business share of state and local taxes well below what it was in the past, and
- Require that grocers pay the franchise tax if the Ohio Supreme Court should rule in a pending case that the CAT violates the state constitution. This would ensure that grocers and other sellers of food for off-premise consumption pay a general business tax, as other businesses do.

To read a copy of the report to [www.policymattersohio.org](http://www.policymattersohio.org).

### OHIO FOOD STAMP PROGRAM INFORMATION

As the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) and county department of job and family services departments collectively strive to meet the demand for programs and services in a time of rapidly growing caseloads and decreasing resources, the state continues to look for ways (big or small) to alleviate the administrative burden on county agencies.

Previously, the county departments of job and family services have been required to complete and return the JFS 7210, Ohio Food Stamp Program Information Statement each year. This form is no longer a federal requirement, and counties will no

longer need to complete the form and send it to the state.

The ODJFS asks that counties periodically review your county agency information posted at: <http://jfs.ohio.gov/county/cntydir.stm> to ensure the information is accurate and up-to-date. If there is information that needs to be changed, please contact Khrista Reisinger, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Communications, at [khrista.reisinger@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:khrista.reisinger@jfs.ohio.gov).

### REGIONAL CONVERSATIONS ON POVERTY

Over the last several months, the Ohio Anti-Poverty Task Force has been meeting in central Ohio to discuss strategies and ideas about how to combat poverty in Ohio. CCAO, along with other county human service associations, have been a part of these discussions. The Task Force now is hosting regional discussions about Ohio's poverty issues. Review the schedule of regional meetings at the Ohio Anti-Poverty Task Force website located at <http://governor.ohio.gov/Projects/AntiPovertyTaskForce/tabid/689/Default.aspx>. For more information contact Beverly Cooper, Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, 77 South High Street, Columbus, OH 43215, (614) 644-3900, fax (614) 644-6763 or [beverly.cooper@governor.ohio.gov](mailto:beverly.cooper@governor.ohio.gov).

### NEW ODOT DIRECTOR NAMED; BEASLEY RETIRES AFTER TWO YEARS

Last week, Governor Ted Strickland announced the retirement of Department of Transportation (ODOT) Director James Beasley and the appointment of his replacement, current Assistant Director Jolene Molitoris. Beasley served 27 years as the Brown County engineer before joining the governor's cabinet in early 2007.

Molitoris will be the first woman to lead ODOT. In 1993 she became the first woman to lead the Federal Railroad Administration upon her appointment by former President Bill Clinton. She has also served as chair of the Ohio Rail Development Commission.

## **NACo ACTIVITIES**

### NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE; STRENGTHEN THE VOICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

As new Administration and the 111th Congress hits town a great number of programs that assist counties will be under intense scrutiny. As a county official you need to know what this means for counties, what you can do about the issues, and how you can strengthen the voice of local government on Capitol Hill. With a philosophy of "those who show up decide," you have a host of reasons to attend the NACo Legislative Conference!

The NACo Legislative Conference will be held March 7-11, 2008 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, in Washington, D.C.! Register online and receive a \$25 discount on your conference registration. Hotel rooms fill up fast, so register now for a room at or close to the conference headquarters hotel.

For more information about the conference or the Ohio Congressional Delegation Breakfast, please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 775-1904, or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).

### 2009 ACHIVEMENT AWARD PROGRAM

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award Program is a non-competitive awards program that recognizes innovative county government programs. Begun in 1970, the Achievement Award Program promotes and recognizes innovative and successful programs that modernize and streamline county government and increase services to citizens.

Programs in the following 21 categories can be submitted: Arts & Historic Preservation; Children & Youth; Civic Education and Public Information; Community/Economic Development; County Administration & Management; Court Administration & Management; Criminal Justice & Public Safety; Emergency Management & Response; Employment & Training (for county residents); Environmental Protection & Energy; Financial Management; Health; Human Services;

Information Technology; Libraries; Parks & Recreation; Personnel Management, Employee Training & Employee Benefits (for county employees); Planning; Risk Management; Transportation; and Volunteers (includes Acts of Sharing).

Applications must be postmarked by **February 13, 2009**. Send applications to: 2009 Achievement Awards, National Association of Counties, P.O. Box 79007, Baltimore, MD 21279-0007. For more information please contact Kathryn Murphy, NACo Research Associate, at (202) 661-8806 or e-mail [kmurphy@naco.org](mailto:kmurphy@naco.org) or fax your application to the NACo Research Division at (202) 737-0480. Copies of the application may be obtained from the NACo website at [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org).

### 2009 NACIO AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE COMPETITION

The National Association of County Information Officers (NACIO) is seeking entries for its 2009 Awards of Excellence competition. The contest seeks to recognize outstanding public relations and public information work being done on behalf of counties throughout the nation.

The 2009 NACIO Awards of Excellence Competition covers projects produced and/or distributed from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008. There are 11 categories for submissions – annual reports, writing, graphic design, photography, special projects, computer media, internal and external publications, brochures, Spanish language entries, and audio/visual productions. Each category has various subcategories.

Each entry will be judged for its originality, effectiveness, results, degree of effort and difficulty, overall quality, and strength of impression. The contest is open to staff of county governments that are eligible to join the National Association of Counties (NACo) or staff of state associations of counties. Your county does not have to be a member of NACo for you to enter the contest, nor do you have to be a member of NACIO, a NACo affiliate. However, NACIO members receive a discount on the entry fee.

Entry fee for each submission: \$35 - NACIO members or \$50 - non-members. No entries will be accepted after **March 28, 2009**. NACIO was formed in 1966 to bring together communications professionals who wanted to share information with other counties across the U.S. For more information about NACIO, please visit us on the Web at [www.nacio.org](http://www.nacio.org).

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

### SENIOR CLAIMS ADJUSTER

The County Risk Sharing Authority ([www.CORSA.org](http://www.CORSA.org)), a well established, financially strong property-liability risk sharing program for county government, is seeking a Senior Claims Adjuster. We offer competitive salary and benefits and a dynamic, team-oriented downtown office with parking provided. See job description on our web site.

This position involves full adjusting of multi-line state-wide claims including investigation, coverage evaluation, reserving, monitoring defense counsel

and settlement negotiation. We are looking for an individual with a bachelor's degree and minimum five years increasingly responsible experience adjusting multi-line commercial claims including major litigation. Experience adjusting public sector / governmental claims a plus. Excellent verbal and written communication. Must be flexible, team-oriented and committed to customer service. Proficient with claims information systems, Word, Excel.

Please mail resume with salary requirements to Elizabeth Miller, CORSA Claims & Litigation Manager, 209 East State Street, Columbus, OH 43215, fax (614) 220-0209 or [emiller@ccao.org](mailto:emiller@ccao.org).

#### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

CCAO publishes the County Information and Data Service (CIDS) weekly. Classified ads will be published free of charge as a service to counties. Ads will run for two weeks if space is available. Ads will also be published on the CCAO website at [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org). When submitting your ad to CCAO please provide a link to the job posting online and a deadline. Please provide a copy of the classified ad by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday of each week. Transmit the copy to Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, by e-mail [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org)