DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH 23, 2015  CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, THE NEW CENTER AT NE OHIO MEDICAL UNIVERSITY, PORTAGE COUNTY (ROOTSTOWN)

MARCH 24, 2015  CEBCO AFFORDABLE CARE ACT REGIONAL SEMINAR, CCAO, COLUMBUS

MARCH 26, 2015  CORSA RENEWAL MEETING, HOLIDAY INN COLUMBUS NORTH, WORTHINGTON

MARCH 26, 2015  WIOA IMPLEMENTATION SYMPOSIUM, COLUMBUS AIRPORT MARRIOTT, COLUMBUS

MARCH 27, 2015  CORSA RENEWAL MEETING, HOLIDAY INN COLUMBUS NORTH, WORTHINGTON

MARCH 27, 2015  CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, JOHN S. KNIGHT CENTER, SUMMIT COUNTY (AKRON)

MARCH 27, 2015  CCAO AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

MARCH 27, 2015  CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, BENDER’S TAVERN, STARK COUNTY (CANTON)

MARCH 30, 2015  CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, JAKE’S RESTAURANT, ASHLAND COUNTY (ASHLAND)

MARCH 30, 2015  CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, CELEBRATIONS II, MONTGOMERY COUNTY (DAYTON)

APRIL 2015  NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH

APRIL 1, 2015  CEBCO ANNUAL MEETING, COLUMBUS AIRPORT MARRIOTT, COLUMBUS

APRIL 8, 2015  AFFORDABLE CARE ACT – CADILLAC TAX – WEBINAR – A CCAO 2nd Wednesday Webinar Series

APRIL 8, 2015  CCAO JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

APRIL 8, 2015  CCAOSC GROUP RATING PROGRAM ANNUAL MEETING, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
ASSOCIATION NEWS

WIOA IMPLEMENTATION SYMPOSIUM – MARCH 26

The Area 7 Workforce Investment Board in cooperation with CCAO, the Ohio Job and Family Service Directors Association, and other workforce investment boards will present a “Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA) Implementation Symposium” on March 26, 2015 at the Columbus Airport Marriott Hotel, 1375 N Cassady Avenue, in Columbus. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. with the symposium beginning at 10:00 a.m. and ending at 2:30 p.m.

The Symposium will provide local elected officials and decision-makers with information to effectively implement the WIOA. Attendees will hear from state and national leaders on the key provisions and requirements of the new workforce legislation.

The keynote speaker is John Colbert, who was a senior official in the Clinton Administration as chief of staff with the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration overseeing an $11 billion budget. Colbert helped direct the nation’s major job training and youth development programs.

WIOA Symposium Focus:
- Understand how WIOA will change workforce services in your county
- Learn from state and national experts about the opportunities provided by the new federal workforce legislation
- Identify the key decisions county commissioners must make in the coming months
- Engage in an open dialog with peers and policy experts to get your questions answered
- Network with colleagues from across Ohio

There is no charge to attend the WIOA Implementation Symposium. To assure adequate space and lunches are prepared, please register or cancel before March 23, 2015. Register here...

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT – “CADILLAC TAX” WEBINAR – APRIL 8

CCAO is pleased to offer a one-hour “Affordable Care Act—Cadillac Tax” webinar on April 8 at 9:30 a.m. The “Cadillac Tax” is an excise tax scheduled to take effect in 2018 to reduce health care usage and costs by encouraging employers to offer plans that are more cost-effective and engage employees in sharing in the cost of care. It is a 40% tax on employers that provide high-cost health benefits to their employees. This is a permanent annual tax beginning in 2018 with the purpose of generating $80 billion over the next 10 years to
help finance the expansion of health coverage. Our speaker, Marc Fishel - a partner in the law firm of Fishel Hass Kim Albrecht - will discuss the following topics:

- What is the Cadillac (Excise) tax?
- What are the excise tax issues?
- Other issues: Reporting requirements and King v. Burwell pending before the United States Supreme Court

Registration: Participants in the webinar may pose questions to the presenters who will respond during and after the power point presentation. Click here to register for this exceptional educational opportunity. There is no charge to attend the webinar.

If you experience difficulty in connecting to the link above and wish to register for the webinar, please email Amanda Jones, CCAO Program Assistant, and provide her with your name, title, and email address. Webinar participation is limited to the first 100 to sign-on to the webinar that morning. For additional information regarding the topic for this webinar, please contact Brad Cole, CCAO Managing Director of Research. Read more...

FOR ALL COUNTIES....HEALTH AND WELLNESS 2015/CEBCO ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING

The Annual CEBCO Membership meeting will be held on April 1, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Columbus Airport Marriott Hotel, 1375 North Cassady Avenue, in Columbus. This year’s topics will include an update from Dr. Barry Malinowski, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Medical Director, on Anthem’s Medical Management and Enhanced Personal Health Care. There will be an update on new aspects of the Affordable Care Act and the StayWell Wellness Program. Whether you are in CEBCO or not, this will be informative for anyone managing a county employee health plan.

CCAO HOLDS SUCCESSFUL REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFINGS AROUND THE STATE

As the 131st General Assembly convenes, CCAO is scheduling regional legislative briefings for commissioners, county executives and council members, and legislators at locations across the state. Meetings have been organized around legislative district lines. These events are designed as an opportunity to allow you to meet with your legislators and your fellow commissioners to articulate and explore the common problems and concerns that county and state government have in serving their constituents, the people of Ohio.

The events are listed above in Dates to Remember. Commissioners, county executives and county council members received a memo, briefing schedule, and sample press release from CCAO. CCAO sent an invitation to each legislator. We also encourage you to invite other county elected officials and your key staff to attend.
IN MEMORIUM

ROBERT JAMES HOWSER

Former Brown County Commissioner Robert Howser passed away on Thursday, March 19 in Georgetown. During his career in private industry, Howser worked for Kattine Motor Company and Queen City Chevrolet in Georgetown. Later he became the owner of Howser’s Auto Repair and GMC Truck Sales in Georgetown. His career in public began in 1979 when he was elected Brown County Commissioner and served for 12 years. Howser served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. CCAO extends heartfelt sympathy to the Howser family. Click here to send a note of condolence to the family. Read more…

AFFILIATE NEWS

2015 CCC/EAPA REGIONAL TRAINING SCHEDULE

The County Commissioners Clerks and Engineers Administrative Professional Association (CCC/EAPA) announces that three regional training sessions will be held in the following counties:

- **April 24 – Medina County** – Rose Hill Restaurant, 7249 Wooster Pike, Route 3, Medina
  Hosts: Peggy Folk, Clerk, Medina County Commissioners & Gina Frimel, Secretary, Medina County Engineers Office. Meeting Coordinator: **Gail Crossen**, Clerk, Ashland County Commissioners Office, at (419) 282-4220
- **June 12 – Wood County** – 1 Courthouse Square - Floor 5, Bowling Green
  Host & Meeting Coordinator: **Jessica Sautter**, Office Manager, Wood Engineer’s Office, at (419) 354-9068
- **September 25 – Franklin County** – CCAO offices, 209 E. State Street, Columbus
  Meeting Coordinators: **Diana Groves**, Clerk, Clinton County Commissioners, at (937) 382-2103 or **Lisa Shaffer**, Business Administrator, Gallia Engineer’s office, at (740) 446-4009

All the county commissioners’ and engineer’s office support staff members are encouraged to attend. These regional meetings and the CCAO/CEAO Annual Winter Conference, held in December, are excellent opportunities for networking. The topics discussed at the regional meetings vary from the daily operations of the office to recent legislative updates. All meetings will be held on Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. There is no charge to attend. Lunch is provided by CCAO/CEAO. Please RSVP your attendance to the meeting coordinator listed above.

Information about the CCC/EAPA is available at [www.ccc-eapa.org](http://www.ccc-eapa.org) and there is also a yahoo group that is a resource for questions and answers. You can sign up at [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CCC_EAPA](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CCC_EAPA). For more information, please contact 2015 CCC/EAPA President **Theresa Upton**, Clerk, Lorain County Commissioners, 226 Middle Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035, or (440) 329-5103.

STATE ACTIVITIES

SUNSHINE WEEK - MARCH 15-21: 2015 YELLOW BOOK AVAILABLE

To coincide with Sunshine Week, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine released the 2015 edition of [Ohio Sunshine Laws: An Open Government Resource Manual](http://www.ohiosunshinelaws.org), also known as the “Yellow Book”. The “Yellow Book” is published to help requesters understand their rights and for government agencies to understand their obligations under Ohio’s Sunshine Laws. The Sunshine Laws Manual provides summaries of
Revised Code provisions and case law regarding the Ohio Public Records Act and Open Meetings Act. The 2015 edition includes updates on recent open government legal decisions and law changes.

**Sunshine Law Training – In Person:** In addition to producing the “Yellow Book,” the Ohio Attorney General’s Public Records Unit conducts Sunshine Laws Training at dozens of locations around Ohio. The training on Ohio Public Records Act is required for local public officials or their designee at least once per elected term and also includes training on the Open Meetings Act. These trainings are also open to the public and media. [Click here](#) for a list of trainings.

**Sunshine Law Training – Video Course:** Last December, the OAG announced that the Sunshine Laws Trainings are now also available as an online video course, which is an alternative to the live three-hour certification training session. The course is available to anyone through the Attorney General’s website at no cost to the user and is approved for three hours of self-study Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credit by the Supreme Court of Ohio. [Click here](#) to access the online training.

**Public Records Mediation Training** - The OAG Public Records Unit operates a voluntary Public Records Mediation Program to resolve disputes between local government entities and records requestors. Since the program was launched in 2012, it has received more than 170 mediation requests, with most requests being successfully resolved for both parties. The program can help requestors receive their records more quickly when there is a dispute, and the program protects taxpayers by helping local governments avoid costly litigation. [Click here](#) for more information.

**Mandatory 10-Digit Dialing is Here for Callers in the Ohio 740 Area Code**

Beginning on Saturday, March 21, 2015, all local calls made within the Ohio 740 area code must be placed using the 10 or 11 digit telephone number (area code plus the seven-digit telephone number or 1+area code + seven-digit telephone number).

To ensure a continuing supply of telephone numbers, the new 220 area code will be added to the 740 area code region which generally covers the southeastern portion of the state of Ohio serving communities such as Athens, Cambridge, Delaware, Jackson, Lancaster, Marion, Newark, Marietta, Portsmouth, and Zanesville. The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) ordered an area code overlay for the area served by 740. The new 220 area code will be overlaid, or superimposed, over the same geographical area as the 740 area code. [Click here](#) to view the area code overlay map.

Residential and business customers within the existing 740 area code should be prepared for the introduction of the new 220 area code. Beginning April 22, 2015, customers in the 740 area code region requesting new service, an additional line, or in some cases, moving their service may be assigned a number in the new 220 area code. [Read more...](#)

**ODNR Conservation Farm Family Award Program Opens Nominations**

Ohio’s farmers continue to adopt practices on their land aimed at addressing important conservation issues, such as improving Ohio’s water quality. Food and agriculture remain Ohio’s No. 1 industry, annually contributing more than $105 billion to the state’s economy. As farmers are stewards of the land, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) is seeking nominations of Ohio farm families who are leaders in preserving and protecting our natural resources for the 2015 Conservation Farm Family Awards.

The Conservation Farm Family Award program has recognized Ohio farm families since 1984 for their efforts in managing natural resources while meeting both production and conservation goals. Individual farmers, partnerships or family farm corporations are eligible for nomination, provided a substantial portion of their
income is derived from farming. The judging is based on the nominee's use of new and traditional conservation practices, comprehensive management, individual initiative in applying conservation measures and the nominee's willingness to share conservation information, experiences and philosophy with others.

Nomination forms can be obtained from local county soil and water conservation districts or by visiting the ODNR Division of Soil and Water Resources website at www.soilandwater.ohiodnr.gov. Nomination deadline: May 1, 2015. 

MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION PROPOSAL UPDATE

Attorney General Mike DeWine has cleared the way for ResponsibleOhio petitioners to collect signatures for its proposed ballot initiative to legalize marijuana. DeWine said in a letter to the group that the summary language for its ballot issue is a "fair and truthful statement of the proposed law." In addition, the 1,000 valid signatures needed to move on to the next step of the process were certified.

ResponsibleOhio’s amendment proposal was on the agenda for this afternoon’s Ballot Board meeting. The Board will determine if the issue of legalizing marijuana represents single or multiple amendments to the Ohio Constitution. If determined that the issue should be multiple amendments, petitioners must collect 305,591 valid signatures for each amendment by July 1 to qualify to be on the November 3 general election ballot.

ResponsibleOhio is proposing a single constitutional amendment that would legalize marijuana for medical, recreational, and commercial use. The proposal calls for establishing ten legal growing locations that are at least 1,000 feet from schools, day care centers, churches or libraries; a seven-member Marijuana Control Commission to regulate growing, sales, distribution, licensing, and taxing of marijuana products; five marijuana testing facilities to check potency and safety; not-for-profit medical marijuana dispensaries for patients with debilitating medical conditions who could buy pot at wholesale prices; and a five percent flat tax on retail pot sales with 85 percent of the tax revenue going to local governments for services.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

MARKETPLACE FAIRNESS ACT INTRODUCED IN SENATE

On March 10, the Marketplace Fairness Act (MFA) of 2015 (S. 698) was introduced in the U.S. Senate and has been referred to the Finance Committee. Similar to the legislation that passed the Senate in 2013 with strong bipartisan support, the bill would not create a new tax; it would simply allow states and local governments to enforce existing sales tax laws. By allowing the enforcement of existing sales taxes, the MFA would allow Main Street retailers to compete on a level playing field against out-of-state Internet retailers.

The current inability of states and local governments to enforce existing sales taxes is essentially the result of decades-old Supreme Court decisions – National Bellas Hess v. Department of Revenue (1967) and Quill Corp. v. North Dakota (1992). Both cases dealt with the issue of the physical presence necessary for a state to impose a duty to collect upon a seller that was not located within a state. Even though the Quill decision, which states that a business must have a physical presence in a state before the state can require it to collect sales taxes, upheld Bellas Hess, the Court also held that Congress ultimately has the authority to regulate interstate commerce and could overrule the decision through legislation.

Upon enactment, the MFA would not automatically grant states and local governments with the ability to enforce existing sales taxes. In order to exercise the authority, states and local governments would need to simplify sales and use tax administration through one of two options: adoption of the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement, whereby participating states have already implemented simplification measures, or adoption of measures to meet minimum simplification requirements detailed in the bill. Sellers with less than
$1 million in annual nationwide remote sales would be exempt from collecting. Additionally, under the bill, the authority to enforce could not be exercised until one year after enactment or during the first holiday shopping season after enactment. To view National Association of Counties’ resources on the MFA, click here.

NACo ACTIVITIES

APRIL IS NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH: RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT COUNTIES

CCAO and NACo encourage counties across the country and hold activities and events in April as part of National County Government Month (NCGM). Activities such as open houses at county facilities, conducting programs with schools, recognizing veterans and employees, and issuing proclamations help county leaders raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of county government. Since 1991, CCAO and NACo have encouraged counties to actively promote county government programs and services.

The 2015 national theme is “Counties Moving America Forward: The Keys are Transportation and Infrastructure,” which is the focus of NACo President Riki Hokama’s presidential initiative. Following the theme, counties will be showing their residents how they are at the forefront of strengthening transportation and the infrastructure fundamental to moving America forward. Counties play a key role in everything from moving people and goods to moving the economy forward.

Meet with your member of the Ohio Congressional Delegation: One activity that all counties should pursue during NCGM is to meet with their members of Congress. During those meetings, county officials should stress that federal policies matter to county government and county government matters to America’s local communities. They should know that county governments are responsible for the fundamental building blocks for healthy, safe and vibrant communities and that federal policy decisions have a major, cascading impact on county government. Click here for talking points.

Meet with your member of the Ohio General Assembly: All county officials are invited to attend the Ohio Council of County Officials (OCCO) Legislative Reception to be held on April 21 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Statehouse Atrium in Columbus. Arrive early to attend a hearing, Senate or House session, and schedule a meeting with your members of the Ohio General Assembly. Invite them to attend the reception with you. The reception is being co-sponsored by the Ohio Judicial Conference. Registration materials will be distributed soon.

Join in for the County Day or Recognition for National Service: Participate in the County Day of Recognition for National Service on April 7, 2015. Every day, in counties across America, national service is tackling tough problems and strengthening communities. The initiative is being led by NACo and the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). Click here to learn more and sign up your county!

NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION – REGISTRATION IS OPEN

NACo’s 80th Annual Conference and Exposition will be held July 10-13 at the Charlotte Convention Center, in Mecklenburg County, (Charlotte) North Carolina. The Annual Conference provides county officials with a great opportunity to vote on NACo’s policies related to federal legislation and regulation; elect officers; network with colleagues; learn about innovative county programs; find out about issues impacting counties across the country; and view products and services from participating companies and exhibitors.
Registration is open. Register online to save $25! The largest hotel blocks are at the Westin Charlotte Hotel (headquarters) and the Hilton Charlotte City Center Hotel. Room blocks have been held at seven other downtown hotel properties. Downtown Charlotte is a very walkable city with many dining opportunities. NACo will be encouraging walking throughout the conference. Shuttle service will be available running on a 20-25 minute schedule with stops at multiple hotels. The discounted early bird registration deadline is May 29, but waiting until this date will not guarantee your hotel reservation at your first choice hotel. For more information and to register online, click here.

2015 NACo ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS PROGRAM – DEADLINE MARCH 27

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Awards Program has recognized innovative county government programs in a variety of categories for the past 45 years. Applications are based on their own merits according to the criteria outlined in the application. Outstanding programs from each category may be selected as the Best of Category. If the program has won an award in the past, that program is not eligible for another award unless the program has made substantial and significant changes since the previous award was received.

For 2015 applications, all programs must have become operational after January 1, 2010, county officials and/or staff must have played a significant role in developing and implementing the program as part of their official duties, all steps in the application process must be followed, all application fees must be paid in full, and the program must meet the criteria outlined in the application. Application deadline: March 27, 2015 at 11:59 p.m. For more information about the Achievement Awards program, please contact Yael Lazarus, Project Coordinator - NACo Professional Development, Education, and Training division, at (202) 661-8819. Click here for more program information.

NACIO 2015 AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE COMPETITION CALL FOR ENTRIES – DEADLINE MARCH 27

The National Association of County Information Officers (NACIO) is soliciting entries for its 2015 Awards of Excellence competition. This contest recognizes outstanding public relations and public information work being done in counties across the nation. Winners will be announced in June. The awards will be presented at the NACIO reception at the NACo Annual Conference held on July 10-13, 2015 in Mecklenburg County (Charlotte), North Carolina.

The 2015 Awards are a comprehensive look at the initiatives and efforts put forth from January 1, 2014, to December 31, 2014, and will recognize excellence in nine categories: Annual Reports, Brochures/Multiple-Page Booklets, Publications, Writing, Graphic Design, Photography, Audiovisual Productions, Special Projects, and Electronic Communications. Each category will include several subcategories. Please note that the projects must have been produced during the calendar year, but it does not have to be a new project. It can be an ongoing program or initiative. Application deadline: March 27 (must be paid by March 31).

The Awards of Excellence are open to county staff whose county is eligible to join the National Association of Counties (NACo), or any staff of an eligible state association of counties. Click here to read the official contest rules and to download the official application form. For membership information, please contact NACIO Region 1 Director - Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904.

CLASSIFIEDS

CCAO publishes classified ads on our website and in CIDS. Classified ads will be published free of charge as a service to counties. Ads will be published on the website until the application deadline and for several weeks
in CIDS. When submitting your ad to CCAO, please provide a link to the online job posting and a deadline date. Email your classified ad to Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate.

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<tr>
<th>Title /For More Information...</th>
<th>Employer/Application Deadline</th>
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<tr>
<td>Business Administrator</td>
<td>Clark County March 26, 2015</td>
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<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Clark County March 27, 2015</td>
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<td>Adult Protective Social Services Worker</td>
<td>Fairfield County March 27, 2015</td>
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<td>LSC Legislative Fellowship</td>
<td>Ohio General Assembly (Legislative Service Commission) April 1, 2015</td>
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<td>Assistant Superintendent – Board of DD</td>
<td>Hancock County April 2, 2015</td>
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<td>LSC Telecommunications Fellowship</td>
<td>Ohio General Assembly (Legislative Service Commission) May 31, 2015</td>
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<td>County Administrator</td>
<td>Sandusky County March 20, 2015 or until position is filled</td>
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