

# Courthouse Journal

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

Washington State Association of Counties  
Washington Association of County Officials

June 29, 2001  
Issue No. 8

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## PERS & LEOFF Rates Likely to Drop July 1, 2001

The legislature passed **ESSB 6167** which, if signed by the Governor, will lower the contribution rates effective July 1, 2001 for the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) and the Law Enforcement Officers' and Fire Fighters' Retirement System (LEOFF). The rates for the Teachers' Retirement System

(TRS) will be reduced effective September 1, 2001. Anyone who is interested in the proposed contribution rates can request a copy by contacting Brenda Bamford at 360-586-4219 Ext. 124 or email at [bbamford@wacounties.org](mailto:bbamford@wacounties.org).

## I-747 – Too Close to Call

This week, Tim Eyman turned in 199,516 signatures that have been collected so far for Initiative 747. However, to have a sufficient cushion to cover invalid signatures, supporters estimate they need an additional 40,000 signatures before the July 6 deadline. Part of the reason for this early filing is most likely to provide publicity statewide on how close supporters of the initiative are in order to help motivate everyone to make a greater effort in the next two weeks gathering signatures and getting those petitions turned in. Eyman continually refers to his proposal as a "moderate measure" that does not reduce taxes, but simply limits "skyrocketing" property taxes. Because the opponents have clearly identified Eyman with this initiative in their ads opposing the proposal, Eyman chal-

lenged their strategy as being "kooky." To quote Eyman, "It's like asking you to stop buying Diet Coke because some people don't like their CEO."

The proponents continue to utilize paid signature gatherers and if past behavior is any indication, the price they pay per signature will be increased as necessary to secure the additional names to meet the deadline. Eyman continually notes that I-695 turned in the second highest number of signatures of any initiative ever submitted and he would probably like to be able to represent I-747 as having been several thousands over and above the necessary amount. Only time will tell...we will know exactly what the numbers are shortly after the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

## WACO Affiliate Conference Highlights

### County Assessors Hold June Meeting In Olympia

Thurston County Assessor Patricia Costello and Lewis County Assessor Dianne Dorey jointly hosted the June 2001 meeting of the Washington State Association of County Assessors in Olympia, June 11-13.

On Tuesday, the Assessors spent the entire

day in committee meetings of the standing committees of their association. These included meetings of the education committee, assessment standards committee, legislative committee, open space committee, computer

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technology committee, ratio committee, and timber committee.

On Wednesday, the group heard presentations from the property tax director of the Department of Revenue, Sandy Guilfoil and Washington Associa-

tion of County Officials Executive Director Fred Saeger. After his presentation, Fred Saeger who is retiring at the end of August introduced Debbie Wilke as WACO's new Executive Director beginning September 1, 2001. Following those presentations, committee chair-

men reported on the action items, which were agreed to in separate committee meetings the day before. The Assessors next meeting will be held in Leavenworth, August 27-30.

## County Auditor's 95th Annual Conference

The Washington State Association of County Auditors (WSACA) met in Clarkston in Asotin County for their 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. Asotin County Auditor Elaine Johnston hosted the auditors, along with help from Columbia County Auditor Nancy Hoffman, Gar-

field County Auditor Donna Deal, and Grant County Auditor Bill Varney. Elaine served up spectacular weather for the conference, which those of us from the west side were particularly happy to see.

On Wednesday afternoon Cowlitz County Auditor Kris Swanson spoke to the group about the recent conference she attended which was hosted by the National Association of County Record-ers, Election Officers and Clerks (NACRC). Kris handed out a report by the National Commission on Election Standards and Reform (NCESR) where recommendations have been outlined on ways to improve America's election system. NCESR was formed by NACo and NACRC.

The auditors also heard a presentation by Joe Dervaes from the State Auditor's Office on money laundering and Gil Sparks from the law firm of Ogden Murphy Wallace, P.L.L.C., spoke on the "Inter-Relationships Among the Family and Medical Leave Act, Americans with Disabilities Act and Washington Workers' Compensation."

Wednesday evening, the group took a beautiful boat trip up the Snake River where they dined on chicken and ribs at Beamers Lodge. The group honored Fred Saeger, soon to retire as the WACO Executive Director, for being a "friend and mentor."

Thursday morning Bill Varney spoke to the group about a program that is available for purchase that addresses change and positive ways in which people can deal with change. The auditors voted to purchase the program "Who Moved My Cheese."

Spokane County Auditor Vicky Dalton gave a presentation on new software that she has available at no cost to the county auditors, for the purpose of marriage license data management. Vicky also let the group know that the Department of Health will allow the auditors to print the DOH Certificate of

Marriage form on the auditor's laser printer. The auditor must first get an okay from DOH to use this form.

Thursday afternoon, the majority of the time was spent on various updates and issues the county auditors have been working on. However, the discussion on conservation district elections took most of the afternoon. Representatives from the Conservation District Association and from the State Conservation Commission participated in the discussion.

An unintentional change in statute in 1999 created a situation where it appears that conservation district elections fall under Title 29 of the RCW. However, it is unclear whether they fall under Title 29 or Title 89. If the elections are to be conducted under Title 29, then the districts are required to pay a prorated share of the election costs and a number of districts would be unable to do this.

During this past legislative session, two bills were introduced to rectify this situation but, neither bill passed. A formal opinion was requested by Senator Bob Morton, sponsor of the senate bill, from the Attorney General (AG) as to whether these elections do fall under Title 29 of the RCW. Fred Saeger reported the AG's office has written the opinion and it should be released soon. There was discussion as to what the auditors should do this fall if the elections are to be conducted under RCW 29.

A resolution was formed and then passed. The resolution passed by the auditors states the auditor "exercise reasonable good faith efforts to conduct conservation district elections in 2001, under Title 29 RCW." The resolution defines a good faith effort to include: communication with conservation districts; that issues or concerns be resolved by the county auditor and the conservation district in consultation with their legal representatives and; whenever issues cannot be worked out, the auditor and conservation district would jointly seek judicial relief in the county's superior court.

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### The Courthouse Journal

The *Courthouse Journal* is published weekly by the Washington Association of County Officials (WACO) and the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC).

We welcome your suggestions and contributions. The weekly deadline is noon Thursday.

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Thursday night an awards ceremony was held in conjunction with the President's reception. Outgoing WSACA President Bob Terwilliger presented Island County Auditor Suzanne Sinclair with the "Star of the Year Award." Suzanne served as the legislative co-chair during this past session and could often be found on the hill testifying on behalf of the county auditors' association. Suzanne, in turn gave awards of her own to the many auditors who answered her call to help during the session. Vern Spatz received the "Heavy Hitter" award. Skagit County Auditor Norma Brummett received the "Rookie of the Year" award. Secretary of State Sam Reed

presented Vicky Dalton with an "Auditor of the Year Award" for her support of the Secretary of State's Office. He also presented Cathy Pearsall-Stipek and Evelyn Arnold with plaques acknowledging their contributions in voter outreach. Bob Terwilliger then presented Fred Saeger with another honor; all funds raised by WSACA for the Washington Counties Scholarship Fund will be donated in Fred's name. His name will be added to a perpetual plaque that currently holds the names of Joan Hammond and Ralph Munro when funds collected were donated to the scholarship fund in their names. Bob Terwilliger was an award recipient as well, when he was presented with the

President's Award for his outstanding service in his tenure as president.

Friday morning the new WSACA officers were sworn in and they are: President - Bill Varney, Grant County; Vice-President - Vern Spatz, Grays Harbor County; Treasurer - Ann Swenson, Pend Oreille County; Secretary - Suzanne Sinclair, Island County; WACO Representative - Al Brotche, Mason County; Northwest District Representative - Donna Eldridge; Southwest District Representative - Greg Kimsey; Central District Representative Thad Duvall and the Eastern District Representative Shelly Johnston.

## WACME Meets in Moses Lake

The Washington Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (WACME) met in Moses Lake last week for their Summer Annual Conference hosted by Grant County Coroner Jerry Jasman.

WACME President and Franklin County Coroner, Dan Blasdel, presided over a Monday evening business meeting, where the implementation of **HB 1216**, sudden infant deaths, Medicolegal

Death Investigations Training, and State Toxicology procedures and submission of biological materials was discussed. A committee was appointed to review all statutes dealing with death investigations in order to prepare a future legislative package for WACME.

Two days of training followed which drew nearly 50 death investigators from around the state. The programs included: Water Related Deaths with

Tim McFarlane, a Coast Guard Dive Rescue Team Leader; Skeletal Remains with Kathy Taylor of the King County Medical Examiners' Office; and Environmental Effects on Human Remains by Paul Gosink, M.D., the State Forensic Pathologist.

The conference can boast "all work and no play" for coroners and medical examiners since their tour bus to Grand Coulee Dam for the light display broke down Tuesday evening outside Moses Lake and the alternative bowling tournament was cancelled.

## Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys

President Fred Johnson, Wahkiakum County Prosecutor, presided over the Annual Summer Conference of the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (WAPA) last week at Lake Chelan.

During the meeting, Fred Johnson recognized the service of three prosecutors to the association: Whatcom County Prosecutor Dave McEachran for his leadership and continued presence on the Forensic Investigations Council; Benton County Prosecutor Andy Miller for his work on the statewide committee which addressed child sexual abuse interview standards and for chairing the

Special Assault Committee; and Kitsap County Prosecutor Russ Hauge for serving as both the WAPA Legislative Chair and on the Sentencing Guidelines Commission.

The balance of the three-day session was devoted to training in concurrent civil and criminal tracks. The gamut of subjects ranged from legislation, elder abuse and land use to search and seizure of computer based evidence, ethics, and preparation of complex cases.

The following officers were elected to serve for the coming year: President Greg Zempel, Kittitas County Prosecutor; Vice President Stew Menefee, Grays

Harbor County Prosecutor; Secretary Jim Nagle, Walla Walla County Prosecutor; and, Treasurer Russ Hauge, Kitsap County Prosecutor. Trustees on the WAPA Board include the following prosecutors: Steve Tucker, Spokane County; Tom Verge, Skagit County; John Knodell, Grant County; Randall Gaylord, San Juan County; and Past President Fred Johnson, Wahkiakum County. The Senior Prosecutor is Stevens County Prosecutor Jerry Wetle. Clark County Prosecutor Art Curtis is the WAPA Representative to the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA).

## Treasurers Meet in Wenatchee

The Washington State Association of County Treasurers held its 95<sup>th</sup> Annual conference in Wenatchee, June 18-22, under sunny skies and with an excellent program for attendees. Many thanks

to Chelan County Treasurer Dave Griffiths and his staff members for hosting a well-executed and successful conference. Meetings were presided over by Snohomish County Treasurer Bob Dan-

tini, and 34 of 39 treasurers and dozens of deputies and vendors were in attendance during the course of the week.

The educational program included staggered sessions of computer training over the course of two days in Word, Excel and Power Point at the Wenatchee

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Valley College. A bankruptcy workshop was offered one day, as well as an e-commerce presentation and treasurers' business meetings and roundtable discussions on a variety of topics - taxes, accounting, foreclosure, legislation, investment, excise tax, mobile homes, and many other issues. Lewis County Treasurer Rose Bowman and WACO Executive Director Fred Saeger gave a Legislative 101 workshop one afternoon, and the two put on an outstanding and very thorough program covering legislative history, protocol, organizational structure and lobbying.

One of the highlights of the week was a presentation by Doug Krug, of Enlightened Leadership International, on "Leading Through Influence - Overcoming Resistance to Change." Krug is an internationally recognized leader in the field of change implementation. The

basic theme to the program was to create a major shift in the mindset and perceptions of leaders so that they can search for new and innovative solutions. He maintains that we have lost conscious awareness of how to make things work and that there are other ways of doing things. Intellect is not the issue. It's how we've all been conditioned to focus - most of the time on the problem instead of what we want. "We get more of what we focus on," Krug says. He presented an "enlightened leadership framework," designed to build on what is already working in an organization to build team, energy and self-responsibility by generating "buy-in."

Another highlight was the President's Reception for Bob Dantini at the beautiful Ohme gardens, on a rocky bluff high above Wenatchee with a sweeping view of the Wenatchee Valley, the Columbia River and the Cascade

Mountains. Ohme gardens is one of the most famous alpine gardens in America and was a real treat to visit for conference attendees.

New officers elected to lead the Treasurers' Association over the next year were: Spokane County Treasurer Linda Wolverton, president; Benton County Treasurer Darwin Parker, president-elect; San Juan County Treasurer Kathy Turnbull, vice president; Jefferson County Treasurer Judi Morris, secretary; and Whatcom County Treasurer Barb Cory, treasurer. Skamania County Treasurer Sandra Willing was elected to a two-year term on the executive board. Next year's conference will be held in Bellingham, June 24-28.

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## Budget Comparison & Legislative Wrap-up on WSAC Web

The comparison of the final operating budget and the wrap-up of legislation passed in the two special sessions is now posted on the WSAC web at <http://www.wacounties.org/wsac/>.

The budget comparison looks at the original Governor's proposal, senate proposal and House co-chairs proposal

and compares them to the final adopted budget.

The legislative wrap-up covers the two special sessions and does not include the bills passed during the regular session. That document was mailed to WACO and WSAC members and distributed at the WSAC Summer Conven-

tion in Yakima.

If you have a specific question on a piece of legislation that is not covered by the wrap-up please call WACO and WSAC and we connect you with the correct staff member to answer your questions.

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## Environment, Land Use & Resources

### State Budget Boosts Salmon Recovery Funding

In addition to providing new funding for water resources management, the 2001-03 state budget provides some significant support for implementation of the Forests and Fish Agreement and begins to fund monitoring work critical to know whether and how well salmon recovery efforts are succeeding. The budget includes over \$15 million for rule

implementation, forest road improvements, and small landowner assistance all related to the Forests and Fish Report.

The budget also contains over \$1.6 million for enhanced streamflow monitoring, \$1.5 million for watershed health monitoring and assessment, \$1.1 million for smolt monitoring, over \$1.1 million

to monitor pesticides in surface water and their impacts on salmon, and over \$6 million for implementation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

The final budget includes over \$55 million to be distributed over the biennium as grants by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board.

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## Washington Supreme Court Takes Wind Out Of Gorge Commission Sails

The Washington Supreme Court today granted a victory to counties and homebuilders when it ruled that the Columbia River Gorge Commission did not have the authority, in this situation, to invalidate a county's land use decisions. This case, Skamania County v.

Columbia River Gorge Commission, means that the Commission is not able to fully enforce its own Management Plan or the counties' own ordinances, because it cannot go back and fix its mistakes when a property owner violates those land-use policies.

The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act was passed in 1986 so that 6 counties in 2 states would work together in order to address all of the competing needs and interests around the Gorge. The Act created the Commission and required that the surrounding counties of Clark, Klickitat, and Skamania adopt Management Plans and County land use ordinances. Skamania County's ordinance allows appeals to the County

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for 20 days and to the Commission for 30 days.

In 1996, the county approved an application by Brian and Jody Bea to build several buildings on their property in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Despite the fact that the Commission did not appeal within the 20-day or the 30-day period, in 1998 the

Commission decided that the County's approval violated the Act, the Management Plan, and the county ordinances, and ordered the county to issue a new decision that required the Beas to move their buildings, which were by that time halfway completed but had been built in a different place than their original application specified. The Commission based its decision on a section of the Act

that allows it to "take such actions as it determines are necessary" to ensure compliance with the laws. Skamania County and the Beas appealed to the Washington Supreme Court, which decided today that because the Commission had not appealed during the original time period, it could not later decide that the approval had been granted incorrectly.

## News in Brief

### Two Vacancies on Municipal Research & Services Center

The Municipal Research Council has two vacancies for members from WSAC. These vacancies were previously advertised in the Courthouse Journal however no member responded in time for the Board of Directors to make a nomination at their June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting in Yakima. The article is re-printed below.

The Council contracts with the Municipal and Research Services Center, a private non-profit located in Seattle, to provide the services for which MRC is required to provide to cities, towns, and counties. MRC has been contracting with the Center since 1969.

Currently the Council meets annually in June, alternating between the Association of Washington Cities and the Washington State Association of Counties Conferences. Occasionally the Council will meet in the Fall or Winter.

The County portion of the Council's budget is funded under RCW 82.08.170 from the counties' share of the Liquor Excise Tax, also appropriated through the State General Fund. Funds are distributed to the County Research Services Account prior to being distributed to the counties from the General Fund.

The law requires the WSAC Board of Directors to forward nominees to the Governor. If you would like to serve on the Council please submit your name to Bill Vogler in the Association Office. The Executive Committee will make the final recommendations.

### Mary Jo Cady Resigns to Take Job Leading Transportation Association

Mary Jo Cady, Mason County Commissioner for the past seven years, announced this week that she is resigning

her position to become the first Regional Manager of the Washington State chapter of the Community Transportation Association of America. CTAA represents community transportation agencies including some public transit, para-transit, rail, senior assistance and other community based transportation agencies.

Cady has been an active member of WSAC serving a term as Western District President and is currently a member of the Board of Directors. She is also active on the Certified Public Officials Curriculum Committee. In addition to WSAC activities she has served as the county representative on the State Emergency Management Council and Transportation Stakeholder Advisory Council.

Her resignation takes effect at the end of July, however she will be opening up a new office for CTAA in Olympia next month. She says she looks forward to continuing to work with county commissioners who are members of public transit agencies.

The Mason County Republican Party will name three nominees for her replacement and the Board of Commissioners will choose one. The new commissioner will be required to run for election this fall.

### Governor calls special session for July 16 on statewide transportation package

On the final day of the 2<sup>nd</sup> special session Governor Locke called the Legislature back into special session on July 16<sup>th</sup> for the specific purpose of approving a statewide transportation funding package that will provide congestion relief and other transportation funding. He has called for a \$10 billion package and the Senate had proposed \$9.5 billion at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> special session. However, the House could not come to an agreement.

The Transportation Committee Co-chairs began work on finding a proposal

the House could support almost immediately after the legislature adjourned. Counties have been asked to take part in some of the on-going discussions in a bipartisan effort to find something that both the Republicans and the Democrats can support. Earlier this week King County Councilmember Dwight Pelz, Benton County Commissioner Leo Bowman and King County Deputy Executive Tim Ceis met with the committee to discuss regional legislation that would establish the type of governance, and taxing authority. It was clear that there is still no agreement amongst committee members on the issues related to regionalism.

### Governor Vetoes Distribution of Forest Management Funds

Governor Locke vetoed the section in the State Operating Budget, ESSB 6153 (C 7 L 01 E2) that would have distributed excess funds to the counties from the Forest Development Account, during the 2001-03 Biennium. The Governor stated that distribution of forest management funds to counties at this time is not in the best interest of the long-term health of the account or the long-term management of the resources on Forest Board lands. Prior transfers from this account have depleted the available balance. In addition, the Department of Natural Resources' June revenue forecast projects an \$8.8 million decrease in revenue for the Forest Development Account.

### Boundary Line Adjustment Decision Appealed to State Supreme Court

The Court of Appeals' decision in *Che-lan County v. Michael Nykreim* has been appealed to the State Supreme Court and is pending. The case has to do with a boundary line adjustment that was used

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to create new parcels of property. The Court of Appeals ruled that boundary line adjustments are invalid if they result in new parcels. Further, the Court of Appeals said that a boundary line adjustment is intended to be "an efficient and low-cost procedure for minor or insignificant changes in property lines," going on to say that any division of real property into separate parcels that are not in compliance with Chapter 59.17 are invalid.

County treasurers introduced a measure in the legislature this year to require advance tax payments on bound-

ary line adjustments, because in some counties new parcels of property are being created. The legislation was not successful, but if the Court of Appeals opinion is upheld, the problem will be solved and boundary line adjustments will be used as originally intended: to make minor property line adjustments.

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## AG Task Force Considers Draft Recommendations on Risk Management

The state Attorney General's Task Force on Risk Management has identified five draft recommendations to help address tort liability issues in state agencies. The draft recommendations are available on the AG's web site at [www.wa.gov/ago/riskmanagement/documents.html](http://www.wa.gov/ago/riskmanagement/documents.html).

The group's official mission is limited to dealing with state liability issues, thus most of the recommendations relate exclusively to state agencies. However, recommendation No. 5 which would require "risk management notes" to identify potential liability impacts of proposed legislation, considers including local governments in such analysis. "Risk management notes" would expand

the function of existing fiscal notes and would provide information to policymakers about liability risks associated with bills under consideration by the Legislature. The new analysis would help ensure that legislative decisions are well-informed about risks associated with various government services.

The task force discussed the draft recommendations at its June 26 meeting and is scheduled to finalize a report at its next meeting September 26.

Although the task force is focused on state-level issues, the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) and the Washington Counties Risk Pool (WCRP) have been attending the task force meetings. WSAC testified at a

public meeting in May and submitted written comments asking the task force to expand its scope to include county liability issues as well, particularly where they are related to state agency issues and the county is operating as a subdivision of the state. WSAC urged the task force to, at the very least, take care to not shift state liability to counties.

In the wake of several very costly cases, Governor Gary Locke and Attorney General Christine Gregoire formed the task force to examine programs that give rise to state tort liability and the manner in which Washington mitigates risk associated with government programs.

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## Interested in Serving on WSAC's Legislative Steering Committee?

WSAC President Mike Shelton is looking for a few good men and women to complete the WSAC Legislative Steering Committee membership for the 2001-02 year. The Committee recommends a legislative agenda for the membership to consider at the fall Legis-

lative Conference and adopts Association policy relating to legislation during the Legislative session.

Appointments to the Legislative Steering Committee are for a one-year term. The Legislative Steering Committee will meet four times prior to the

WSAC Legislative Conference in November and meets every other week during the legislative session.

By July 9, please contact Island County Commissioner Mike Shelton to inform him of your interest or contact Bill Vogler or Paul Parker at WSAC, who will pass that information along. The appointments will be made before the end of July.

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## Human Services, Juvenile Justice & Housing

### Governor Exercises Red Pen on Operating Budget Subsections

The Governor exercised his red veto pen on a number of subsections of the operating budget. Of interest to counties are several of those vetoes. On the negative side, the Governor vetoed Sec. 203 (1)(s), which authorized the continuation of the county-contracted detention beds. The Juvenile Court Administrators had worked very hard to get these beds continued and to lose them at the last minute was very dismaying.

They had put together a good case for the ability of the counties to provide more efficient and effective services in the local detention facilities than at state institutions. The Governor justified his veto on the grounds that the proviso read that the beds were never to be considered for reduction and that would hinder DSHS' ability "to effectively manage and utilize residential beds".

On the positive side, the Governor vetoed Sec. 123 (3) authorizing the State Auditor to conduct performance audits of three governmental entities including local government. His reasoning was that JLARC already performs such audits and it would be duplicative. WSAC and WACO had requested this veto.

Also of interest to us were the Governor's vetoes of Secs. 710 and 912 al-

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lowing the distribution of forest management funds to counties out of the Forest Development Account. This account does not have an excess of funds and in fact is expected to have an \$8.8 million decrease in revenue as of the June forecast. It is necessary to maintain a healthy balance in this account for future activi-

ties.

The full veto message is available on the Legislature's Bill Info website at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov).

In the other two budgets, the capital and transportation, there were no vetoes of great impact to us. The full veto messages are also available through [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov). Unfortunately the Governor

chose not to veto a section in the transportation budget that AWC and WSAC requested. This section establishes a task force to study the governance structure of all the various transportation agencies which involve local government like CRAB and TIB, etc., and requires AWC and WSAC to staff it.

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## Boards and Commissions

# Mary Hunt and Darcie Nielsen Appointed to Housing Board

**M**ary Hunt, Douglas County Commissioner, and Darcie Nielsen, San Juan County Commissioner, have been appointed by Governor Locke to serve on the Affordable Housing Advi-

sory Board. Commissioner Nielsen's term runs until January 26, 2002 and Commissioner Hunt's term runs until January 26, 2004. Commissioner Nielsen is completing an unexpired term and

her name will be re-submitted next year for a full term. The Board is the primary housing-related advisory board for the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development.

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## Courthouse Ramblings

**I**t is with deep sadness that we report that former WAPA Executive Secretary **Mike Redman** is terminally ill with cancer. Mike is in good spirits, relying upon the same energy and enthusiasm that built the Association. Mike was executive secretary for the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys from 1977 until 1993. There is too much to say about Mike than can be included in a newsletter paragraph, but he loves prosecutors, has defended them in forums that we aren't even aware of, and

he is very important to Washington prosecutors and friends in all of WACO's affiliates. If you want to drop Mike a note, his address is 24487 Johnson Rd., NW, Poulsbo, WA 98370.

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Skamania County Treasurer **Sandra Willing** and her husband, Don, were involved in a very serious car accident, last Sunday, returning home from a short trip. They were traveling on a two-lane highway when a car unexpectedly pulled

out into their lane to pass another vehicle, resulting in a head-on crash. Don escaped without serious injury, but Sandra was taken to the hospital with three broken ribs and serious contusions and bruises from head to toe. The other driver escaped from his car, unhurt, when the vehicle burst into flames. Both cars were a total loss. Sandra returned home from the hospital after four days and we send our very best wishes for a full and speedy recovery to her, and are thankful that her injuries are not life threatening after such a horrific automobile wreck.

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## Journal Technology Moved Forward

**W**ACO and WSAC have decided to move into the new millennium by becoming e-mail savvy. A joint decision was made to begin E-mailing

*the Courthouse Journal* as of August 1. Obviously, if a county office does not have an e-mail address, we will either fax it or send a hard copy so that every-

one still continues to receive their copy. If we do not currently have your e-mail address, please see that we get it by August 1. E-mail addresses can be directed to:

[gpeppert@wacounties.org](mailto:gpeppert@wacounties.org)  
[khouts@wacounties.org](mailto:khouts@wacounties.org)

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## July County Calendar

1 Final day for taxpayers to file valuation appeal petitions with the county board of equalization (or within 30 days after the date an assessment or value change notice has been mailed, whichever is later). RCW 84.40.038

4 Independence Day - Legal Holiday. RCW 1.16.050

9 The county auditor shall notify, in writing, each elective and appointive county official to file with the auditor's office, on or before the second Monday in August, an estimated budget for the

ensuing fiscal year, including receipts from sources other than taxation. RCW 36.40.010

15 Assessment rolls to be filed with the county board of equalization, by the county assessor. RCW 84.40.320

15 The county board of equalization shall meet. Minimum session, three days; maximum session, four weeks. RCW 84.48.010

23 Declarations of candidacy shall be filed from the fourth Monday of July to the succeeding Friday, for the Sep-

tember primary election. RCW 29.15.020

31 New construction for which a building permit has been issued shall be valued for assessment purposes as of this date. Such values may be added to the tax roll up to August 31. RCW 36.21.080

31 Mobile homes for which building permits have been issued shall be valued for assessment purposes as of this date. Such values may be added to the tax roll up to August 31. RCW 36.21.090

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# Employment Opportunities

**SENIOR PLANNER - Water Resources, Lewis County Employment Opportunity.** Regular full time, salary: \$37,578 to \$44,851 annually. Closes July 17, 2001 at 5:00 p.m. Functions as a project planner for major studies related to the development and/or revision of watershed plans, fish and wildlife habitat restoration programs, shoreline master programs and permit applications, comprehensive plans, critical areas and resource lands ordinances issues, Endangered Species Act/Clean Water Act issues, water rights issues, salmon recovery activities, and other water related county policies and programs. Other duties as assigned. The following items are required for your application to be considered complete and for you to be considered for this recruitment: Lewis County Employment Application; Authorization to Release Information; Résumé and Cover Letter. All application materials must be received in the County Community Development Dept. Office by 5 p.m. on the closing date of this posting. Late applications will not be accepted. How to Apply: Pick up an application regarding the position between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. from Lewis County Community Development Dept., Public Services Bldg, 1st Floor, 350 N. Market Blvd, Chehalis, WA 98532-2626. Job description and complete application packet available at [www.co.lewis.wa.us](http://www.co.lewis.wa.us) or by calling (360) 740-1232, fax (360) 740-1245, TTY (360) 740-1480 or email to: [smsmith@co.lewis.wa.us](mailto:smsmith@co.lewis.wa.us). EOE

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**DIRECTOR OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES** - Clallam County on the beautiful Olympic Peninsula of Washington invites candidates who are experienced in health and human services and who possess strong administrative, communication and leadership skills to serve as Director. The incumbent will be responsible for planning, managing, organizing and directing all activities of public health and human services. Requires knowledge of and sensitivity to the needs of adults, children and families, respecting and valuing diversity of Clallam County residents and commitment to the mission of the County is essential. Applicants must possess a Bachelors Degree in Public

Administration or Health Administration, or closely related field, together with five years comprehensive management experience including budgeting, program development and supervision. Requires knowledge of principles and techniques of public relations, health promotions, public health and human service practice and social service administration. Salary: \$4949.62 - \$6016.30 per month plus excellent benefit package. Resumes in lieu of applications *not* accepted. Application packages available by emailing us at [personnel@co.clallam.wa.us](mailto:personnel@co.clallam.wa.us) or by calling our Jobs Line at (360) 417-2528 or by contacting us at Clallam County Department of Personnel & Risk Management, 223 E. 4th St., Port Angeles, WA 98362. Apply immediately. Closes 08/03/2001. EOE

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**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS** - Clallam County on the beautiful Olympic Peninsula of Washington invites candidates who are experienced in public works and who possess strong administrative, communication and leadership skills to serve as Director. Accountable for the proper operation, maintenance, repair and construction of the County's roads and bridges; storm drainage; other services such as road vacations, land acquisitions, right-of-way determinations, maintenance and preservation of the County's records related to Road facilities; GIS, ER&R, solid waste, Clallam Bay/Seki Sewer, flood control, emergency management, trails programs. Requires BS degree in civil or related engineering field preferred, with previous related Public Works experience sufficient to demonstrate thorough administrative competency and extensive knowledge of modern engineering principles and practices as applied to municipal public works design, construction, maintenance and operations, or any combination of education and experience to demonstrate competency. Professional Engineer's License from the State of Washington preferred but not required. Salary: \$5466.79 to 6644.93 per month plus excellent benefit package. Resumes in lieu of applications *not* accepted. Application packages available by emailing us at [personnel@co.clallam.wa.us](mailto:personnel@co.clallam.wa.us) or by calling our Jobs Line at (360) 417-2528

or by contacting us at Clallam County Department of Personnel & Risk Management, 223 E. 4th St., Port Angeles, WA 98362. Apply immediately. Closes 08/03/2001. EOE

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**COUNTY ENGINEER/PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR-Island County (Coupeville, WA)** has a FT position. This is a Department Head position. Duties include but not limited to: planning, organizing, coordinating and directing the activities and operations of development review, engineering, roads, solid waste, surface water, capital improvements and E.R.&R. to ensure the effective design, construction, operation and maintenance of the County's infrastructure and fulfilling the statutory requirements of RCW 36.80 and other regulatory functions as specified in the Island County Code. Requires Professional Civil Engineer registered and licensed under the laws of the State of Washington. BA in Civil Engineering with course work in public admin., business admin or a related field. Open until filled. Island County Application required. Call (360) 679-7372 EOE

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**Chief Deputy Auditor-Island County Auditor (Coupeville, WA)** has a full time opening. Duties include but not limited to: responsible for chief administrative assistant to the Auditor and acts as County Auditor in his/her absence. Coordinates the formation of and adherence to the policies and procedures for accts. payable, payroll, budgeting financial reporting and archival mgmt. of all records as required by statute. Responsible for the production of the County Annual Report. BA in Accounting and finance, CPA certificate highly desirable. 5 yrs. In a supervisory position and 2 yrs. in an Accountant position. Prior experience in a government or regulatory agency highly desirable.

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**CHIEF DEPUTY AUDITOR, Island County Auditor (Coupeville, WA)** has a full time opening. Duties include but not limited to: responsible as chief administrative assistant to the Auditor and acts as County Auditor in her/her absence. Coordinates the formation of and adherence to the policies and procedures for accounts payable, payroll, budgeting

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financial reporting and archival management of all records as required by statute. Responsible for the production of the County Annual Report. BA in Accounting and Finance, CPA certificate highly desirable. 5 years in a supervisory position and 2 years in an Accountant position. Prior experience in a government or regulatory agency highly desirable. Island County application required. Open until filled. Call (360) 679-7273, from Camano (360) 629-4522 ext. 7254, from So. Whidbey (360) 321-5111 extension 7254. EOE

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**Cowlitz County, Industrial Property Appraiser**—Cowlitz County is accept-

ing applications for the position of Industrial Property Appraiser. This position appraises industrial land, buildings, machinery and equipment to determine its fair market value for ad valorem tax purposes. This position must be prepared to defend the valuation before the Board of Equalization, the State Board of Tax Appeals and in court of law, as the case may need. Requirements: a Bachelor's degree in business of public administration, real estate, economics, accounting or closely related field, or 4 years of experience as a Real Property Appraiser or Personal Property Appraiser, including 2 years of large commercial and heavy industrial property/equipment appraisals. Must possess or possess within 1 year from employment

date, the WA State Personal Property Appraisal Certificate. Salary: \$3,719 per month (with annual step increases to \$3,925—\$4,132). Application and job description can be obtained by visiting Admin Services at 207 4th Avenue N., Kelso, WA or calling (360) 577-3065 or TDD (360) 577-3061. Applications must be returned to Admin Services by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 20, 2001. Cowlitz County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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## Coming Events

June 23-27

**National Sheriffs Association** Annual Conference, Marriott Marina, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

June 24-29

**Washington State Association of County Clerks Annual Conference**, Howard Johnson Hotel, Everett

July 13-17

**NACo Annual Conference**, City & County of Philadelphia

July 17-20

**WCRP Annual Summer Conference**, WestCoast Grand Hotel at the Park, Spokane

July 18-20

**ACHS (Association of County Human Services) Meeting**, Port Angeles

July 19-20

**CRABoard Meeting**, CRAB Offices, Olympia

August 27-30

**Washington State Association of County Assessors' Annual Conference**, Enzian Inn, Leavenworth

September 9-12

**International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) Annual Conference**, Miami, Florida

September 10-11

**Washington State Assn of County Treasurers' Legislative Meeting**, Summit Inn, Snoqualmie Pass

September 19-21

**Washington Finance Officers Association Annual Conference**, Wenatchee

September 19-21

**ACHS Meeting**, Ellensburg

September 27-28

**WSAC Eastern District Meeting**, East Wenatchee

October 1-5

**WACO Annual Conference**, Port Ludlow Resort & Conference Center

October 11-12

**WSAC Western District Meeting**, Long Beach

October 18-19

**CRABoard Meeting**, CRAB Office, Olympia

November 14-16

**ACHS Meeting**, Silverdale

November 12-15

**WASPC Annual Fall Conference**, Doubletree Hotel, Pasco

November 14-16

**WSAC Fall Legislative Conference**, Silverdale Hotel on the Bay, Silverdale

November 14

**WCIF Board Meeting**, in conjunction with WSAC Fall Legislative Conference, 10 am - 12 pm

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## Have a Safe and Happy Summer