DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH 6-10, 2010  NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, MARRIOTT WARDMAN PARK HOTEL, WASHINGTON, D.C.

MARCH 10, 2010  OHIO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION BREAKFAST, RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING - ROOM B340, WASHINGTON, D.C.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

BROOKS ESTABLISHES 2010 COMMITTEES – COMMITTEE SELECTION FORMS DUE JANUARY 30

CCAO President Paula Brooks has made recommendations to the Board of Trustees concerning the standing committee structure and has appointed committee co-chairs for 2010. The CCAO Board of Trustees will review and vote on the recommendations at their organizational meeting to be held on January 22.

The following committees and co-chairs have been established:

- **Agriculture & Rural Affairs**
  Co-Chairs: Bob Peterson (Fayette) and Barb Pincola (Harrison)

- **General Government & Operations**
  Co-Chairs: Tim Brown (Wood) and Paul Heltzel (Trumbull)

- **Health & Human Services**
  Co-Chairs: Mike Crabtree (Scioto) and Otto Nicely (Defiance)

- **Jobs, Economic Development & Infrastructure** *
  Co-Chairs: Deborah Lieberman (Montgomery) and Steve Arndt (Ottawa)

- **Metropolitan & Regional Affairs**
  Co-Chairs: David Pepper (Hamilton) and Ilene Shapiro (Summit)

- **Public Safety & Criminal Justice**
  Co-Chairs: Bob Proud (Clermont) and Nick Kostandaras (Summit)

- **Taxation & Finance**
  Co-Chairs: Tim Bubb (Licking) and Chris Abbuhl (Tuscarawas)

*The new Jobs, Economic Development & Infrastructure Committee will address topics originally handled by the CCAO Human Services & Workforce Development as well as the CCAO Fiscal, Economic Development & Infrastructure Committee. To start this committee, the CCAO staff has listed all prior committee members from
the two original committees. If you do not wish to serve or would like to add your name to the committee list, please express your interest.

Participation on committees is an opportunity to network and share problems with other commissioners; learn about, review and make recommendations to current and pending legislation; and assist in the development of the 2011-12 CCAO Legislative Program.

A memo explaining committee structure, a 2010 CCAO Standing Committee Form, 2010 Recommended Presidential Appointments to Standing Committee Leadership, and lists of committee members are attached to the front page of www.ccao.org. Please return the Standing Committee Form by January 30, 2010.

The CCAO members and staff want to thank the 2009 CCAO Standing Committee leadership for their dedication, time, and work on committees last year. CCAO is a strong and well respected organization, because of the hard work of our members. Thank you for a job well done. We appreciate your participation.

**BWC Requires Two Hour Safety Training for Group Rating & Group Retro Counties**

Beginning this year, the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) requires that Group Rating and Group Retro employers who have sustained an allowed claim in the past two years have a staff person attend two hours of safety training annually. The training can be offered by CCAO as the sponsoring organization, CompManagement, Inc. as CCAO's third party administrator, or the Ohio BWC. Both classroom training and web-based training will meet this training requirement.

2010 CCAO Group Rating Plan member counties are: Ashland, Auglaize, Brown, Carroll, Clinton, Crawford, Darke, Defiance, Fulton, Guernsey, Harrison, Henry, Highland, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morgan, Morrow, Noble, Paulding, Perry, Preble, Putnam, Sandusky, Washington, and Wayne.

2010 CCAO Group Retro Plan member counties are: Belmont, Champaign, Coshocton, Fairfield, Fayette, Gallia, Geauga, Hocking, Mercer, Monroe, Ottawa, Seneca, Union, Vinton, and Williams.

BWC safety training, which is available at no charge, can be found at the BWC web site at www.ohiobwc.com.

CompManagement will be contacting CCAO Group Rating and Group Retro members regarding on-line and classroom safety training programs which meet the training requirement and are offered for a fee.

CCAO will also offer safety training in 2010 which will meet the BWC training requirement. Information will be sent out as soon as these sessions are finalized.

As the group sponsor, CCAO is responsible for tracking and reporting each Group Rating and Group Retro member counties' compliance with this training requirement. CompManagement will be maintaining the required documentation on CCAO's behalf. Please visit www.compmgt.com/riskservices and click on the "Report Safety Training" button to have your safety training recorded and reported appropriately.

For more information on CCAO's Group Rating and Group Retro Programs, contact Beth Miller, CORSA Claim and Litigation Manager, at (614) 220-7989, (888) 757-1904 or emiller@ccao.org.
INFORMATION ALERT

RECOVERY ZONE BOND WAIVER DUE JANUARY 31

On Friday, December 18, 2009 CCAO, in cooperation with the Ohio Office of Budget and Management, the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) and the Ohio Municipal League sponsored a Recovery Zone Bond Seminar and Briefing that was attended by nearly 80 persons. The state through ODOD has established a new Recovery Zone Bond Waiver Process and Reallocation System. Announced at the seminar, the new waiver process requires that all plans for issuing Recovery Zone Bonds must be submitted to ODOD by January 31, 2010. Counties that have not submitted plans to ODOD by this date will waive their allocation.

The following links include many of the handouts used at the Seminar dealing specifically with the new waiver process: http://recovery.ohio.gov/opportunities/bonds

- Notice to Officials with Recovery Zone Bond Allocations PDF
- Guidelines PDF
- Plan of Issuance Worksheet XLS
- Worksheet Submission Instructions PDF
- Timeline PDF

CCAO STAFF NEWS

BROOKS ELECTED TO THE AGRIP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Congratulations to David Brooks, CCAO’s Managing Director of Property & Liability Insurance, for his election to serve on the Association of Governmental Risk Pools (AGRIP) Board of Directors! As a Board member, Brooks will be one of nine directors elected to a four-year term on the AGRIP’s governing body.

Some purposes of AGRIP include: to promote risk pooling as a practical extension of a public entity’s obligation to be a good steward of public funds, provide a forum for intergovernmental risk pools to exchange information on issues of mutual interest in the administration and operation of programs, and provide educational and professional support for governing bodies and employees of risk pools.

Brooks has been on the CCAO staff since 1995. He manages the daily operations of the County Risk Sharing Authority (CORSA), manages the CCAO Service Corporation Workers’ Compensation Group Rating Plan, and is vice president of the CCAO Service Corporation.

COUNTY ACTIVITIES

MONTGOMERY COUNTY GENERAL FUND FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN UPDATE

Two weeks ago, the County Information and Data Service (CIDS) (January 8, 2010) published an article about the Montgomery County Commissioners establishing the Montgomery County General Fund Financial Planning Committee to develop a new General Fund Five-Year Financial Plan for the period of 2010 – 2014 and to fulfill the County Commission’s Strategic Initiative of Operational Efficiency. The Commissioners appointed 46 leaders in the business, health care, educational, nonprofit and government sectors.

In addition to the information in the previous article, the Committee also expressed the view that as a result of the changing economy, in some cases, over the last several years public employees, particularly at the lower
pay levels, have become more highly compensated than private sector counterparts when factoring in salary, medical benefits and pension contributions.

However, at the upper level managerial classifications, often the private sector significantly outranks the public sector employees. The Committee stated that “total compensation of the public and private sector should be more closely aligned where possible” and advised that particular consideration should be given to defined benefit pension plans still offered to all public employees in Ohio. The Committee noted that in 2007, only 21% of all private sector employees were still offered such retirement plans.

The Committee also found that many parts of the Ohio Revised Code are outdated, cumbersome and inefficient. According to the Committee, “The powers and responsibilities often do not reflect the emerging needs of county government. The ORC as it relates to county government needs to be restructured to affect positive change and efficiencies for county government and its citizenry.”

Finally, the Committee looked at the number of local governments and appointing authorities within Montgomery County. The Committee found that there are 26 separate political jurisdictions in the County where the same or similar services are being performed with the main difference primarily being jurisdictional boundaries. “Members of the Committee believe the level of resources required to support these similar services detracts from the County’s capability to offer a coherent economic development plan. The County’s elected officials and staff must help leverage opportunities for communities to come together by creating and building upon inter-city partnerships and, at the same time, identify opportunities to use its resources to accelerate consolidation and enhancement of services across the region.”

The Committee also noted that “as a “statutory” form of government, Montgomery County is, in many ways, hostage to the various and often archaic dictates of the Ohio Revised Code. It has little of the independence found in the “home rule” jurisdictions that make up the majority of the cities within the County’s borders. Noting that “Summit County currently operates as a charter county with a County Executive” and that recently “Cuyahoga County voters have overwhelmingly voted to move to charter county status” the Committee stated that: “Montgomery County needs to aggressively review whether a change from statutory government to a charter county would benefit the citizens of the county and the region by providing Montgomery County additional flexibility to meet the economic issues at hand; as well as maintaining Montgomery County’s competitive position as compared to Summit County, Cuyahoga County and other Ohio counties that may elect to move away from the restrictions embodied in their current form of government.”

The full report and an executive summary are available on the county’s web site under “reports” at www.mcohio.org.

STATE ACTIVITIES

REPORT SHOWS LATEST INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS IN OHIO AMONG LARGEST NATIONALLY

Last week, the U.S. Department of Labor said that seasonally adjusted initial claims for unemployment benefits rose to 434,000 in the week ending Jan. 2, an increase of 1,000 from the previous week. At the same time, the most recent data available shows Ohio and some of its neighbors were among 12 states recording increases of more than 1,000 in initial claims as 2009 drew to a close. The largest increases for the week ending Dec. 26 were in Pennsylvania (+9,653), Kentucky (+6,069), Indiana (+5,537), Kansas (+5,166), and Ohio (+4,361). Michigan recorded an increase of 2,994. Among the dozen states with decreases in excess of 1,000, the largest was California (-23,160). Others included Texas (-7,956), Georgia (-4,661), Florida (-3,736), and North Carolina (-2,993).
ODNR ACCEPTING ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS FOR FOREST LEGACY PROGRAM

According to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), woodland owners in 31 northeastern and southeastern Ohio counties can apply to participate in a federal conservation easement program that provides a one-time payment in exchange for voluntarily agreeing to permanently maintain their woods as working forests. Landowners who enter the Forest Legacy Program must agree to manage their woodlands according to plans developed in mutual cooperation with the Division of Forestry. If accepted into the program, landowners can receive a one-time payment for accepting a conservation easement on their property.

Two regions in Ohio, including six counties in northeast Ohio and 25 counties in eastern and southeast Ohio, have been identified as areas that would best benefit from the Forest Legacy Program. These counties have a relatively large amount of forest cover and a significant number of housing starts. These include: Adams, Ashtabula, Athens, Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Gallia, Geauga, Guernsey, Harrison, Hocking, Jackson, Jefferson, Lake, Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pike, Portage, Ross, Scioto, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, Vinton and Washington counties. Only forested properties within these counties are eligible for the program.

Ohio’s forests have increased from just 10 percent of the state’s landscape in the early 1900s to more than 30 percent today. While forest cover remains steady, the number of new forest landowners has increased from 320,000 to nearly 400,000 in the past decade. Application deadline: April 23, 2010. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service is administered in Ohio by the ODNR Division of Forestry. Applications for Ohio’s Forest Legacy Program are available from the ODNR Division of Forestry at 2045 Morse Road, Building H-1, Columbus, OH 43229 or online at www.ohiodnr.gov/forestry.

NACo ACTIVITIES

NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE: FINDING SOLUTIONS FOR TOUGH TIMES

NACo’s Legislative Conference will be held March 6 - 10 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D.C. The conference’s theme and focus, “Finding Solutions for Tough Times” will provide you with tangible solutions to take home and apply in moving your county forward in these very difficult economic times.

In addition, the Opening Session keynote speaker is Joe Klein, columnist for TIME magazine. A veteran of eight presidential campaigns, The New York Times wrote that “Klein possesses one of the more musical ears in American politics, a gift for hearing what others miss.” Earlybird registration deadline: January 22. Register online at www.naco.org and save $25.

COMMUNICATIONS EXCELLENCE TO BE RECOGNIZED BY NACIO

Did your county demonstrate communications excellence in 2009? If so, the National Association of County Information Officers (NACIO) wants to recognize those achievements. NACIO is seeking entries for its 2010 Awards of Excellence competition. This awards program recognizes outstanding public relations and public information work being done on behalf of counties. There are 10 categories for entries from Annual Reports to Computer Media. This competition is open to staff of county governments that are eligible to join NACo. The deadline for entries is March 26, 2010. For more information, visit www.nacio.org.

2010 ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PROGRAM

Begun in 1970, the annual Achievement Award Program is a non-competitive awards program that recognizes innovative county government programs. Awards are given in a number of program categories such as arts and historic preservation, children and youth, community and economic development, jails-corrections, county
administration, emergency management, environmental protection, health, human services, libraries, parks and recreation, transportation and volunteers.

This year, NACo is introducing a new application process this year that requires that part of the application information be completed online. Please see the Achievement Award Application instructions for detailed information. This updated process requires submitting contact information and the title and category of the program in an online application. Payment by credit card can also be made online, but checks and purchase orders may still be mailed. The program narrative and any supplemental materials must still be mailed along with an e-mailed confirmation page.

All applications and materials must be postmarked by **February 12, 2010**. When ready to apply, please complete the online application form. For more information, contact Kathryn Murphy, Research Associate, NACo Research Division, (202) 661-8806 or kmurphy@naco.org.

**CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

**CAP & TRADE: THE IMPLICATIONS OF CARBON REGULATION & PRICING**

Join OSU Extension for a seminar on “Cap & Trade: The Implications of Carbon Regulation & Pricing” on Monday, February 22, 2010 at the Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center Auditorium, The Ohio State University Campus, 2201 Fred Taylor Drive (corner of Lane Avenue & Fred Taylor Drive, just west of the Schottenstein Center), in Columbus. Free parking is available in the lot west of the Schottenstein Center.

Registration is from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m. Sessions begin at 9:15 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m. Topics to be discussed include:

- What We Know About Climate Change
- Legislative Options and Mechanics of Cap & Trade
- Allowance Distribution, Allocation & the Use of Revenue
- Views from Industry Panel
- Green Jobs
- Trade Implications of Cap & Trade
- Impact to Ohio & U.S. Economy

Registration fee: $65 (includes lunch). A complete agenda is attached to this issue of CIDS. Direct inquiries to econograms@osu.edu or (614) 292-2701. To register online to go http://cfaesreg.org/profile/form/index.cfm?PKformID=0x17494f4a

**WEBINARS**

**STAY AHEAD OF THE STORY: MEDIA RELATIONS STRATEGIES FOR COUNTY OFFICIALS IN TOUGH TIMES**

Tough times mean counties are under increasing scrutiny. Are you prepared to handle tough media inquiries and respond to critics? Are you doing all you can to communicate the essential and effective services your county provides? With a little planning, you can stay ahead of the story, respond to critics and be an effective leader and promoter of county government.

Join the National Association of Counties (NACo) for a webinar on “Stay Ahead of the Story: Media Relations Strategies for County Officials in Tough Times” on February 4, 2010 from 2:00-3:15 p.m. Webinar panelists will discuss effective media relations tools and strategies; whether social media such as Facebook and Twitter
are right for you; and tips on how to make the most of your NACo participation and out-of-county conference travel.

For more information, contact Jim Philipps, Media Relations Manager, (202) 942-4220, fax (202)393-2630, or jphilipps@naco.org. To register go to: http://www.mmsend2.com/ls.cfm?r=202901993&sid=8355910&m=904219&u=NAC &s=https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/132474018.

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

SYLLABUS 2009-055

A county prosecuting attorney who notifies a board of county commissioners prior to the commencement of his term of office that he will engage in the private practice of law may not decide during his term of office not to engage in the private practice of law in order to receive, during the remainder of his term of office, the salary prescribed for a county prosecuting attorney who does not engage in the private practice of law.

SYLLABUS 2010-001

1. A board of county commissioners has a mandatory duty under R.C. 307.01 to provide the county law library resources board with offices and necessary facilities.
2. A board of county commissioners has no statutory authority to charge a county law library resources board for space or utilities, or a fee for indirect costs, overhead, or centralized or support services.
3. A board of county commissioners has the discretion, but is not required, to appropriate money from the general fund for the use of the county law library resources board beyond the offices and necessary facilities the board of commissioners is required to provide under R.C. 307.01.

CLASSIFIEDS

THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU IS HIRING TEMPORARY POSITIONS

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting temporary, part-time census takers for the 2010 Census. These short-term jobs offer good pay, flexible hours, paid training, and reimbursement for authorized work-related expenses, such as mileage incurred while conducting census work. Best of all, census takers work right in their own communities. Census taker jobs are excellent for people who want to work part-time, those who are between jobs, or just about anyone who wants to earn extra money while performing an important service for their community. Find out more at their Web site: 2010.Census.gov/2010CensusJobs.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR POSITION POSTING

The Adams County Board of Commissioners is currently accepting applications from qualified applicants for the position of Economic Development Director. The Economic Development Director is an employee of the Adams County Board of Commissioners and is supervised and reports to the Commission. This challenging, but highly rewarding, position requires the performance of a wide variety of tasks and responsibilities including, but not limited to, the following: new business attraction, existing business assistance, grant writing, project management, community development projects and issues, creation of appropriate marketing pieces, and liaison with the townships and villages of Adams County.

In addition to the above mentioned economic development duties, the successful applicant will assist Adams County on a wide variety of issues and topics, including, but not limited to, the following: community development, infrastructure development, quality of life issues, and general community needs and opportunities. This position requires a wide variety of skills and flexibility to accomplish a range of goals.
A Bachelor’s Degree from an accredited college is preferred or five years experience in economic development or related field. Resumés must be submitted by February 5, 2010 to Adams County Commissioners, 110 West Main Street, Room 102, West Union, OH, 45693 or emailed to adamscocomm@cinci.rr.com. EOE.

CHIEF DOG WARDEN

Responsible for managing all care and control operations of the Lucas County Dog Warden Department as required to be compliant with state and applicable local animal control laws; leading & supervising staff; developing and implementing policies and procedures; providing technical assistance and guidance regarding related statutory matters; preparing & monitoring the departmental budget, and ensuring a customer-service focus at all levels of the agency. For more detailed information including minimum qualifications and compensation, or to apply online, please visit the Lucas County website (www.co.lucas.oh.us) and click on the link “Apply for a Job”. Application deadline is January 29, 2010. EOE.

DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

Union County Department of Job and Family Services is a quadruple combined agency that serves all children, adults and families who need protection from abuse, neglect and exploitation; financial and economic support; their family relationships established, nurtured and preserved; and/or individual and family support services.

The Board of County Commissioners of Union County seeks a qualified applicant to serve as the Director of the Union County Department of Job and Family Services. The Board is seeking an individual with strong administrative and leadership skills.

The Director will oversee all aspects of the agency, including but not limited to: interviewing and selecting new personnel with the approval of the Board; supervising all agency staff; overseeing agency operations and functions; approving and initiating personnel procedures and actions; developing, implementing, and monitoring all agency programs; maintaining Department budget; assuring statutory compliance; attending and participating in local, state, and federal meetings as necessary; and administering agency/board policies. The Director will be responsible for ensuring the overall mission of the agency is met by working effectively and proactively with the community, as well as local, state and federal entities. The anticipated salary range for the position is $70,000 - $90,000, depending on qualifications. The Director also receives the County benefit package.

The successful candidate must possess a Bachelor’s Degree in one of the following or a related field: business administration, public administration, human services, human resources, psychology, sociology, social work, education, or finance. Experience and working knowledge of DJFS programming is preferred. This position also requires an additional five years of administrative/managerial experience with at least two of the five years being in a supervisory capacity. The successful candidate may satisfy the minimum qualifications with a combination of education, training and/or experience or as otherwise provided in the classification specification.

Those who wish to be considered for this position must submit a resumé to the Union County Commissioners at 233 West 6th Street, Marysville, Ohio 43040 by close of business on Tuesday, January 26, 2010. No e-mail submissions will be accepted. Union County is an equal opportunity employer.

ENGINEERING DESIGN TECHNICIAN

The Wood County Engineer is accepting applications for a full time Engineering Design Technician. This position will perform CADD tasks in support of road, bridge and ditch projects throughout the county. The ideal
candidate will have extensive knowledge of AutoCad Civil 3D installation, operation, troubleshooting, maintenance and how to manipulate electronic field data into working engineering drawings.

Starting Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications, with a review after a six month probationary period. Qualifications: Associates degree in Civil Engineering Technology from an ABET accredited institution or equivalent is the minimum requirement, with a Bachelors degree in Civil Engineering from an ABET accredited institution preferred. Minimum of ten years of AutoCAD experience, with at least two years being AutoCad Civil 3D or equivalent. Requires a valid Ohio Driver’s license.

Application deadline: **4:30 p.m. on February 12, 2010.** Applications are available on the County’s website, www.co.wood.oh.us, or visit the Wood County Engineer’s Office, Third Floor, County Office Building, One Courthouse Square, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EOE.

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<th>CLASSIFIED ADS</th>
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<td>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 <a href="http://www.ccao.org">www.ccao.org</a>. 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 at <a href="mailto:mineiman@ccao.org">mineiman@ccao.org</a></td>
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Monday, February 22, 2010

9:15 –3:30 (registration from 8:30-9:15)

Location: Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center Auditorium, OSU Columbus Campus (northwest corner of Lane Avenue & Fred Taylor Drive, just west of the Schottenstein Center) Free parking is available in the lot west of the Schott

Registration, including lunch:$65 per person

To register online visit: http://cfaesreg.org/profile/form/index.cfm?PKformID=0x17494f4a

Agenda of speakers and panelists from The Ohio State University and industry

9:15 Welcome – Alan Randall, Chair & Professor, OSU Dept. Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics

9:20 What we know about climate change – Matt Roberts, Associate Professor, OSU Dept. Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics
Jeff Rogers, Professor & State Climatologist, OSU Dept. of Geography, The Ohio State University

10:00 Legislative Options and Mechanics of Cap & Trade – Brent Sohngen, Professor of Environmental Economics, OSU Dept. Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics

10:45 Allowance Distribution, Allocation and the Use of Revenue – Andy Keeler, Professor, OSU John Glenn School of Public Affairs

11:30 Lunch

12:30 Views from Industry Panel
Moderator: Kate Bartter, Associate Director, OSU Institute for Energy and the Environment
Panel:
Bruce Braine, VP for Strategic Policy Analysis, American Electric Power
Dale Arnold, Director of Energy Policy, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation
TBA, manufacturing industry

1:30 Green Jobs – Mark Partridge, C. William Swank Chair in Rural-Urban Policy, OSU Dept. Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics

2:10 Trade Implications of Cap & Trade – Ian Sheldon, Andersons Professor of International Trade, OSU Dept. Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics


3:30 Adjourn

Direct inquiries to: econograms@osu.edu or 614-292-2701

For more information on the AED Economics’ Extension & Outreach Program, contact Stan Ernst at Ernst.1@osu.edu