DATES TO REMEMBER

OCTOBER 15, 2014  OHIO NATIONAL GUARD REGIONAL INTER-SERVICE FAMILY ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE MEETING – REGION 2, CLARENCE E. MILLER ARMORY, MORGAN COUNTY (McCONNELSVILLE)

OCTOBER 15, 2014  CCAO METROPOLITAN & REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

OCTOBER 17, 2014  CCAO AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

OCTOBER 21, 2014  OHIO NATIONAL GUARD REGIONAL INTER-SERVICE FAMILY ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE MEETING – REGION 3, WOODLAWN COMMUNITY CENTER, HAMILTON COUNTY (CINCINNATI)

OCTOBER 23, 2014  OHIO NATIONAL GUARD REGIONAL INTER-SERVICE FAMILY ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE MEETING – REGION 1, NEW HORIZONS COMPUTER LEARNING CENTERS OF CLEVELAND, CUYAHOGA COUNTY (CLEVELAND)

OCTOBER 28, 2014  OHIO NATIONAL GUARD REGIONAL INTER-SERVICE FAMILY ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE MEETING – REGION 4, AMERICAN LEGION POST, SHELBY COUNTY (SIDNEY)

OCTOBER 29, 2014  CCAOSC NATURAL GAS PROGRAM BOARD OF PARTICIPANTS MEETING, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

NOVEMBER 12, 2014  SOCIAL IMPACT BONDS: A NEW APPROACH FOR ADDRESSING SOCIAL PROBLEMS – A 2nd WEDNESDAY SERIES WEBINAR

DECEMBER 7-9, 2014  CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL WINTER CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW, GREATER COLUMBUS CONVENTION CENTER, COLUMBUS

FEBRUARY 21-25, 2014  NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, MARRIOTT WARDMAN PARK HOTEL, WASHINGTON, DC

ASSOCIATION NEWS

CCAO/CEAO WINTER CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPENS

Join CCAO/CEAO for our Annual Winter Conference to be held on December 7-9, 2014 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center (GCCC), 400 North High Street, in downtown Columbus. All meetings and the trade show will be held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Registration materials were emailed to county commissioners, county engineers and their staff, CCAO/CEAO affiliate members, and vendors this week. CCAO/CEAO encourages all attendees to register for the conference online.
The conference is designed to help county officials and staff share ideas, gain knowledge and develop new and effective ways to deliver county services. CCAO/CEAO is building on last year’s success and incorporating your feedback to host a productive conference. An agenda will be available within the next two weeks. Mark your calendar and plan to attend!

The headquarters hotel will be the Hyatt Regency Columbus, which is connected to the GCCC. The Sunday night reception, hospitality suites, and a block of hotel rooms are at the Hyatt. An additional block of hotel rooms has been held at the Drury Inn (Drury group access code – 2209510). Click on the hotel reservation links above or see the hotel information on the conference registration form.

Click here for more conference information.

SOCIAL IMPACT BONDS: A NEW APPROACH FOR ADDRESSING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

CCA0 is pleased to offer a one-hour “Social Impact Bonds: A New Approach for Addressing Social Problems” webinar on November 12 at 9:30 a.m.

Each year, governments spend hundreds of billions of dollars addressing social problems. But in most cases, we have no idea how effective this spending is. Performance is rarely assessed, and measurement tends to focus on tracking the number of people served and the amount of service provided rather than the outcomes that are achieved. Welcome the social impact bond model, a promising new approach that combines performance-based payments and market discipline. This webinar will include what a social impact bond is and show a detailed explanation of the Cuyahoga County program.

Webinar participants may pose questions to the presenters who will respond during and after the power point presentation. To register for this exceptional educational opportunity, please click on this link. 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…

2015 COUNTY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

IN MEMORIAM

RICHARD D. WATKINS

Former Stark County Commissioner Richard D. Watkins passed away on October 3, 2014 after an extended illness. Richard graduated from Timken Vocational High School. He served the community in his political career as a City of Canton 10th Ward Councilman for 12 years, Stark County Commissioner from 1981 to 1988, and Mayor of Canton for 12 years. He was founder and president of Stark Enterprises, Inc. for over 50 years. He served in the U.S. Marine Corp. During his entire life, he was an accomplished vocalist and music was a very important part of his life. He sang at numerous events throughout the community even being known affectionately as the “singing mayor.” Click here to leave a note of sympathy to the Watkins family.
STATE ACTIVITIES

TAXATION REVISES HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION BULLETIN

The Ohio Department of Taxation, Division of Tax Equalization, has revised Bulletin 23 (9/14/14) – “The Homestead Exemption for the Aged, Disabled, Veterans with 100 Percent Service-Connected Disabilities, and Surviving Spouses”. This Bulletin replaces the Homestead Exemption Manual revised in November, 2013.

Am. Sub. H.B. 85, passed June 3, 2014 and effective September 11, 2014, granted an enhanced homestead exemption to veterans with 100 percent service-connected disabilities, and the spouse of a disabled veteran who has qualified for the enhanced exemption. Additionally, the Bulletin reflects changes to the acceptance of VA documentation indicating “individual unemployability,” based upon a greater understanding of VA policies. The changes affecting veterans will be more fully discussed in the body of the Bulletin.

PROPOSALS TARGET STEADY RISE IN NUMBER OF FOSTER CARE CHILDREN WITH OPIATE-ADDICTED PARENTS

Increased access to medication-assisted treatment is among a number of recommendations published recently that are aimed at addressing the needs of children with opiate-addicted parents. A consortium made up of more than two dozen state and county agency representatives published the recommendations in a white paper that urges state leaders to also increase access to specialized courts and recovery team models as well as foster collaboration among screening, assessment and treatment programs at all levels of government.

According to research cited by the consortium, 60-80% of child abuse and neglect cases nationally involve a parent or guardian abusing substances. Placing children of addicted guardians in foster care costs Ohio $45 million annually. Additionally, foster care cases involving children whose parents are addicted to heroin or cocaine have been on a steady increase in over the last five years and now comprise a quarter of all cases in Ohio, according to the paper. Click here for a copy of the white paper.

IRAQ WAR VETERANS CAN CLAIM OHIO VETERANS BONUS: DEADLINE DEC 14

Veterans who served in Iraq have taken advantage of the Ohio Veterans Bonus in increasing numbers this year, but time is running out to claim this benefit – the deadline for those who served in Iraq is December 31, 2014.

Through September 30, the Ohio Veterans Bonus program has paid 83,399 total claims, amounting to more than $67.4 million. While some claims are for multiple periods of eligibility, claims for Iraq service represent 23,876 of this total, the most of any period. The eligible period of the Ohio Veterans Bonus for service in the country of Iraq is from March 19, 2003 through December 31, 2011. The deadline of December 31, 2014 is for applications made for this service.

No deadline has been announced for the Ohio Veterans Bonus for those who served in Afghanistan, or anywhere else in the world, since October 7, 2001.

The Ohio Veterans Bonus is open to veterans who served anywhere in the world during the time of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The amount of the Bonus is higher for those who served in Iraq or Afghanistan. It is also open to the next of kin of those who were killed in action or died of disease as a result of in-country service. The Bonus is not subject to federal or state taxes, and can be used for any purpose.

Ohio voters approved the Ohio Veterans Bonus by an overwhelming margin in November 2009. The Ohio Veterans Bonus continues a tradition of bonuses to reward Ohio veterans that dates back to the Civil War; however, these other war bonuses are now closed. Read more...
NEW WEBSITE PROVIDES EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE TO OHIOANS WITH DISABILITIES

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month, and Ohioans with disabilities now have a free, easy way to search for jobs and access information about a variety of work-related resources. Working in tandem with OhioMeansJobs.com, OhioMeansAccessibility.com will help job seekers with disabilities post resumes, search for jobs and more.

After posting a resume at OhioMeansJobs.com, job seekers with disabilities can indicate whether they would like to be referred to employers specifically looking to hire individuals with disabilities. For employers, the site offers a wealth of information about hiring incentives, workplace accommodations, employment law, and engaging a qualified and diverse workforce. Read more…

CHALLENGE ON OHIO EARLY-VOTING RULES: BACK TO U.S. DISTRICT COURT

The challenge to Ohio’s reductions in early, in-person voting is back where it began: in U.S. District Court in Columbus. With the U.S. Supreme Court having voted 5-4 on to block a federal judge’s restoration of cuts in early voting, the case effectively will start from scratch. The high court is no longer involved in the case after the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Wednesday threw out its decision that had upheld the judge’s order.

The 6th Circuit judges sent the case back to Judge Peter C. Economus for a final ruling on whether cuts in early voting are constitutional. Economus is the same judge who ruled on Sept. 4 that Republican-crafted reductions in early-voting hours from 2012 violated the Voting Rights Act by disproportionately affecting blacks and the poor, who tend to vote early at a higher rate than whites. Economus will preside over a possible bench trial and hear witnesses before deciding whether the early-voting cuts will survive in 2016 — a presidential election year in which swing-state Ohio will play an important role.

The state officials — Secretary of State Jon Husted and Attorney General Mike DeWine — had appealed Economus’ order to the 6th Circuit but lost. The Republicans then sought and won a delay granted by the high court’s conservatives. The state officials argued that Economus’ ruling violated states’ right to set their poll hours and ran afoul of previous U.S. Supreme Court rulings.

Early, in-person voting in Ohio began Tuesday will see the polls open for 197 hours of early voting, including 16 weekend hours; there will be no evening hours. Economus’ ruling had created 259 hours, including 24 hours each of weekend and evening voting. Economus also restored this week’s now-vanished “Golden Week,” when Ohioans could register to vote and cast ballots at the same time.

LET’S TALK TRANSIT: HELP SHAPE LONG-TERM STRATEGY

Join the Ohio Department of Transportation at one of five regional meetings to help shape a long-term strategy for the needs of Ohio’s riders today and in the future. Trends show there is a definite rise in the need for convenient, affordable public transportation to jobs, medical appointments, shopping and recreational activities. From light rail and bus service in large cities to rural van services, the Ohio Statewide Transit Needs Study has examined existing transit needs and drafted recommendations for better addressing them. All meetings are open to the public. Attend one of the following meetings:

- October 21, 2:00-4:00 p.m. - Cleveland
- October 22, 2:00-4:00 p.m. - Findlay
- October 23, 2:00-4:00 p.m. - Columbus
- October 30, 2:00-4:00 p.m. - Athens
- October 31, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon - Lebanon
Click on the following link for meeting dates and more information www.TransitNeedsStudy.ohio.gov. Comments will be accepted through November 14, 2014. Email questions or comments to Transit.Needs@dot.state.oh.us.

ONG REGIONAL MEETINGS TO SUPPORT TROOPS & FAMILY

The Ohio National Guard (ONG) invites county commissioners and social service agency experts to the Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committees (RISFAC) meetings in your area. The purpose of RISFAC is to connect military families with regional community resources and volunteer support. These meetings help build relationships between area military leaders and civilians who are interested in supporting the 17,000 soldiers and airmen who serve in the Ohio National Guard.

- **October 15 – Morgan County (McConnelsville) – Region 2** (Athens, Belmont, Fairfield, Gallia, Guernsey, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pickaway, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton, and Washington counties). Time and location: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Clarence E. Miller Armory, 4497 Hawk Drive, in McConnelsville.
- **October 21 – Hamilton County (Cincinnati) – Region 3** (Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Fayette, Hamilton, Highland, and Warren counties). Time and location: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Woodlawn Community Center, 10050 Woodlawn Blvd., in Cincinnati.
- **October 23 – Cuyahoga County (Garfield Heights) – Region 1** (Ashland, Ashtabula, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Lake, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties). Time and location: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the New Horizons Computer Learning Center of Cleveland, 1 Infinity Corporate Centre Drive - Suite 250, in Garfield Heights.
- **October 28 – Shelby County (Sidney) – Region 4** (Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Logan, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, and Shelby counties). Time and location: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the American Legion Post #217, 1265 Fourth Avenue, in Sidney.

Please, RSVP your attendance prior to the meeting by contacting the Family Assistance Center Specialist listed on the RISFAC regional websites linked above. In addition, confirm your attendance by contacting Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979 or (888) 757-1904.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

COMMENT PERIOD FOR PROPOSED "WATERS OF THE U.S." RULE EXTENDED UNTIL NOVEMBER 14

On April 21, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) jointly released a new proposed rule – Definition of Waters of the U.S. Under the Clean Water Act – that would amend the definition of “Waters of the U.S.” and expand the range of waters that fall under federal jurisdiction. The comment period deadline for the proposed rule has now been extended from October 20, 2014 until November 14, 2014 to allow the public to comment on a soon-to-be released document which provides the scientific basis for the proposed “Waters of the U.S.” rule.

The document - Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands to Downstream Waters: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Evidence - has been under review by EPA’s Science Advisory Board but has not been finalized. The agencies have been under fire for releasing the proposed rule without including the connectivity report, which provides their scientific basis for the proposed rule change. So while the agencies did extend the comment period into November, it is still not known when they will release the connectivity report.
The proposed rule would amend the current definition of "Waters of the U.S." in the Clean Water Act (CWA), which has been in place for over 25 years, and would expand the range of waters (and their conveyances) that fall under federal regulation. Changes in the definition of "Waters of the U.S." will impact many county operations and will increase costs and permitting time of those operations.

To view NACo’s policy brief on “Waters of the U.S.,” [click here](#). To view NACo’s information hub on “Waters of the U.S.,” [click here](#). For more information, please contact Julie Ufner, NACo Associate Legislative Director for Environment, Energy & Land Use, at (202) 942-4269. [Read more…](#)

**NACo ACTIVITIES**

**NACo TO HELP COAL-COUNTRY COUNTY LEADERS PLAN FOR ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION**

NACo and the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Research Foundation have announced a new partnership to support county and regional leaders in coal-reliant communities with retooling their economies to become more resilient to changing conditions. NADO and NACo, with the support of the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), will assist counties and regions affected by the contraction of the coal industry to identify opportunities for economic diversification and asset-based economic development.

According to a recent analysis prepared by NACo, 196 counties in 27 states in the U.S. were coal-producing economies in 2012. These counties are home to more than 13 million residents and over 6 million jobs. Combined, coal-producing counties generate a GDP of more than $636 billion and contribute a significant portion to the economies of West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Alabama, Kentucky and Wyoming.

In 2013, 14 Ohio counties (Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Mahoning, Monroe, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Stark, Tuscarawas, and Vinton) had a total of 39 mines (10 underground and 29 surface).

Counties and regions that have been reliant upon the coal industry for generations are now experiencing the effects of the industry’s downturn. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, coal production in the U.S. was down more than 7 percent in 2012 from 2011 levels. The new NACo/NADO program competition will be open to all regions and counties in the U.S. that are economically linked to the coal industry, including those that are coal-producing as well as home to significant concentrations of coal processing and related facilities. NACo and NADO Research Foundation anticipate rolling out the application in January 2015 and hosting four workshops throughout 2015. For more information, please contact Kathy Nothstine, NACo Program Director, at (202) 661-8807. [Read more…](#)

**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE & THE INTERNET OF THINGS**

The Internet underlies nearly every facet of our daily lives and is the foundation for much of the critical infrastructure that keeps our nation running. The systems that support electricity, financial services, transportation, and communications are increasingly interconnected. Join NACo for a webinar about “Critical Infrastructure and the Internet of Things” at 2:00 p.m. on October 15, 2014 that will highlight the importance of protecting critical infrastructure and properly securing all devices that are connected to the Internet. [Register here…](#)
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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<td>Budget Officer</td>
<td>Clark County October 13, 2014</td>
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<td>Custodial Worker</td>
<td>Clark County October 13, 2014</td>
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<td>Transportation Planner/GIS Coordinator</td>
<td>Ohio Mid-Eastern Government Association October 15, 2014</td>
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<td>Eligibility/Referral Specialist</td>
<td>Clark County October 15, 2014</td>
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<td>Deputy Director of Finances &amp; Operations</td>
<td>Lucas County October 16, 2014</td>
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<td>Deputy Director of Program Integrity &amp; Compliance</td>
<td>Lucas County October 16, 2014</td>
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<td>Operations Manager</td>
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<td>Assistant Deputy Director of Client Services</td>
<td>Lucas County October 16, 2014</td>
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<td>Landfill Superintendent</td>
<td>Erie County October 20, 2014</td>
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<td>County Administrator</td>
<td>Medina County October 25, 2014</td>
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<td>Social Service Worker</td>
<td>Fairfield County October 24, 2014</td>
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<td>Superintendent – Central Ohio Youth Center</td>
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<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Canton/Stark County Convention &amp; Visitors Bureau November 10, 2014</td>
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<td>Engineer</td>
<td>Geauga County Until position is filled</td>
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<td>Children Services Administrator</td>
<td>Licking County Until position is filled</td>
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<td>Business Administrator</td>
<td>Clark County Until position is filled</td>
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<td>Contract Development/Compliance Officer (2 positions available)</td>
<td>Clark County Until position is filled</td>
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<td>Performance Analyst</td>
<td>Clark County Until position is filled</td>
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<td>Assistant Operations Superintendent</td>
<td>Licking County Until position is filled</td>
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<td>County Administrator</td>
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<td>Technical Study Director</td>
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