

NJAC COUNTY BIZ

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New Jersey Association of Counties

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South Jersey Gas Receives NJBPU Approval for Storm Hardening and Reliability Program

by Dan Lockwood, Manager of Public Relations for South Jersey Industries

South Jersey Gas, subsidiary of South Jersey Industries (NYSE:SJI), received New Jersey Board of Public Utilities approval on August 20, 2014 for the company's Storm Hardening and Reliability Program. With its SHARP program, SJG will invest \$103.5 million over the next three years to enhance and protect its infrastructure in advance of future significant weather events. The program was developed in response to a BPU request that utilities develop infrastructure enhancement programs that would help protect their energy delivery systems from future storms.

"While we were fortunate to come through Superstorm Sandy largely unscathed, we need to be as prepared as possible for whatever storm may come in the future," said Jeffrey E. DuBois, president of South Jersey Gas. "The program approved today allows us to do just that, by building greater resiliency into our system and protecting areas we serve that are most susceptible to storm related damage along the barrier islands of Atlantic and Cape May counties."



Jeffrey E. DuBois
President

The program's primary focus is to upgrade the company's lower operating pressure distribution systems. Lower pressure systems, by nature, are more susceptible to water intrusion during significant storms with flooding conditions. By upgrading this infrastructure and associated operating pressures, South Jersey Gas is working to ensure the continued operation of its system during and after a major storm event.

Specifically, work will take place in Atlantic City, Ventnor, Margate, Longport, Ocean City, Wildwood, North Wildwood, Wildwood Crest and West Cape May. In total, SJG expects to replace about 93 miles of natural gas mains and approximately 11,100 associated services during the next three years under this initiative.

There will be no immediate impact to customer bills as a result of the program. Costs will be recovered through annual adjustments to SJG base rates on October 1 of each year of the program.

It's important to note that consistently low natural gas prices, resulting from the dramatic increase in gas supplies from shale formations such as the Marcellus, have helped offset the rate impact of other infrastructure

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Get to know your County Official.....

How many years have you served as a Passaic County Administrator?

I was appointed as Passaic County Administrator January 1, 2004. Since then I have been reappointed in January 2009 and January 2014.

What was the first public office you held?

In 1985, I was elected Councilman in North Haledon serving one term from 1986 to 1988 at the ripe old age of 23. I was re-elected to the Council in North Haledon in 2000 serving another term from 2001 to 2003.

Why did you choose to apply for Administrator?

My educational background is in accounting. I have always enjoyed public service and people. Knowledge and experience in these areas are critical to my role of Administrator.

What had been the most difficult decision you have had to make while serving as a Passaic County Administrator?

In 2007, Passaic County was facing budgetary issues and we had to lay off employees. It was by far the worst thing I ever had to do and hope to never have to do it again.

What would our readers be most surprised to learn about you?

Most readers would be surprised to learn that I was once a butcher. I love to cook and am really a homebody.

Who is your role model?

My father is my role model. He passed away at a very young age of 60. He taught me the importance of honesty and being a "man of your word" as well as instilling at a very young age the importance of working hard.

Why do you love Passaic County?

It has such diversity and is rich in history. Passaic County is the most diverse county in the State. We have urban centers, suburban towns, and the most northern part of our county is very rural. Many people who have never visited Passaic County would be very surprised to learn how diverse it is geographically, ethnically, and economically.



**Anthony DeNova
Administrator**



Historical Passaic County played a major role in shaping the rest of our county. Paterson was the first industrial city, and is now home of the Great Falls National Park.



South Jersey Gas Receives NJBPU Approval for Storm Hardening and Reliability Program *(continued)*

investments made by SJG in recent years. This abundance of supply has contributed to customer bills currently being, on average, lower than they were more than 10 years ago.

About South Jersey Gas

South Jersey Gas, subsidiary of energy services holding company South Jersey Industries (NYSE:SJI), provides natural gas service to approximately 364,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Salem, and significant portions of Gloucester, Burlington and Camden counties in New Jersey. Visit www.southjerseygas.com to learn more.



Restoration Plan for Sandy Hook's Fort Hancock Announced

by Jersey Shore Partnership, Inc.



The National Park Service has announced a redevelopment plan for a phased pilot program to restore the 35 historic buildings at Fort Hancock. The first phase would start with six buildings – two each for B&Bs, residential and community designations. The Park Service is taking on the rehabilitation of a seventh building that would be used for short-term leases for vacation rentals. All agreements would be leases, not sales, from the National Park Service. The plan was announced at the July meeting of the 21st Century Fort Hancock Advisory Committee by **Gateway Superintendent Jennifer Nersesian**. The Committee applauded this first step. Requests for Proposals will be ready for review by the Committee in September 2014.



To learn more about this very exciting project please visit the Jersey Shore Partnership Facebook page to view the article or [click here](#).

About Jersey Shore Partnership

The Jersey Shore Partnership is an advocate of initiatives that are unique and important to the Jersey Shore coastal communities with an emphasis on shore protection and beach replenishment. The Partnership takes an active role in New Jersey's economy including tourism, coastal resources, vital infrastructure, education and emergency preparedness.

For more information contact Margot Walsh, Executive Director, via e-mail at mwalshjspf@gmail.com or via telephone at (732) 21-4145 or visit [Jersey Shore Partnership, Inc.](#)



Governor Christie Signs Legislation that Protects Company's Largest Water Treatment Plant

by Peter A. Eschbach, Director of Communications and External Affairs for New Jersey American Water

New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust Fund Provides \$3.51 Million for Floodwall to withstand Even the "500-year" Storm

Governor Chris Christie signed legislation authorizing \$31.5 million in state financing to raise New Jersey American Water's largest water treatment plant's existing floodwall to withstand even a "500-year" flood. The plant serves more than a million people in seven counties; provides water to five large public water systems; and serves as an emergency source of water for the cities of Newark and Trenton. Irene's flood waters came within an inch of breaching the plant's flood wall, which could have resulted in an estimated regional economic loss of more than \$1.8 billion.



The funding is part of the \$1.28 billion bill that is aimed at financing for much-needed improvements to drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects across the state.

In signing the legislation, **Governor Christie** said, "There can be no compromises in protecting the viability, integrity and resiliency of the state's water-supply and wastewater systems, especially in areas that are vulnerable to floods."



"Hurricanes Irene and Sandy both challenged the resiliency of regional water systems," said **William M. Varley, President of New Jersey American Water**. "Raising the floodwall at our Raritan Millstone Water Treatment Plant by four feet is a multi-million dollar undertaking, and we are grateful for the assistance of both the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection."

The legislation provides New Jersey American Water, among others, with a low-cost loan from the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust (NJEIT), an independent state financing agency, in partnership with the

Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

"We are proud to be playing a major part in the recovery of New Jersey from the devastation of Superstorm Sandy," said **NJEIT Executive Director David Zimmer**. "All of these projects, whether directly Sandy-related or not, are critically important to our local communities and will provide thousands of construction jobs in our state."

New Jersey American Water, a wholly owned subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK) is the largest investor-owned water utility in the state, providing high-quality and reliable water and/or wastewater services to approximately 2.5 million people. Founded in 1886, American Water is the largest publicly traded U.S. water and wastewater utility company. With headquarters in Voorhees, N.J., the company employs approximately 6,000 dedicated professionals who provide drinking water, wastewater and other related services to an estimated 14 million people in more than 40 states, as well as parts of Canada. More information can be found by visiting www.amwater.com.



There is No Reason to Pay to Register to Vote

by Paula Sollami Covello, Mercer County Clerk



Paula Sollami Covello
Mercer County Clerk

It is the time of year when candidates for elected office may stop at your doorstep asking for your vote. This is because we are nearing November's General Election which is slated for November 4, 2014. As an election official that prints ballots and handles vote-by-mail applications for voters, I thought it was important to remind you that voting is a right and a privilege to citizens of the United States which should never cost a voter money. In fact, if you are 18 years of age, or will be age 18 before this year's Election Day, you can register to vote for the November election by filling out a voter registration form on the Mercer's "County Clerk" website or "Superintendent of Elections" Website, or on the State "NJ Division of Elections" Website by October 14th, 2014. Such registration is done as a government service, at no cost to the voter.

I recently learned of a website that offers to register voters for a fee of \$9.95. This website, called "IWantToVote.com", asks you to submit your personal information to the website and then the same company fills out your voter registration and sends it to the State for processing. This service, while not illegal, is asking you to pay for something that is already offered by government agencies at no fee whatsoever. There is no reason for you to pay an internet company to do what is already a free service that is also available online. In fact, the State Division of Elections website also offers voter registration in five languages - including English, Spanish, Indian, Korean, and Chinese.

Generally, the rules for voter registration are that you must be a U.S. citizen at least 18 years old and have lived in the county where you intend to vote for 30 days prior to Election Day. You may freely obtain the registration forms from the Office of the Mercer County Superintendent of Elections, Cathy DiCostanzo, or from my office, Mercer County Clerk, both at www.MercerCounty.org, or from your local Municipal Clerk, as well as from the State website, <http://www.njelections.org/voting-information-voter-registration-forms.html>. You may also obtain forms at the Mercer County Connection at the Hamilton Square Shopping Center on Highway 33 and Paxson Avenue in Hamilton. The County Connection office offers evening and Saturday hours for your convenience. The same offices and websites offer vote-by-mail applications which you can fill out and send in to my office, once you are a registered voter. A ballot will then come to you in the mail. Voting has really never been more convenient!

On another note, please be aware that school board candidates and questions will also be on the General Election ballot again this November for all towns in Mercer County. This means the General Election ballots will contain Federal, County, local and school candidates and questions. Ballots will be quite full, so please make sure you review your sample ballots when they arrive in the mail, and read the ballots carefully to avoid missing any information. For more information contact the Mercer County Clerk's Office at (609) 989-6464 or visit and learn more [here](#).



What America is Thinking on Energy Issues - Poll: Large Majorities of New Jersey Voters Support Increased Investments in U.S. Energy Infrastructure

by Reid Porter, Spokesman for American Petroleum Institute (API)

Strong bipartisan majorities of registered New Jersey voters support increased development of U.S. energy infrastructure and will back candidates who support producing more U.S. oil and natural gas, according to a new poll released by API.



James Benton
Executive Director
NJ Petroleum Council

“New Jersey voters, regardless of party affiliation, want more American made energy,” said Jim Benton, Executive Director of API’s New Jersey Petroleum Council. “Voters are more likely to support candidates who encourage smart energy policy that will increase investments in energy infrastructure and increase energy and job security in New Jersey in the future.

“New Jerseyans recognize the abundance of energy in the Marcellus Shale and how record production next door in Pennsylvania has helped lower natural gas and electricity costs for homes in New Jersey and families across America.”

The state-wide telephone poll, conducted for API by Harris Poll among 602 registered voters in New Jersey, also found that:

- 83 percent support increased development of the country’s energy infrastructure. (Democrats 76 percent; Republicans 88 percent; Independents 88 percent)
- 70 percent support increased production of domestic oil and natural gas resources located here in the U.S.
- 76 percent are more likely to support candidates in November’s elections who support increasing the country’s energy infrastructure and producing more oil and natural gas from here in the U.S. (Democrats 74 percent; Republicans 83 percent; Independents 71 percent)
- 66 percent think that the federal government does not do enough to encourage the development of the country’s energy infrastructure.

The New Jersey Petroleum Council, located in Trenton, New Jersey, is a division of API and represents all segments of America’s oil and natural gas industry. Its more than 600 members produce, process, and distribute most of the nation’s energy. The industry also supports 9.8 million U.S. jobs and 8 percent of the U.S. economy.

Methodology

The study was conducted July 29 - August 3, 2014 by telephone by Harris Poll on behalf of the American Petroleum Institute among 602 registered voters in New Jersey, with a sampling error of +/-4%. A full methodology is available upon request.

“What America is Thinking on Energy Issues” is a public opinion series provided by API, offering data to inform policy discussions and ensure policymakers and others know Americans’ perspectives on key energy issues.



Survey Reveals Many Americans Take a Break from the Dentist

While about two-thirds of Americans (65 percent) currently visit the dentist at least once a year, nearly half of them (47 percent) have gone three years or more without seeing the dentist at one time in their lives.¹



Dr. Keith Libou

“According to the Delta Dental Oral Health and Well-Being Survey, Americans who visit the dentist at least once a year are 37 percent more likely to report their oral health as good or better versus those who do not,” says Dr. Keith Libou, Chief Clinical Officer, Delta Dental of New Jersey. “Still, a lot of Americans take a break from routine dental visits at some point in their lives.”

Nearly six of 10 Americans (58 percent) say they have felt fear or reluctance regarding a dental visit, according to the Delta Dental survey. Most said they were afraid to find out what care they needed or that they couldn't afford to pay for care. Younger Americans ages 18 to 44 have felt more apprehension than those 45 years and older. Despite the fear and reluctance many Americans feel about going to the dentist, most (57 percent) say they feel refreshed after doing so.

Find a ‘Dental Home’ to Encourage Continual Care

One way to stay in the habit is to find a regular dentist. According to the Delta Dental survey, nearly one in four Americans (23 percent) do not have a regular dentist, while 40 percent say they've been going to the same dentist for three years or more. Americans in the Midwest and Northeast are somewhat more likely to be in a long-term relationship with their dentists than those in the South or West.

“Regular dental visits are part of important preventive care,” Libou says. “It's good to stay in - or get back into - the habit of visiting a dentist, as he or she can help determine how often you need to visit. More often than not, you feel good walking out of a dentist's office because your mouth feels cleaner, and your mind feels better because you are taking care of yourself.”



About Delta Dental

Delta Dental of New Jersey Inc. is New Jersey's leading dental benefits company, providing or administering coverage to more than 1.5 million people through contracts with groups in New Jersey and Connecticut. In Connecticut, Delta Dental Insurance Company writes dental coverage on an insured basis and Delta Dental of New Jersey administers self-funded dental benefit programs.

To learn more about Delta Dental of New Jersey, Inc. please contact Kim Elmore, Community Relations Administrator at kelfmore@deltadentalnj.com or visit www.deltadentalnj.com.



¹ Morpace, Inc. conducted the Delta Dental Oral Health and Well-Being Survey on behalf of Delta Dental with 1,003 consumers across the United States.

Atlantic City Electric Completes New Substation

by Frank Tedesco, Media Relations Manager for Atlantic City Electric



As part of ongoing reliability enhancements, Atlantic City Electric has completed construction of a new distribution substation located on the north side of Moss Mill Road and west of Wrangleboro Road in Port Republic, New Jersey.

The new substation will enhance reliability for residents of Galloway Township and Port Republic.

“Atlantic City electric is committed to providing our communities with safe and reliable service,” said Vince **Maione, Atlantic City Electric Region President**. “The new substation will further improve service reliability for our customers in Port Republic and

Galloway Township and help support the current and future demand for electricity in this area.”

Before the new substation, power to the area was delivered through distribution lines that were fed from a substation approximately 4 miles away. The new substation is located in the center of the area it will serve, and power is now delivered through shorter distribution lines, which will allow for quicker restoration in the event of an outage. The substation is also located adjacent to already existing transmission and distribution lines, which eliminated the need to obtain new right of way and construct new lines.



For additional information about Atlantic City Electric, visit www.atlanticcityelectric.com. Follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/atlanticcityelectric and on Twitter at www.twitter.com/aceleconnect. Their mobile app is available at www.atlanticcityelectric.com/mobileapp.



Vince Maione
Region President



BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Learn about the benefits of being a part of NJAC and how you can join by contacting Loren Wizman, Business Development Director, at (609) 394-3467 or loren@njac.org.
[Click here for an application.](#)

Federal Grants

New Entrant Grant Program

Deadline: September 30, 2014
Available: \$15,000 to 1,800,000
Number of Awards: 51

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=261431>



Enhancing Public Health Surveillance of Autism Spectrum Disorder and Other Developmental Disabilities through the Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network

Deadline: October 10, 2014
Available: \$450,00 per year for 4 years
Number of Awards: 6-14

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>



Computing and Communication Foundations (CCF): Core Programs

Deadline: Medium projects - November 10, 2014
 Large Projects - November 12, 2014
 Small Projects - January 2, 2015

Available: Medium Projects - \$500,000 to \$1,200,000 over up to 4 years
 Large Projects - \$1,200,001 to \$3,000,000 over up to 5 years
 Small Projects - maximum of \$500,000 over up to 3 years

Number of Awards: 170 to 200

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14598/nsf14598.pdf>



The National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network (UG1)

Deadline: December 3, 2014
Available: \$500,000 per year for a period of up to 5 years
Number of Awards: Not specified

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-15-008.html>



The Importance of FLSA Compliance

by Jennifer Dowd, Marketing Manager for Kronos-Public Sector

Change is most difficult before the benefits of change are realized.

Implementations of workforce management technologies can often be feared because of the change it creates in the everyday life of both the employee and the manager. The employee often fears that the requirements of “punching a clock” can restrict their freedom until they experience the value of visibility and the importance of fairness of adhering to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Managers fear being treated like a “timekeeper” until they realize the benefits of becoming true resource managers and the ease visibility gives them into controlling budgets and employee favoritism.

Fear of change can be overcome by increasing the across-the-board fairness that both a workforce management system can offer coupled with unifying policies to ensure both fairness as well as compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act.

When implementing any new system, the temptation is to force the system to do “what you have always done”, thus eliminating the potential gains it can offer.

The Fair Labor Standards Act was signed by President Roosevelt in 1938 in response to ongoing employee abuses of the Great Depression. For decades after the passing of this important legislation, state and local governments were considered exempt from it. A number of important legal cases from the 1960’s through the 1980’s were brought before the US Supreme Court. Finally in 1985, Garcia vs. San Antonio Metropolitan Transit Authority settled the issue when the court made adjustments in FLSA for compensatory time and the unique needs of peace officers.¹ These changes finally held most government agencies accountable to the amended act.

Many government agencies today still struggle with being compliant with the FLSA. The concept of “Exception Pay” or “Pay from Schedule” is still the common practice. Because of this, the Department of Labor (DOL) has stepped up audits of government agencies due to increased complaints from employees and unions alike. The DOL has also created a tool for state and local government agencies to do a “self-assessment”.²

Implementing a workforce management system is a perfect opportunity for state and local governments to re-evaluate their policies and procedures to unify policy and ensure compliance with the FLSA. Missing this opportunity will only lead to increased struggles later to enact policies that protect both the employees and the employer. Using a best practice procedure of “Positive Pay” for all non-exempt employees ensures full compliance with the FLSA through accurate documentation of hours worked. This must also be backed up by policy in order to not only ensure fairness but also reduce challenges to civil service courts and union leadership

To learn more about Kronos, please contact Wesley Witherington, Kronos Sales Executive State of New Jersey, Public Sector and Education at wesley.witherington@kronos.com or via telephone at (973) 331-5465.



¹ 469 U.S. 528 (1985)

² <http://www.dol.gov/whd/StateandLocalGovernment/media/SelfAssessmentTool-CountyGovernmentfinal071906.htm>

Freeholder Director Burry Honored by Count Basie

by Laura Kirkpatrick, Monmouth County Director of Department of Public Information and Tourism



l to r: **Freeholder Thomas Arnone, Freeholder Director Lillian Burry, Arts Council Executive Director May Eileen Fouratt, Freeholder Serena DiMaso, and Freeholder Deputy Director Gary Rich, Sr.**

Monmouth County Freeholder Director Lillian G. Burry was honored with a Vanguard Award by the Count Basie Theatre.

“It is an honor to be chosen as one of the first recipients of the Vanguard Awards,” Burry said. “I believe that art and history are the foundation of our society and it is essential to maintain a strong presence of the arts in our communities.”

The Vanguard Awards took place on Aug. 22. Vanguard Awards were also given to E-Street Band guitarist Steven Van Zandt and his wife Maureen Van Zandt and Monmouth County Arts Council executive director Mary Eileen Fouratt.

A longtime proponent of local arts and the Basie, Burry has been a three-time presenter at the theatre’s annual Basie awards, and in 2014 was honored as the Monmouth County Arts Council’s “2014 Community Champion of the Arts.”

In the winter of 2014, Burry participated in a presentation about the MoCo Arts Corridor Partnership. The five-minute video was presented during a panel session at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development’s 52nd Session of the Commission for Social Development. The video focused on the MoCo Arts Corridor which is both a physical and cooperative initiative designed to promote the many art, cultural and historic assets in Monmouth County.

Since her election to the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders in 2005, Burry has been the Board’s Director three times and is liaison to the Parks and Library and Public Services divisions. She is also a member of the Monmouth County Planning Board’s Master Plan Arts, Cultural & Historic Resources working group. For additional information please contact Laura Kirkpatrick at lkirkpat@co.monmouth.nj.us.



CONGRATULATIONS

Monmouth County was awarded AAA status from Fitch, Moody’s and Standard and Poor’s for the 16th straight year.

Cape May County Office of Emergency Management Director Martin Paliughi received national recognition by Federal Emergency Management Agency in August, as well as receiving an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) in July.

Correct Care Solutions, LLC, which is a public health care company that provides medical, dental and mental health services to jails, prisons and other restricted populations across the country recently announced the successful 2014 ONC HIT Certification of their electronic health record known as ERMA®

David F. Thompson, Executive Director for the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, has been promoted to President and Managing Director for **NACo Financial Services Center**. He will begin November 5, 2014.

Sussex County Transitional Care Program Attends NACo Annual Conference



The Sussex County Department of Human Services Transitional Care Program was invited to participate in the 79th National Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Conference, which focused on key issues important to counties such as transportation, resiliency, healthcare, criminal justice, and economic development. The conference was held in Orleans Parish - New Orleans, Louisiana from July 11th to July 14th.

"NACo's annual conference is the largest opportunity for counties to learn from one another, share best practices and set national priorities for the year ahead," said Linda Langston, NACo President. "Counties constantly work to strengthen resilient, safe, healthy, economically competitive communities across the country. This gathering provided countless concrete examples of delivering cost-effective services to residents."

The Sussex County Transitional Care team represented by Stephen Gruchacz, Administrator for the Department of Human Services; Sarah Balzano, RN, Transitional Care Coordinator; Regina Hannapple, SW; Elizabeth Larsen, SW; and Donna Green, SW presented an educational workshop at the conference titled "Refocus on Access to Healthcare Services," and are pictured in the above photograph. The workshop addressed why there is such a great need to refocus on healthcare services. A sampling of those needs include unsustainable increases in healthcare costs, older adults experiencing multiple hospital readmissions, fragmented communication among providers and cuts to funding. By creating a public-private partnership with Newton Medical Center and Premier Health Associates, the county-led Transitional Care program brings services directly to high-risk patients, reduces traffic to the Divisions of Social Services and Senior Services, receives grant funding and generates revenue. "The opportunity to present the Sussex County Transitional Care Program on the national stage and have a dialogue with county leaders from all parts of the country was a terrific educational experience. Clearly, there were no other counties leading such a program, and we have been invited to have follow-up discussions regarding our approach to serving citizens with several other representatives," said **Stephen Gruchacz**. "Our data provided the foundation for others to look at replicating this simple yet unique concept."

For more information on the Sussex County Department of Human Services, Transitional Care Program, please contact Sarah Balzano, RN, Transitional Care Coordinator, at (973) 579-0559 ext. 1247 or by email at SBalzano@sussex.nj.us.



More of NJ at the NACo Annual Conference

The National Association of County Information Officers (NACIO), was formed in 1966 with the goal to bring together communication professionals who wanted to share information with other counties across the United States. On July 13th, Sussex County News (email newsletter) was awarded the "2014 NACIO Award of Excellence" during a reception held at the NACo Annual Conference.

In another category, Sussex County was recognized by The Center for Digital Government and Digital Communities Program, in partnership with NACo, for its best electronic practices among counties nationwide. Sussex County ranked 45^h in the "up to 150,000 population" category.

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More of NJ at the NACo Annual Conference *(continued)*



l to r: Linda Langston, NACo Immediate Past President; John G. Donnadio, Esq., NJAC Executive Director; and Tim McCormick, NACo Membership Committee Chair

Photo by Jack Hernandez

While attending the 79th NACo Annual Conference in New Orleans, LA, the New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC) Executive Director, John G. Donnadio, Esq., was honored with the “NACo Recruiter of the Year Award.”

NACo’s Annual Conference provided excellent opportunities for learning timely and relevant information about issues important to county government. Some workshops offered were:

- Enrolling Pre-Adjudicated Individuals into Health Coverage
- Keeping Cool when the Heat is On
- Employee Wellness Programs: Return on Investment
- Bring Broadband to Your Rural County
- Identifying Multiple Forms of Wealth for Lasting Growth & Prosperity
- Learn New Strategies for Your County Economy
- County Public Defender Delivery Systems Reform
- Cybersecurity Risk Management: Accountability & Best Practices



Carol Clark

Essex County Freeholder

Photo by David Hathcox

Essex County Freeholder Carol Clark, who is also a NJAC Representative and NACo NECC Representative for New Jersey, participated in the conference and attended many workshops.

The New Jersey representatives that attended the 79th NACo Annual Conference enjoyed meeting several other county officials from across the nation as well as gained and shared knowledge in the various educational and informative workshops. NJAC is grateful to NACo, its conference committee, and the Parish of Orleans for hosting such a tremendous conference.

Active Shooter Workshop

**September 19, 2014
9:00 a.m.**

**Monmouth County Public Safety Building
2500 Kozloski Road
Freehold, NJ 07728**

Dr. Rick Celeste, Somerset County Police Academy Director, is conducting a workshop designed to create awareness from threats posed by an active shooter.

Admission is free but registration is required. Contact Kim Nolan, NJAC Office Manager, at kim@njac.org.

How Does Depression Differ From Occasional Sadness?

October 9 is National Depression Screening Day

by Jane Selzer, Executive Director for the New Jersey Psychological Association and
Christine Gurriere, Communications Manager for the New Jersey Psychological Association



Everyone experiences sadness from time to time, but depression is more than occasional sadness. October 9 is National Depression Screening Day (NDSD), an annual event to raise awareness of the disease and offer screenings for related mood and anxiety disorders.

Depression, if untreated, can have harmful effects on the mind and body. It can cause disruptions to daily life and research shows that it may be linked to various chronic illnesses.

Symptoms of depression can include lack of interest and pleasure in daily activities, significant weight loss or gain, difficult or excessive sleeping, lack of energy, problems concentrating, feelings of worthlessness or excessive guilt and possibly recurrent thoughts of death or suicide. With proper acknowledgement and care from family, friends and mental health providers,

depression is highly treatable.

Contrary to popular belief, people with depression cannot simply “snap out of it” and feel better right away. Unexpressed feelings and concerns accompanied by a sense of isolation can seem untreatable, but even severe cases can be effectively treated.

The public is encouraged to participate in screening events or take an anonymous depression screening online at www.HelpYourselfHelpOthers.org. There are screening programs geared specifically toward military personnel and their families, college students, employees and the general public.

Whether you need assistance with organizational/employee health and wellness, mind/body matters, family issues, geriatric care, or child/adolescent concerns, NJPA is your resource to turn to for expert advice and information. Visit www.PsychologyNJ.org, tweet [@njpsychassn](https://twitter.com/njpsychassn), and subscribe to the quarterly e-newsletter to learn more. You may also contact Jane Selzer, Executive Director at njpajs@psychologynj.org or Christine Gurriere, Communications Manager, at njpacg@psychologynj.org. Both may be reached at (973) 243-9800.



NEW JERSEY
PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Do you have educational or informational articles you would like published in the NJAC COUNTY BIZ?

Contact Loren Wizman, Director of Business Development, at (609) 394-3467 or loren@njac.org.



Upcoming Sustainable Jersey Events

by Winnie Fatton, Project Manager for the Sustainable Institute at the College of New Jersey

NJ LEARNS: Educating Leaders for a Sustainable Future

APPLICATION DEADLINE: October 1, 2014

[CLICK HERE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION](#)

Are you a green team member? Are you a leader in your school or community? Are you interested in accelerating your community's shift toward sustainability?

The NJ Learns program unites schools and communities to learn and change together to instigate, sustain, and scale up the innovations and best practices that contribute to sustainability.

Participants in this 9 month leadership development program will join a robust cohort of sustainability leaders and will become part of a social and professional network of experts and organizations. We will empower you to accomplish great things in your communities



Funding Opportunities

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) 2015 Culture of Health Prize

APPLICATION DEADLINE: September 17, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) 2015 Culture of Health Prize is awarded annually to honor outstanding community efforts and partnerships that are helping people live healthier lives. Up to 10 communities will each receive \$25,000 and have their accomplishments celebrated and shared broadly with the goal of raising awareness and inspiring locally-driven change across the country. For more information, visit their [website](#).



ShapingNJ Community Grants

The ShapingNJ Healthy Community Grants initiative funds communities with small grants (approximately \$10,000) for policy and environmental work at the local level - to improve access to healthy food and increase opportunities for routine, daily physical activity and thus, prevent/reduce obesity.

Eligible applicants include municipalities, parks and recreation programs, schools/districts, local health departments, hospitals, Federally Qualified Health Centers, YW-YMCA's and other community based organizations capable of carrying out the work.

Application Announcement: Friday, October 24, 2014 at the 5th Leaders' Academy for Healthy Community Development held at the Robert Wood Johnson Fitness and Wellness Center in Hamilton



Community teams are not required to attend the 5th Leaders' Academy for Healthy Community Development workshop but additional points will be awarded on the application for attendance.

To attend on October 24, 2014, please RSVP to Pamela Howard at (609) 292-2209 or electronically to pamela.howard@doh.state.nj.us.

Visit the [Sustainable Jersey Grants Portal](#) for a list of available grants.
For more information on Trainings and Events visit www.sustainablejersey.com

SAVE THE DATES FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

ACTIVE SHOOTER HOW TO RESPOND

Active Shooter Workshop

Friday, September 19, 2014
9:30 a.m.

Monmouth County Public Safety Building
2500 Kozloski Road
Freehold, NJ 07728

Please sign up with Kimberly Nolan, NJAC Office Manager, at
kim@njac.org



NJAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Friday, September 26, 2014
9:30 a.m.

New Jersey State House Annex Building - Committee Room 4
Trenton

County Administration Programs

October 3, 10, 24 & 31, 2014

Professional development courses and certification for
county administrators, and CEUs for
finance officers, purchasing officials, and road supervisors.



Rutgers University - Center for Government Services
303 George Street, 6th Floor
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-2020

More information and registration can be obtained on the front page of
www.njac.org

continued on page 17

SAVE THE DATES FOR UPCOMING EVENTS



NJAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING & NJAC YEAR END SUMMIT ON TRANSPORTATION

Friday, December 12, 2014

8:30 a.m. - Board Meeting - Oakland Room

10:00 a.m. - Summit - Grand Ballroom

Trenton Country Club
201 Sullivan Way, West Trenton



2015 NJAC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Celebration of County Government

May 6, 2015 - May 8, 2015

Caesar's - Palladium Ballroom
Atlantic City



1974 - 2014

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF CAMCA

Protecting and Educating Consumers

Wednesday - October 14, 2014

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The Stone Terrace
2275 Kuser Road
Hamilton Square, NJ 08690

honoring: Senator Robert W. Singer & Assemblyman Paul D. Moriarty

For more information, please contact Gina Melone at (609) 989-6671

Business Attire

\$150 per per-

Nationwide Economics

Weekly Economic Review & Outlook for September 2, 2014

by Bryan Jordan, Deputy Chief Economist of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and
Ben Ayers, Staff Economist of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company

Lower long-term interest rates for now

Weekly Review

Inflation has been declining in many of the developed economies, and while low and stable inflation is a positive development from the perspective of monetary policy makers, declining inflation—especially from a low base—can be an indicator of weakening demand. Moreover, low and declining inflation increases the odds of deflation (an outright decline in the price level) - something that central banks try to avoid because it can result in consumers delaying purchases and thereby exacerbating slowing economic growth. The latest data from the European Union (EU) shows that the consumer price index (CPI) was virtually unchanged for a second consecutive month in August (rising by 0.02 percent in August after falling by -0.04 percent in July). This has lowered the trend rate of inflation (the 12-month change) down to 0.3 percent for the EU, the lowest rate since 2009—and it was above 3.0 percent as recently as late 2011. Moreover, given the weak pace of economic activity in the EU, there is a meaningful chance that inflation could go negative in coming months. As a result of this risk, it is very likely that the European Central Bank (ECB) will announce its own round of quantitative easing (QE) soon in an attempt to boost both growth and inflation.

In the U.S., most of the recent economic news has been positive—including a record gain in durable goods orders in July (up by 33.9 percent, which translates into a mind-blowing annualized rate of 1,051 percent, thanks to a surge in airplane orders for Boeing). Even so, and despite moving inexorably closer to the time when the Fed will begin to tighten monetary policy, long-term interest rates continue to edge downward. For example, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.34 percent on Friday, the lowest level in more than 14 months. Low core inflation in the U.S. has helped to push rates down, with the Fed's preferred measure of inflation (the core price index for personal consumption expenditures) down to 1.47 percent for the 12 months ending in July—well below its 2.00 percent long-term goal. Inflation running consistently below the Fed's goal, especially if it is declining, suggests that the start of Fed tightening will be later and not sooner. Moreover, increased geopolitical tension in many parts of the world (especially Ukraine and the Middle East) have caused some capital flight into the perceived safety of U.S. fixed-income markets.

Our forecast is for long-term interest rates to rise by year-end, with the stronger pace of economic activity and the end of the Fed's QE program allowing this to occur. But the risks are tilted toward a smaller rise in rates if geopolitical risks increase further and deflation in the EU materializes.

Weekly Outlook

There are several key economic releases this week, including August data for payroll employment, light vehicle sales, and the ISM manufacturing index.

- The labor market continues to drive the pickup in economic activity, with nonfarm payroll employment increases averaging 230,000 per month so far in 2014—the strongest pace of this expansion. After falling slightly below the average in July, we expect job growth to be stronger in August with a 245,000 job gain. Although the unemployment rate ticked up in July, the job outlook for many long-term unemployed workers is improving, a sign of greater health for the labor market. The unemployment rate should drop back to 6.1 percent in August, matching the post-recession low from June.

continued on page 19

Nationwide Economics *(continued)*

- Light vehicle sales retreated in July to a still strong annualized pace of 16.5 million units. While sales of light trucks are near the average level from the previous expansion (late 2001 through mid 2008), sales of passenger cars are well above, reaching levels not seen consistently since the 1990s, partially in response to the record age of the existing auto stock. We expect light vehicle sales to rise modestly in August to 16.7 million units (annualized pace).
- Business surveys from the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) continue to suggest strong private sector orders and employment growth. After jumping in July and given the increase in the Chicago manufacturing index should rise again in August, climbing to 57.5. The ISM nonmanufacturing index is likely to edge down to a still high value of 58.0 for August.
- A sharp drop in imports in June reduced the U.S. trade deficit to the lowest level since January. Further declines in oil prices should help to reduce the trade deficit further in July, falling to \$40.8 billion.

For further information please contact Emanuel Mahand, Program Director of New Jersey, at MAHAND@nationwide.com, or Bina Kumar, Managing Director - East Region, at kumarb1@nationwide.com.



Nationwide[®]
On Your Side

Ocean County to Hold Medicare Seminars

by Donna E. Flynn, Ocean County Director of Public Information Division

Ocean County officials are encouraging seniors living in the county interested in learning more about changes to Medicare attend any one of four seminars schedule for October and November.



Joseph H. Vicari
Freeholder Director

“We are providing our seniors with the opportunity to learn more about Medicare and any changes that are scheduled to take place in 2015,” said Ocean County **Freeholder Director Joseph H. Vicari**, who serves as chairman of Senior Services. “The free Medicare Part D education seminars will provide seniors and their caregivers with important information on navigating these important health benefits.

The open enrollment period for Medicare Part D runs from October 15 to December 7. “It’s important to get the right information when attempting to navigate health plans,” Vicari said. There is a lot of information to learn in a short period of time.”

To learn more [click here](#), and please note registration is required. To register call the Ocean County Office of Senior Services at (800) 668-4899 or (732) 929-2091.

County Administration Programs

October 3rd, 10th, 24th, & 31st of 2014

Rutgers University - Center for Government Services
303 George Street, 6th Floor
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-2020

More information and the brochure can be found on the front page of
www.njac.org



MONOC Releases New Safety Video for Emergency Responders

by Scott A. Matin, Vice President of Clinical & Business Services for MONOC Mobile Health Services

MONOC Mobile Health Services is proud to announce the completion of its second free public service announcement (PSA) video for emergency responders. This video explains the importance of wearing high visibility safety vests whenever working on roadways, and how it can save lives. A copy of the video can be found at <http://www.monoc.org/safetyVestPSA.cfm>.

Every day, Emergency Medical Services professionals put themselves in harm's way when working on busy roads and highways throughout the country. While there to provide care for ill and injured patients, EMS professionals often become victims themselves when inattentive drivers fail to see them and strike them with their vehicles. As a result, over the years, thousands of EMTs, Paramedics, and first responders have been injured or killed while helping others.

To help address this growing epidemic, in November 2008, a new federal regulation went into effect mandating that anyone working on a federal-aid highway must be wearing high visibility clothing that meets the requirements of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and International Safety Equipment Association standard. This requirement applies to all emergency responders, whether paid or volunteer, day and night.

The most commonly used safety apparel worn by EMS professionals is an ANSI compliant safety vest. While most EMS professionals are safety conscious, not all are truly aware of the startling number of injuries and deaths that occur every year on our roads and highways. Unfortunately, many have the "it can't happen to me" belief and choose not to wear their safety vests.

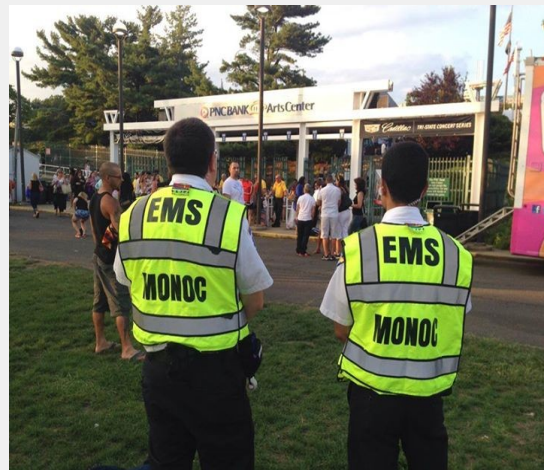


Similar to the Siren Safety PSA released in 2013, this PSA is being provided free of charge to all EMS agencies to bring to the forefront the need to wear high visibility safety vests. Wearing a safety vest has been proven to dramatically increase the likelihood of being seen by drivers. This video strongly urges EMS providers to wear their safety vests as part of their daily routine, day and night.

Vince Robbins, MONOC's President and CEO said, "I am very proud of the efforts our team at MONOC has made regarding this video on scene safety and personnel visibility. It is the second in a series of EMS industry service videos we are producing to help use evidence and science based information to improve the culture of safety in our agencies. We hope all EMS providers are influenced by this work."

For additional information about the video, contact Scott Matin at scott.matin@monoc.org or Peter Dworsky at peter.dworsky@monoc.org.

For a free copy of this PSA and a list of references please visit www.monoc.org.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



John G. Donnadio, Esq.

NJAC and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities (NJSLOM) are collaborating on a letter that we plan on sending to the New Jersey Pension and Health Benefit Study Commission established pursuant to Executive Order No. 161. In summary, the correspondence will respectfully request the Commission incorporate the statements outlined below into its official record and final report to Governor Chris Christie.

Although NJAC commends the Governor and Commission for their leadership in reviewing and making recommendations concerning the State’s pension and health benefit systems, NJAC submits that both the local Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) and the local Police and Fire Retirement System (PFRS) are

actuarially sound as counties and municipalities have made full employer contributions as required under the law for over a decade. In fact, local PERS is currently funded at 73.9% and local PFRS is currently funded at 76.9% according to the latest valuation reports. As the Committee is well aware, one of the more challenging objectives of the pension and health benefit reforms enacted in 2011 under Chapter 78 was to achieve a target funded ratio for the State’s six pension systems of 75.0% by fiscal year 2012 and 80.0% by fiscal year 2019. As indicated above, the local pension systems are close to or have exceeded those expectations.

NJAC further contends that the local pension systems are well funded and solvent. Based again on the latest valuation reports, local PERS currently holds actuarial valued assets of approximately \$20.0 billion with estimated retirement allowances due of \$1.5 billion, while PFRS currently holds actuarial valued assets of approximately \$22.0 billion with estimated retirement allowances due of \$1.5 billion. Although NJAC is in fact concerned about and would welcome recommendations from the Committee on reducing the \$12.5 billion in unfunded accrued liabilities incurred by local PERS and PFRS collectively, NJAC asserts that such liabilities, particularly with respect to PERS, are compounded annually by State driven actuarial assumptions that are discounted for public employers to pay a normal employer contribution rate of approximately 2.0%, which is significantly lower than the optimal normal employer contribution rate of 5.0%. With this in mind, and in light of the fact that counties employ over 30,000 employees across the State, NJAC will respectfully request that the New Jersey Pension and Health Benefit Study Commission recognize that the local pension systems are healthy, and that counties and municipalities have met their obligations as employers.

NJAC YEAR END SUMMIT
on the
TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND

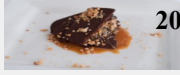


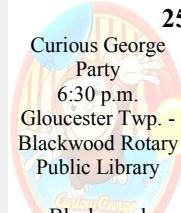

DECEMBER 12, 2014
10:00 a.m.

Trenton Country Club
201 Sullivan Way
West Trenton, NJ

Details of the agenda and registration are available on
www.njac.org






«SEPTEMBER 2014»

....Is National Preparedness Month

MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
<p>15</p> <p>Exhibition Cooking for Change 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Paul Robeson Gallery Rutgers School of Law Newark Essex County</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Teen Gaming Program 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Ages 13-18</p> <p>Vineland Public Library Cumberland County</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Exhibition - Made in NJ: A Celebration of Decorative & Fine Arts 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Macculloch Hall Museum Morris County</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Blood Pressure Screening 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.</p> <p>Burlington Center Mall Ministry Burlington Burlington County</p>	 <p>20</p> <p>Chocolate Lover's Feast - Blue Rose Inn & Restaurant 1 p.m.</p> <p>Cape May Cape May County</p>	 <p>21</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Sussex County Fairgrounds Augusta Sussex County</p>
<p>22</p>	 <p>23</p> <p>Circus, Circus & More Circus Salem County Fairgrounds Woodstown Salem County</p>	<p>24</p> <p>49th Annual Fall Open Juried Exhibit 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Ringwood Manor Association of the Arts Ringwood Passaic County</p>	 <p>25</p> <p>Curious George Party 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Gloucester Twp. - Blackwood Rotary Public Library Blackwood Gloucester County</p>	<p>26</p> <p>NJAC Board of Directors Meeting 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Committee Rm. 4 State House Annex Building - Trenton Mercer County</p>	 <p>27</p> <p>WWE Live 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Boardwalk Hall Atlantic City Atlantic County</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Data Governance Financial Services Conference at Westin Jersey City Newport Hudson County</p>	<p>30</p>					

«OCTOBER 2014»

....Is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
		<p>1</p>	 <p>2</p> <p>Ritz Theatre Co. 1 p.m.</p> <p>Haddon Township Camden County</p>	 <p>3</p> <p>Wayne Brady 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>State Theatre New Brunswick Middlesex County</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Music Under the Arbor Series - Jennifer Fritz Trio 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Alba Vineyard Milford Hunterdon County</p>	 <p>5</p> <p>Macy Gray 7 p.m.</p> <p>Performing Arts Ctr Englewood Bergen County</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Wellness Workout Oncology Rehab Program 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Steeplechase Cancer Center Somerville Somerset County</p>	<p>7</p> <p>"Restoration of Shippen Manor" 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.</p> <p>American Legion Hackettstown Warren County</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Princeton Science & Technology Job Fair 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.</p> <p>Dillon Gym Princeton University Princeton Mercer County</p>	 <p>11</p> <p>8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Great Lawn Long Branch Monmouth County</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Survival of the Mills Triathlon - Duathlon 5:30 a.m.</p> <p>Wells Mills Park benefits David's Dream & Believe Cancer Foundation Waretown Ocean County</p>
 <p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Coping with Cancer Support Group 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Trinitas Cancer Ctr. Elizabeth Union County</p>					