

NJAC COUNTY BIZ

An Educational and Informative Newsletter for Counties and Businesses

New Jersey Association of Counties

ISSUE 153 - AUGUST 2024

Selling Real Estate On GovDeals—Turn Property Into Cash Virtually - Today!

by Stacey Turner, Marketing Communications Specialist for GovDeals

Online listing sites have revolutionized real estate sales, offering unmatched convenience and accessibility. By simplifying the real estate sales process, many counties have successfully boosted sales and reduced their daily workload. While the ease of use is appealing, many real estate listing sites fail to provide the hands-on experience of a business transaction that keeps control in the hands of the seller.

That's where GovDeals steps in. Since 2008, the platform has partnered with the New Jersey Association of Counties to give counties across the state a platform to sell their surplus real estate. Sellers on GovDeals enjoy:



Better Service: Partner with us for an end-to-end auction solution that ensures high-performance results. Our services include robust compliance, risk mitigation, and protection against fraudulent buyers.



Better Process: List your property effortlessly using our user-friendly dashboard and proven auction methods that deliver successful results. Pre-registration and bid deposit options allow you to vet bidders before they bid on your property.



Better Results: GovDeals partners with Bid4Assets, the premier online marketplace for government foreclosure real estate auctions. Together, we provide a transparent opportunity for governments, tax collectors, and institutions to sell their properties.

The GovDeals online platform strategically streamlines sales, boosting revenue while minimizing the workload on your county. We tailor our auction system to meet each county's unique needs, ensuring workload ease, compliance, transparency, and higher returns on surplus real estate.

INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- Pg. 1 Turn Property Into Cash Virtually
- Pg. 2 NJAC Save The Dates
- Pg. 3 Online Renewal Information
- Pg. 4 Welcome to our New Member
- Pg. 4 Balancing the Risks & Rewards of AI
- Pg. 5 Division of Women
- Pg. 6 Federal Rail Crossing Grant
- Pg. 7 NJAC Scholarship Recipient Photos
- Pg. 8 TESU Webinar
- Pg. 9 Advanced Endpoint Program
- Pg. 10 NACo Webinars
- Pg. 11 Nationwide
- Pg. 12 Message From The NJAC Executive Director
- Pg. 13 Events & Holidays



continued on page 2

Selling Real Estate On GovDeals-Turn Property Into Cash Virtually *(continued)*

Your agency can take advantage of this buying market by selling your surplus real estate online. If your county is interested in utilizing the GovDeals platform through our partnership with the New Jersey Association of Counties, please contact Mike Baker, Northeast Representative at 609-713-7888 or by email at mbaker@govdeals.com to find out more details. Or visit GovDeals.com/become-a-seller to sign on as a seller.



GovDeals[®]
A Liquidity Services Marketplace

NJAC Save the Dates!

NJAC Virtual Workshop on Human Trafficking
(more details to follow)
September 18, 2024

Year End Summit
(more details to follow)
December 13, 2024
Trenton Country Club

NJAC Celebration of County Government
May 7-9, 2025
Atlantic City

Mercer County Clerk Shares Online Renewal Information

by Paula Sollami Covello, Mercer County Clerk

Mercer County Clerk Paula Sollami Covello is pleased to inform constituents that the U.S. Department of State has launched a public website tool for updated Online Passport Renewal (OPR). This innovative tool is designed to streamline the passport renewal process, making it more efficient and convenient for U.S. citizens.

The online passport renewal tool aims to save time and effort, providing a user-friendly platform for renewing passports from the comfort of homes. The U.S. department of State created this process to enhance the everyday lives of Americans, offering significant benefits to working families and travelers by giving them more time back in their busy schedules.

“We are excited about this new development from the U.S. Department of State,” said Mercer County Clerk Paula Sollami Covello. “The updated Online Passport Renewal tool is a step forward in our mission to make essential services more accessible and convenient for everyone. I encourage all eligible Mercer County residents to take advantage of this new tool and experience the ease of renewing their passports online.”

Online Passport Renewal is set to accept new applications at 1:00 pm Eastern Standard Time each day. Eligible individuals must first create an account to renew passports online at <http://login.gov> or click [here](#), applicants will be able to apply online until the daily office threshold is met. The site will close each day once the daily application threshold is reached.

To be eligible to renew a passport online, an applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Have a recent 10-year passport and be age 25 or older.
- Possess a U.S passport issued between 2009 and 2015, whether expired or valid.
- No change to name, gender, date of birth, or place of birth.
- No travel internationally for at least eight weeks after applying. (Note: Processing times are the same as for mail-in renewals.)
- Request routine service only (expedited service not available online).
- Apply for a regular (tourist) passport (special issuance passports are not eligible).
- Reside in the U.S. or its territories (not eligible if living abroad or with an APO/FPO address).
- Possess an undamaged passport (not reported lost or stolen). Applicants can pay the passport application fees using a credit/debit card; current fees are found here: <https://travel.state.gov/>

The Mercer County Clerks Office, continues to offer passport renewals services at both of its offices in Trenton on South Broad Street, and Hamilton Township at the Mercer County Connection. The online service is simply an additional option for those who wish to take advantage of this opportunity.

The County Clerk is dedicated to providing efficient, courteous, and professional services to the residents of Mercer County. For more information about passport services, upcoming events, and other office services please visit the Mercer County Clerk's Office website at www.mercercounty.org or call 609-989-6473.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER



The Difference Card

The **Difference Card** helps NJ Counties to reduce their health insurance costs by 18% by using our HRA solution within the SHBP or in a private plan.

For additional information and to learn more about the **Difference Card** please click [here](#).

Amazon Web Services “Balancing The Risks And Rewards Of Artificial Intelligence”

by Amanda Bradley, Account Manager for Amazon Web Services (AWS)

Join [Amazon Web Services](#) for the session titled “Balancing the Risks and Rewards of Artificial Intelligence” presented by [AWS Executive Government Advisor Jayson Dunn](#) at GFOA NJ Conference October 1 in Atlantic City. Jayson will dive deep into the possibilities of artificial intelligence, the risks and concerns, and how to explore the art of the possible responsibly.

[Generative AI](#) has captured the interest of public sector leaders in a way that no technology has in recent memory. The potential for cost savings, increased efficiency, and service delivery improvements through the use of generative artificial intelligence are opportunities that can’t be denied. However concerns about information security, privacy, biased or inaccurate results, and the impact on jobs raise an equal amount of fear, uncertainty, and doubt. What is the right approach for public sector agencies as they evaluate opportunities to utilize artificial intelligence? What policies and protections are needed? And what are the best practices for developing artificial intelligence strategies responsibly?



Division on Women 50^{yr} Anniversary

DOW TIMELINE - MILESTONES



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

DIVISION ON WOMEN

On August 26th 2024, the Department of Children and Families' Division on Women (DOW) celebrates its 50th Anniversary! DOW serves as a beacon of hope for women across the state, more than 60,000 of whom sought domestic and sexual violence supports in 2023. Tens of thousands more have accessed culturally specific services, including employment assistance, skills training, financial planning and child care referrals. DOW is helping to redefine healthy manhood for boys while empowering girls and young women.

Thanks to a network of system partners and dedicated staff, the DOW offers a robust array of direct services and programs across every county.

In celebration, DCF thanks you for helping us continue supporting, healing, uplifting and advancing the needs of all women in New Jersey. To learn more about the Division on Women at the Department of Children and Families visit: <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/women/>

Federal Rail Crossing Grant Open To Application

GoRail is excited to share that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is now accepting grant applications for the Railroad Crossing Elimination Program (RCE). It published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the program on July 10 in the Federal Register, with applications due September 23.

It is a combined NOFO for FY23 and FY24 and provides a total of \$1.15 billion in funding for RCE. Just over \$38 million is set aside for planning projects, and the FRA indicates they are specifically focused on planning projects seeking to advance one or more grade separations. In addition, \$229 million is set aside for projects in rural or tribal lands, and \$11 million of that is for counties with fewer than 20 residents per square miles.

In the program's first round, awards were given to 63 projects across 32 states, with the goal of improving the safety and mobility of people and goods. Eligible projects—which are not as the grant title suggests limited to just crossing eliminations—include grade separation, track relocation, improvement or installation of protective devices, or other means to improve safety.

You can learn more about the RCE program by viewing webinars recently hosted by the FRA as well as GoRail. Over 500 attendees heard from the Federal Railroad Administration on the GoRail program, which included application best practices and featured a successful grant case study from the Village of Franklin Park, Illinois, with local and county perspective and insight from the project's partner railroad. Additionally you can go to the GoRail Rail Grant Hub. This tool helps to identify eligible projects, eligible applicants, and outlines in detail the 26 grant application requirements.

HAVE A FABULOUS SUMMER!



NJAC Foundation Scholarship Recipient Photos



Atlantic County Scholarship Recipients



Hunterdon County Scholarship Recipient



Hudson County Scholarship Recipients



Camden County Scholarship Recipient



Ocean County Scholarship Recipients

Study With The Leader In Online Education - *Thomas Edison State University*

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR NEW JERSEY PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES



LIVE WEBINAR
Wednesday, August 7, 2024
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Registration: Click [HERE!](#)

This informative meeting will cover how to:

- Fund your education
- Find time to finish your degree
- Receive college credit for prior course work and professional experiences

Special Guest: Dr. Ann Prime-Monaghan, Associate Dean, John S. Watson School of Public Service

SHARE THE NEWS!

***Let us know what educational or informational articles you
would like published in the NJAC COUNTY BIZ***

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

Advanced Endpoint Program Quarterly Purchasing Program Delivered By CrowdStrike In Collaboration With The NJCCIC

New Jersey Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Cell

The New Jersey Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Cell (NJCCIC) is the state's one-stop shop for cybersecurity information sharing, threat intelligence, and incident reporting.

NJCCIC works to make New Jersey more resilient to cyberattacks by promoting statewide awareness of cyber threats and widespread adoption of best practices. Among a wide array of cybersecurity services, NJCCIC is providing the Advanced Endpoint Protection (AEP) program.

Advanced Endpoint Protection (AEP) Program

NJCCIC leveraged funding from the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) to start the AEP. CrowdStrike is proud to extend the volume-discounted pricing established through the SLCGP to all SLT organizations in the State of New Jersey via the Quarterly Purchasing Program (QPP).

Register for a Q&A Session with CrowdStrike here:

CrowdStrike | State of NJ - Quarterly Purchasing Program - Q&A Webinar

September 5th, 2pm ET

https://crowdstrike.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_p3mvyadDQLuGo3gTc4_JSQ#/registration



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.

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

[Click here for an application](#)

NACo Webinars

Building a Behavioral Health Continuum of Care: The Role of Rural Leaders and Behavioral Health Directors

August 6, 2024 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. EDT

[Register](#)

This webinar will be held via Zoom Webinar. If you have issues registering or accessing the webinar platform, please email nacomeetings@naco.org.

Counties play a critical role in supporting community members living with behavioral health conditions or experiencing a behavioral health crisis. To build an effective and robust behavioral health system, counties need strong leadership to promote dialogue in the community and implement programs and policies that benefit all residents. This webinar will highlight two local leadership roles: leaders in rural and frontier communities and behavioral health (BH) directors. Attendees will engage in a panel discussion with representatives of these roles to learn about how rural and frontier leaders and BH directors can identify solutions and cultivate support for sustainable, accessible behavioral health care.

This webinar is hosted by the National Association of Counties (NACo) in partnership with the National Association of County Behavioral Health and Development Disability Directors (NACBHDD). It is the second in a series of three webinars that will spotlight specific kinds of local leaders and how they can leverage their unique roles to advance behavioral health care.

Transforming Justice Through Collaboration

August 7, 2024 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. EDT

[Register](#)

This webinar will be held via Zoom Webinar. If you have issues registering or accessing the webinar platform, please email nacomeetings@naco.org.

In this webinar, representatives from two counties will discuss how they leverage cross-system partnerships to address the root causes that lead to justice involvement. Hamilton County's Juvenile Court will share its collaboration with behavioral health experts and the community to assess youth eligibility for diversion and community-based services, aiming to reduce youth entry into the juvenile justice system. Summit County's Connect program will discuss the partnership between the Municipal Court of Akron and the Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board, designed to identify justice-involved individuals with developmental disabilities or mental health conditions and redirect them to receive personalized support plans.

This webinar is part of the County, Court, and Justice Leaders: A Framework for Cross-System Collaboration initiative and is hosted in partnership with Rulo Strategies and Praxis Consulting with funding from the State Justice Institute (SJI).



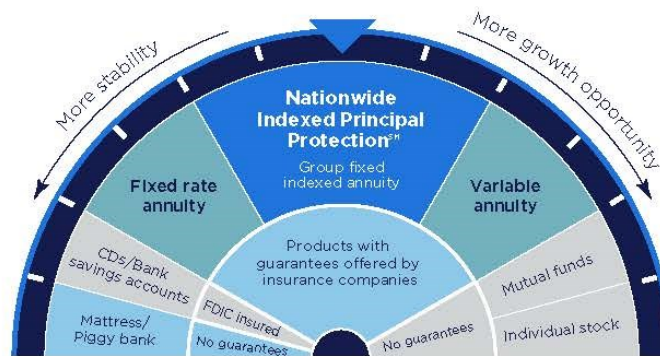


Downside protection with an opportunity for growth



Now more than ever, people want protection from volatility. Nationwide Indexed Principal Protection® (NW-IPP) is a long-term savings option that protects principal. That means no matter what the market does, the account is protected **and** it retains the opportunity for upside potential.

Common retirement savings options



Potential benefits of NW-IPP

Principal protection

- Principal investment protection from market declines can help provide confidence through unstable market conditions

Growth potential

- Any gains are locked in and become part of the principal at the end of the one-year Index Term*

Balanced approach

- NW-IPP is a group fixed indexed annuity, so as part of a wide range of investment options, it may offer a balance between protection and growth

Flexibility of choice

- Two contribution options: payroll deductions or a lump-sum dollar amount exchanged from another investment option in the plan (no minimum required)
- Money can be exchanged out of this investment option at any time without penalties (restrictions may apply)



Find out more by visiting our [website](#). Contact your Nationwide Representative to learn more or to discuss adding this solution to your Plan.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we head into the dog days of summer, make sure to mark your September calendars for the following NJAC events:

- Workshop on Human Trafficking @ 10:00 a.m. on 9/18
- NJAC Board of Directors Meeting @ 10:00 a.m. on 9/20
- Northern New Jersey County Commissioners Association (NNJCCA) meeting @ 5:30 p.m. with a new date of 9/23 & hosted by our friends in Passaic County.
- Central New Jersey County Commissioners Association (CNJCCA) meeting @ 5:30 p.m. on 9/25 & hosted by our friends in Somerset County.
- County Administrators Meeting @ 10:00 a.m. on 9/27
- The Southern New Jersey County Commissioner's Association (SNJCCA) is also meeting in September @ 5:30 p.m. on 9/30 in Ocean County.



John G. Donnadio, Esq.

We'll make sure to provide you with additional details as we get closer. In the meantime, if you can't make it the beach or boardwalk, check out one of these terrific attractions that you can only find in the Garden State.

20. Mountain Creek Waterpark in Vernon
19. Sterling Mill Mine in Ogdensburg
18. Somerset Patriots Ballpark in Bridgewater
17. Wall Stadium Speedway in Wall
16. Land of Make Believe in Hope
15. Paterson Great Falls in Paterson
14. Island Drag Strip in Great Meadow
13. Delaware River Railroad Excursions in Phillipsburg
12. Millville Speedway in Millville
11. Diggerland USA in West Berlin
10. Lakota Wolf Preserve in Columbia
9. Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton
8. Duke Farms in Hillsborough
7. Red Mill Museum in Clinton
6. Turtle Back Zoo in West Orange
5. Big Bear Gear Delaware River Tubing in Kingwood.
4. Cowtown Rodeo in Pilesgrove
3. U.S.S. Battleship in Camden
2. Statue of Liberty in Jersey City

And just in case you forgot the lyrics to Wild West City from that awesome commercial first airing in 1978, I've transcribed them below for you to sing along with your family, friends, and co-workers all day.

I'm going Wild West City
 The city that's runnin wild
 I'm going Wild West City
 Bring the misses and the child
 I'm gonna wear my hat
 I'm gonna twirl my gun
 Join the posse and have some fun
 That's Wild West City
 The city that's runnin wild

EVENTS & HOLIDAYS

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				<p>¹ Annual Clam Festival 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Huddy Park <i>Highlands Monmouth County</i></p>	<p>² Sunfest Sunflower Festival 8/3 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Liberty Farms <i>New Egypt Ocean County</i></p>	<p>³ EB Indie Film Festival 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. E. Brunswick Community Arts Center <i>E. Brunswick Middlesex County</i></p>
<p>⁴ Hambletonian 8/3 10:00 a.m. Meadowlands <i>East Rutherford Bergen County</i></p>	<p>⁵ Salsa @ Grundy Park Wellness Expo 8/3 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. J Owen Grundy Park <i>Jersey City Hudson County</i></p>	<p>⁶ Balloon Festival 8/1 3:00 p.m. Farmers' Fair <i>Phillipsburgh Warren County</i></p>	<p>⁷ Somerset County 4-H Fair 8/7-8/9 2:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Fairgrounds North Branch Park <i>Bridgewater Somerset County</i></p>	<p>⁸ Music Under the Stars The Nerds 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Deer Path Park <i>Readington Twshp. Hunterdon County</i></p>	<p>⁹ Atlantic County 4-H Fair FREE 2:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Fairgrounds <i>Mays Landing Atlantic County</i></p>	<p>¹⁰ Summer Concert Nine Deeze Night FREE 6:00 p.m. Amphitheater <i>Westampton Burlington County</i></p>
<p>¹¹ South Jersey Nerd Fest 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Holiday Inn Philadelphia <i>Swedesboro Gloucester County</i></p>	<p>¹² Cowtown Rodeo XTREME Bulls 7:30 p.m. Cowtown Rodeo <i>Pilesgrove Salem County</i></p>	<p>¹³ Movie in the Park Bob Marley-One Love 7:00 p.m. Reg. here MPAC <i>Morristown Morris County</i></p>	<p>¹⁴ American Soul Band 8/16 6:30 p.m. Festival Grounds Mercer County Park <i>West Windsor Mercer County</i></p>	<p>¹⁵ John Oates 8:00 p.m. Convention Hall <i>City of Cape May Cape May County</i></p>	<p>¹⁶ Passaic County Fair FREE 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Garret Mountain Reservation <i>Woodland Park Passaic County</i></p>	<p>¹⁷ Taylor Nation Concert FREE 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Oak Ridge Park <i>Clark Union County</i></p>
<p>¹⁸</p>	<p>¹⁹</p>	<p>²⁰</p>	<p>²¹</p>	<p>²² The Bronx Wanderers 8:00 p.m. Cooper River Park Jack Curtis Stadium <i>Camden Camden County</i></p>	<p>²³</p>	<p>²⁴ Pupstock Festival 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sussex County Fairgrounds <i>Augusta Sussex County</i></p>
<p>²⁵ Latino Festival 8/24 & 8/25 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Monte Irvin Orange Park <i>Orange Essex County</i></p>	<p>²⁶</p>	<p>²⁷</p>	<p>²⁸ Godzilla-Kong Movie Night FREE 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. County Library <i>Bridgeton Cumberland County</i></p>	<p>²⁹</p>	<p>³⁰</p>	<p>³¹</p>