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NATIONAL FLAG FOUNDATION

Mission Statement:

To educate concerning the United States Flag and to honor those who serve to protect it.

Purpose:

The National Flag Foundation is a national, non-profit, non-political Foundation with headquarters in Pennsylvania. It was reorganized into the current Foundation in 1968 and its national location established in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Our national office is located in the Koppers Tower in Downtown Pittsburgh.

The National Flag Foundation's purpose is to make available U.S. Flag etiquette and Flag-related history information to all Americans and to provide engaging and effective educational resources that teach Americans to be responsible citizens of good character with love for their country and respect for the United States Flag. The NFF has been recognized by a number of US Presidents, the US Congress, US Senate, and all major Veteran Service Organizations.

In addition to acting as America's official office for information regarding the Flag and for answering questions concerning Flag etiquette and history regarding the American Flag, the National Flag Foundation has distributed over fifty million citizenship-related distributions during its existence. As further illustration of our commitment to the Flag and its history, listed below are a few of our prior accomplishments and current initiatives:

LOCAL/NATIONAL

- Organization of and participation in the City of Pittsburgh's 250th birthday celebration in 2008. Specifically, the NFF organized and orchestrated a major municipal ceremony called the Rededication of the Boulevard of the Allies. This key roadway in the City of Pittsburgh was initially dedicated after World War I. It was rededicated as part of this ceremony.
- Organization of and participation in an exclusive G-20 forum (when the G-20 was held in Pittsburgh), titled Challenges for G-20: (Is the City of Champions the Black and Gold Standard for Economic Reform?). This event, with a renowned academic panel, was held at the Carnegie Music Hall in Pittsburgh one week before the 2009 G-20 summit. It was designed to educate the public on the issues being considered by those in attendance at the G-20.
- National Flag Foundation regularly participates in a significant Veteran related programs across the country.

- National Flag Foundation created an award winning educational program which reached approximately 7,600 schools nationwide. It is comprised of a series of multimedia resources designed to teach students to become responsible citizens, with pride for their country and respect for the Flag. This program is currently being reviewed for update.
- Annual Flag Day ceremonies.
- National and international students' summits: Covering cyber security and civil liberties via teleconference and web cast to thousands of students.
- National Flag Foundation Moments. As part of a new National Flag Foundation (NFF) initiative to expand knowledge and respect for the American Flag and to increase country-wide awareness of the NFF and its mission, the idea of the National Flag Foundation Moments was formed.

National Flag Foundation Moments are 30, 45 or 60 second video spots (with music and voice-over) featuring prominent photography and illustrations of the American Flag in its most favorable light. These Moments are intended to air at major sporting events on jumbo-trons and eventually on television.

The NFF has recently aired a Moment with the Dallas Mavericks. Dallas Maverick's owner, Mark Cuban, helped us create and air one at his opening game. The NFF has also collaborated with the National Football League to air a NFF Moment video honoring the 240th Anniversary of our nation's Purple Heart Award. This video was distributed to all NFL teams in the 2022-2023 season. In the preceding season, the NFL similarly distributed a Veterans Day Moment to its teams. For our prominent video pieces, the NFF has been fortunate to have national sports broadcaster, Jim Nantz, narrate the NFF Moments.

See Moments on our website.

- US Flag disposal box initiative; (see attached NACo article.)
- National billboard campaign: Through a cooperative effort with Lamar Advertising, the National Flag Foundation regularly has national exposure. On select national holidays, Lamar Advertising has commenced running National Flag Foundation – US Flag respect billboards to further the mission of the National Flag Foundation.
- Project Purple Heart – See website.
- National "Light to Unite" – See flyer and website.



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Disposal boxes for flags ready

By Alex Koroknay-Palicz
membership coordinator

After a pilot program last fall, a program that provides flag disposal boxes is ready to go national. Through a partnership between NACo, the National Flag Foundation and the National Sheriff's Association, counties can request flag disposal boxes to place throughout their counties so residents can drop off their old, tattered and torn flags for a proper, dignified disposal.

The 25 counties in the pilot program have already seen great success.

"The community response continues to grow as more people learn about how they can properly dispose of their worn

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The West Front of the Capitol is readied for the inauguration of President-elect Donald Trump Jan. 20. Photo by Hugh Clarke

ANALYSIS | Drones: latest technology on county radar

By Kevan Stone
associate legislative director

In 1783, the first hot-air balloon was launched and mankind could finally touch the sky. 1903 saw the famous Wright Brothers flight and the

first helicopter flight soon followed in 1907. It stayed that way for nearly a century. Eventually, we began to hear of the U.S. military using something called a "drone" to conduct reconnaissance and eventually military warfare campaigns

across the world. It was indeed a brave new world.

Fast forward to today, and we find ourselves welcoming the first new aerial technology in nearly a century. A technology that anyone can own. While manned aircraft

was exorbitantly expensive to purchase, an unmanned aerial system or UAS — AKA "drone" — is not. While this brings a wealth of opportunity for local governments, it also brings

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GSA to discontinue DigitalGov Search service for local governments Feb. 28

By Jacob Terrell
associate legislative director

The General Service Administration (GSA) recently announced plans to make significant changes to the scope of its DigitalGov Search service, including an end to program services to state, local and trib-

al governments.

GSA's DigitalGov Search service, formerly known as USASearch, powers the search function on many federal, state, local and tribal government websites and is designed to help visitors of government websites quickly find information by typing keywords into

a search bar. The DigitalGov Search service has been provided free of charge to government entities since it was launched in 2008.

In a message sent to local government agencies currently using the DigitalGov Search service, GSA officials note that as of Feb. 28, GSA will restrict

the service to federal government agencies only, and all non-federal agency user accounts will be deactivated. GSA's announcement came as a surprise to some non-federal users of the service, as the Feb. 28 suspension of service leaves

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SNAP/STATS

LONGEST U.S. RIVERS

River	Miles	Origin
Missouri River	2,341 miles	begins in Gallatin County, Mont.
Mississippi	2,202 miles	begins in Clearwater County, Minn.
Yukon River	1,979 miles	begins in Canada
Rio Grande River	1,759 miles	begins in San Juan County, Colo.
Colorado River	1,450 miles	begins in Grand County, Colo.

Source: American Rivers, Charlie Ban, senior writer, and Bev Schlotterbeck, executive editor

Flag disposal box program expands nationwide

From **FLAGS** page 1

out flags,” said David Zimmerman, Board chairman, Tazewell County, Ill. “This new NACo benefit allows our citizens to conveniently and respectfully recycle their flags while helping enhance our county’s reputation as a positive resource for people’s needs.”

For some counties, the program has seen more excitement than expected.

“When I was first approached about this program, I wondered what the response to it would be,” said Commissioner Stan Ponstein, Kent County, Mich. “But since the box was put up last month we have had 75 flags retired!”

The introduction of the flag retirement box in Kent Coun-



Allegheny County, Pa. Sheriff William P. Mullen shows off NACo’s flag disposal box.

ty attracted press coverage all through the region, providing a great opportunity to educate the public about the proper

care for the U.S. flag. Other counties saw this flag disposal program as a good starting point for flag etiquette education and a useful community service. The flag disposal boxes are provided free of charge to NACo member counties thanks to generous national sponsorship from Nationwide Insurance & Lamar Advertising, Koppers and Allegheny Construction Group provided local sponsorship for the pilot as well. **CN**

For more information or to request your own U.S. Flag disposal boxes, please visit www.naco.org/flag

Hospitalization for addictions fell in W.Va.

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ulation and the Medicaid “expansion population,” without significant disruptions to coverage, the adverse impacts of an ACA repeal on individuals struggling with opioid addiction could be largely mitigated. Without an effective replacement, these adverse impacts seem hard to overstate.

In West Virginia — which is perhaps the epicenter of the opioid epidemic — it is estimated that the share of hospitalizations for addiction or mental health disorders in which the patient was uninsured decreased from 23 percent to 5 percent as a result of Medicaid expansion.

Recently, Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W. Va.) stated that “half of the people in treatment would lose coverage made possible through the Affordable Care Act,” and that “West Virginians cannot afford to have this critical funding ripped from them without a replacement ready.” **CN**

NACo asks feds to extend GSA search engine

From **GSA STOPS** page 1

limited time for agencies to budget for and procure a new vendor to provide similar services.

NACo has reached out to GSA’s Office of Intergovernmental Affairs regarding the changes, but has not been provided with direct feedback as to why the service has been discontinued. NACo will continue its efforts to seek an extension of the service, which will allow county governments enough time to seek alternate service providers. **CN**

LET NACo KNOW

If your county has used this service in the past or is being directly impacted by the recent changes, please contact Jacob Terrell, NACo associate legislative director for telecommunications and technology, at jterrell@naco.org or 202.942.4236 to share your thoughts.

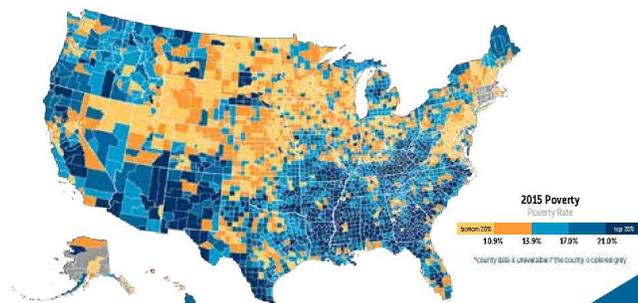
NEW IN DECEMBER FROM NACo’s
COUNTY EXPLORER

39% of counties had more than a quarter of children living in poverty in 2015.

5 MILLION
\$66.6 BILLION

jobs were supported by international exports in small and medium-sized counties in 2015.

provided to county residents through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in 2015.



Source: NACo Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates 2015; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011-2015, 5-year Estimates, 2015

www.NACo.org/CountyExplorer



2016 DATA VIZ AWARD WINNER