

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Please consult the League [Web Calendar](#)

- Sept 12- [Labor Negotiations Primer-Robert Meyner Reception Center, Holmdel](#)
- Sept 28- [Ethics, Conflicts of Interest, and OPRA, Burlington Township Community Room](#)
- Oct 16- [Grants-Crowne Plaza, Monroe Township](#)
- Oct 23- Broadband Communication, Robert Meyner Reception Center, Holmdel
- Nov 13-15- [97th Annual League Conference, Atlantic City Convention Center](#)

- ✓ 97th Annual Conference Highlights
- ✓ CEU Tracking System Announcement
- ✓ Voluntary Attendance Scanning
- ✓ Update on Conference Resolutions
- ✓ NJBIZ Recognizes League
- ✓ September 11th Programming
- ✓ 2012 Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards
- ✓ Mayors' Hall of Fame
- ✓ Micheal A. Pane Award
- ✓ 11th Annual Innovation in Governance Awards
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FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Art Ondish, Mayor, Mount Arlington

We feel that it is vitally important for all elected and appointed officials to be aware of the ethics landscape especially given national, state and local developments. The Annual League Conference offers you an excellent value in keeping your staff well informed. This year the conference offers hundreds of hours of CEU's for your certified staff and education for all municipal officials in the area of ethics. There are at least four educational sessions involving ethics on Wednesday and Thursday of the conference week and our Affiliated Associations are providing additional training specific to their professional needs. For more, visit the [Ethics Resource Center](#).

When you consider all the valuable certification credits and information available for just \$50.00(pre-registration rate), it is clear that this is the best, most cost effective method for you to keep your staff trained. And please take a moment to review the lower hotel rates. The combination of low registration fee and low housing rates make the decision to send your staff easy!

And please remember to register your staff early in August to take advantage of the reduced \$50 rate for members and \$100 for non-members. The rate goes up to \$60.00 on-site for members and \$120.00 for non-members, so be sure to get everyone registered as early as possible.

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97th ANNUAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

-Visit www.njslom.org

Click on www.njslom.org and go to the link for 97th Annual Conference to get housing forms and a preliminary schedule of topics that will be covered in League sessions. You can also view an early list of exhibitors. Prepare a "must visit" list of vendors.

When scheduling your time at the Annual Conference, don't forget to attend the Consulting Period on Tuesday, November 13 from 2:00p.m. to 4:00 p.m. where you can speak one-on-one with hundreds of consultants and State agency representatives. Also, be sure to schedule the League Business Meeting at its new time: Thursday, November 15, at 3:30 p.m. in the Sheraton Hotel.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT YOUR CEU'S AT THE 2012 LEAGUE CONFERENCE

-Contact Danielle Holland-Htut or dholland@njslom.org

In order to provide more opportunities for Attendees to earn their Continuing Education Units (CEU's) and increase the educational value of the Annual Conference, the League will now have badge scanning in every classroom at the Atlantic City Convention Center. Because of this, the procedures for the Conference Tracking System have changed.

For Sessions with CEU's

- There will be no CEU Volunteers present at the doors. Instead attendees will self scan-in and out. Desktop Scanners will be present at the entrance of each room.
- Following the conference, the attendees will log on to the Tracking System website and download their CEU's the same way they have done in previous years.

All ATTENDEES scanning for credit MUST self scan in and out. This is a requirement of all accrediting bodies to receive CEU's.

NEW THIS YEAR! VOLUNTARILY VERIFY YOUR ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCE SESSIONS

-Contact Danielle Holland-Htut or dholland@njslom.org

- For those attendees who aren't receiving CEU's but wish to track their attendance, they have the option to self scan in and out of every session utilizing the badge scanners in each classroom.
- Following the Conference, attendees can access their attendance verification by logging-on to the League Tracking System from a link on the League website, and utilizing their badge number, print out their attendance verification

UPDATE ON THE 2011 LEAGUE CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

-Contact Mike Cerra at mcerra@njslom.org or ext 120

One of the most important functions of the annual League Conference is the adoption of resolutions from our member municipalities. These resolutions play a major part in setting the League's legislative priorities in Trenton. We encourage you to consider the resolutions process as an opportunity to help craft good legislation to improve the institution of municipal government.

For instance, Resolution 2012-02, urged the State Legislature to alter eligibility requirements for unemployment insurance for seasonal public entity workers. The League has since prepared a sample resolution for towns to pass, and met with the Labor Commissioner, Harold J. Wirths, and members of his staff on the issue. The NJ Unemployment Insurance Task Force Report issued recommendation in January 2012, including the recommendation to "Identify Seasonal Industries and End UI Eligibility for Seasonal Employees at the end of their Work Season." Assemblywoman Amy Handlin, Assemblyman Sean Kean and Assemblyman Anthony Bucco subsequently introduced A-2454, which would alter the

benefit eligibility for UI for certain seasonal workers. The bill is referenced to the Assembly Labor Committee, and we are seeking a hearing for the bill in the fall.

Resolution 2011-01 called for an amendment of the Rule of Court, R. 1:34-3, regarding the hiring process of municipal court administrators. The State Supreme Court adopted regulations in September 2011 which alters the process for the hiring of positions, including the municipal court administrator, court director and deputy administrators. Effectively, the rule provides a veto power to the Judiciary over the selection by local elected officials throughout the State. The League met extensively with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and while the meetings were informative, we were unable to resolve the issue administratively. The League, in turn, sought the introduction of a legislative resolution to reaffirm the legislative intent of the Act, but it appears an unfavorable opinion from the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) has circumvented that effort. We are weighing our next steps on this issue.

Resolution 2011-15 expressed support for legislation to permit property tax assessment adjustments and expand the role of the local assessor's office. The League, joined by Manchester Mayor and League Executive Board Member Michael Fressola and Manchester Administrator Elena Zsoldos, met with the Director of the Division of Taxation and staff to discuss this resolution, and we anticipate Senator Samuel Thompson to shortly introduce legislation for consideration in the fall.

Resolution 2011-17 called for amendments to the Right to Farm Act. In April, the League, along with Hampton Deputy Mayor and League Board Member Dan Coranoto and other Township representatives, met with Agriculture Secretary Doug Fischer and Susan Payne, Director of the State Agricultural Development Committee (SADC), on the resolution and a number of other municipal-agricultural issues, including the Department's Agricultural Management Practices plan (AMP), as well as the impact of commercial activities on farmland and so-called "solar farm" applications. The issue of solar farms was addressed in legislation recently signed by the Governor, and the League will be providing municipalities with appropriate guidance in the upcoming weeks. Legislation has also been recently introduced by Senator Greenstein, Assemblyman Chiusano and Assemblywoman McHose which alters the "inherently beneficial use" standard for certain applications on farmland. The League is monitoring the regulatory developments of the AMP, and will seek further legislation to clarify the increasingly blurred distinction between commercial and residential uses on farmland.

As you can tell, the progress of a resolution is often a gradual one, seeking legislative sponsorship and support and navigating the regulatory hurdles. These four "works in progress" are just a snapshot of the efforts that the League makes on all our submitted resolutions. Further updates on progress will be provided to you as well as upcoming League magazine article summarizing our efforts.

In the meanwhile, we encourage our member municipalities to submit their ideas for resolutions for consideration at the 2012 Annual Conference. A summary of a resolution should be provided to Mike Cerra at mcerra@njslom.com by October 5. The full draft of a resolution should be provided by October 19. Additional submission guidelines will follow to you in a Membership alert. Questions can be directed to Mike Cerra.

NJBIZ NAMES NJLM AS ONE OF NEW JERSEY'S TOP BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

NJ BIZ, "New Jersey's only weekly business journal" has named the League as one of "New Jersey's Top Business and Professional Associations." We are thrilled with this recognition and thank our members for their continued support.

SEPTEMBER 11TH PROGRAMMING AND EDUCATION AT THE NJ STATE MUSEUM

-Contact Beth Cooper, Museum Curator of Education at beth.cooper@sos.state.nj.us

September 11, 2001, is viewed as a defining day in American and New Jersey History. Six hundred and seventy seven New Jerseyans from municipalities throughout our state were among the casualties that day. Beyond the casualty toll, New Jersey's "9/11 story" includes countless tales of survival, volunteerism, remembrance and renewal.

The New Jersey State Museum, located just steps from the State House in historic Trenton, is offering the public a robust slate of 9/11 programming including a 9/11 Conversation Series, lesson plans, teacher training workshops and the exhibition-- *Remember 9/11 Reflections and Memories from New Jersey*, currently on extended view through July 2013. The objects in the New Jersey State Museum's 9/11 collection and Remember 9/11 exhibition tell stories of loss, brutality, humanity and civic response.

Recently, the State Museum partnered with educators to design a 9/11 Collaborative Learning Program, which includes short videos and accompanying lesson plans to bring the Museum's *Remember 9/11* exhibit content into classrooms statewide. The program also features interviews with individuals with personal stories connected to artifacts highlighted in the exhibit. This is part of the museum's mission to truly be *your state museum*, telling the stories of the state of New Jersey and making those stories available onsite, online and in the classroom.

These engaging materials are being completed this summer and can be in the hands of school administrators/teachers in your town for the 2012/2013 school year. To request a copy of the video/lessons on disc, please email Beth Cooper, the Museum's Curator of Education at beth.cooper@sos.state.nj.us. Information on the program will also be available on the Museum's website by the end of the summer, www.statemuseum.nj.gov.

APPLICATION FOR THE 2012 NJ GOVERNOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS IS NOW AVAILABLE!

-Contact Tanya Oznovich at Tanya.Oznovich@dep.state.nj.us
or Caroline Kirkland at Caroline.Kirkland@dep.state.nj.us

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection is pleased to announce that the application for the **2012 New Jersey Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards** is now available. Completed applications are due by September 12, 2012.

The New Jersey Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards Program is the State's premier awards program for recognizing outstanding environmental performance, programs and projects throughout the state. These awards recognize individuals, businesses, educators, institutions, communities, youth and others who have made significant contributions to environmental protection in New Jersey.

To date, over 120 entities have been recognized since the awards program was established in 2000. Nominations can be submitted for the following categories: Clean Air, Healthy Ecosystems, Water Resources, Land Conservation, Healthy and Sustainable Communities/Businesses, Innovative Technology, Environmental Leadership, Environmental Stewardship and Environmental Education.

The New Jersey Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards Program is sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the New Jersey Corporation for Advanced Technology, in partnership with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

The application and other awards information can be found at www.nj.gov/dep/eeawards.

Questions about the Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards Program can be forwarded to:

- Tanya Oznovich (609) 984-9802 Tanya.Oznovich@dep.state.nj.us
- Caroline Kirkland (609) 633-7821 Caroline.Kirkland@dep.state.nj.us

**NOMINATIONS SOUGHT
FOR MAYOR'S HALL OF FAME**

-Contact Michael Darcy ext. 116 or mdarcy@njslom.org

The League is accepting nominations for the [2012 Mayor's Hall of Fame](#). To qualify, a mayor must be serving in at least their tenth cumulative year for the silver level or twentieth year for the gold level. Mayors who rotate into office can qualify after holding the office of mayor for ten years.

Qualifying mayors will be inducted into the New Jersey State League of Municipalities Mayors' Hall of Fame during the Mayors' Luncheon at the Annual Conference Wednesday, November 15 in Atlantic City. For nomination forms and more information about the Mayors' Hall of Fame, visit the [Mayor's Corner](#) or contact the League at 609-695-3481 extn 116.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 10TH ANNUAL MICHAEL A. PANE AWARD

-Contact Gayle Krygier at 119 or gakrygier@njslom.org

In honor of the Memory of Michael A. Pane, the ninth annual award will be presented to a professional (attorney, engineer, and planner) that personifies outstanding ability, integrity, and a high standard of ethics in his or her dealings with local government. This award includes a \$500 honorarium.

The award ceremony will be held during the League's annual conference in Atlantic City, on Thursday, November 15th during a session of the New Jersey Institute of Local Government Attorneys. Nominations for this award will be accepted through September 30, 2012. Please fax or mail your nomination to:

Gayle A. Krygier
N.J. State League of Municipalities
222 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608
Fax#: 609-695-5156

"The League is honored to participate in the Memorial Fund, and the Award promotion, of Michael A. Pane." said League Executive Director William G. Dressel Jr. "Mr. Pane significantly inspired the image of enhancing integrity in local government, and it is the purpose of this award to recognize that person who has through the same likeness, exemplified, and perhaps is the role model for the local government community."

We appreciate the generosity of those who have contributed to the Michael A. Pane Memorial Fund, which supports this award.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS ELEVENTH ANNUAL INNOVATION IN GOVERNANCE AWARDS

-Contact Michael Darcy at ext 116 or mdarcy@njslom.org

The New Jersey Department Community Affairs and the League of Municipalities continue to recognize *Innovation in Governance* through an annual awards program. We invite you to submit nominations for the award program based on this year's theme – ***Innovative Emergency Management and Preparedness***.

In 2011 every municipality had its emergency management and preparedness tested. Showcase what you learned and new approaches you developed. Perhaps you have a new approach to communication; planning; funding for recovery; or a new joint intergovernmental response. Submit your innovative emergency management and preparedness ideas and be recognized for your creative solutions.

This award program was established to highlight exemplary local government programs that provide innovative and practical approaches to solving municipal problems and concerns.

At the same time, we will share these innovative approaches with municipal leaders throughout the state at the 97th Annual League of Municipalities Conference Mayor's Luncheon on November 14, 2012, at the Sheraton Hotel, Atlantic City.

This year's judges include: League Past Presidents Paul Maticera and Plainsboro Mayor Peter Cantu; Tom Neff, Director, Division of Local Government Services, DCA and League Executive Director Bill Dressel.

Applications can be downloaded from the New Jersey League of Municipalities' and the Department of Community Affairs' websites, at www.njslom.com and www.nj.gov/dca respectively. The nomination deadline is October 3, 2012.

If you have any questions on the Innovation in Governance awards, please contact Michael Darcy at the League of Municipalities 609-695-3481 ext 116 or MDarcy@njslom.org

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS' HALL OF FAME

-Contact Michael Darcy ext. 116 or mdarcy@njslom.org

In recognition of the many municipal governing body members who are selflessly serving for twenty or more years, the League of Municipalities is pleased to once again accept nominations for the Elected Officials' Hall of Fame. www.njslom.org/hallfame.html.

This special honor is reserved for those governing body members, active and retired, who have served twenty years in elected municipal office. As you know, these special elected officials have governed their municipalities for lengthy tenures, guiding their communities through the good times and troubled times, with little recognition.

The Elected Officials' Hall of Fame will shine a light on these pillars in our communities and hold them up as an example of civic pride for all citizens to emulate.

In a special ceremony in February 2013, during the Mayors' Legislative Day at the State House, there will be a presentation to these special elected municipal officials. They will be inducted into the Elected Officials Hall of Fame and their picture will appear in the League magazine, *New Jersey Municipalities*.

If you know of any elected municipal officials, not currently in the Elected Officials Hall of Fame, who have served at least twenty years in elected municipal office, please nominate them for this special recognition. The nomination form may be copied if you want to make several nominations. Please mail the form(s) back to League office by November 30, 2012 so they may be included in the ceremony. Confirmations will be mailed to the nominees in January, 2013.

You may view a full list of all Hall of Fame inductees at the League Website www.njslom.org. If you have any questions, contact the League's Assistant Executive Director, Michael Darcy at extension 116. Thank you for helping to identify these elected municipal officials for special recognition.

2012 HIRING OUR HEROES – TRENTON
SUN NATIONAL BANK CENTER, 81 HAMILTON AVENUE, TRENTON, NJ
SEPTEMBER 12, 2012
9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

-Contact hiringourheroes@uschamber.com

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Hiring our Heroes Initiative is partnering with ESGR, American Legion, the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce, the New Jersey League of Municipalities, and New Jerseys Employment Initiative Program to host a one-of-a kind FREE employment fair for Veterans, Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses at the Sun National Bank Center, 81 Hamilton Avenue.

EMPLOYERS AND JOB SEEKERS can register online today at <http://hoh.greatjob.net>. This employment fair is FREE for employers and job seekers.

Registration closes September 1, 2012. Walk-in Veterans and Spouses will be allowed with proper identification.

This event is being supported by the Sun National Bank Center, US Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training, US Department of Veterans' Affairs Vocational Rehabilitation, New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, NBC News, New Jersey VET2VET, and Allies Inc.

For registration questions, please contact us at hiringourheroes@uschamber.com.

NJLM GRANT RESOURCE CENTER

-Contact Matthew Weng at ext 137 or mweng@njslom.org

Did you know the League has an online Grant Resource Center? To find out about various Federal, State, and Municipal grant opportunities that may benefit your community, visit the NJLM Grant Resource Center at www.njslom.org/Grants_NewsandInformation.html . Be sure to check this page regularly for updates.