



NASASP NEWS

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Town of Newport, Maine

The Town of Newport, Maine, is a Municipality of 3,250 residents, legally incorporated in the 1814. Our departments include Administration, Public Works, Police, Solid Waste, and Fire. Each of these departments has full time employees and responds to all calls and activities associated with the positions they hold. Keeping these departments fully capable of doing their assigned tasks requires all variations of vehicles and equipment. The Town of Newport has enjoyed the availability of Maine's surplus property - both on the State and Federal level.

We recently constructed a new Public Works garage and Public Safety Building and furnishings purchased at Maine's surplus property greatly reduced the need to purchase new. Re-purposing furnishings to meet a variety of needs within government has been exciting and comes with significant cost savings.

I have had the pleasure of working with Randall Main, the NASASP Overseas Facilitator several times in the past few years. Through the overseas program, the Town of purchased two pieces of equipment – a 1982 D-5 dozer and a 2002 Smooth Drum roller. Both of these items came from Germersheim, Germany. The dozer had an original acquisition cost of \$40,282 and the Town paid a total of \$9,064 in transportation and service charges to the Maine SASP. The roller had an original acquisition cost of \$60,230 and the Town paid a total of \$13,089 in transportation and service charges to the Maine SASP.

This equipment saved my tax base thousands of dollars and has greatly assisted in our road construction and grading efforts. Any government program that actually gives back to the people who sustain it, should remain a viable option in considering the disposition of government property.

Story provided by:
James A. Ricker, Sr.



Virginia Donations

Appomattox Regional Governor's School for the Arts and Technology, Petersburg, VA



Thanks to the Virginia Office of Surplus Property Management and GSA, students performing with the orchestra of the Appomattox Regional Governor's School for the Arts and Technology, are able to play professional quality oboes made by the F. Loree Company of Paris, France. The school is a public high school located in Petersburg. The school obtained these instruments, handcrafted from Mozambique granadilla wood, from the Richmond warehouse location at a cost far less than they would have cost new.

Scott County Public Schools, Gate City, VA



The Virginia Surplus Property Management Offices (OSPM) also assisted Scott County Public Schools with purchasing several items to improve its schools. Shoemaker Elementary School needed new tables and chairs to update its third- and fourth-grade computer lab.

OSPM worked with Northern Virginia Community College, which was clearing out surplus furniture, to determine that the college had the items the elementary school needed. The school repurposed the tables and chairs and had a new computer lab to greet students upon their return to classes from summer break.

One of the county's high schools also received new student desks through OSPM, and the school system purchased trucks to use for various projects around the school district.

Kentucky Donations

Kentucky Division of Surplus Property Instrumental in Getting Surplus FEMA Food for Kentucky's Hungry

*Federal and State Governments, Food Banks Join Forces
To Secure Surplus Meal Kits for Kentucky Residents*

Thousands of surplus meal kits originally purchased for disaster victims were delivered to Kentucky food banks and will go to hungry Kentuckians thanks to a team effort of federal and state employees—just in time for Christmas and beyond.

Feeding America Kentucky's Heartland in Elizabethtown and God's Pantry in Lexington requested a total of 314,496 meal kits, or 13 truckloads, from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at a cost to the food banks of \$65,000, a fraction of the original \$1.88 million cost.

In late November, the Kentucky Division of Surplus Property (DSP), part of the Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet, learned from federal General Services Administration (GSA) representatives that FEMA would be transferring surplus meal kits. Dewey Blevins, Director of DSP, and Gary Thornton, assistant director for DSP, quickly realized this was an opportunity that could greatly benefit hungry Kentuckians throughout the Commonwealth.

Knowing the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) has a Hunger Initiative that brings together farmers, charitable organizations, faith groups, community leaders, and government entities to look for ways to reduce hunger in Kentucky, Gary reached out to KDA's Bill Wickliffe to see if he could help Surplus Properties get in contact with food banks.

Bill and his staff contacted leaders of God's Pantry in Lexington and Feeding America Kentucky's Heartland to ask if they would be interested in the surplus food. KDA Commissioner Ryan Quarles wrote a letter to the GSA asking the agency to give Kentucky's food banks priority to receive the meal kits.

"Our folks in Surplus Property have a good relationship with the federal GSA, which enables us to help local governments and charitable organizations obtain resources that they may not be able to afford otherwise" said Finance Secretary William M. Landrum III. "This partnership with FEMA and the Department of Agriculture is especially gratifying and is a wonderful example of how we can help those who are less fortunate."

(Story continues on next page)



Announcement of meal kit deliveries to God's Pantry warehouse in Winchester, KY on Dec. 20, 2017.

Left to Right: William M. Landrum III, Finance and Administration Cabinet Secretary; Gary Thornton, Division of Surplus Property Assistant Director; Dewey Blevins, Division of Surplus Property Director; Ryan Quarles, Department of Agriculture Commissioner.

NASASP 2018 Annual Meeting

NASASP's Annual meeting and education seminar will be held July 22-26, 2018 at the Embassy Suites in downtown Louisville, Kentucky. It is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the program and network with other SASPs, federal agencies, and our corporate partners.

A dinner cruise on the Mary M. Miller Riverboat will be the highlight of our President's Banquet on Tuesday evening.

Your Planning Committee is busy making arrangements for the meeting and associated activities. For up-to-date information, visit our website www.nasasp.org and then click on the link to the Conference. You'll find an agenda, registration forms, and hotel information. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to learn what your peers are doing in their operations.



We look forward to seeing you there!

Kentucky Donations (continued from previous page)

KDA and Finance and Administration Cabinet employees helped the food banks complete the required paperwork. The food banks began placing orders with the Division of Surplus Property on Dec. 6. Truckloads of food started arriving on Dec. 12, 2017.

"As part of our Hunger Initiative, we are always looking for ways to provide wholesome meals for our less fortunate friends and neighbors," Commissioner Quarles said. "This was a combined effort of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the state Finance and Administration Cabinet, the federal government, and the food banks to bring these much-needed resources to Kentucky. I am deeply proud of our employees for their efforts, and I'm grateful to Finance and Administration Secretary Bill Landrum and his team for helping us spread a little extra Christmas cheer to Kentucky's hungry."

"It's a wonderful feeling knowing we've been able to help get this much needed food that will be given to those in need" said Dewey Blevins. "I'm thankful for Gary's leadership on this endeavor. He was our main point of contact with GSA and made sure all the paperwork and documentation were completed as quickly as possible so the food could be delivered before Christmas."

Feeding America Kentucky's Heartland and God's Pantry serve 92 of Kentucky's 120 counties.

Map the Meal Gap 2017, an annual study by Feeding America, revealed that one in every six Kentuckians – including one in five children – was food insecure in 2015, meaning that consistent access to adequate food is limited by a lack of money and other resources at times during the year.

Maryland Donations

Yorkwood Elementary School, Baltimore

On November 20, 2017, the Maryland Department of General Services, along with its partners from the General Services Administration and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in Baltimore, donated 35 laptop computers and six pallets of copy paper to Yorkwood Elementary School, a Baltimore City public school.

Judy Geisler, Intervention Teacher at Yorkwood, wrote the following: "The Yorkwood Elementary School Community cannot thank you and your colleagues enough for your very generous donation today. The many boxes of copy paper will certainly be used and will save us money! Moreover, the 35 laptops that you donated to our school will help us to achieve a long term goal of having a second computer lab in our building. Our students will benefit for many years from this much needed technology. As you are probably aware, many of our students in Baltimore City experience the "digital divide" which puts them at a disadvantage when compared to other educational settings around our nation. Thanks to you and your efforts we are one step closer to leveling the playing field for our youngsters. So once again, THANK YOU!"

According to Bradley Thomas with the Maryland SASP, the 6 pallets of paper had an original acquisition cost of \$10,200 and 35 laptop computers with cases had an original acquisition cost of \$49,000. But the MDSASP was able to let the school system have it all with no service charge. NASASP is very proud of the MDSASP for being able to make this happen for the school.



Pictured are Judy Geisler, Intervention Teacher, and Rue Bongon, Early Childhood Special Educator, from Yorkwood Elementary School; Jack Howard, Sean Stinnett, Shirley Kennedy and Bradley Thomas from the Department of General Services; and Constance Ellison and Tyrone Harris from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Also pictured are some of the students who are benefiting from the Maryland SASP donation!

Interested in acquiring property for your organization?

Please visit www.nasasp.org and click on "Find My State"

for complete contact information and a link to your state agency's website.

Oregon Donations

St. Vincent DePaul of Lane County, OR

In the fall of 2017, a local Oregon nonprofit organization, St. Vincent DePaul of Lane County, recognized a shortage of housing for the homeless. This situation had been steadily climbing over the years, and was now reaching high proportions. St. Vincent DePaul reached out to the Oregon SASP to see if they could provide surplus shelters to the organization. The Oregon SASP happened to have three new GP Medium tents and 33 cots in stock, and was able to transfer them to St. Vincent DePaul for a fraction of what they cost elsewhere. The tents had an original acquisition cost of \$5,782 each and St. Vincent DePaul got them for \$600 each. The cots had an original acquisition cost of \$222 each and St. Vincent DePaul got them for \$30 each.

The camp, which sits on almost three acres, was originally an illegal camp site for the homeless but since St. Vincent DePaul bought the land, it provides shelter for 80 people. The camp includes a large tent with tables as a common area, heated green and tan army tents for sleeping, bathrooms and storage lockers. Each camper is assigned a cot and given blankets and snacks when they are available. The local newspaper (the Eugene Register-Guard) did a story on the camp which can be viewed at <http://www.oregon.gov/das/Surplus/Documents/TempFile/StVincentTents.pdf>



Emergency Meals Being Distributed

The state of Oregon SASP was allocated 3 semi loads of emergency meals from FEMA. The contents of one entire semi were transferred directly to a local county for distribution to local food banks, with the remaining coming directly to the SASP. The remainder of the food is currently being distributed to local food banks, corrections facilities, emergency management agencies and schools for \$10 per case (original acquisition cost was \$71.76).

Pictured at right are the contents of one box.



NASASP President's Inkwell

Greetings All! The 2018 annual meeting in Louisville, KY is less than 6 months away! Dates are set for July 22 through the 26th. Marilyn has already sent out the draft agenda and hotel information and the Planning Committee has been working very hard this year to make the meeting a big success. I can't stress enough to our members the importance of attending the meeting as this is your opportunity to hear information first hand and provide your input for direction and leadership of the Association. If you have any questions or ideas for the meeting, don't hesitate to contact one of the officers or any member of the Planning Committee.

I also need to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to Darren Kennedy of the Oregon SASP who has stepped up to Chair the Technology Committee. He has already started focusing attention towards the look and navigation of the NASAP page.

2018 finds us working on many of the same issues we have worked on in the past, such as exchange sale, Demil concerns, and property visibility. We continue to work towards improving communications with our GSA and DLA partners and increase access to donable property. Our scheduled bimonthly DLA/GSA/NASASP conference calls are an open forum for any issues, and I strongly encourage all SASPs to participate in them. Remember, you don't need to be a Director to join in on the calls or participate in a committee, there is plenty of fun to share and both are great opportunities to learn more about the donation program.

I hope to see everyone in Louisville!

Kristy Fierro
NASASP President
Director State and Federal Property Program, Texas Facilities Commission

Michigan Donations

Marquette County Road Commission, MISASP

Michigan SASP assisted the Marquette County Road Commission with the donation of a truck tractor. The truck had an original acquisition cost of \$166,223.00 and the road commission paid a service fee of \$16,622.30. After a paint job, this truck is a great addition to the Marquette County Road Commission as they are responsible for maintaining 284.47 miles of primary roads and 988.99 miles of local roads. They also maintain 169.42 miles (444 lane miles) of state trunkline under contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation, as well as the maintenance of 93 bridges. This truck is used for transporting different equipment all over the county. Marquette has a dump trailer that is being fitted to the truck to help move materials such as sand and gravel.



Legislative Report

The Power of NASASP

Despite the headlines on the “do nothing” U.S. Congress or in-fighting from the “deep state” on policy conflicts, behind the scenes and in the offices on Capitol Hill, actions are taking place that impact every SASP and donee in the Federal Surplus Property Program. As Congress began its 2018 deliberations in January, NASASP has continued a very strong presence in the Halls of Congress to monitor, educate, and report on policies or legislation that might challenge day-to-day operations of SASPs. A major area of interest to NASASP in the next 30 -60 days will be a Fiscal Year 2019 National Defense Authorization Act, covering DLA and DoD operations and policy. One area of interest is the re-organization now underway within the DoD impacting DLA organizational functions. NASASP is meeting with U.S. House and U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee senior members and staff to develop specific areas of interest addressed each year in the military area.

This year is especially important in this area as the DLA, as well as the top levels of the DoD have new leadership in place at these agencies—NASASP will be presenting our positions going forward to these leaders and staffs. A variety of military oriented issues are being considered by Congress including continued interest by NASASP in securing policy standards to benefit the SASPs in the demil classification and “scrapping” issues and adherence to access for donation to vehicles and other surplus property to meet the challenges of saving lives and property around the country. Other issues which might be addressed soon by Congress include the President’s reversal of the 1033 Program access to surplus property by the law enforcement community which has already had legislation introduced.

Another key area of interest in 2018 are the two major Committees in Congress that have jurisdiction over the GSA—the U.S. House Oversight and Government Reform, known as “OGR” and the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. The challenge in 2018 is the U.S. Senate recently confirmed a new Administrator of GSA. NASASP monitors impacts on any changes proposed in Congress to Title 40, as well as following up on our Exchange Sale priority for donation, which is now undergoing a GAO Report review initiated by top leaders in the U.S. Senate.

NASASP is also very connected and engaged in the House and Senate Small Business Committees in Congress. This is another group of members of Congress who we network with on a regular basis because of our issues which include the 8(a) MOA and small business access to the Federal Surplus Property Program.

A short comment on Congressional legislation and the **POWER of NASASP**. Each Congressional Session is two years and we are in the second year of the 115th Congress. Since January of 2017, there have been over 11,123 bills introduced in the U.S. House and U.S. Senate. Only 1%, 122 of these bills became Public Law so it is extremely hard to move bills through the process. However, NASASP did just that during the 113th Congress--educating, networking, and paying attention to the mechanics of power in the Congress we were able to secure a Public Law (113-26) that permits Veteran Service Organizations to access the Federal Surplus Property Program. The bill was called the “FOR VETS ACT,” known as “Formerly Owned Resources for Veterans to Express Thanks for Service Act.” While it is important to reach out to our American Legion, VFW, DAV, AMVETS, and other VSO allies to explain how to take advantage of the program, a reminder that NASASP has and continues to impact Congress in very positive ways. All SASPs should know that the **POWER of NASASP** is you and the donees that share in the “good works” for American citizens participating in the donation program. Every Congressional office we visit are supportive of our objectives because of our network of local and state governments, VSO’s, schools, non-profits, and the host of other donees serving their community.

Texas Donations

Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, TX



When Hurricane Harvey hit the Houston, TX area in August 2017, some of the vehicles (including Humvees and 5-ton cargo trucks) that the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO) acquired from the Texas SASP were called into action. Pictured above is Carlester Chatmon, Master Mechanic, in a high-water rescue vehicle – a BMY 6x6 5-Ton Military Cargo Truck – that METRO acquired from the Texas SASP after the 2016 Tax Day Floods. In a joint venture between METRO and the Houston Police Department, he used the truck to perform rescues, shuttle cases of blood & medical supplies to helicopters, and transport police around the city. When calls started pouring into Houston area first responders, they reached out to other agencies like METRO to find additional resources. Mr. Chatmon was assigned to join three Houston PD officers in their non-stop efforts to rescue people and move essential supplies. Mr. Chatmon's experience was featured in METRO's newsletter, and serves as a great example of local governments' need for Federal Surplus Property when responding to catastrophic events like Hurricane Harvey. Below are excerpts from the newsletter:

"I knew a big storm was coming, but I'm a Houstonian — born and raised — so I'm used to working in storms and floods," said Chatmon as he reflected on his experience. "Though, in all my years of living here, I've never seen so much water....People would cry, laugh, or clap when they saw us arrive. We rescued a family with a one-month-old baby from a flooded home. I remember an elderly lady who was so happy to see us, she wouldn't let go of one of the officers."

He and his navigator, HPD Officer Marcus Betancourt, had to carefully maneuver through flooded roads. Because floodwaters would often hide curbs and medians, it was hard to tell where a roadway began and ended. Everyday objects like electrical boxes and fire hydrants became underwater hazards. The hidden dangers also included a swamp of submerged cars. At one point, Chatmon recalled water entered the cab of the truck, reaching his ankles. "We were in the Meyerland area. The flooding was unbelievable. This truck was made for high water."

By the end, the team had trekked all over the Houston region. They rescued families near FM- 1960, transported doctors and nurses from Pearland to the Texas Medical Center. They shuttled cases of blood and medical supplies to waiting helicopters. Chatmon helped the team find a route that would allow them to move dozens of police officers to a facility which housed high-water vehicles in need of drivers.

"We were a great team. Those guys are my family now," said Chatmon with a huge smile. "There was a lot of joy in helping people. It was beautiful. I loved it and I'd do it again if I had to."

HPD Sergeant Timothy Zaragoza affirmed how vital Chatmon was to the operation. "Everywhere you looked, there was so much devastation. At times, we were overwhelmed. Working with Carl made things so much easier. He knew this city like the back of his hand. We couldn't have achieved as much as we did without him." In fact, the HPD officers, affectionately nick-named the truck "Carla" in honor of its driver.

-Story submitted by Megan Sim, Texas SASP, based on an article in the October 2017 METRO Connections newsletter.

Texas Donations

FEMA MEAL KITS

The majority of the meals requested by the Texas SASP were on behalf of donees doing direct pickups. For example, the Military Heritage Collection of North Texas, which as part of its community education and outreach efforts to veterans, regularly holds events for veterans and their families, including serving meals.



With the support of their County Judge, and involvement with partner organizations in Texas (they even had a trucking company volunteer to pick up the meals at no cost!), the Museum staff oversaw the distribution of meals to veterans and their families in Texas, many of which are homeless or facing poverty. Included is a picture provided by Mark Witham of the Military Heritage Collection of North Texas, distributing food in the Fort Hood area to veterans and their families. These efforts are aimed at not only providing aid to veterans and their families, but also to increase awareness to the public on military history and veterans issues which is at the very core of their mission.

They even caught the attention of their local media, both print and television. Their local Fox news affiliate covered the Museum distributing meals to a veterans shelter in Dallas in December just before the holidays. The Military Heritage Collection of North Texas is very unique in that they go beyond the typical museum's educational strategy of limiting themselves to only displaying historical pieces; they also use community outreach and events celebrating veterans and their families as a means to educate the public on the military and veteran issues, and draw visitors to the museum.

- Nov. 2017 = GSA announced availability of excess FEMA meal kits.
- FSP Marketing staff sent email broadcasts, and as a result, over 70 organizations submitted requests.
- FSP has requested over 1.3 million meals so far.



(Continued next page)

Texas Donations

Destination?	# of meals?	# of truckloads?
Fort Worth Warehouse	48,384	2
San Antonio Warehouse	24,192	1
Alamo Area Council of Governments*	943,488	49
Food Bank of the Golden Crescent*	48,384	2
Military Heritage Collection of North Texas*	50,544	2
<i>* Direct donations planned & arranged by Austin Warehouse.</i>		
TOTAL	1,356,912 meals	57 truckloads

Alamo Area Council of Governments



The largest donation was to the Alamo Area Council of Governments (COG) who partnered with other local agencies, in particular the San Antonio Food Bank, to distribute food to its citizens (pictured above).

The Alamo Area COG picked up a total of 49 truckloads of food (943,488 meals) from FEMA's vendor warehouse in Cartersville, GA.

COGs are considered public agencies. They are voluntary associations of local governments and organizations that serve its members through planning, information, and coordination activities.

In Texas, COGs are able to provide assistance to their community that a local government may not be equipped to effectively (or efficiently) handle alone in areas such as aging services, economic development, 9-1-1 systems, homeland security, criminal justice, resource recovery, air quality, transportation, and weatherization. By providing coordination among neighboring local governments, COGs are able to assemble resources to tackle large projects and provide critical services that may otherwise not be possible or practical for a single local government to take on.

Arkansas Donations

Haskell Volunteer Fire Department, Arkansas

The City of Haskell has a population of approximately 5,000 but the Fire Department also covers an area outside of the city of approximately 220 homes and several acres of farm land and timber company land. Our total district is approximately 17 square miles.

The hummer (Brush 2) is used primarily to respond to brush and grass fires in our district. However, we have mutual aid agreements with 4 surrounding departments and assist with large brush and grass fires in their districts. This vehicle makes an excellent vehicle for brush & grass fires because of its off-road capabilities. We added a 250 gallon tank and pump on this unit, along with a variety of hand tools and backpack pumps.

Also, the hummer is an excellent vehicle for inclement weather! It can be used for medical runs and to assist with stranded motorists. We have some areas in our district that flood when the Saline River gets up and we plan to use this unit in these areas for possible rescue situations because of the ability to run in deeper water than our rescue unit.

The original acquisition cost of this unit was \$41,061 and the Fire Department paid a service charge of only \$2,500 to the Arkansas SASP. Since we were able to get this unit for a reasonable fee, and then perform most of the work in-house (painting, mounting lights and equipment) this was a very cost effective solution to update one of our brush units.

Story provided by Brian Cotton, Haskell Fire Department

(Pictured are before & after photos of the hummer)

