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April 10, 2013 Newsletter

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Executive Director's Column: Putting the Fun in Fundamentals

I recently met with a local government intern (which school isn't important, just please know that it isn't someone seeking a public administration degree) who had several good questions about cities and counties across the U.S. and in Florida. After the first two questions I'd backed up so many times to explain what I had assumed the student knew - never assume! - that I hesitated to move forward. This student was very involved in campus political activities and stressed a strong understanding of leadership. The student couldn't, however, tell me the difference between a city, county, school district or any district for that matter - and the student believed the State made all local decisions via the Legislature. ("Well, I know there are mayors and stuff, but everything they do is like, ratified by the State, right?") This is a native Floridian born after 1990 and educated in public schools. Two hours later, as we parted, I wanted to cry. Whether he ever comes back to talk some more I don't know, but I did try. [\(Read more\)](#)

FCCMA Program Year 2013-2014: Slate of Officers and Directors

To Be Elected at Annual Business Meeting May 24, 2013
Hilton, Orlando

President
Russ Blackburn, City Manager, Gainesville
[\(Read more\)](#)

Register Today for the Annual Conference



If you are attending the conference and are planning to stay at the conference hotel, you need to register for the conference now. Paid registration is required to receive your housing information. The hotel cut-off date is April 26. [\(Read more\)](#)

A Salute to the Center



The Center for Florida Local Government Excellence will present A Salute to the Center, hosted by FCCMA, at the Annual Conference on May 22 from 7:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at the Hilton Orlando. [\(Read more\)](#)

FCCMA Committees



Do you want to become more involved and be part of the decision-making? Then sign up today and be a part of a FCCMA committee. The committee descriptions and sign-up forms are located on the website. Go to: <http://fccma.org/member-committees/> for a list of the Program Year 2013/2014 committees. [\(Read more\)](#)

"Mentoring-Mentor/Protege Roles" Webinar

Mentors are essential in every profession, but even more so in local government. The relationship between mentor and protégé can take on many different forms and can bridge decades. Both the mentor and protégé skill sets are beneficial in professional development, as it takes a special individual to listen attentively and provide constructive advice. This panel will discuss strategies to be an effective mentor, yet also elaborate on the role of the protégé. Special focus will be paid to the correlation between relationship building and professional development. [\(Read more\)](#)

Congratulations to St. Lucie County

FCCMA congratulates St. Lucie County for receiving the Sunny Award. The Sunny Award is given by the Editors of Sunshine Review to honor the most transparent government websites in the nation. These outstanding websites have scored an "A+" transparency grade on Sunshine Review's Transparency Checklist. St. Lucie County was one of 247 recipients out of more than 7,000 government websites that were ranked by the Sunshine Review. [\(Read more\)](#)

Redevelopment Academy

The Florida Redevelopment Agency is proud to offer the Redevelopment Academy, a certification program designed to promote a prerequisite level of knowledge and professionalism in the field of redevelopment. Click on the link below for application and registration information. The courses are open to anyone interested in learning more about redevelopment practice in Florida. Depending on your status in the practice field (CRA director, consultant, vendor, attorney, citizen, board member, etc.), there are two types of designations - "administrator" or "professional". However, only FRA members in good standing are eligible for either designation through the academy. [\(Read more\)](#)

Tax-Exempt Municipal Bonds - Request for Advocacy

The Town of Davie requested that all FCCMA members be given a copy of their recently adopted resolution regarding Congress' pending action upon tax-exempt municipal bonds. To view the resolution, please click here. [\(Read more\)](#)

ICMA Scholarship for Women

As part of its ongoing commitment to attracting women into the field of local government management and helping develop those women who already work in the field, ICMA is offering scholarships to women to attend the ICMA 99th Annual Conference. Applications are being accepted through Monday, May 20th. Full information on ICMA's conference assistance scholarship program may be found at www.icma.org. [\(Read more\)](#)

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