

January 27, 2017

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REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR PMAA'S WASHINGTON CONFERENCE AND DAY ON THE HILL SCHEDULED FOR MAY

PMAA's 2017 annual Washington Conference and Day on the Hill will be held in Washington, DC from May 17-19. With the new Congress and Administration in place, it is important that our industry concerns are heard!

The meeting will begin with an Opening Session / Issues Briefing and Region meetings in the afternoon of May 17. Our welcome reception, including our fun and popular PAC silent auction fundraiser, will conclude the day! On the morning of May 18, marketers will head to Capitol Hill for visits with their Congressional delegations after a buffet breakfast and issues briefing for those who were not able to attend the opening session. Please be sure to make these appointments at your earliest convenience. There will be a hospitality suite and luncheon on the Hill. On the evening of May 18, we will honor our new PMAA Chair Mark Whitehead. Our conference will conclude after the PMAA Board of Directors meet on May 19 following a buffet breakfast and committee meetings.

Please click [here](http://www.cvent.com/d/svqfns) (<http://www.cvent.com/d/svqfns>) for our event website for all details and registration with secure event payment processing through Cvent.

If you plan on attending PMAA's annual Washington Conference and Day on the Hill, now is the time to make your room reservation as we have had an excellent response to the room block. See you in DC this spring!

PRESIDENT TRUMP FREEZES REGULATIONS, EPA CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

This week, the Trump Administration directed federal agencies to freeze new and pending regulations and issued an Executive Order requiring the EPA to freeze all pending grants and contracts.

The regulatory freeze is temporary and expires on March 21. The freeze only applies to rules that are either in the works, finalized but not published in the Federal Register, and to rules already published but which have not reached their effective dates. Rules already published in the Federal register with an effective date of January 20 or later will be frozen and reviewed by the administration for further action. The freeze does not apply to any regulations that have already been published in the Federal Register with an effective date before January 20, 2017, such as the 2015 underground storage tank amendments. The EPA UST rule cannot be changed without a full-blown rulemaking process including public notice and comment period. Rules that have already been published in the Federal Register cannot be withdrawn by executive order. Instead, any changes to published regulations must be made through the lengthy public notice and comment period established by the Administrative Procedures Act.

The only pending regulations of interest to marketers that fit these criteria are the 2017 Renewable Fuel Standard which sets obligated blending volumes for refiners. The RFS rule was published in the Federal Register on December 12, 2016 with an effective date of February 10, 2017. PMAA will be meeting with the Administration soon to urge them to lower the 15-billion-gallon corn ethanol mandate in order to resolve UST compatibility concerns with E10 plus blends. Additionally, reducing the ethanol mandate will reduce RIN values which will level the playing field in the retail motor fuels marketplace while preserving the ability for position holders at the rack to blend.

Meanwhile, the Executive Order freezing EPA grants and contracts is not likely to affect FY 2017 grants by the Office of Underground Storage tanks (OUST) that help fund state underground storage tank programs nationwide. These grants are funded by the Leaking Underground Storage Tank trust fund and represent a significant share of state UST program funding. According to the EPA, the freeze on OUST grants for state program funding will likely be lifted later this week. No state program funding has been delayed or affected due to the freeze since annual disbursements cannot be made until the EPA's annual appropriation is passed by Congress. The EPA is operating under a continuing resolution extending last year's funding through April only.

DEATH TAX REPEAL REINTRODUCED IN HOUSE AND SENATE

On Tuesday, Reps. Noem (R-SD) and Bishop (D-GA) reintroduced the Death Tax Repeal Act of 2017 (HR 631) to fully and permanently repeal the death tax. Senator Thune (R-SD) reintroduced the companion version in the Senate (S. 205). Similar legislation passed the House in 2015 with a bipartisan vote of 240-179.

The death tax has removed more than \$1.1 trillion in capital from the economy while motivating family businesses and others to reduce savings and limit growth.

Given the strong support for tax reform among Congressional Republicans and President Trump, we expect 2017 to bring significant changes to the tax code and PMAA will continue to weigh in on provisions that are particularly important to petroleum marketers such as the estate tax and LIFO.

HOUSE COMMITTEES HOLD HEARINGS ON EFFECTS OF OBAMACARE SEN. RAND PAUL INTRODUCES OBAMACARE REPLACEMENT PLAN

On Tuesday, the House Budget Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee each held hearings examining the effects of Obamacare in America.

The Budget Committee's hearing, titled "The Failures of Obamacare: Harmful Effects and Broken Promises," was filled with sharp criticisms of each party. Republicans, chaired by Rep. Diane Black (R-TN), warned of a health care system on the verge of a death spiral. In her opening remarks, Rep. Black stated that in her home state of Tennessee, "28,000 people lost coverage on a single day when the CoverTN program lapsed after the Obama administration decreed that it ran afoul of the federal government's top-down requirements." Rep. Black also said that Obamacare was responsible for 80 hospital closures since 2010, insurance premium and deductible spikes, and states and counties being reduced to only one insurance provider.

During the Ways and Means Committee hearing, Republicans argued that Obamacare's individual mandate is failing to stabilize the health insurance marketplace and has resulted in health insurance becoming less affordable.

Also on Tuesday, Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) introduced his Obamacare replacement plan, calling on Republicans to repeal and replace the legislation simultaneously. Under the proposal, individual and employer mandates would be eliminated while popular provisions from Obamacare, such as requiring insurers to cover preexisting conditions, would remain intact.

The plan includes a provision aimed at leveling the playing field for those who don't receive their coverage through their employer by providing a tax credit up to \$5,000 for contributions made to their health savings accounts.

If enacted, Paul's proposal would establish Independent Health Pools (IHP's), allowing individuals to pool together to purchase insurance plans. The Public Health Service Act (PHSA) would also be amended to allow individuals to pool together to obtain health benefits coverage through IHP's. The plan would also allow individuals to purchase care across state lines, which is intended to increase competition and drive down costs.

Last Friday, President Trump signed an executive order to "ease the burden" of Obamacare as the Administration and Congress transition to repeal and replace, although it is not clear what the government can do to minimize the burden until the transition occurs.

EXECUTIVE ORDER EXPEDITES PRIORITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS SENATE DEMOCRATS RELEASE INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

President Trump began to address the appalling state of our nation's infrastructure by issuing an executive order expediting environmental reviews and approvals for high priority infrastructure projects. Agencies are to determine within 30 days if an infrastructure project is a high priority and, if so, to give such projects priority in terms of reviews and approvals.

Senate Democrats released their \$1 trillion infrastructure plan this week which would allocate \$210 billion for road and bridge repair, \$180 billion to rail and bus systems, \$70 billion for ports, airports and waterways, \$200 billion for a vital infrastructure projects program, and allocate \$10 billion for new innovative financing tools to unleash private capital.

Bill sponsors are Senators Schumer (NY), Carper (DE), Brown (Ohio), Sanders (VT), Nelson (FL), Cantwell (WA) and Wyden (OR).

TRUMP MOVES ADVANCEMENT OF KEYSTONE XL AND DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINES

On Tuesday, January 24, 2017 President Donald Trump signed two executive actions to advance approval of the Keystone XL (KXL) and Dakota Access pipelines.

PMAA was disappointed with President Obama's November 2015 decision to veto the KXL pipeline and we strongly support President Trump's efforts to build Transcanada Corp's KXL. "After more than seven years of debate and multiple environmental impact studies that have shown the pipeline would have no effect on climate change, it is clear that the country should move forward with its development," said PMAA President Rob Underwood.

Furthermore, PMAA strongly supports development of Energy Transfer Partners LP's planned 1,100-mile Dakota Access pipeline, which would run from North Dakota to Illinois and would bring crude oil through the Midwest and into the U.S. Gulf Coast. The Obama administration denied the company a permit it needed to complete the pipeline late last year.

Approval of both pipelines is indicative of how the new Administration will take a much needed and drastically different approach to energy issues.

RETAILER SNAP REDEMPTION DATA WILL BE PUBLIC

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service announced on January 19 that individual store SNAP redemption data for authorized SNAP retailers will be publicly released following a Court order. The USDA is notifying SNAP retailers about the disclosure via email, phone, and/or text. You may have been contacted by USDA if you are a current or former SNAP authorized retailer, who participated between 2005 and the present.

For full details, click [here](https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap-retailer-data) (https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap-retailer-data).

The announcement is in response to a November 30, 2016 court ruling from the U.S. District Court of South Dakota in the case Argus Leader Media vs USDA. In August 2011, the Sioux Falls Argus Leader sued USDA for annual SNAP store sales data after USDA denied a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for the data.

THE WPMA SCHOLARSHIP SILENT AUCTION IS GOING HIGH-TECH!

New in 2017, you can bid on silent auction items from your phone!

With any type of mobile device, you can browse auction items, place bids, and pay for your items with the tap of a finger. Should any guest feel technologically-challenged, our WPMA Staff members will be there to offer hands-on assistance at any time.

Here are some of the great features of our new online auction -

- Receive Instant Outbid Notifications
- *BUY IT NOW* Pricing Will Still be Available
- Bid Winners Receive Notification of Their Winning Bid
- Pay for Your Purchases on Your Phone
- Bid from Anywhere
- Access through WPMAEXPO App - No Extra App Required!

Please donate an item to the 2017 Silent Auction - help make this the best auction ever!

To donate an item to the 2017 Scholarship Silent Auction, download a form at www.wpma.com/scholarship and return it to kathym@wpma.com, or fax to 801-262-9413, no later than January 22, so that brochures can be printed in time for the convention.

We hope to have your support in this worthwhile endeavor!

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE IS APPROACHING!

The time is fast approaching when the WPMA scholarship recipients for 2017 will be selected. **March 1, 2017 is the cut-off date** for applications to be postmarked and mailed to the WPMA office. Usually, there are less than 15 applicants for each WPMA state scholarship and the associate member scholarship, which makes the chances of receiving a scholarship very good. Applicants must be graduating high school seniors, and the son or daughter of a full-time employee of a WPMA member or associate member company. Applicant qualification information and the scholarship applications and are available to download at <http://www.wpma.com/pdf/scholarship/Scholarship-Application102016-e.pdf> Scholarship applications are also available from the WPMA office by e-mailing kathym@wpma.com and requesting an application. The WPMA scholarships pay \$500 per semester for up to eight semesters, for a maximum award of \$4,000. **Employers, please remind your employees to request or download an application right away, and give their students a chance for some extra financial help in college!**

PASSING OF CARLENE CAMPO, FRUITLAND, IDAHO

WPMA is saddened to announce the passing of Carlene Campo, daughter of WPMA 3rd Vice President, Dennis Campo and his wife Carla. Carlene was born March 24, 1994, in Ontario, Oregon and was a lifelong Fruitland, Idaho resident. She served as a manager for Campo Oil Company while working toward completing her bachelor's degree from Oregon State University, where she achieved a 4.0 last semester. She was dedicated to her family and the family business, and had begun taking on many responsibilities in preparation to become a third-generation entrepreneur with Campo Oil.

A visitation for family and friends was held Thursday, January 26 at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, with a vigil following. Mass of a Christian Burial was held at 11:30 a.m., Friday, January 27th at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Fruitland. Condolences may be made to Carlene's family at www.shaffer-jensenchapel.com. In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory of Carlene to the Suicide Prevention Hotline or Payette Partners Rescue Ranch would be meaningful and appreciated, c/o Shaffer-Jensen Memory Chapel, P.O. Box 730, Payette, Idaho 83661.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to Dennis and Carla at the loss of their beautiful daughter. She will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

Mark your calendars for February 21-23, 2017. Make plans now to attend the 2017 WPMAEXPO. It will be held once again at the Mirage in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Thank You WPMAEXPO 2017 TOP SPONSORS



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 21-23, 2017** – WPMA Convention & Expo – Mirage Hotel– Las Vegas, Nevada
- March 1, 2017** – Utah (UPMRA) Day on Capitol Hill – Salt Lake City, Utah
- May 4-5, 2017**– Nevada (NPM&CSA) Big Dogs Shootout – TBD, Nevada
- June 6-8, 2017** – Montana (MPMCSA) Convention – Northern Hotel – Billings, Montana
- June 19-22, 2017** – Washington (WOMA) Convention – Suncadia Resort – Cle Elum, Washington
- June 22, 2017** – Utah (UPMRA) Summer Classic PAC Golf Outing – TBD, Utah
- August 2-4, 2017** – Idaho (IPM&CSA) Convention – Sun Valley Resort – Sun Valley, Idaho
- August 21-23, 2017** – New Mexico (NMPMA) Convention – Sandia Resort – Albuquerque, New Mexico
- September 13-15, 2017** – Utah (UPMRA) Convention – Zermatt Resort – Midway, Utah

- June 18-21, 2018** – Washington (WOMA) Convention – Suncadia Resort – Cle Elum, Washington
- August 8-10, 2018** – Idaho (IPM&CSA) Convention – Coeur d’Alene Resort – Coeur d’Alene, Idaho

NPP WPMA MEMBER SERVICE

WPMA has partnered with NPP to provide members discounts on many products and services. NPP negotiates the rates, and makes them available to WPMA members. Membership with NPP is free, and there is no obligation to purchase. Discounts through Verizon, Expedia, Fastenal, Cradlepoint, and more.

Register Now: <https://associations.mynpp.com/myNPP/memberSavings.xhtml?guid=RB3WUOFG>

WPMA MEMBER SERVICES



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Petro Pete: “My friends tell me that cooking is easy, but it’s not easier than not cooking.”