

FIVE COUNTY NEWS FROM 'R' VIEW

VOLUME III NUMBER 2

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Director's Dialogue:

The Five County Association of Governments held an open house in Cedar City on February 14th at our new office location, 88 East Fiddler Canyon Road, to announce the consolidation of our Cedar City area agencies. These agencies include: Area Agency on Aging, Child Care Resource and Referral, Community Fire Planning, HOME Program, Iron County Circuit Rider Planner, Weatherization, and the Volunteer Center of Iron County which includes, RSVP, Senior Companion, Foster Grandparents, and the Youth City Council.

This new facility will allow us to further improve our service to the people in the northern part of the five county area. We had a great turn out and thank everyone who attended, especially local elected officials. (John S. Williams)

Announcing Southwest Utah's 10th Annual Human Services Public Forum

It's time once again to come together as a community to discuss human service concerns and issues that affect our community. Over the last decade, many important program developments have had their start from our Public Forum gatherings. Join political leaders, agency representatives, local businessmen, low-income individuals and concerned citizens for the Tenth Annual Human Services Public Forum. This year we are highlighting volunteerism, homeland security issues, and taking a special look at emergency food network needs. Other issues such as transportation, health care, better jobs, education, child care and many others affect our community and our nation. They affect all people— those who experience it first hand and those who know it through their work, their church, their family, and their neighbors. Concerned citizens from each of the five counties in southwest Utah are invited to meet together to discuss, prioritize and provide input that can make a difference in human service needs on the local level.

Your input and involvement can make a difference!

Dates and times for each of the County Forums are listed below:

Garfield County

Monday, April 14, 2003
Panguitch Fire Station
50 North 100 East
Panguitch, UT
3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Iron County

Tuesday, April 15, 2003
Paiute Tribal Office
Conference Room
440 North Paiute Drive
Cedar City, UT
3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Beaver County

Wednesday, April 16, 2003
Beaver High School
Multi-purpose Room
195 East Center Street
Beaver, UT
3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Washington County

Monday, April 21, 2003
Dixie Center
Gardner Room
225 South 700 East
St. George, UT
3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Kane County

Tuesday, April 22, 2003
Kanab City Library
374 North Main
Kanab, UT
3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Senator Robert F. Bennett and the Utah Rural Development Council are hosting the 2nd Annual Rural Utah Business Technology Conference at the Dixie Center in St. George, Utah on Wednesday and Thursday, May 28-29, 2003.

The theme for this year's conference is "Growing from Within"

Keynote speakers for this event include Senator Robert F. Bennett, United States Senate and Mr. Kevin Rollins, President and CEO, Dell Computer Corporation.

To learn more, or to register online, visit www.rubtc.com

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) FY 2003-04 Awards Announcement

The Five County Association of Governments Steering Committee, in its function as the Regional CDBG Review Committee (RRC), approved awards for the FY 2003-04 funding cycle during their meeting on February 12, 2003.

Staff was very pleased with the quality of applications received and feels very confident that many needs of the area will be addressed with these funds. A total of 12 applications were received for funding consideration, the majority of which we were able to fund.

Successful applicants will now be required to complete a final application for funding and attend a Grantee Workshop scheduled for April 3, 2003 in the Beaver City Opera House/Civic Center. Official notification is forthcoming from the Governor's office, and contracts should be received sometime in late April or early May. Total funding projected to be available to the Five County Region is \$1,237,851.00.

Successful grant recipients are identified in the following table:

Applicant	Project	Funding Amount
Alton Town	ADA Compliance	\$ 34,975.00
Antimony Town	Community Center	\$150,000.00
Beaver City	ADA Compliance Civic Center	\$135,000.00
Cedar City Corporation	Housing Rehab	\$150,000.00
Enterprise City	Medical Clinic Expansion	\$150,000.00
Henrieville Town	Culinary Water Project Improvements	\$140,000.00
Orderville Town	ADA Compliance	\$ 75,000.00
St. George City	LMI Housing Assistance	\$ 92,251.00 (+/-)
Springdale Town	LMI Housing	\$150,000.00
Washington County on behalf of Southwest Center	Architectural (Set-aside)	\$ 9,625.00
Five County Association of Governments	Planning/Technical Assistance (Set-aside)	\$150,000.00

2-1-1 Information and Referral "Connecting People with Resources"

The Five County Association of Governments is pleased to announce that they will be hosting the start-up operation of a 211 Health and Human Services Information and Referral Program. This program is being established on a regional basis to serve Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane and Washington counties. The center will be based out of the Five County AOG office in St. George. The 211 centers are largely hosted by human service agencies, staffed by trained professionals, and funded by a variety of sources.

One central number that is easy to remember (211) will be made available with information and referral for all agencies and programs within the Five County Region. People who don't know who to call for needed services would be given specific referral information. This information and referral will be available on a broader than local base, and call specialists will be able to help the people assess their needs more adequately.

Trained specialists will take the call, assess the needs through conversation with the caller and then tell them who they can call or where to go for help. If the specialist does not have the information, he/she will research it and return the call.

City governments, agencies and local organizations will all benefit from the Five County region-wide 211 designation. Human service providers in southwestern Utah already work closely together. The addition of 211 is one more piece that will extend the strength of already successful programs throughout the region. The 211 program will enable everyone in the region to have equal information and referral opportunity to learn about the programs that are available.

Kathleen Nielson, consultant who has been working for the past seven years on the Five County Human Services Directory, will be coordinating the 211 program utilizing two half-time trained employees as information specialists for the initial startup operations. It is anticipated that as word spreads throughout the region, calls to the 211 information and referral lines will increase dramatically.

There are sites currently operational in Salt Lake County, Davis County, Weber County and Utah County. The Five County region has been chosen as the next area for establishment of this program.

To obtain more information about this program, please contact Kathleen Nielson at 435-229-8310. (Kathleen Nielson)

Kane County Opens Volunteer Center



Photo courtesy Southern Utah News

Kane County Commissioner Ray Spencer called it the beginning of something good Tuesday as he cut the ribbon at the official opening of the Volunteer Center of Kane County.

Located at 24 North Main Street in Kanab, the center will focus efforts on mobilizing people and resources for solutions to community needs.

Programs under the umbrella of the volunteer center include the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Senior Companions and Foster Grandparents – the three programs of the National Senior Services Corps. The center will also serve as a base for Youth and Families with Promise and TURN/ARC of Kane County. In addition, there is a growing list of service opportunities such as providing volunteer support for community events, non-profit agencies and human service programs.

RSVP helps residents 55 and older find meaningful service opportunities in their community.

Senior Companion volunteers who are age- and income-qualified may also receive a small stipend, including limited meal and mileage reimbursement, by providing assistance and friendship to elderly individuals who are homebound and, generally, living alone.

Utah's Youth and Families with Promise Program (YEP) is a two-level mentoring program (young-adult individual mentors and grandparent-age mentor couples) designed to help youth 10-14 and their families.

TURN is a non-profit organization dedicated to choice, quality and respect for people with disabilities and those who support them by providing options and support.

The Arc of Kane County is a non-profit association organized by parents of children with mental retardation and other development disabilities. The Arc's focus is to improve and develop services for this population.

For more information on volunteer opportunities, call 435-644-3696 or 1-800-250-SERVE. (Linda Sappington)

Everyday Heroes: Ken Sizemore



Kenneth L. Sizemore

Ken Sizemore, his wife Barbara, ("an original Ken and Barbie," he notes with a smile), and the couple's nine children, ages 26-4, are enjoying every minute together as he awaits a possible call-up to service. The Deputy Director of the Five County Association of Governments, with responsibility for Community and Economic Development, is also the Acting First Sergeant of the

St. George Detachment of the 141st Military Intelligence Battalion of the Utah National Guard.

Sizemore joined the National Guard at what he refers to as "a rather advanced age." He was 30 years old - "an old man with a house full of kids" - when he found a way to maintain German language skills developed as an LDS missionary.

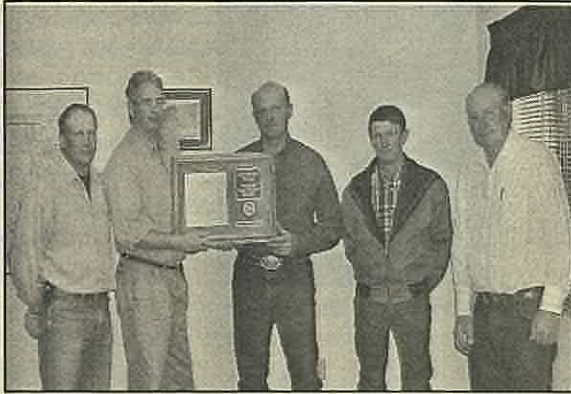
In 18 years, Sizemore has had assignments all across the United States, including Fort Devens in Massachusetts; Fort Hunter-Liggett near Monterey, California; and, on Fort Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska. Foreign duty has also taken him to Korea three times where he applied his military intelligence training while his supportive family waited at home. He is still involved in linguistics but is now also a certified Army instructor on "all sorts of subjects and military specialties."

As rumors continue to swirl around a current world situation which changes almost hourly, Sizemore is prepared for whatever duty he is called upon to serve, but does not consider himself a hero. He knows his family and his job will be waiting when he returns so he sees himself as "just one of hundreds of local citizen soldiers in two local batteries, all prepared to defend our country by doing the job we signed on to do!" (Linda Sappington)

The article above was originally published in the March, 2003 edition of the St. George Magazine.

Editors Note: As has been the case for many other members of the military from this region and state of Utah, Ken's unit has been activated for service in Operation Enduring Freedom. The Five County Association of Governments staff recognizes the commitment and dedication of all members of the armed forces who are serving our country in these difficult times. Letters of well wishes and encouragement to Ken can be sent to: 1SG Sizemore, A Co, 202d MI BN, APO AE, 09330-4192.

21st Century Communities Program



Congratulations to Mayor Shannon Allen and the Antimony Town Council as the newest community to become involved in the 21st Century Communities Program.

Please submit articles to Diane Lamoreaux via e-mail (newsletter@fcaog.state.ut.us) or in writing to: P.O. Box 1550; St. George, Utah 84771-1550. For other information or services, please call (435) 673-3548 or visit our web site at: www.fcaog.state.ut.us

"Americans are a resolute people, who have risen to every test of our time. Adversity has revealed the character of our country — to the world — and to ourselves.

America is a strong nation and honorable in the use of our strength. We exercise power without conquest and sacrifice for the liberty of strangers.

Americans are a free people who know that freedom is the right of every person and the future of every nation. The liberty we prize is not America's gift to the world, it is God's gift to humanity."

Excerpt from President Bush 2003 State of the Union Address

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