



FIVE COUNTY NEWS FROM 'R' VIEW

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Director's Dialogue

A primary focus of the Obama administration's domestic priorities is energy efficiency. For more than 30 years, the Five County Association of Governments has operated the Weatherization program which is designed to improve the energy efficiency of income-qualified families throughout the region.

Doug Carlson supervises a three-person crew based in Cedar City. During fiscal year 2008, the crew improved the efficiency of 54 homes. These improvements include replacing furnaces, adding insulation, and calking various leaks.

Additional funds have been allocated for the Weatherization program, necessitating a consolidation of warehoused materials and staff. Weatherization and HOME rehabilitation activities are now located at:

2344 Industry Way
Cedar City, UT 84720
The phone number remains the same:
435-586-0585

The average investment per home allowed is being raised from \$3,100 to \$6,500. Another two person crew will be hired soon to meet the increased program investment targets.

Many are aware of families who may benefit from the Weatherization program. Please contact Danna Alvey at the number above to begin the application process.

Reminder!!!

Be sure to see the announcement and information on page two about the upcoming Human Services Public Forums being held in each county.

Five County AOG Reaches Historic Milestone!



"Growing the economy of southwestern Utah....one business at a time"

Five County Association of Governments is proud to announce that 100 business loans have been provided through its Revolving Loan Fund (RLF). Since its creation in 1987, the RLF has provided nearly \$6.52 million in funds to area businesses and created/retained approximately 740 jobs.

The main purpose of the RLF is to create permanent, long-term jobs within the southwestern region of Utah by providing "gap" financing to qualified businesses. Loans made through the RLF are intended to help bridge the gap created by shortfalls in commercial financing. The type of loans eligible for funding include: land and building acquisition; purchase of machinery and equipment; working capital; and building construction/renovation.

In addition to the above mentioned milestone, Five County is responding to the current economic times, by amending its Microloan Program which provides additional lending opportunities for small businesses. The Microloan Program is a component of the RLF and provides capital to small businesses that do not have access to traditional commercial financing.

Five County Association of Governments services Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane and Washington counties. For more information about the Revolving Loan Fund or Microloan Program feel free to contact Darren Janes at (435) 673-3548 or djanes@fcaog.state.ut.us.

Staff Spotlights



**Todd Stowell, Iron County
Community Planner**

Todd Stowell has been selected to fill the Iron County Community Planner position with the Five County Association of Governments. In this position, Todd is responsible for providing planning services for Iron County and all of the cities and towns within the county, with the exception of Cedar City. The position was most recently held by Reed Erickson, who now serves as the Iron County Administrator.

Todd comes to the position with experience in both county and city land use planning. He served the last three years as a Senior Planner for the city of West Richland, a community of 11,000 located in the Tri-Cities area of Washington State. He also served in Yakima County, WA for the previous twelve years, including three of which as their Zoning and Subdivision Manager. Both jurisdictions are located in the south-central region of Washington State.

Todd is a current member of the American Institute of Certified Planners and holds a bachelor's degree in Geography, with an emphasis in Planning and Natural Resources, from Brigham Young University. He also has an agricultural background, as his early years were spent on an 850-acre family farm located in the lush Willamette Valley of western Oregon. His most recent professional recognition was the 2008 Barbara Grace Award from the Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association, which award recognizes "outstanding service to the community, consistently excellent work quality, and a proven commitment to the planning profession."

Todd is excited about the opportunities of his new position. He brings a base of personal and professional experience that is extensive and pertinent to the position and will benefit the jurisdictions and individuals he serves.

As a husband and a father of four, he recognizes the importance of families reflected in Utah's culture, and is looking forward to enjoying the people and amenities of the community.

Announcing the 16th Annual Human Services Public Forums

The 2009 year marks the 16th consecutive year the Five County AOG has brought people together to discuss important issues affecting our local communities. These Forums provide a dynamic planning function. This year each forum will use the technology of audience response systems to engage participation. Over the past decade, many important program developments have had their start from these gatherings.

Public Forums provide valuable opportunities to:

- Share information
- Identify common needs
- Recommend solutions
- Help prioritize resources and
- Network with community members.

During this time of economic challenge, it is more important than ever for communities to come together and share support as well as prioritize needs. Join concerned citizens, political leaders, agency representatives, local businessmen, faith-based organization representatives, and families addressing challenges as well as solutions.

PLEASE JOIN US ! Public Forum times and locations are listed below:

Dates	County	Locations	Time
Tuesday March 31 st	Kane	Kanab Public Library 533 East 200 South Kanab, UT	3:30 to 5:00 p.m.
Thursday April 2 nd	Washington	Gardner Center @ Dixie State College 831 East 300 South St. George, UT	3:30 to 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday April 7 th	Garfield	Community Center 100 North 100 West Escalante, UT ----- Panguitch Library 25 South 200 East Panguitch, UT	10:00 to 11:30 a.m. ----- 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday April 8 th	Iron	Festival Hall 105 North 100 East Cedar City, UT	3:30 to 5:00 p.m.
Thursday April 9 th	Beaver	Beaver Senior Center 81 East Center Beaver, UT	3:30 to 5:00 p.m.

The 7TH Annual Southern Utah Seniors Conference

Keynote Address: "Your Health After 65"
Dr. David Blodgett
Southwest Utah Public Health Department

Breakout Sessions:

Top 10 Health Concerns - Mr. David Heaton
Exercise & Eating Healthy - Ms. Rina Lister
In-Home Services Options - Providers from Hospice, Home Health, & Private Companies

Friday, May 1, 2009
Festival Hall/Heritage Center, Upper Floor
105 North 100 East, Cedar City
Check-In - 9:00 a.m.; Conference – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Admission Free (includes lunch)
To Register: Volunteer Center of Iron County
435-867-8384

Seating guaranteed only if you register by Friday, April 24th. In addition to speakers, this event will feature door prizes and a resource fair!

Would you like to attend but don't know who will care for your loved one while you're away? The Five County Caregiver Support Program can help! Call Carolyn Moss at 435-673-3548 by Friday, April 24, 2009 to inquire about respite care during the conference.

This conference is sponsored by: Five County Caregiver Support Program; Five County Senior Corps Programs; Health Insurance Information Program, State of Utah; Iron County Council on Aging; and Five County Area Agency on Aging.

Utah Chapter of the American Planning Association 2009 Spring Conference



St. George Water Walk

On March 12th and 13th, all of the Community and Economic Development staff of the Five County Association of Governments attended the 2009 Spring Conference of the Utah Chapter of the American Planning Association held in St. George.

Over 125 persons attended this year's planning conference with the majority being professional planners from throughout Utah and some nearby states.

There was even a planner from Alaska in attendance. The conference was held at the newly renovated historic St.

George Arts and Leisure Building located on the recently completed St. George Town Square. Breakout sessions were held in the neighboring Washington County Main Branch Library building. There was a choice of session tracks available with one primarily rural and the other primarily urban. Over the two days of the conference skill-building sessions, presentations on new trends in planning and successes in planning were highlighted.

Mike Empey, Southern Utah field representative for Utah Congressman Jim Matheson, was the keynote speaker at the opening of the conference. He spoke on planning from a historical perspective.

An eye-opening session on "Geological Hazards and Earthquake Zones" was presented by Bill Lund, geologist with the Utah Geological Survey, Dave Black, a principal with Rosenberg Associates and Bob Nicholson, Community Development Director for the City of St. George.

On Friday morning conference attendees were able to participate in a well-attended moderated walking tour tracing the course of the recently developed St. George City "Water Walk Experience" that starts at the spring and pond at northern terminus of Main Street and ends at the water features in Town Square. The Water Walk is designed to give an impression of a continuous flow of water along main Street, paying homage to early pioneers who diverted water and developed irrigation ditches enabling settlement in this arid climate.

Five County Association of Governments Executive Director Kenneth Sizemore participated as a presenter, along with Alan Matheson, Executive Director of Envision Utah, in a breakout session entitled "All About Vision Dixie plus What Worked and What Didn't for the Wasatch Front".

A thought provoking session on population growth trends in Utah and growth management was presented by Dr. Arthur C. Nelson, Presidential Professor of City and Metropolitan Planning at the University of Utah.

Additional sessions were held on ethics in planning, federal lands issues, how to plan and fund trails, parks, bike and pedestrian facilities, historic district planning and its effects on economic development in a community, and transportation access management. A session on improving public speaking and presentation skills was popular.

Choices of a moderated walking tour of the St. George Historic District or a hike in the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve were available for attendees to participate in at the conclusion of the conference sessions on Friday afternoon.

It was announced during the conference that the Spring 2010 conference will return to Utah's Dixie and will be held at Washington City's new Community Center.

Land Use and Related Training

The Utah League of Cities and Towns and Utah Local Government's Trust are sponsoring a number of land use and related training around the state in the next few months.

Locations and topics include:

[West Bountiful](#), March 10: Planning Commission and land use.

[Ephraim](#), March 11: Effective public meeting management.

[Clearfield](#), March 19: Appeal Authority training

TBD, April 2: Appeal Authority training

Manti, April 9: Planning Commission and land use

Toquerville, May 6: Planning Commission and land use

Panguitch, May 7: Planning Commission and land use

Delta, May 8: Planning Commission and land use

Details on the first three events are available at www.ulct.org click on "regional training events" at the bottom left of the page.

There is no cost to attend any of these events but we do request an RSVP.

Please submit articles to Diane Lamoreaux via e-mail (dlamoreaux@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: <http://www.fcaog.state.ut.us>

Steering Committee Meeting Schedule:

Wednesday, April 8, 2009, 1PM

Parowan Public Library
Meeting Room - 16 South Main
Parowan, UT

Wednesday, May 13, 2009 1PM

Panguitch City Office
Council Chambers - 25 South 200 East
Panguitch, UT

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