



# FIVE COUNTY NEWS FROM 'R' VIEW

VOLUME X NUMBER 2

MARCH-APRIL, 2010

## Director's Dialogue

February marked the beginning of my 25<sup>th</sup> year as an employee of the Five County Association of Governments. I have vivid memories of leaving a foggy, below-zero temperature inversion in Cache Valley to interview for the position and flying into St. George, where lawns were being watered, and temperatures were approaching 70 degrees! In 1986 no taxi service existed and I walked from the airport to the Dixie State College campus joyfully carrying my heavy overcoat over my shoulder.

A statement made during my interview was that one of the premier fringe benefits of the position would be the ability to travel across Color Country while being paid to do so. A quarter century later I continue to enjoy new vistas and scenes as light shifts and clouds flow by during my travels across the region.

An even more enjoyable experience has been my association with dozens of energetic and well-qualified co-workers who have provided outstanding service in a myriad of programs.



Kirby Lambert (left) and Ken Sizemore

One of my first hiring decisions came in October 1986 when we added two new Weatherization crew members. Kirby Lambert has provided consistent, high-quality work as a field worker, field supervisor, and energy auditor for more than 23 years. He has elected to retire from the Association of Governments, and ended his outstanding career on

February 26<sup>th</sup>. Many of the staff celebrated with Kirby at a luncheon held on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. He did not want lots of fanfare upon his departure, but I cannot pass up an opportunity to once again express my thanks to Kirby as he moves on to enjoy life without crawling under homes, into attics and up ladders. All the best, Kirby!

The Association is beginning to experience the retirement of we baby boomers in a big way. We will be bidding farewell to at least two program directors by midyear, with perhaps three more retirements in 2011.

Look for new faces as we recruit new staff dedicated to continuing our commitment to excellence in service to local officials in southwestern Utah. (Kenneth L. Sizemore)

## Please Join Us at the Human Services Public Forums

This year marks the 17<sup>th</sup> 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 an electronic interactive audience response system 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.

Public Forum times and locations are listed below:

Dates	County	Locations	Time
Monday March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Washington	<b>Gardner Center @ Dixie State College</b> 831 East 300 South St. George, UT	3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Thursday April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Iron	<b>Festival Hall</b> 105 North 100 East Cedar City, UT	3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Monday April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Kane	<b>Holiday Inn Express</b> 217 South 100 East Kanab, UT	2:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Beaver	<b>Beaver Senior Center</b> 81 East Center Beaver, UT	2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Garfield	<b>Panguitch Library</b> 25 South 200 East Panguitch, UT	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

## Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization Receives Recognition



In 2009 the Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), along with the other MPO's in Utah (Wasatch Front Regional Council, Mountainland Association of Governments, & Cache Metropolitan Planning Organization), and the Utah Department of Transportation were recognized for efforts achieved in developing Utah's "Unified Transportation Plan", a summary of long range needs within the state looking at a horizon from 2007-2030.

This collaboratively developed document summarized the individual plans from the entities noted above which used common planning methods, financial assumptions, and project cost estimates. The Utah State Legislature and Federal Highway Administrations' Salt Lake Division Office supported this effort to develop a unified document, based on common assumptions, to help state, local and regional decision makers compare needs statewide and allocate needed dollars towards projects of highest priority. Three national awards were presented during 2009 to these organizations in Utah in recognition of this 'first in the nation' accomplishment:

Federal Highway Administration recognized their Salt Lake Division Office with FHWA's "2008 Excellence in Planning Oversight Award";

UDOT and Utah's Four MPO's each received the 'American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials "2008 Presidents Award for Planning Excellence"; and

Utah's Four MPO's each received the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations' "2008 National Award for Outstanding Collaboration in Metropolitan Transportation Planning".



Lowell Elmer (2<sup>nd</sup> from right)

On a local note the Dixie MPO's Director, Lowell Elmer, also received from John Njord, Executive Director of UDOT, the "2009 Executive Director's Excellence in Transportation

Safety Award", at the annual Zero Fatalities Summit, held in September 2009, in Salt Lake City. Lowell was recognized for his leadership in safety efforts throughout his career and specifically to bring the Zero Fatalities Program and message to the attention of local governments and the citizens of southwestern Utah.

Anyone may access the ZERO Fatalities Program website directly at [www.ZEROFatalities.com](http://www.ZEROFatalities.com) or link via the Dixie MPO's web page at [www.dixiempo.org](http://www.dixiempo.org)

## Commissioner Maloy Dodds Honored as Overall Outstanding County Official



Commissioner Maloy Dodds

Garfield County Commissioner Maloy Dodds was recognized as the "Overall outstanding county official for 2009" by the Utah Association of Counties (UAC) at their Annual Convention held in St. George.

Commissioner Dodds was chosen from a field of eight county officials representing each of the affiliate groups that make up the UAC membership. The process included a selection committee that weighed the contributions and services made by each individual and a vote among peers that took place during the UAC Annual Convention.

Along with Commissioner Dodds, who was selected by the Utah State Association of County Commissioners and Council Members as their official of the year, eight other officials were honored. They include:

Assessor of the Year: **Dennis Ayers, Iron County**  
Attorney of the Year: Troy Rawlings, Davis County  
Auditor of the Year: Mike Jensen, Tooele County  
Clerk of the Year: Norm Johnson, San Juan County  
Recorder of the Year: Norm Spriggs, Summit County  
Sheriff of the Year: Lynn Nelson, Cache County  
Surveyor of the Year: Ernest Rowley, Weber County  
Treasurer of the Year: Karen Jeppesen, Cache County

The UAC Annual Convention is held every November and is used as an opportunity for elected and non-elected county officials to collaborate on issues, receive training, organize leadership and recognize individuals, and prepare official county positions for the upcoming Utah Legislative Session.

UAC, a not-for-profit organization, is a unified voice for county government, through communication, collaboration, education and training, and responsible management of county issues and resources. The organization represents all 29 Utah counties and 297 elected officials.



## The 8<sup>TH</sup> Annual Southern Utah Seniors Conference "Energized from Head to Toe"

**Keynote Address: Ms. Cheryl Bellomo, RN**  
Intermountain Valley View Medical Center

### Breakout Sessions:

**Iron Mission Dialysis Center--** Mr. Richard Clark, RN  
**"Taking Care of Your Feet"--** Dr. Brad Webb  
**Alzheimer's Association--** Ms. LuAnn Lundquist  
Session 1  
**Provider Training--** Ms. Carrie Schonlaw  
Session 2

**Friday, May 7, 2010**  
**Festival Hall/Heritage Center, Upper Floor**  
**105 North 100 East, Cedar City**  
**Check-In - 9:00 a.m.**  
**Conference 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**  
**Admission Free (includes lunch)**  
**To Register: Call the Volunteer Center of Iron**  
**County at 435-867-8384**

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.

Seating guaranteed only if you register by Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. 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 Thursday, April 29, 2010 to inquire about respite care during the conference.

### Give a Day, Get a Disney Day Program



When the Disney Corporation introduced their program on New Years Day 2010, Linda Sappington, director of the Volunteer Center Network, saw it as a good thing and thought it just made sense to be involved! She has been reminded of the craziness of that decision, by Volunteer Center staff, nearly every day since as local residents of all ages worked through the process of registration and service, to secure the "golden ticket" to the Magic Kingdom for each member of their family.

"In retrospect, it was an insane idea and we got to the point where we considered Disney a 4-letter word," Sappington states with a laugh! Despite doubling the workload of the already very busy non-profit agency, and the stress

associated with a virtual tidal wave of enthusiastic volunteers, she admits "some really good things have come from all this extra work!"

The Habitat for Humanity ReStore has increased the number of people who know where they are located. Tuacahn Center for the Performing Arts had more than 150 volunteers, on two Saturdays in February, involved in helping them prepare for their upcoming "Broadway in the Desert" summer theater season. The Children's Justice Center, Family Support Center and the DOVE Center have received help with spring cleaning, and community gardens were prepared for planting. School buses were scrubbed down, bike races and road races had volunteers, and nearly 500 receiving blankets and quilts were donated to those suffering in Haiti and Chile.

"It's been very hectic over the past several weeks and we're pleased to be able to get back to our 'real jobs'," states Sappington. Still, the entire staff recognizes the real benefit to the organization is that "a whole lot of people in the community now know there is a volunteer center in Washington County . . . and many have said they will be back to help us mobilize people and resources for creative solutions to community needs."  
(Linda Sappington)

### Town of Hatch Planning New Community Center

The Garfield County community of Hatch is in the process of having final construction drawings completed for a new multipurpose community center facility. The town of Hatch was a 2009 recipient of a federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) administered through the Utah Division of Housing & Community Development and also applied for and received funding of a loan and grant last year from the Utah Permanent Community Impact Fund Board.

The town went through a formal Request for Proposals process to hire a design firm that would meet the needs and desires of the town. At the conclusion of that process the firm of Stempel Form PC Architects of Virgin, Utah was selected for this task. Firm founder Peter Stempel impressed the interview committee when he stated that this was a fantastic opportunity for the town to develop a "downtown", a *community "center"*, in the truest sense of the word.

Stempel Form Architects embarked on a survey and assessment of the current site and existing improvements on the property as well as the surrounding town park in order to integrate the new facility. Several public forums were conducted in which the citizens of the town actively participated in identifying needs and desires for the new facility.

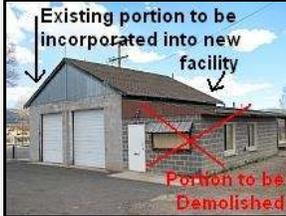
Two key elements were incorporated into the planning for the facility. First, the cinder block structure formerly housing the town's fire equipment would be re-purposed and integrated into the new facility. Secondly, the new facility would be made as energy efficient as possible to lower O&M costs to the town. A ground-source HVAC system is planned to further lower operating costs.

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### **TOWN OF HATCH PLANNING NEW COMMUNITY CENTER**

The design shown below was approved by the Hatch Town Board on February 17th and once the construction drawings are complete the project will be let out for bid. The other picture shows the existing building and the portion that will become a part of the new community center. The center will be approximately 3,800 sq. ft.



The Association staff is excited to see this new facility take shape in the coming months. (Gary Zabriskie)



Please submit articles to Diane Lamoreaux via e-mail ([dlamoreaux@fivecounty.utah.gov](mailto:dlamoreaux@fivecounty.utah.gov)) 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://fivecounty.utah.gov>

#### **Steering Committee Meeting Schedule:**

**Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 1PM**

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

**Wednesday, May 12, 2010 1PM**

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

**FIVE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
1070 WEST 1600 SOUTH, BUILDING B  
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ST. GEORGE, UTAH 84771-1550**