

# FIVE COUNTY NEWS FROM 'R' VIEW

VOLUME III NUMBER 6

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 2003

## *Director's Dialogue:*

The Annual Report of the Five County Association of Governments was presented during the October Steering Committee meeting in Parowan. The report gives an overview of activities of the Association of Governments for the previous fiscal year. The document reflects the many positive activities and services available through our organization. Over the years, the Five County Association of Governments has evolved from a small number of programs to now include a wide range of diverse activities and programs. I would like to compliment staff members involved in the report development and design. We invite anyone interested in this document to contact our office to obtain a copy. It is also posted on the Five County web site located at: <http://www.fcaog.state.ut.us>

(John S. Williams)

## *Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization: "Playing the Planning Game"*



The Governor designated Utah's newest Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) one year ago. The organization and its players are busily involved in conducting the urban transportation planning process for the St. George

Urbanized Area. Area partners are involved in planning for, designing and constructing projects that will assist the rapidly growing area to move traffic demands via road, trails, and public transit.

A long-range plan looking ahead to the year 2030 is a required task for the MPO by spring of 2005. An interim transportation planning document is now available for public comment to help in the development of the 2005

Dixie Long Range Transportation Plan. This interim plan presents baseline information and some 2020 horizons/ projections necessary to begin to prepare long range forecasts of trip demands and the most appropriate solutions to meet those needs in an economical, efficient, effective, safe and timely way.

## **An Open House**

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003, between 4 - 7 p.m.  
DTPO (Dixie Transportation Planning  
Office) Home of the Dixie MPO  
located at the Five County Association  
of Governments Office Building  
1070 West 1600 South, Building B  
St. George, Utah**

This building is in the Tonaquint Center located west of the Tonaquint Cemetery off Dixie Drive. The phone number is 435-673-3548.

Light refreshments will be served and are sponsored this year by Carter & Burgess, a transportation engineering firm with an office located here in Dixie.

Please take the time to come and visit the open house, share your concerns and suggestions and learn about this important planning process. Copies of the interim plan can be viewed at local libraries, Ivins, Santa Clara, St. George, and Washington cities, Washington County, and the Five County AOG offices throughout the month of December 2003. Submit your comments to the DTPO office noted above anytime during December or at the open house. (Article continued on page two)

## Staff Spotlight:



**Barbara Hagen**, was born in St. George, UT and is the youngest of five children. Her family moved around a lot as she was growing up, and she lived in places such as: Detroit Michigan, and Monserrat, an island in the West Indies. Eventually her family moved back to St.

George, where Barbara went through middle and high school at Pine View. After graduating from high school, she attended Snow College in Ephraim, UT.

Barbara graduated from Snow College with an associate degree in the spring of 2000 and then attended Utah State University. While at USU she studied social work and sociology. During her senior year she did a practicum at First District Juvenile Court, working as a Juvenile Probation Officer for a year. She graduated with a bachelors of science degree in Social Work and a minor in sociology in the spring of 2003.

Some of her favorite hobbies are being outside and enjoying nature. She loves to go hiking, camping and cross-country skiing.

Before coming to work at Five County, Barbara worked at Legacy, a residential treatment center for youth. She enjoyed the work with juveniles, but is excited to jump populations and start working with the elderly.

### ***Emergency Home Repair Program***

The Emergency Home Repair Program is a grant available for up to \$2,500 to assist low income homeowners with single item home repairs that pose a threat to the health and safety of the occupants, or threaten the long time integrity of the dwelling.

The needed repair must require immediate attention and may include items such as a deteriorating or leaking roof, inoperable furnace or water heater replacement, leaky plumbing, faulty electrical, lack of sanitary facilities or other crisis related repairs that are directly connected to the dwelling.

The Emergency Home Repair Program is an equal opportunity program. For additional information call Danna Alvey at (435) 865-0195. (Danna Alvey)

(Continued from page one)

Policy and technical membership of the MPO is comprised of representatives from the following entities:

- Ivins City
- Santa Clara City
- City of St. George
- Washington City
- Washington County
- Utah Department of Transportation

The Dixie Transportation Planning Office/Five County Association of Governments will make efforts to provide reasonable accommodations for disabled members of the public in accessing transportation planning programs. Please contact the DTPO in advance if you have special needs by calling 435-673-3548. (Lowell Elmer)

## Staff Spotlight:



**Shelley Sanchez** joins the staff at the Volunteer Center of Washington County as one of three new AmeriCorps\*VISTA members. Shelley found the Volunteer Center as a court-ordered volunteer working off community service hours for a traffic ticket. What she saw . . .

she liked, and after exploring the VISTA program, she signed on! For the next year, Shelley will recruit, recruit, recruit . . . senior men and women for placement in area schools as volunteer tutors in RSVP's Seniors-in-Schools program. At the end of her year of service, she will receive an education award she plans to use to complete her college degree for a future as a drug and alcohol counselor.

Born in Lakewood, California (an undisclosed number of years ago), Shelley loves outdoor sports including rock climbing, fishing, target shooting and has a huge passion for motorcycles and her little red convertible sports car. This mother of five, including a daughter currently in medical school, 15-year-old twins and a 10-year-old daughter, has another claim to fame: many years ago she won Olympic trials for the 800 meter race. A broken ankle put an end to her dream of Olympic gold, but not to her enthusiasm for sports. This same enthusiasm has won her friends at the Volunteer Center and is a tremendous asset in her efforts to recruit senior volunteers.

## H.E.A.T. Program

A cold winter can be a hardship for some Utah families, not only in trying to keep warm, but in paying for the higher heating bills.

The Utah Division of Community Development's HEAT Program is once again available to help. Beginning Monday November 3, 2003, HEAT (Home Energy Assistance Target) will accept applications for this assistance. To be eligible for HEAT assistance, total household income must meet approved federal low-income guidelines, and the household must be responsible for home heating costs.

Applicants must furnish a form of picture identification, such as a current driver's license or a state ID. They must have a social security card for all persons in the household, a copy of the most recent bill from each utility supplier, proof of all income received by all members of the household for the month prior to applying for the program, proof of medical expenses paid out during the previous month, proof of disability, and proof of children who are under six years of age. Additional documentation may be required.

HEAT is a federally funded Energy Assistance Program that is administered by the State of Utah through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), and locally by the Five County Association of Governments. HEAT assists households in paying winter heating bills by making a one-time payment directly to the utility company. Each household's benefits are calculated individually. Amounts are determined by three main factors: 1) Family Size and Federal Poverty Level; 2) Energy Burden (high heating/cooling bills); 3) At-risk Groups: Children under six years of age, elderly, and disabled.

HEAT benefits are a ONE-TIME payment only and will not cover the entire winter heating costs. Therefore, it is important that each household do all they can to keep utility bills current. A small amount of HEAT funds is available for emergencies such as minor furnace repairs and avoiding utility disconnections.

To apply for HEAT assistance in the five-county area, residents may call the following numbers to schedule an appointment:

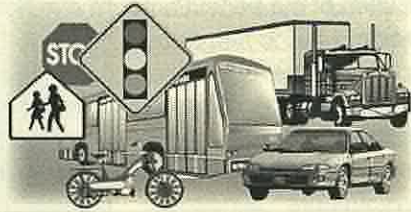
<b>Beaver County</b>	<b>435-438-5313</b>
<b>Garfield County</b>	<b>435-826-4317</b>
<b>Iron County</b>	<b>435-586-0858</b>
<b>Kane County</b>	<b>435-644-3803</b>
<b>Washington County</b>	<b>435-652-9643</b>

After applying for the HEAT program, applicants will receive notification in the mail about the status of their application. If the application is approved, they will also be notified of the benefit amount and how payments will be made.

If additional information is needed, please contact Jo Seegmiller at the Five County Association of Governments Office in St. George (435-673-3548).  
Jo Seegmiller)

Meeting Date	Location
Wednesday, January 14, 2004 1:00 p.m.	Kane Co. Courthouse Commission Chambers 76 North Main Street Kanab, Utah
Wednesday, February 11, 2004 1:00 p.m.	Five County AOG Conference Room 1070 W. 1600 S., Bldg. B St. George, Utah
Wednesday, March 10, 2004 1:00 p.m.	Beaver Co. Admin. Bldg. Conference Room 105 East Center Street Beaver, Utah
Wednesday, April 14, 2004 1:00 p.m.	Parowan Public Library Meeting Room 16 South Main Street Parowan, Utah
Wednesday, May 12, 2004 1:00 p.m.	Panguitch City Library Council Chambers 25 South 200 East Panguitch, Utah
Wednesday, June 9, 2004 1:00 p.m.	Kane Co. Courthouse Commission Chambers 76 North Main Street Kanab, Utah
Wednesday, August 11, 2004 1:00 p.m.	Panguitch City Library Council Chambers 25 South 200 East Panguitch, Utah
Wednesday, September 8, 2004 1:00 p.m.	Beaver Co. Admin. Bldg. Conference Room 105 East Center Street Beaver, Utah
Wednesday, October 13, 2004 1:00 p.m.	Parowan Public Library Meeting Room 16 South Main Street Parowan, Utah
Wednesday, November 17, 2004 1:00 p.m.	Five County AOG Conference Room 1070 W. 1600 S., Bldg. B St. George, Utah

As this is the last newsletter of the year, the staff at Five County Association of Governments wishes everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!



**An Open House  
Dixie Long Range Transportation  
Planning**

**Five County Association of  
Governments Office  
Conference Room  
1070 West 1600 South, Building B  
St. George, UT**

**Wednesday, December 3, 2003  
4:00 to 7:00 P.M.**

**Please submit articles to Diane  
Lamoreaux via e-mail  
([diamoreaux@fcaog.state.ut.us](mailto:diamoreaux@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:**

No meeting is scheduled in December.

The annual 2004 meeting schedule is  
included in this Newsletter.

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