



FIVE COUNTY NEWS FROM 'R' VIEW

VOLUME I NUMBER 4

APRIL, 2001

Director's Dialogue:

The 54th Session of the Utah State Legislature proved fruitful for Utah's seven Associations of Government. Senator Mike Dmitrich sponsored and supported legislation to fund the Associations. A special thanks is extended to Senator Dmitrich for his continued efforts in working with the Associations of Government and sponsoring legislation to provide funding which supports our many endeavors.

Several southern Utah state legislators have been named to key committee assignments in both the Senate and House of Representatives for the 2001-2002 year.

Senator John W. "Bill" Hickman, District 29, chairs the Human Services Committee. In his first term as a State Senator, he will serve as vice-chair of the Joint Executive Appropriations Committee and also as a member of the Transportation/Public Safety Committee and the Public Education Subcommittee. Senate District 29 represents Iron County and the western half of Washington County.

Senator Mike Dmitrich, District 27, represents portions of Carbon County, along with San Juan, Grand, Emery and Kane counties, and the eastern half of Washington County. He was named to serve on the Energy/Natural Resources & Agriculture Committee and the Revenue and Taxation Committee. He will also serve on the Joint Executive Appropriations Committee and the Capital Facilities and Administrative Services Subcommittee.

Senator Leonard Blackham, District 28, will serve as co-chair for the Executive Appropriations. He will also serve as a member of the Energy, Natural Resources, and Agriculture and the Health and Environment Standing Committees. District 28 includes Juab, Sanpete, Sevier, Millard, Piute, Wayne, Beaver and Garfield counties.

Stephen H. Urquhard, newly elected State Representative in District 75, was named vice chair of the House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee. He will also serve on the Higher Education Committee and Public Utilities and Technology Committee. District 75 takes in St. George and Winchester Hills.

Newly elected State Representative Dave Clark, District 74,

was named vice chair of the House Government Operations Committee. He will also be a member of the Joint Capital Facilities and Administrative Services Committee and the House Business, Labor and Economic Development Committee. District 74 covers the communities surrounding St. George, including the Bloomington Hills area and the east side of the East Black Ridge.

State Representative DeMar "Bud" Bowman, in District 72, will serve on the House Joint Capital Facilities and Administrative Services Committee. He also chairs the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Standing Committee and serves as a member of the Government Operations Standing Committee. District 72 covers Beaver and Iron Counties.

State Representative Thomas Hatch, District 73, will serve on the House Public Education Committee and on the Business, Labor and Economic Development Standing Committee. He will also serve on the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Committee. District 73 represents Beaver, Garfield, Kane, Piute, Sevier, Wayne, and Washington counties.

Congratulations to our southern Utah legislators on these appointments to key committees. (John S. Williams)

Highlights of this Issue:

Staff Spotlights: Ombudsman Program; Iron County Ambulance Facility; Human Services Public Forums, National Volunteer Week; Month of the Young Child; and other items of special interest.

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, visit our web site at: <http://www.fcaog.state.ut.us>

Staff Spotlights: Long-Term Care Ombudsman

The staff of the Five County Association of Governments recently had to say goodbye to a co-worker and wonderful friend. Yuk Jun (Junnie) Joseph has retired as the Five County Long-Term Care Ombudsman and moved back to her native Hawaii.

Junnie served as the Director of the Five County Area Agency on Aging from 1979 to 1987. Upon her retirement, she decided she needed to keep busy and was rehired by the AOG to serve in the role of Ombudsman. She performed her duties in that position until October of 2000.

It is always hard to replace dedicated, hard-working people, but it is even harder to let dear friends go. We wish Junnie all the best in her new surroundings and hope that she will stay in touch. We will miss her.

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman protects residents' rights in nursing homes, residential care facilities and Adult Foster Care by voicing and resolving the concerns which many elderly face in a nursing facility. The Five County Association of Governments has been very fortunate to have had Junnie Joseph provide these functions.

Jennie Cerrito, has joined the staff of the Five County Association of Governments in January to serve as the Long-Term Care Ombudsman for the Five County area. We welcome her on board and look forward to a productive association.

Jennie graduated from the University of Utah and worked in Salt Lake City with family support programs for children, people with disabilities, and older adults. She moved with her family to the St. George area to enjoy the outdoors year round. Jennie loves to hike, golf, and play tennis. She is married and has three sons.

Iron County Ambulance Garage/EMT Training Facility

The Five County Association of Governments will be holding its regular April meeting of the Steering Committee at the Iron County Ambulance Garage/EMT Training facility. The facility is located at 201 East DL Sargent Drive, just east of the Iron County/Utah State Correctional Facility. The Steering Committee meeting begins at 1:00 p.m. on April 11, 2001 and will be held in the EMT training room.

This much needed public facility was completed in 1996 and includes approximately 1,800 square feet of climate-controlled secure storage of Iron County ambulances. Prior to this facility's completion, ambulances in the Cedar City area were stored outside. Iron County ambulances began carrying temperature-sensitive intravenous (IV) solutions which need to be stored away from temperature extremes. This facility has provided for that need. In addition to the

ambulance storage bay area, approximately 2,600 square feet containing an EMT training area and office space was constructed. The facility also includes a full kitchen area and restrooms. The facility is handicapped accessible. Additional future expansion/storage space is provided on the lower level of the facility under the training room area of the building.

This project was funded by Iron County with financial assistance of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

National Volunteer Week

Volunteers are some of the best resources this community has to offer. During National Volunteer Week (April 22-28), you and the other nearly 2000 senior men and women, townspeople and youth involved in community service through the Volunteer Center of Washington County are being saluted for your efforts and your commitment to service. "Change the World - VOLUNTEER" is a most appropriate theme for this year's week long recognition.

National Volunteer Week began in 1974, when President Richard Nixon signed an executive order establishing an annual celebration of volunteerism in America. Every President since has signed a proclamation in support of National Volunteer Week. Sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation and Volunteer Centers all over the country, National Volunteer Week is a time to recognize and celebrate the efforts of volunteers at the local, state and national level.

On behalf of all of us here at the Volunteer Center of Washington County, I express my heartfelt "thank you" to all of you who make a difference in the community, in the lives of your neighbors and in my life! (Linda Sappington)

Ten Reasons Why People Volunteer

10. Honor someone who made a difference in your life.
9. Make the world a better place!
8. Meet new people and make new friends.
7. No one else can do what you can do to give back to the community.
6. Some of your best friends volunteer.
5. Volunteering isn't just nice - its necessary.
4. Volunteers help solve serious social problems.
3. Spend quality time with your family.
2. Make a difference in your community.
1. Because we need you!

Southwest Utah's 8th Annual Human Services Public Forums

The Five County Association of Governments' Human Services Council is pleased to announce the Eighth Annual Human Services Public Forums. The Forums started several years ago as a requirement of the Community Services Block Grant Program to solicit input from low income individuals regarding human service needs. These Human Service Forums have been expanded in order to bring people from all facets of the community together to discuss, prioritize and provide input regarding the needs of their local community. The information gathered at these forums is used by the Human Services Coordinator in the development of a 3-year plan. In addition, the information is used by the Human Services Council, the advisory board to the Steering Committee of the AOG, in determining prioritization for discretionary human services funding within the Five Counties; as well as by other agencies throughout the area for planning and program development.

In conjunction with the public forums, a needs assessment questionnaire is completed by participants and others in the community. The questionnaire provides statistical data that can be used by Five County and other agencies in looking at the needs of the community, identifying gaps, prioritizing where linkages can be made and assisting with resource development.

Date	Time	Location/Address
Tuesday, April 17	3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	BEAVER HIGH SCHOOL 150 North Main Beaver, Utah
Tuesday, April 24	3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	PANGUITCH FIRE STATION 40 North 100 East Panguitch, Utah
Thursday, April 26	3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	KANAB CITY LIBRARY 374 North Main Kanab, Utah
Tuesday, May 1	3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	AMBULANCE TRAINING CENTER Iron County 201 E DL Sargent Drive Cedar City, Utah
Wednesday, May 2	3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	GARDNER CENTER 275 South 700 East St. George, Utah

Past forums have made significant contributions toward increasing grass-root efforts within our communities. This year's Public Forums provide us with an opportunity to once again reunite, recommit, and refocus our community efforts. Political leaders, agency representatives, local businessmen, low-income individuals and concerned citizens are invited to participate in county-wide dialogues

regarding human services issues. Because of the great diversity between counties, a public forum is conducted in each of the Five Counties (Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, and Washington). A list of the dates, times and locations are listed above. We encourage everyone to support this effort through their participation and involvement in the process.

Month of the Young Child

In Utah we designate April as Month of the Young Child to focus public attention on the rights and needs of young children. Use this celebration to recommit yourself -- and others -- to ensuring that every child enjoys the type of childhood that lays the best possible foundation for the future! This year's theme is "Early Childhood: Where Our Future Begins."

The years from birth through age eight lay the foundation for later learning and shape whether children succeed in school and into adulthood. A good early childhood prepares children to take full advantage of their educational opportunities and to become effective citizens, capable workers, and loving parents of the next generation. When we help create a better childhood for children, we help create a better future for everyone.

What can you do to help? Be a children's champion. Advocate for children. Know what the needs of young children are in your community, support legislation that allows funding for programs for young children. Studies show that every \$1.00 invested in early childhood programs returns up to \$7.00 to the government in lower cost for remedial education and juvenile justice. You can make a difference. Call Child Care Resource and Referral, Western Region, 1-800-543-7527 for more information on how you can help.

Dino Trax

When more than 150 dinosaur prints, from at least four different prehistoric animals, were discovered in February, 2000, most thought the popularity of this rare find would quickly dissipate. Not so, say RSVP volunteers serving as tour guides. To date, more than 85,000 visitors have toured the site behind the Red Cliffs Mall on River Road in St. George, with 3,000 stopping by during the Christmas holiday, between December 22-31.

The dino site is an RSVP volunteer station, currently being managed by a corps of 17 hardy men and women, who have braved the heat and cold for more than a year. As the weather warms, the need for volunteers increases. If you enjoy meeting and greeting in the great outdoors, the dino trax might be the perfect volunteer site for you. For more information, call RSVP @ 674-5757 or 1-800-250-SERVE.

Steering Committee Meeting Schedule:

Wednesday, April 11, 2001, Iron County Ambulance Facility, 1:00 p.m.
Training Room, 201 East DL Sargent Drive, Cedar City, Utah

Wednesday, May 9, 2001, Cannonville Community Center, 1:00 p.m.
50 Red Rock Road, Cannonville, Utah

Wednesday, June 13, 2001, Kane County Commission Chambers, 1:00 p.m.
76 North Main Street, Kanab, Utah

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