



FIVE COUNTY NEWS FROM 'R' VIEW

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Executive Director Dialogue



I attended Dixie Middle School in the Washington County School District during the seventh and eighth grades. I have a lot of good memories of that school which was built in 1976. For example, in shop class our school had the first laser beam transit that would rotate around the room on the walls with a single red dot for surveying. I also remember going to the school library to work on the Apple IIe computer with my case of floppy disks. The old school, pictured above, is being replaced by a building on the field where many students used to play sports and will open in August 2014. Students will learn more in their education than a laser beam that is so common today, and they will certainly work on computers more powerful and advanced than the floppy disk.

Just like the change in the building at Dixie Middle School there continues to be change within the Five County organization. Our team has some staff changes that I would like to highlight.

Lis Barker retired as the Director of Care About Childcare after 20 years of service. Lis has a passion for children and their development growth, safety, and the desire for

quality care. Her credentials are many and love for children is evidenced in the work she produced and the legacy she will leave in the Five County area. We thank her for her contribution and service and wish her well in retirement.

Carol Hollowell resigned as the Volunteer Services Director where she has served since September of 2010. The City of St. George has hired her to be the Executive Director of the Switch Point Community Resource Center. We wish her well and look forward to a new partnership as she transitions to this new role.

Sherri Dial resigned as the Community Action Program Director. She has served with Five County since August of 2008. Family beckons to her and we thank her for her service and wish her the best.

Scott Leavitt resigned as the Chief Financial Officer, earlier this year. Scott had been with Five County since January of 2010. We wish him well as he transitions to the private sector.

A very special thank you to the Five County team and the dedication to serving the people of southern Utah! Just like a new school year, we have many new faces, and fortunately a team that has a wealth of experience in Five County. We will continue to support each other as we learn and grow and serve the community we love.



On May 10, 2014 Eagle Scouts cut the ribbon on a pedestrian bridge over the Pine Valley spillway with family, friends, local, state and federal officials cheering them on with this accomplishment for the community. Congressman Chris Stewart and Chairman Jim Eardley congratulated the Eagle Scouts at the bridge on July 01, 2014. (Bryan Thiriot)

Five County Area Agency on Aging Hosted a Record Crowd at their 12th Annual Senior Conference – “Fact or Fiction: Every Truth has Two Sides” – Aesop

The 12th Annual Southern Utah Seniors Conference was held on Friday, May 2, 2014, at the Festival Hall in Cedar City, the conference had record attendance with seniors from all Five Counties attending. The resource fair offered good referral and information for the seniors.

Dr. John “Keoni” Kauwe, PH.D. and Associate Professor of Biology and Neuroscience at BYU, presented the keynote address “Genetics and Alzheimer’s”. Dr. Kauwe is part of The International Genomics of Alzheimer’s Project (IGAP), funded in part by the Alzheimer’s Association, which is a collaboration formed to discover and map the genes that contribute to Alzheimer’s. This project recently discovered 11 new genes that may be tied to the late-onset form of Alzheimer’s disease.

Breakout sessions were held, the response was very positive and those in attendance enjoyed the three sessions: “Facts of Caregiving,” by Sonnie Yudell, Utah Division of Aging and Adult Services; “Medicare/ Advantage Plans,” by Darren Hotton, Utah Division of Aging and Adult Services; and “Scams and Fraud,” by Keith Woodwell, Director of the Utah Division of Securities.

Many Cedar City business donated door prizes. Entertainment was provided by the Canyon View High School Men’s Choir, who performed selections from their end of year concert and soloist Logan HeavyRunner performed “Oh Danny Boy”.

Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization (DMPO) 2015 to 2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The DMPO and the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) are seeking public review and comment on their respective proposed 2015 to 2020 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) and the 2015 to 2020 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Each year Dixie MPO seeks public input on the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) – a list of projects approved to receive MPO funding over the next four years.

This year, MPO officials chose to add one new project to the 2015-2020 TIP:

- **River Road:** (Ft. Pierce to Brigham Rd.) in St. George City. The project will widen a section of River Road from three lanes to five to be consistent with sections of either end of the project limits. MPO officials propose the use of \$2.2 million of MPO federal funds anticipated in

fiscal year 2018 to this project. St. George City agreed to cover the \$159,755 local match plus any additional costs of the project. A full concept report is available at <http://dixiempo.com/dixie-tip/>

In November 2013, MPO officials also amended the existing TIP to include one new project, and to increase funding for another:

- A road project on Purgatory Road was granted \$500,000 of fiscal year 2015 funds to complete an environmental study and a 30 percent design plan to connect Washington Dam Road with State Route 9 near the Washington County Fair Grounds. Washington and Hurricane cities agreed to cover the \$36,308 local match plus any additional costs of the 30% design project. A full concept report is available at <http://dixiempo.com/dixie-tip/>
- Funding was also increased for Old Highway 91 from Swiss Village in Santa Clara to 200 East in Ivins. Total funding for this project now stands at \$2,842,433. A full concept report is also available at <http://dixiempo.com/dixie-tip/>

Public comments will be accepted through August 3, 2014 and can be submitted to Diane Lamoreaux, TIP Coordinator, Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization, P.O. Box 1550, St. George, UT 84771-1550, telephone: (435)673-3548, ext#105, fax: (435)673-3540, or e-mail: diamoreaux@fivecounty.utah.gov

A Fond Farewell to Jason Kimball



Jason Kimball, fondly referred to as “Peaches” recently left the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) to return to the mining industry where he previously worked. Jason started as a Weatherization Tech in 2010 when the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act infused funding in to the Weatherization Assistance Program to create new jobs. The Weatherization Program was fortunate to be

able to keep Jason when ARRA funding ceased.

Growing up in the heat and humidity of Louisiana made Jason ideal for the Weatherization Program. He had no complaints about crawling into hot stuffy crawl spaces and attics to work. Jason was a real asset to the WAP. He was very conscientious about this work and the finished product. Clients benefitted from his construction background and they enjoyed his happy pleasant attitude.

We wish Jason well with his new employment!

Staff Spotlights



Toni Tuipulotu joined Five County Association of Governments in June 2014 as a Community Action Planner. Prior to being at Five County, Toni worked at Dixie State University in the Upward Bound program. She also has worked in Youth Corrections, Division of Child and

Family Services, and for a residential treatment center for teens. She loves working with and helping people better their situations, so Community Action has been a great fit for her.

Although she was born and raised in beautiful St. George, she has lived in Hawaii, Seattle, Salt Lake City and has visited Mexico, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, Canada, and all over the United States. Toni completed her Bachelors of Science in Psychology from the University of Utah (go Utes!) and has the dream of obtaining a master's degree someday.

Toni loves to travel and meet new people from backgrounds different from hers. She's happily married to Soakimi Tuipulotu, of Oakland, California, and has 1 son. Toni is excited to join this Five County team.



Heather Cox started as the new SSW case manager in Aging Services in April. She is based in Cedar City and works with clients in Iron, Beaver and Garfield counties. She loves traveling the gorgeous scenic byways in those rural areas and is really

enjoying working at Five County.

Heather ran away from home in Provo to attend SUU and loved it so much that she stayed after she graduated in Psychology & English. She has previous case management experience at Kolob Care & Rehabilitation and Canyon Creek Women's Crisis Center.

She loves painting abstract art and sketching the places where she goes hiking, cheesy monster & sci fi movies, her knitting group, and a good mocha. Summer is her favorite season because there are so many festivals and arts events to enjoy, and also because it isn't snowing. She lives with her teenage daughter, Morgan.

You can reach Heather at 435-865-7314 or hcox@fivecounty.utah.gov



Allison McCoy joined Five County Association of Governments on March 24, 2014 as the Chief Financial Officer. She comes from a banking background of 34 years, with most of those years being in Operations and Finance. Allison started working at the age of 14 at Boots Cox Dairy washing milk bottles. She earned a Business Administration and Accounting Degree at

Southern Utah State College with an Associate Degree at Dixie Junior College. Always a fan of White and Blue, Allison graduated from Dixie High School and loves BYU football. You might say she bleeds "blue".

Allison loves to travel and has visited almost every state in the Union except for Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Arkansas, Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Alaska. A visit to Boston should be on the horizon. Unfortunately, there has been no out of country travel except for a slight detour from New York to Niagara Falls, Canada. Italy is on the bucket list to learn how to cook a mean pasta or perhaps how to make Gelato.

In her downtime, she loves to read, read, and read. It is not unusual to have three or four books in various stages concurrently. Allison also likes to scrapbook, quilt and pretend to write humorous journal entries. She has a second job teaching paper crafting with friends.

Allison is the mother of one teenage son, Austin, who is very smart, clever and good looking. Her son also attends Dixie High School, following tradition, as it should be.

Five County Community Action Partnership 2014 Community Needs Assessment

This systematic process for determining and addressing needs, or "gaps" between current conditions and desired conditions or "wants" is important for developing programs that are needed in your communities. A needs assessment is part of the planning process used for improvement in individuals, education/training, organizations, and communities. By clearly identifying the problems, finite resources can be directed towards developing and implementing feasible and applicable solutions. Please take about 10 minutes for the survey and forward it to others residing in the Five County area.

The survey is available on the Five County Community Action website at www.fivecountycap.wordpress.com/about

Please pass this on to anyone who lives in the Five County area.

VITA Volunteer Income Tax Assistance



VITA is looking to recruit new volunteers who would be willing to spend a little time helping in their community assisting low income families with free tax preparation. VITA will help you with the training and IRS certification.

Volunteering with the VITA program is a great way to help those in need in our communities to make a difference in their lives.

If you are interested, please call Tom Everett at 435-673-3548 or Email teverett@fivecounty.utah.gov

Please submit articles to Diane Lamoreaux via e-mail 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>

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