NWCCOG Courier

SUMMER 2010

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NWCCOG Introduces its New Executive Director

Pam S. Caskie Joins the NWCCOG Team as Executive Director

The NWCCOG Council is pleased to announce that Pamela S. Caskie is the new Executive Director of NWCCOG. She officially started on July 1st.

Pam brings extensive local government experience to NWCCOG. She most recently served as City Manager of Alliance, Nebraska. During her time in Alliance, Pam lead a management team in several successful projects including a program to jump start a depressed housing market, the development of a $5 million museum, and a major water system upgrade. During her tenure in Alliance she provided leadership in the areas of economic development, comprehensive planning, and strategic planning.

Pam has served as manager for both the Towns of Ambridge and Stroudsburg in Pennsylvania, as well as Brandon, Vermont. Pam also has extensive experience as a management consultant in the areas of strategic planning, technology development, facilitation, long-range planning, and citizen involvement.

"We are very fortunate to have Pam on board with us at NWCCOG", said Patti Clapper, NWCCOG Chair. "She brings a wealth of experience in local government and strategic planning. We are looking forward to working with her as she brings a fresh new perspective to NWCCOG and leads our organization in these changing times".

Her interest in local government came at a very young age, as she was inspired by the encouragement and mentoring of the City Manager in her home town of Miamisburg, Ohio in junior high. She began interning for the City of Dayton in 1981, and so started her career in local government management. *See Page 18*

NWCCOG Receives $35,000 Planning Grant from U.S. EDA to Prepare CEDS for the Region and to Apply for Economic Development District Status

See story on page 3

Message from the Executive Director

Pam Caskie—pcaskie@nwccog.org, x110

Hello!

On my first day on the job Rachel approached me and said "I would really like for you to write a 'Letter from the Executive Director' for our next newsletter". Being a team player, I said "sure". Then she told me I had a week which turned out to be 4 business days to create this letter and I panicked! What could I say other than hello? I don't know much else.
I don't need to introduce myself—Rachel is doing that elsewhere in the newsletter.

And then I decided authenticity was the best policy. I don't have any grandiose goals or fancy new programs to immediately put in place. I don't know of any hidden grant dollars that will make the economic woes of this recession go away and I don't have the answers to global warming or the secret designs to a car that runs on water. So, what do I have, you wonder?

I have a passion for local government service – a strong belief that government is best served close to the citizens. I have a profound respect for the men and women who every day get up in the morning to serve, protect, and provide essential services to the families and individuals who call our communities home. I am a local government administrator and my new position at NWCCOG doesn't change that. This is a new opportunity to join you in serving not just one local government but many.

I have a strong interest in the issues and complexities of communities who serve a "second home" and tourist population. (This additional layer adds a fun, but complex level to local government.) As a consultant at the University of Tennessee's Municipal Technical Advisory Service, I loved working with the Smoky Mountain communities of Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge, and Sevierville, Tennessee. While the Rockies are certainly the superior mountains, the issues of the communities are interestingly similar.

COG's exist to make their member communities stronger, more efficient, and to assist them in providing more effective services to their citizens. With you, I want to learn what else we can be doing to make that an even stronger reality than it is today.

So, after I write this newsletter, what's next? Road trips! I want to get out and travel the region that we serve. It is my intent to be in every community within the next 8 weeks. I want to meet with appointed staff and elected officials. I want to hear what you have to say about what is going on in the communities of our members. I want to know what you need us to do. How can we help with the issues you struggle with daily? What will make the COG stronger and of greater benefit to those we serve?

At this point I bring no answers, because I believe that the best answers are those we find together. I do bring plenty of questions, a willingness to listen and the skills to synthesize this information into a plan of action that will accomplish, not what I want, but what you want this COG to be.

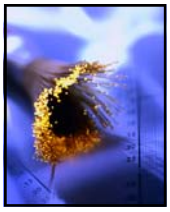
If you have not already heard from Sherry Rogstad, then expect a call to arrange for a community tour. Please help me be successful by sharing your thoughts, goals, wishes and dreams for your community and for OUR organization.

Sincerely,

Pam Caskie

NWCCOG Receives Planning Grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to Chart the Region's Economic Future

$35,000 received from EDA to Develop a Comprehsensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)



The first sentence in NWCCOG's mission statement is *to be responsive to our members' needs and interests*. In the most recent member needs survey, conducted in July 2009, the number one need mentioned by NWCCOG member jurisdictions was "assistance with the economic downturn and associated issues: budget constraints, reduced revenues, long term sustainable funding, unemployment (particularly in the construction industry), maintaining a quality workforce during difficult economic times, funding capital projects, and economic development and diversification away from dependency on resorts and tourism".

NWCCOG staff had already been exploring the requirements of becoming an Economic Development District (EDD) under the auspices of the U.S. Economic Development Administration. In response to the member needs survey, staff moved full speed ahead on this project. The U.S. EDA's mission is *to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy*. The EDA has several investment programs to fulfill this mission in the areas of public works, economic adjustment, research assistance, local technical assistance, and partnership planning. NWCCOG's member jurisdictions will have access to these investment programs, should the region be approved as an EDD.

The first step in becoming an EDD is to create a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). A CEDS is designed to bring together the public and private sectors in the creation of an economic roadmap to diversify and strengthen regional economies. At the direction of the NWCCOG Council (Resolution #09-01 passed 10/22/09), NWCCOG applied for and was awarded a planning grant from the EDA in the amount of $35,000 to develop a CEDS. The grant award was made on April 1, 2010. NWCCOG has 14 months to complete the CEDS, with a deadline of May 31, 2011.

The CEDS planning process will include broad community participation, and will incorporate existing plans and planning processes in the region. All partners in economic development have been identified and asked to participate. All potential resources for economic development will be identified and recruited during this process.

One of the requirements of an EDA-funded CEDS is the formation of a CEDS Advisory Committee to guide the CEDS planning process. The make-up of the CEDS Advisory Committee is to be at least 51% from the Private Sector, and no more than 49% from Other Economic Interests in the Region. The Advisory Committee has been assembled, and the kickoff meeting will be held on July 19th at the NWCCOG Offices in Silverthorne. Items to be discussed include the history of the project, CEDS requirements per the EDA, vision/mission/goals to be included in the CEDS, and most importantly**....what's in it for your community?**

NWCCOG staff will be visiting your community during a county commissioner meeting or town council meeting to provide information on the CEDS planning process. We will also be requesting formal support in the way of a resolution from a majority of the NWCCOG County members approving the CEDS and supporting the formation of an Economic Development District. Please visit our website for more information on this project: www.nwccog.org - click on "Economic Development".

If you have any questions about this project, please contact June Walters, Business & Economic Development Director at 970.468.0295 x119—June@nwccog.org or Rachel Lunney, Research Manager at x106—rachel@nwccog.org.

Alpine Area Agency on Aging

Jean Hammes, Director—aaa12@nwccog.org; x107

REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (RAC) – SENIOR AWARDS CEREMONY

Award recipients pictured above (L-R): David Abbott, Nancy Abbott, Harlan Land, Jane Land, Glynn Brooks, Bonnie Jolly representing Tolly Gore, Wendy Petefish, Bud Elliott, Roxanne Smith, Jim Fuxa, John Heir, Lorie Williams, Charles Cook. Not pictured: Buzz Dopkin, Peter Friedrich, Peggy Graybeal, Liz Hamill, Barb Smith, Bob Throm.

L to R: Ashley Martin (NWCCOG), Jeremy Bloom, Jean Hammes (NWCCOG).

More than 80 people gathered at the Arrabelle at Vail Square Thursday, May 6th to celebrate and honor the recipients of the 22nd Annual Senior Awards. Those gathered had an opportunity to hear from Jeremy Bloom, the keynote speaker and founder of the Jeremy Bloom Wish of A Lifetime Foundation, who shared his passion for the mission of the foundation and talked about why it is so important to serve our seniors. Remarks were also made by Char Bloom and Laura Wildt who are on the Board of Directors. Attendees also heard from John Bade-Regional Advisory Council Chairperson, Debera Stewart-Colorado Commission on Aging, Jeff Shroll-NWCCOG Council Vice Chairperson, Todd Hagenbuch-US Senator Bennett's office, Stuart Feinhor-US Congressman Polis' office, and the award presenters.

FUNDING

Federal Funds. The Federal Older American Act funds had funding increases in Part B services and for the Part C meals. The funding increases were distributed to providers and their State Fiscal Year (SFY) '11 services awards have been renewed at an increased funding level, with one exception.

State Funding for Senior Services.
Region 12 received its state fund allocation amount for State Fiscal Year '11 (July 2010-June 2011). We are very grateful that the state funds for senior services were not cut, and in fact, Region 12 received an increase of $7,117 in total service funds from SFY '10 to SFY '11. Therefore, all of the provider's services awards have been renewed at their total amount for SFY '10, and the mini-grant award program will also be increased. For SFY '11 the total funds available for the mini-grant award program will be $14,977.

LEGISLATION & ADVOCACY

Thank you to everyone who worked with Sherry Rogstad on the senior advocacy stories. We had three excellent and very touching stories from our area (Pitkin, Grand, and Eagle) that were part of the advocacy effort to retain the State Funding for Senior Services. The Alpine AAA continues to attend meetings of key advocacy organizations to have the active involvement and representation of the agency, NWCCOG, RRR and regional interests.

House Bill 10-1053. HB 10-1053 is nearly a reality. The bill authorizes two studies of the long term care system. One study, linked to the aging network, would be conducted under the Department of Human Services to contract for a study of potential cost savings from the provision of services under the Older Coloradans Program. The Older Coloradans Program provides state funds to area agencies on aging for community-based services to enable persons 60 years of age or older to remain in their own homes and communities for as long as possible. If the study shows cost savings through community-based services the state would then develop with the area agencies on aging a strategic plan for providing services through the Older Coloradans program to be presented to the legislature for implementation.

2011 Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act. The Administration on Aging is continuing to encourage individuals to provide their input on the reauthorization. The process to provide feedback and recommendations will continue as part of the four-year area aging plan development process by incorporating the use of the Reauthorization Visioning Guide. The guide will help the RAC, the agency, and program leaders to think about what should remain the same and what changes are needed in the Older Americans Act to better enable older adults and their caregivers to get the supports and services they need.

The Alpine AAA will also be attending the n4a conference in July to participate in the discussion of the top issues and to provide feedback on recommendations.

PLANNING

Community Assessment Survey of Older Adults ™ (CASOA). At the end of March a meeting in Denver was held on the status of conducting the CASOA survey in Colorado. The conducting of a statewide strengths and needs assessment, using the CASOA survey tool, has now been included in the proposed House Bill 1053. That process will begin upon passage and signing of the bill; the target date for completing the statewide assessment is by June 2011 per the bill.

Based on this development and timeline, some area agencies on aging wished to move forward with National Research Center (NRC), a research firm based in Boulder, separately from the statewide strengths and needs assessment - to have the CASOA survey done now in our regions so that we have that information for our four-year planning efforts. Thirteen area agencies on aging are moving forward to contract with NRC independently to conduct the CASOA in their region. Region 12 and 11 will be a part of this separate contract with NRC. Based on the package options presented by NRC, the Alpine AAA will complete a sample for the region and have cross-tabbed results for each county. A county-level Results Brief, highlighting 20+ areas of community strength and weakness, would also be produced for each county should that county's survey returns meet the minimum threshold. (see page 18)

Caregiver Conferences A Success

The National Family Caregiver Support Programs of Regions 11 and 12 would like to thank the sponsors of the 2nd Annual Caregiver Conferences - Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Colorado, Garfield County Department of Human Services, Northwest Colorado Options for Long Term Care, and NWCCOG-Alpine Area Agency on Aging.

Thank you to the planning committee in organizing this event for family and professional caregivers: Linda Byers, Jean Hammes, Judy Martin, Nancy McStay, Elizabeth Means, and Debby Sutherland. Thank you to the Memorial Hospital at Craig and the Glenwood Springs Recreation Center for hosting the June 15 and June 17 events, respectively. Thank you also to the speakers, exhibitors who helped make the events a success. About 60 people attended the day of information, pampering, food, fellowship, entertainment, and door prizes.

A very special thank you goes to our Family Caregivers. You may not always get the thanks and appreciation that you deserve. But your efforts provide your loved ones with a healthy, safe, and loving environment. Your actions have a huge impact on the lives of your friends and family.

NWCCOG Foundation

Liz Mullen, Director
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A ribbon cutting and a ground breaking event on the same day for the Swan Mountain Recpath project!

L to r: Jan Cutts (USFS); Bob Faucett (Summit Biking); Karn Stiegelmeier (Summit County Commissioner); Kermit Miller (Stan Miller); Thomas Davidson (Summit County Commissioner); Aimee Wesly (GOCO); Bob French (Summit County Commissioner).

L to r: Kermit Miller (Stan Miller), Jim Roberts (Summit Biking), Brian Lorch (Summit County Open Space), Bob French (Summit County Commissioner), Karn Stiegelmeier (Summit County Commissioner), Bob Faucett (Summit Biking), Erin Kneedler (Summit Biking); Thomas Davidson (Summit County Commissioner), Brad Eckert (Summit County Open Space)

The NWCCOG Foundation has been working with the *Friends of Swan Mountain Recpath* to raise funds for this project since 2005 and together they have raised over $681,000 in private sector funds to match $3.2 million in public funds raised by Summit County Open Space & Trails Department for the Swan Mountain Recpath project. The Lowery Section (phase I) was completed in August 2007. Construction of the Sapphire Section (phase II) began on August 10, 2009 and the ribbon cutting event took place on Tuesday, June 29, 2010. On the same day, the ground breaking for the Summit Cove Section (phase III) also took place and construction for this third phase is expected to be complete in the fall of 2010.

Elevator Inspection Program

Gene Morse, Director
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EIP Program Launches Handheld Inspection Reporting System to Streamline Permitting and Invoicing Process

The NWCCOG Elevator Inspection Program is instituting a new state of the art computerized process for inputting information collected on elevator inspections. This project is made possible by a grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs' Technical Assistance Grant Program. NWCCOG has purchased handheld devices and software from e-Finity. Training is underway, and the elevator inspection staff hopes to go "live" with the system August 1st. This new system will greatly cut down on data input time, and will streamline the invoicing/permitting process. NWCCOG is serving as a pilot project with this new system, and other agencies including the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) will be considering a similar system based on our experiences.

Northwest All Hazards Emergency Management Region (NWAHEMR)

Liz Mullen, Coordinator—lmullen@nwccog.org, x123

The Northwest All Hazards Emergency Management Region (NWAHEMR) is comprised of 10 counties in the northwest corner of Colorado, bordering Utah and Wyoming. These counties include Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Mesa, Moffat, Rio Blanco, Routt, Pitkin, and Summit. The region has the third highest number of cities/towns and agencies, as well as the second largest land area of any of the nine All-Hazard Regions in the state.

The NWAHEMR consists of an Executive Board, made up of each county's emergency manager (EM), which meets monthly to work together on regional issues, concepts, and planning. A Steering Committee meets monthly and is comprised of the Executive Committee and a functional representative from each of the following Emergency Support Functions (ESF):

- Communications
- Coroners
- Emergency Medical Services
- Fire Services
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Governmental Administration
- HazMat
- Health Care
- Information Technology
- Law Enforcement
- Public Health
- Public Works

The final 2010 CCP (Citizen Corps Program) and SHSG (State Homeland Security Grant) grant applications were submitted to the Governor's Office of Homeland Security (GOHS) by the June 9, 2010 deadline. Presentations of the applications will be scheduled for July 26 & 27. Final awards are expected in September 2010. The combined funding requests total $2,218,396 for the 10-county region.

The NWAHEMR is also focusing on the regional strategic plan throughout the summer of 2010 and the annual Summit Meeting to identify specific projects within the region will take place in Glenwood Springs on September 15, 2010. This strategic plan must be completed by December 31, 2010 and is required by GOHS to qualify for 2011 funding.

2010 Technical Assistance Mini-Grant Program

Seven awards made for a Total of $30,000

The 2010 technical assistance mini grants were awarded at the January 28, 2010 NWCCOG meeting in Silverthorne. This program is funded by the Department of Local Affairs' Energy Impact Assistance Fund (EIAF). Below is a list of grantees and the projects for which the grants funds will be used:

- **Town of Carbondale** – Tree Inventory Project $1,000
- **Town of Eagle/Eagle County** – West Eagle Revitalization Project $5,000
- **Grand County** – Sustainable Community Health System Business Planning $10,000
- **Town of Grand Lake** – Advanced GIS Technical Assistance $1,000
- **Town of Minturn** – Water Treatment Facility Telemetry Improvements $5,000
- **Pitkin County** – Files Management/Archive System $5,000
- **Town of Vail** – Regional Energy Efficiency Training & Existing Building Analysis Project $3,000

Business & Economic Development

June Walters, Director—june@nwccog.org, x119

NWCCOG Business and Economic Development…"We're all about access to capital for our members and their constituents"

L to r: Paul Dunford (Reg. 10), Dick Davidson (Reg. 8), Cassie Alexander (Reg. 9), Jenny Stollar (Reg. 9), Ken Gabriel (OEDIT), June Walters (Reg. 12), Alice Kotrlik (Deputy Director, OEDIT), Eric Berglund (Reg. 2), Ed Morlan (Reg. 9)

In addition to the award of the EDA Short-term Planning Grant, the Colorado State Forest Service announced the commitment of $265,000 to a **Forest Business Loan Fund**, made available through House Bill 09-1199. This FBLF was proposed as the most effective mechanism to support retention and expansion of existing businesses, and to recruit new business that will address mountain pine beetle outbreak and other forest health issues on public and private forested lands. The existing delivery system of Business Loan Funds in both Regions 12 (Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Moffat, Pitkin, Rio Blanco and Summit Counties) and Region 13 (Chaffee, Custer, Fremont, Lake, Park, and Teller Counties) will be utilized to enhance the capacity of this business sector to economically remove, use, and develop product and market opportunities for the beetle-killed and non-beetle-kill forest resource. BEcD staff is also exploring federal agency partnerships to potentially double the investment in this project. Curious? Call or email June Walters for more info.

Staff recently attended a meeting of **statewide rural business loan fund administrators** and the **Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT)** in Durango. A good news/bad news announcement of Ken Gabriel's retirement was delivered – good news for Ken, sad news for the cohort he leaves behind. Ken has served in OEDIT as business loan fund specialist for ten years, under Department of Local Affairs auspices. DoLA has just announced that the vacancy will be filled ASAP! Best wishes to Ken, whose last day is August 31, 2010, and here's hoping DoLA recruits as fine and supportive a person as Ken has been.

BEcD staff is already working furiously on completing the BLF's **Community Development Block Grant request** for submission before Ken leaves. The request is for $500,000, of which $420,000 is slated for small business financial assistance in the form of low interest loans, and the remainder is obligated for administration (marketing, loan application packaging, review, approval, loan servicing, collections and foreclosure, and reporting to, and monitoring by HUD/DoLA) of the BLF. A requirement to obtain these funds is public comment intake, and sign-off by the BOCC chair of each of the nine counties covered by the BLF. Look for June Walters/CDBG/BLF on upcoming BOCC meeting agendas throughout the region, and if you can lend your support in this process, it will be heartily welcomed.

Also at the Durango meeting, BLF administrators were presented with a new challenge of further utilizing their long and well-established financing delivery system for **local partnering** with the federally-funded **Governor's Energy Office**. Goals of such a partnership will be job creation and retention, energy resource development, greenhouse gas reduction, improved energy efficiency and, of course, access to capital. BLF participation was also solicited for the new **Main Street Efficiency Initiative**, a GEO project that will package energy efficiency improvements with Main Street façade improvement to result in improved cash flows and collateral margins. For more information, please visit the Colorado GEO website and click on "**MSEI Grant Program**", or call June Walters for updates.

Access to **USDA capital** is also being sought, applications are in preparation for the **Rural Business Enterprise Grant program (R-Beg),** the **Rural Micro Entrepreneur Assistance Program**, **ARRA Community Funding for Libraries**, and the **Household Well Water Assistance Grant Program**. Staff is working with regional USDA reps in Craig and Delta to earn these awards over the course of USDA's diverse funding deadline calendar.

BEcD staff is always on the lookout for access to capital to support any and every business and/or economic development project throughout the COG region, and to that end, has entered into an agreement with **Colorado Housing and Financing Authority (CHFA)** which will help generate small business loans by establishing a reserve account for the Region 12 BLF to help cover losses on loans registered under the Colorado Credit Reserve program. The reserve account offsets losses incurred by registered loans, at Region 12's discretion, and the account grows over time with each new loan that is registered in the program. Call or email June Walters if you'd like to learn further details. This program is also open to banks in our region.

The BLF is currently reviewing two loans, which if approved, will be registered in the CCR program. DoLA is also looking for BLF participation in their **Sustainable Main Streets Initiative** – a planning and investment project between local, state and federal agencies to strengthen Colorado communities. Their approach centers on seven basic sustainable community development principles, adapted from, and agreed upon by the Departments of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and the Environmental Protection Agency – tailored to fit Colorado. The Town of Rifle, which is in the NWCCOG's BLF service area, is one of DoLA's pilot communities Please talk with June Walters to learn the Seven Principles of Sustainability, and how to determine what can be achieved for your communities with this program.

Lastly, BEcD staff is continuing on the path to Certified Economic Developer status, with the next course entitled "Economic Development Strategic Planning" next month…beautiful timing in light of the current efforts with the EDA grant, and creation of a region-wide **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy**! Upon completion of the required coursework, and a three-day written and oral exam, hopefully to be passed in 2011, the NWCCOG will have the first **CEcD—Internationally Certified Economic Developer—** on the West Slope in its employ.

Northwest Loan Fund

The Northwest Loan Fund loan committee approved a small start-up loan to Jason and Donna Manto for their new business—Mantos Pizza LLC. Mantos Pizza will be the first fresh pizza kitchen in Gypsum. They will also offer delivery. Mantos will have a soft opening most likely in September. Mantos Pizza will be located at 106 Oakridge Court in Gypsum, CO. Head in for a slice!

The Northwest Loan Fund is one of 14 business loan funds (BLFs) in the State of Colorado. The mission of BLF's is to promote the development of businesses within our communities through access to capital.
Goals of BLF's are to:

- Focus on businesses which diversify the economy and provide lasting community benefits,
- Bridge the gap for businesses which will eventually qualify for bank financing and prepare them for traditional bank relationships,
- Facilitate job creation and retention for low and moderate income residents of our communities,
- Provide risk mitigation for local lenders, and
- Promote entrepreneurship and business innovation through the potential of business owners investing in the economic success of their community.

Weatherization Program

Steve Getz, Director—sgetz@nwccog.org, x103

NWCCOG's WX Team Celebrates a Successful 2009-10 Year at Annual Training Picnic on June 29th. L to R , bottom row: Brandon Buhlman, Sean O'Connell, Tom Dunlap, Aaron Simmons, Mark Hox, Tyler Cose, Mike Brown, Robin Henry, Bruce Wischmann, Charles Steele. Top row: Doug Jones, Steve Getz, Tony Bednar, Nate Speerstra, Victoria Swain, Rob McKeon, Danny Lopez, Josh Polmateer, Gabe Guerara, Mike Bugielski, Jeff Robinson, Nick Stiteler, Scott Benson, Josh Arkels

By Tony Bednar, Outreach Coordinator

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The NWCCOG Weatherization Program has successfully completed its first year of stimulus funded production, which began on July 1, 2009. On June 24, 2010, the program surpassed its aggressive goal to serve 450 households over 12 months – more than doubling the amount of the previous year – by finishing work on home number 454. The program has achieved a number of accomplishments in the last year: a record number of regional residents served, over a dozen jobs created, partnerships with local contractors expanded and a vast amount of energy conserved.

While the focus of the program is to save residents energy and money, perhaps the most rewarding parts of the past year for Weatherization Program staff have been the incredibly positive feedback and touching stories from recipients. Letters and phone calls have poured in, ranging from a simple "thank you", to stories of significantly impactful experiences. An elderly woman was able to sleep through the night without having to restart her fire due to the program providing her with attic and wall insulation. A disabled man wrote that his home is now a better place to live, thanks to the professionalism and courtesy of the program's technicians. And, a woman was elated when she saw her thermostat climb above 62 degrees for the first time.

The NWCCOG Weatherization Program is part of a statewide effort managed by the Governor's Energy Office (GEO). Through the efforts of 11 partner agencies, well over 5,000 Colorado residents have received weatherization services over the past year. "We congratulate our partner agencies across Colorado for rising to the call to extend these services to more homes, more families and bring more workers into our New Energy Economy," said GEO director Tom Plant. "Making homes more energy efficient saves money for those who most need it, creates good jobs, increases our energy independence and reduces climate-altering emissions."

In addition to taking on an increased workload, the NWCCOG Weatherization Program also enjoyed success in a couple of new undertakings. A pilot pellet stove program was very popular, with 33 recipients. Pellet stoves allow users to enjoy a cheap, clean burning fuel source that promotes job growth and renewable energy in Colorado. "One of NWCCOG's goals is to use temporary stimulus dollars to create permanent manufacturing jobs and efforts in this area have been successful," said Energy Management Director Steve Getz.

Right—Steve Getz, NWCCOG's Weatherization Director, wearing a t-shirt listing numbers from 1 to 454, representing all the homes weatherized from 7/1/09—6/30/2010.

Douglas Karl, State Weatherization Director, thanks the NWCCOG team for a productive year. He showed his appreciation by cooking at the picnic!

NWCCOG also took on two multi-family projects this year, which included housing for seniors and disabled residents.

The Weatherization Program will hit the ground running into the new program year with over 200 applicants already qualified to receive services. For more information on the program visit www.nwccog.org.

GEO Weatherization Partners Surpass 5,000 Homes for the Year

Recovery Act dollars boost families served, create jobs for work crews; Governor's Energy Office credits 11 partner agencies across Colorado

Doug Jones, Weatherization Field Supervisor, smiles as the NWCCOG Weatherization Team is congratulated for their hard work.

Thanks in part to warmer weather; the local weatherization agencies have been able to significantly boost their production over the past several months. They are now collectively weatherizing close to 200 homes per week. Aside from adding insulation to walls, attics and other poorly or non-insulated areas, weatherization crews seal leaks in ducts and other areas of the home as well as - in some cases - replace old, inefficient appliances. Crews have replaced 1,328 furnaces, 1,484 refrigerators and 135 water heaters since the start of the fiscal year July 1, 2009.

Families who have received weatherization services see, on average, a savings of $350 on their annual energy bills, depending on energy prices. Of the 5,000 homes served, 26 percent have residents older than 60 in the home; 18 percent have children under 5; 23 percent have a disabled resident.

In addition to the work being done by local agencies, The Governor's Energy Office weatherization program partners with a multi-family provider, Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC), to serve larger, centrally heated, buildings across the state. EOC expects to deliver over 1,000 completed units this month.

Households that qualify for weatherization services include those where residents are already receiving financial assistance under other programs, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP), Supplemental Security Income, Aid to the Needy and Disabled (AND) and Old Age Pension (OAP). Eligibility can also be determined by household income. Under ARRA, households making up to 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level are eligible.

NWCCOG's Weatherization Program Sponsors Certified Renovator Training to Comply with New EPA Lead Based Paint Regulations

On June 28th, NWCCOG sponsored training on new lead-based paint regulations that became effective on April 22, 2010. Agencies from across the state participated, including Northeast Colorado Association of Local Governments (installers from Greeley and Fort Morgan attended) and Housing Resources of Western Colorado (installers from Grand Junction and Montrose participated.) The training was conducted by EPA-certified lead trainers from Misers Training out of Englewood, Colorado. Also in attendance was Douglas Karl, the State Weatherization Director. NWCCOG was thanked by the State for sponsoring this consolidated training that benefited several agencies from across the state.

Water Quality/Quantity Committee (QQ)

Shanna Koenig, Co-Director—qqwater@nwccog.org; x117

Basic Standards Hearing – QQ participated in the Water Quality Control Commission Basic Standards Rulemaking hearing that occurred on June 7th. QQ was party to the hearing and provided written comments in the form of a rebuttal and participated in the prehearing conference. In the end, all of QQ concerns were worked out between the EPA, the Water Quality Control Division and other parties prior to the hearing. At that point QQ did not feel the need to submit oral testimony and let our written comments stand. Final hearing documents can be found at this link: http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/op/wqcc/WQClassandStandards/Reg31/BasinWide2010/DFA/DFA.html

Nutrient Standards – The Water Quality Control Division (Division) is proposing that Colorado adopt water quality standards to limit nutrients in waterbodies, with the focus on total nitrogen and total phosphorus. The proposal is controversial for various reasons and has recently begun to receive a lot of attention from the water community and dischargers. QQ has begun participating in the Colorado Water Quality Forum work group that has been meeting on the issue for some time now. Colorado Water Congress also formed a working group and with the aide of its members, developed an analysis of the legal and technical implications of nutrient standards. While QQ did not contribute in the development of the assessment, QQ has begun to participate in the (currently) non-formal group that Water Congress is helping to administer.

QQ has heard that the Division plans to unveil a new proposal on nutrient standards sometime in July 2010. It is poised to be a bit less controversial. The hearing for nutrient standards will likely be in June 2011. QQ staff will continue to monitor future developments and to participate in organized groups working on the issue to ensure members are minimally impacted.

Legislature – The 2010 legislative session ended on May 12th. QQ worked to ensure 1041 would not be inadvertently misinterpreted through legislation that added the commercial production of energy through geothermal development to activities of statewide interest. QQ also worked with the environmental community, the Governor's office, the Department of Natural Resources and other water providers to ensure that statewide water conservation data collection was not onerous to our members and that the data collected would have the potential to be meaningful.

Legislative interim committees were suspended for 2010 due to budget shortages. A bill was killed later in the session that would have done away with the Water Resources Review Committee altogether. The West Slope was concerned that it took a significant amount of effort to make sure there was adequate West Slope representation on the committee when it was formed; and that if the committee was completely dissolved it would be a struggle to restore the committee with the same representation.

The Colorado Water Conservation Committee (CWCB) also dodged a budgetary bullet this session. A bill to augment the General Fund would have essentially drained the CWCB construction fund and crippled CWCB operations. The water community pulled together and was able to amend the bill in Appropriations, ultimately keeping the CWCB open for business.

Wild and Scenic – QQ has participated in a stakeholder led approach to develop an alternative for consideration by the BLM and USFS in their environmental impact statement (EIS) that includes evaluation of portions of the Upper Colorado River system under the Wild and Scenic Act. A schematic of that alternative was provided to BLM in May for analysis under NEPA and comparison with other alternatives. In the meantime the stakeholder group continues to work on certain details of their alternative. Those specifics will be provided to BLM by July 15th.

Nonconsumptive Needs – QQ administers a grant from CWCB to develop an assessment of Nonconsumptive water needs in the Colorado River Basin. These nonconsumptive needs are largely ecological and recreational. This project draws on work initiated by The Nature Conservancy and utilizes world-renowned experts in fisheries, riparian areas, and water based recreation. The outcome of the project will be a model or Watershed Flow Evaluation Tool to assess risks to nonconsumptive needs associated with stream flow levels. The effort has become controversial due to concerns from front range water diverters that the Tool may be used in some manner that would evaluate impacts of their current or future projects. CWCB intends to incorporate the Tool into phase 2 of the Colorado River Water Availability Study. Completion of the project will be in early 2011.

CO River Basin Proposal – QQ continues to work with Grand and Summit Counties on the resolution of multiple issues through the Colorado River Basin Proposal process.

Rural Resort Region

Gap Analysis to Study Home and Community-Based Senior Services

One of the outcomes of the Rural Resort Region's (RRR) *2009 Seniors in our Mountain Communities* project was direction to examine the gaps in senior services in the counties of the Rural Resort Region that are not tied to an institutional setting. The goal of this analysis is to develop strategies that serve to keep seniors in their own homes as they age—i.e. age in place.

The Rural Resort Region board has contracted with National Research Center (NRC) to conduct a gap analysis to study the gaps in these services, and to suggest strategies for filling these gaps. Staff met with the NRC project team on April 20th to discuss the project work plan. A stakeholder survey and a caregiver survey has been conducted thus far, and the results of these are being compiled. Michelle Kobayashi, NRC project lead, will be giving an update on the Gap Analysis Project and conducting an input session at the next Rural Resort Region board meeting on Thursday, July 22nd at the Glenwood Springs Community Center (the board meets from 1 pm—3 pm). For more information, please contact Michelle Kobayashi at michelle@n-r-c.com or Rachel Lunney at rachel@nwccog.org or 970.468.0295 x106.

Local Coordinating Council (LCC)

One of the outcomes of the Rural Resort Region's (RRR) *2009 Seniors in our Mountain Communities* project was direction to apply for a grant to improve transportation coordination in the RRR area. Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) has been awarded a grant from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to form a Local Coordinating Council (LCC) in our region.

A LCC is a body that encourages, implements and/or oversees the provision of coordinated transportation in their county(s) or region. The LCC also provides feedback to the State's Interagency Coordinating Council as to what is working well, where State procedures or policies may need to be changed, or where technical assistance may be needed. LCCs consist of stakeholders with an interest in improving mobility, access, or providing transportation services. The most effective LCCs will be diverse organizations that reflect community values and are able to build wide local support for their actions.

NWCCOG has contracted with RAE Consultants, Inc. to serve as the Facilitator for creation of our LCC. Rick Evans, Principal of RAE Consultants, will serve as the Project Manager for this project, and Margi Ness and Richard Guest will assist.

The Facilitator will be responsible for working cooperatively with other organizations and agencies to formally organize a LCC that consists of the community's providers of human services transportation, funders of those services, transit agencies, human services agencies that use or need those services, advocates for human services client groups, and other interested organizations. County departments of social services are strongly encouraged to participate, as they play a very key role in the success of LCCs.

The first meeting of the LCC is scheduled for Thursday, July 29, 2010 in Frisco. If you are interested in participating, please contact Rick Evans at Rick@raeconsultants.com.

NWCCOG PEOPLE

Rick Weinman

Elevator Inspector

Rick Weinman is the new Elevator Inspector at NWCCOG. He officially began his position with the EIP program in April of this year. Rick grew up in South Amboy, New Jersey. He earned a mechanical engineering degree from New Jersey Institute of Technology in 1983, and began working for Plast-o-matic Valves, an industrial valve manufacturer in Totowa, NJ. Rick has always been an avid skier, so the Rocky Mountains of Colorado began calling. Rick moved out to Breckenridge, CO in 1990 with three friends from his ski club back east. As the story goes for so many Summit County folks, he came for one season, and never left.

Rick began working for the Summit County Building Department in 1996 as an inspector. After 5 years at the County, Rick joined the Town of Silverthorne Building Department as Building Official. He held this position until 2009. With the downturn in the economy came a downturn in building activity for the Town, and thus Rick was laid off due to slowed activity. NWCCOG had learned of Rick's expertise and skills through our own building remodel project (the NWCCOG Office is located in the Town of Silverthorne) (see page 19)

NWCCOG Employees Honored for Years of Service

Steve Getz

Director, Weatherization

June Walters

Director, Business & Economic Development

Congratulations to both Steve Getz and June Walters for their dedicated service to NWCCOG. Steve has served as Director of the Weatherization program for 20 years. June has served as Director of the Northwest Loan Fund (recently re-named 'Business & Economic Development' to reflect her expanded duties with (hopefully!) eventual Economic Development District status) for 15 years.

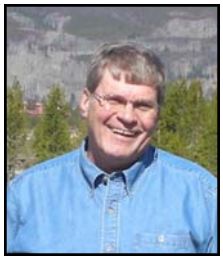
Mark Hox

Weatherization Trainer

Mark Hox, who worked as a Weatherization Installer since 2008, was just promoted to Weatherization Trainer, a newly-created position within the Weatherization Program. Mark will be responsible for conducting trainings for all Weatherization staff to standards established by the US Department of Energy (DOE), Colorado Governor's Energy Office (GEO), Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG), and other federal, state and local entities. This position is funded by ARRA and was created as part of GEO's new focus on training.

Gary Severson

Appointed to Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Advisory Committee



Gary Severson, former Executive Director of NWCCOG, has been staying quite busy since leaving his post at NWCCOG in December 2009. He has continued his work in public lands management as a member of the USFS National Collaboration Cadre, through which he has been working in the seven states comprising the Southern Appalachians helping them develop collaborative approaches to ecological restoration on the national forests and adjacent lands.

Gary also was recently selected by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack to serve as an advisory committee member tasked with evaluating Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration proposals. The newly appointed 15-member Advisory Committee was established by the Forest Landscape Restoration Act and will serve as the eyes and ears for local and rural communities to ensure USDA provides healthy forests and waterways which will help create green jobs and economic prosperity for our communities. Congratulations and good luck to Gary in his current endeavors. NWCCOG is fortunate that its communities continue to have Gary as an advocate for protection of its public lands as he continues his work in public lands management.

NWCCOG PEOPLE

NWCCOG Board Member:
Tim Westerberg
Councilmember, Town of Dillon

Tim Westerberg was elected to the Dillon Town Council in April 2010. He was then appointed the NWCCOG Council representative for the Town of Dillon.

Dr. Westerberg served as a high school principal for twenty-six years, the last twenty of which were at Littleton High School in Littleton, Colorado (1985-2005). Prior to entering school administration, Dr. Westerberg taught social studies and coached at the high school level in Illinois and in Iowa. Westerberg earned his B.S. and M.A. degrees from the University of Iowa and his Ph.D. in Educational Administration from Iowa State University.

"I've always been involved in some kind of community service wherever I've lived," he said. "It seems to me that getting involved in town council would be a good way to become more informed about community issues and opportunities, and also be of service."

Tim moved to Dillon seven years ago. He currently works as a self-employed education consultant. He and his wife together have five children — Wendy (38), Brian (33), Rachel (23), and 19-year-old twins McCabe and Mackenzie.

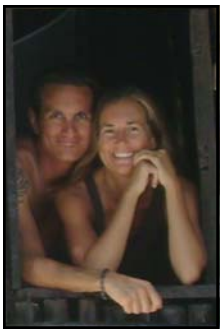
Before joining town council, on the Front Range he was the president of Interfaith Task Force, a nonprofit that provides food, shelter, clothing and more for low-income families. He's also served as president of the Alliance for Quality Teaching, a Denver organization acting as an advocate for policy issues. As a high school principal, he was involved in a variety of education-related organizations.

According to Tim, the top three issues for Dillon include: 1) Attracting more retail business to the town core of Dillon "without destroying the small-town atmosphere that's part of its lure and attractiveness"; 2) Planning for and encouraging economic sustainability while maintaining traditional, historic Dillon; and 3) Integrating different cultures in Summit County, and particularly in Dillon "so we can take advantage of the increasing diversity."

As for his interest in NWCCOG, Tim states "Dillon has the same common interests, goals, objectives that other mountain communities have. Dillon's future success is interdependent on the success of the communities with whom we share the mountains".

Dr. Westerberg has received numerous awards in recognition of his service to the education profession, including being named as one of four finalists for the NASSP/Met Life Principal of the Year program in 1994, the Honor Administrator Award by the Colorado Music Educators Association in 1998, and the Department Service Award by the Colorado Association of Secondary School Principals in 1999. He is author of the book Creating the High Schools of Our Choice (2007), a principal's perspective on the realities of high school reform.

Is there Something in the Water?



Congratulations to both

Lane Wyatt
and
Shanna Koenig

who share the directorship of NWCCOG's Water Quality/Quantity Committee on their recent nuptials. Lane (left photo) and Jean were married on June 5th, and Shanna (right photo) and Glen were married on July 3rd. Congratulations to both couples!

Steve Allen
Elevator Inspector Recovered from Successful Liver Transplant

Steve Allen, Elevator Inspector underwent a liver transplant on May 31st. NWCCOG is happy to report the surgery was a success, and Steve recovered very quickly! He returned to work on July 7th, after just a little over a month recovering. Welcome back to Steve.

How Did NWCCOG's Region Do?

Mail Response Rates in NWCCOG's Region

Provided by State of Colorado Demography Office
(Final rate to be released 10/2010)

Town	Mail Response Rate
Carbondale	69%
Eagle	67%
Glenwood Springs	66%
Gypsum	62%
Hot Sulphur Springs	60%
Kremmling	60%
Walden	60%
Basalt	56%
Red Cliff	49%
Minturn	48%
Granby	43%
Silverthorne	43%
Steamboat Springs	38%
Aspen	37%
Avon	37%
Montezuma	37%
Fraser	31%
Blue River	29%
Frisco	29%
Dillon	27%
Vail	23%
Breckenridge	22%
Grand Lake	20%
Winter Park	18%
Eagle County	40%
Grand County	33%
Jackson County	39%
Piktin County	39%
Summit County	28%
U.S.	72%
Colorado	70%

What's Left to Do: Census 2010

Quality Assurance Operations

(4/11/10 - 9/3/10)

During the next several months, the Census Bureau will conduct three major quality assurance operations and other processes to ensure that the 2010 Census is an accurate and complete picture of everyone living across the nation. These efforts are an investment in the quality of the census that will pay off for the next 10 years.

QA 1: Coverage Follow-Up Operation (4/11/10 - 8/13/10)- During this operation, the Census Bureau will call households who have responded to the 2010 Census if we need to clarify any answers about the number of people living at the address on April 1st. If we have some indication that someone may have been included or excluded in error, we will call to get a better understanding of the situation, and then use our census residence rules to resolve the uncertainties.

QA 2: Vacant Delete Check (7/24/10 - 8/25/10) - We collect additional information to ensure housing units classified as vacant (or nonexistent) were in fact unoccupied on April 1st. In this operation, we follow-up with housing units that were classified as vacant or nonexistent during the non-response follow-up operation. A census taker - different from the one who made the original classification - will visit the housing unit to confirm the classification. If they determine that classification was wrong, they will collect the census information for the housing unit and any Census Day residents. During this operation, we also will visit and enumerate addresses that were added to our master list too late to include them in the Form Delivery and Mailback phase or in the Door-to-Door Followup phase.

QA 3: Field Verification (8/6/10 - 9/3/10) - In this operation, we send census workers to verify whether an address exists and to confirm its geographic location, if it does not match an address in our file. These addresses were submitted by households who provided their census information without an identification number linked back to our address file. For example, the households may have submitted a Be Counted form or provided their census information over the phone. We also use this operation to resolve suspected duplicate addresses contained within the same block.

Local Census Office

Grand Junction Local Census Office
573 West Crete Circle
Grand Junction, CO 81505
970.361.3690

Demographics of the Region

Colorado Department of Local Affairs State Demography Office Presents Draft 2009 Population Estimates

The Colorado Department of Local Affairs, State Demography Office (SDO) has prepared draft July 1, 2009 population estimates for local government review. These population estimates, once finalized, will be the basis for the distribution of Conservation Trust Fund (CTF) lottery funds to your jurisdiction.

Recent adjustments by the US Census Bureau to the domestic and international migration components, along with SDO updates to housing units and group quarters facilities, are reflected in these estimates. Please send questions or comments you may have regarding these population estimates to Eddie Hunsinger, Estimates Demographer, at eddie.hunsinger@state.co.us, (303) 866-4989. Local government input and involvement in the State Demography Office's estimates process ensures the most accurate data for Conservation Trust Fund distribution.

Components of Change

The Colorado State Demography Office (SDO) applies a basic Components of Change Method to create annual (July 1) State and County Population Estimates. For example:

July 1 2008 Population + July 1 2008 to June 30 2009 Births – July 1 2008 to June 30 2009 Deaths + July 1 2008 to June 30 2009 Net Migration and Change in Group Quarters =
July 1 2009 Population

Birth and Death data are provided by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Net Migration data are from the U.S. Census Bureau (IRS, Medicare and Immigration Statistics). Changes in Group Quarters facilities (such as dormitories and barracks) are provided by local governments and other agencies.

Components of change (7/2008-7/2009)—NWCCOG Counties:

County	Births	Deaths	Net Migration	Total Change
Eagle	870	92	853	+1,631
Grand	146	54	33	+125
Jackson	8	14	19	+13
Pitkin	173	43	309	+439
Summit	373	46	167	+494

NWCCOG's Population:

Source: State Demography Office

	2000 Census	Jul-08 Est.	*Draft* Jul-09 Est.	+/- 08-09	% Change 00 - '09
Eagle County	**41,659**	**54,044**	**54,721**	**677**	**31%**
Avon	5,561	6,919	7,108	189	28%
Basalt (MCP)	1,952	2,399	2,438	39	25%
Eagle	3,032	5,970	6,054	84	100%
Gypsum	3,654	6,248	6,786	538	86%
Minturn	1,068	1,196	1,226	30	15%
Red Cliff	289	320	336	16	16%
Vail	4,531	4,960	5,027	67	11%
Uninc. Area	21,572	26,032	25,746	(286)	19%
Grand County	**12,442**	**14,620**	**14,623**	**3**	**18%**
Fraser	910	1,134	996	(138)	25%
Granby	1,525	2,002	2,438	436	31%
Grand Lake	447	482	404	(78)	8%
Hot Sulphur Spgs	521	632	708	76	21%
Kremmling	1,578	1,685	1,656	(29)	7%
Winter Park	662	873	891	18	32%
Uninc. Area	6,799	7,812	7,530	(282)	15%
Jackson County	**1,577**	**1,440**	**1,450**	**10**	**-9%**
Walden	734	627	625	(2)	-15%
Uninc. Area	843	813	825	12	-4%
Pitkin County	**14,872**	**17,101**	**17,492**	**391**	**15%**
Aspen	5,914	6,671	6,847	176	13%
Basalt (MCP)	729	878	901	23	20%
Snowmass Vg.	1,822	2,333	2,613	280	28%
Uninc. Area	6,407	7,219	7,131	(88)	13%
Summit County	**23,548**	**29,143**	**29,226**	**83**	**24%**
Blue River	685	769	733	(36)	12%
Breckenridge	2,408	3,668	3,934	266	52%
Dillon	802	838	853	15	4%
Frisco	2,443	2,852	3,005	153	17%
Montezuma	42	53	53	-	26%
Silverthorne	3,196	4,203	4,263	60	32%
Uninc. Area	13,972	16,760	16,385	(375)	20%
Outside Reg 12				-	
Carbodnale	5196	6,639	7,026	387	28%
Glenwood Springs	7736	9,026	9,250	224	17%
Steamboat Springs	9815	11,939	12,143	204	22%
Total outside of 5	22747	27,604	28,419	815	21%
Total NWCCOG	**75,186**	**143,952**	**145,931**	**1,979**	**91%**

Alpine Area Agency on Aging

(continued from page 5)

The final report is planned to be completed by the end of August 2010. In our conversations with the NRC, it is our hope that the CASOA will be a complement to the RRR Gap Analysis project (which the NRC will also be doing), and provide data for the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

Four-Year Area Plan on Aging. The instructions and necessary forms for the development of the SFY 2012-2015 four-year area plan on aging have been received from the State Unit on Aging. The Alpine AAA's is targeting for a draft copy of the plan to be reviewed by the Regional Advisory Council and NWCCOG Council at their respective November & December meetings. The date for the submission of the final plan to the State Unit on Aging is January 13, 2011.

From the policy directive sent by the State Unit on Aging, the overall purpose of the area plan is for each region to realize its full potential by articulating the prioritization, range and delivery of services to older adults and eligible consumers during the four-year period of July 2012 thru June 2015. This will be best achieved by the inclusion and input of the region's leadership, citizenry, and providers. The four-year area plan development process will also provide an opportunity to outline the look at new ways of doing business among the region along with expanding the roles and functions of the area agency on aging.

In addition to providing input as the sponsoring entity of the Alpine AAA, the NWCCOG Council has a specific role in the four-year area plan development: to identify and designate community focal points for comprehensive service delivery within and among the region. The term "focal point" means a facility established to encourage the maximum collocation and coordination of services for older individuals. Once identified, the focal points must be identified in the Alpine AAA's four-year area plan.

The Alpine AAA has also been working on or assisting with the following efforts:

- Rural Resort Region's work projects for the policy recommendations.
- Business plan development with the Statewide ADRC/ARCH Taskforce on the Administration on Aging (AoA) Adult & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) grant funds received by the State Unit on Aging for the expansion of the ARCH/ ADRC in NW Colorado. This expansion discussion and planning requires the inclusion of the 2-1-1 systems, Network of Care, single-entry point, the information & assistance services provided through the community focal points, and county human services.
- Selecting a summer intern to do a compilation, organization and cataloguing of the resources, information and literature related to aging from the Alpine AAA, NWCCOG and Rural Resort Region.

Pamela Caskie

(continued from page 1)

"Local government is a good fit for me", says Pam. "I really enjoy the variety that comes with local government. It's also important to me that the work that we do in local government makes a direct impact on the lives of the residents of the community". Pam is very excited to begin her work with NWCCOG because of the diversity. "With NWCCOG, the range of involvement in the region is so diverse, from the lives of our seniors, to the pine beetle epidemic, to water quality, to being part of the new energy economy with our weatherization program", says Pam. "Our work here with the member communities leads to our member communities being better equipped to serve their constituents", says Pam.

Pam states that, having never lived in Colorado, she brings no pre-conceived ideas about the region. She does, however, have a strong understanding of the issues facing tourism-based communities through her work as a management consultant with Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) in Knoxville, Tennessee. "I am a listener and a synthesizer. Those are the strengths I bring to NWCCOG", says Pam. "I am committed to listening to the membership, synthesizing the thoughts of 'where do we want NWCCOG to go in the future', and guiding both the staff and the board towards getting there", says Pam. Pam stated that she will draw heavily on the background she gained working with MTAS in the areas of strategic planning and technology in her new role as NWCCOG's Executive Director. "One key benefit of membership in NWCCOG is the strength in numbers on regional issues that you cannot get as individual players", says Pam. "We need to find ways to create economic efficiencies."

Pam will spend the summer visiting member jurisdictions. She has set an ambitious goal of meeting with every member jurisdiction before the August 26th strategic planning session to be held in Kremmling. "I am going to hit the ground running by building bridges with the staff and officials of our member jurisdictions" says Pam.

Pam has made the move from Alliance, NE to Silverthorne. She has 6 children and 5 grandchildren of the heart scattered far and wide across the world. She will be immediately joined by one daughter and her 2 year old granddaughter who will reside with her in Silverthorne, and joined soon after by much of the rest of her family.

RESOURCES

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- **Colorado Department of Local Affairs**—Energy Impact Assistance Fund (EIAF) Grant Program—Deadlines: August 1st and December 1st, 2010. www.dola.state.co.us/dlg/fa/eiaf/index.html
- **Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO)** - Local Government, Planning Grants, and Mini-Grants—Deadline: 8/27/2010. www.goco.org.
- **Cooperative Development Foundation**—Mutual Service Cooperative Fund: Grants for programs that enhance the quality of life for seniors living in rural Americal (8/6/2010) - www.cdf.coop/AboutMSCfund

The following federal grant opportunities are currently available. Deadlines are in parentheses after the listing. Complete details for federal grants can be found on **www.grants.gov**:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - Climate Showcase Communities Program—Projects that Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions (7/26/2010)
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services—Administration on Aging—Strengthening the Aging Network: An Opportunity for Training & Evaluation (8/13/2010)
- U.S. Department of Energy (ARRA Funded) - Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program—Programs to Reduce total energy use and reduce fossil fuel emissions (8/10/2010) - www.fedconnect.net
- National Endowment for the Humanities—Enduring Questions Grant Program—to foster intellectual community (9/15/2010)
- U.S. Department of Transportation—Surface Transportation Infrastructure—Discretionary Grants for Capital Investment (8/23/2010)
- National Endowment for the Humanities—Picturing America School Collaboration Projects (10/7/2010)
- National Institutes of Health—Subjective Well-Being: Advances in Measurement and Applications to Aging (11/3/2010)

WORKSHOPS/CONFERENCES

- American Planning Association (APA) Colorado Chapter—Annual Conference—Oct. 6—9, 2010, Steamboat Springs
- Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) Winter Conference—Nov. 29—Dec. 1, 2010, Colorado Springs
- Downtown Colorado Inc. (CDI) 2010 Annual Conference—"Essential Community Responses to the New Economic Reality" - Sept. 23-24, 2010, Glenwood Springs
- Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute 2011 Annual Conference—March 3-4, 2011, Denver

2010 MEETINGS & EVENTS

JULY
7/19—CEDS Advisory Committee Kickoff Meeting—NWCCOG
7/16—Colorado Bark Beetle Cooperative
7/21—NWAHEMR Steering Committee—Garfield County
7/22—NWCCOG Full Council & Rural Resort Region - Glen. Spgs

AUGUST
8/18—NWAHEMR Steering Committee—Garfield County
8/20—Colorado Assoc. of Regional Organizations—Denver
8/26—NWCCOG Strategic Planning Session—Kremmling

SEPTEMBER
9/8—Alpine Area Agency on Aging / Regional Advisory Council
9/15—NWAHEMR Annual Summit Meeting—Glenwood Spgs.
9/23—NWCCOG Full Council & Rural Resort Region - Steam. Spgs

OCTOBER
10/15—Colorado Bark Beetle Cooperative
10/20—NWAHEMR Regional TEPW—Rifle

NOVEMBER
11/10—Alpine Area Agency on Aging / Regional Advisory Council
11/18—Rural Resort Region—Frisco

DECEMBER
Thurs. 12/9—NWCCOG Full Council - Avon

Rick Weinman (continued from page 14)

as he was the primary inspector, and through the EIP permitting process for elevators located in Silverthorne. When the Weatherization Department was in need of some extra manpower, the first person Steve Getz, Director, thought of was Rick Weinman. So, NWCCOG was fortunate to acquire Rick's skills as a contract employee for a time in the weatherization department where he worked on energy audits. Given Rick's mechanical engineering background and extensive building inspection experience, he soon began to be eyed up by Gene Morse, Elevator Inspector, when he was seeking to fill an elevator inspector position. Rick was then hired in April 2010 as Elevator Inspector. He is out on the job doing inspections, and is working towards his Qualified Elevator Inspector (QEI) certification which he has one year to complete. Rick lives in Dillon, Colorado with his wife Sheri and their two children Payton (10) and Logan (13). Rick and his family enjoy skiing, mountain biking, swimming, hiking and camping.

NWCCOG Staff & Contractors

Steve Allen
Elevator Inspector, x108

Josh Arkels
Weatherization Auditor/Inspector

Tony Bednar
Weatherization Outreach Coordinator, x113

Scott Benson
Weatherization Installer

Michael Brown
Weatherization Installer

Mike Bugielski
Weatherization Auditor/Inspector

Brandon Buhlman
Weatherization Installer

Pam Caskie
Executive Director, x110

Abbie Cobb
CBBC Coordinator, 970.547.7121

Tyler Cose
Weatherization Installer

Thomas Dunlap
Weatherization Site Supervisor (New Castle)
970.984.0917

Jodi Flory
GIS Contractor
970.409.9238

Steve Getz
Director, Weatherization x103

Barbara Green
General Counsel, 303.355.4405

Gabe Guevara
Weatherization Installer

Jean Hammes
Director, Alpine Area Agency on Aging x107

Robin Henry
Weatherization Installer

Mark Hox
Weatherization Trainer

Amy Lange
Fiscal Assistant, x112

Danny Lopez
Weatherization Installer

Alex Johnson
Weatherization Installer

Doug Jones
Weatherization Field Supervisor, x111

Paul Knight
Weatherization Installer

Shanna Koenig
Co-Director, Water Quality/Quantity x117

Michael Kurth
Fiscal Officer x112

Rachel Lunney
Research & Communications Manager x106

Ashley Martin
Office Manager x101

Rob McKeon
Weatherization Installer

Gene Morse
Director, Elevator Inspection x108

Liz Mullen
Grants Administrator/NWAHEMR Coordinator, x123

Sean O'Connell
Weatherization Auditor/Inspector

Josh Polmateer
Weatherization Installer

Jeff Robinson
Weatherization Installer

Sherry Rogstad
Administrative Assistant, x104

Aaron Simmons
Weatherization Auditor/Inspector

Nate Speerstra
Weatherization Site Supervisor (Silverthorne), x120

Charles Steele
Weatherization Installer

Nick Stiteler
Weatherization Installer

Victoria Swain
Weatherization Intake Technician, x115

June Walters
Director, Business & Economic Development x119

Rick Weinman
Elevator Inspector, x108

Bruce Wischmann
Weatherization Installer

Lane Wyatt
Co-Director, Water Quality/Quantity x116

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*James Newberry, Commissioner

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*Patti Clapper, Commissioner

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