

NEWSLETTER



Commissioner Paula Swenson

CHANGE IS LIKE SPRING TIME

Spring time is my favorite time of the year. It is a new beginning with the excitement of summer yet to come. Certainly, it has its good moments and not so good moments. Yesterday was a good one, Jason and I snuck off and played nine holes of golf on a warm and slightly breezy afternoon. Today, I woke up to snow and a cold biting wind, not such a good moment. Even so, the snow has melted, my grass is greener, and I see the first buds opening into leaves. So, the not-so-good morning has assisted into moving us closer to the glorious days of summer ahead.

Working with a new commissioner and the changes that come with the transition reminds me of spring time. It is without certainty, however, as I see new horizons upon us that can help us grow and prosper better together. Having a new perspective and look at ideas and issues brings excitement and new energy to the table. Of course, it is not always warm, fuzzy and agreeable, and sometimes I don't get my way. However, I do know that we are all working to better our community and the county organization and I truly believe that we are making a difference and will tackle the issues that are in front of us.

Just like spring, issues seem to come around again and again. Always just a little different, but with the same concerns behind them. The economy has been in the forefront of most of our minds for the last couple of years. With the election of our new governor, this issue has not only been elevated to the top of the list in Colorado, but also with a new and energized approach. The Governor is developing a bottom up Economic Development Plan, starting with local communities, rolling those plans into regional efforts that will then drive the State's direction in addressing our economy. This, of course, has caused uncertainty and apprehension. However, when we look toward the future, I can see glorious days ahead for our community and our state.

The Governor's initiative has been a great catalyst to, once again, have the conversation in our own community about our economic future. It has been with excitement and a little apprehension that I have initiated the conversation again by inviting a diverse cross-section of our community to the table. As the conversations continue and grow, I am starting to see some great ideas come forward that have not only merit, but also consensus from diverse interests. With commitment, openness, and the understanding that we must continue the efforts and be willing to come back to the table time and time again, we can grow our economy in the Gunnison Valley.

A new commissioner, a new governor, new energy and commitments; as nature around us is rebirthing, so is our community. Happy Spring to All!

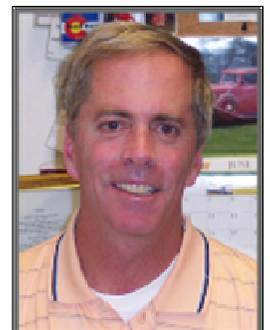
Paula Swenson, Gunnison County Commissioner

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SCOTT MORRILL RECOGNIZED AS THE WEST ALL HAZARDS REGION EMERGENCY MANAGER OF THE YEAR

The Colorado Emergency Managers Association (CEMA) recognized Gunnison County Emergency Manager Scott Morrill as the West All Hazards Region Emergency Manager of the Year for 2010. The ceremony, held during the Governor's Conference in Loveland, Colorado on March 1, 2011, acknowledged his nomination from his fellow emergency managers in the region. Steve Blois of CEMA stated, "This award is a yearly recognition of an individual who represents the ideals of professional emergency management in the region." Thank you Scott for the services, technical expertise and efforts you demonstrate to the citizens of Gunnison County!



Emergency Manager Scott Morrill

SAFELY CLEAN UP AND RECYCLE COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS

Submitted By: Richard Stenson, Environmental Health

With today's focus on energy consumption, many homes now use compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs). Fluorescent bulbs are made of glass and can break if dropped or roughly handled. To avoid breaking a bulb, follow these general practices: Always switch off and allow a working CFL bulb to cool before handling. Always handle CFL bulbs carefully to avoid breakage. If possible, screw/unscrew the CFL by holding the plastic or ceramic base, not the glass tubing. Gently screw in the CFL until snug. Do not over-tighten. Never forcefully twist the glass tubing. Do not install CFLs in table lamps and floor lamps that can be easily knocked over, in unprotected light fixtures, or in lamps that are incompatible with the spiral or folded shape of many CFLs. Do not use CFL bulbs in locations where they can easily be broken, such as play spaces. Use CFL bulbs that have a glass or plastic cover over the spiral or folded glass tube, if available. These types of bulbs look more like incandescent bulbs and may be more durable if dropped. Consider using a drop cloth (e.g., plastic sheet or beach towel) when changing a fluorescent light bulb in case a breakage should occur.

CFL bulbs contain a small amount of mercury, about 3-4 milligrams each, sealed within the glass tubing. Utilizing a drop cloth when changing bulbs will help prevent mercury contamination of nearby surfaces and can be bundled with the bulb debris for disposal. As with many household items such as paints, cleaners and pesticides, CFLs should be handled properly and disposed of according to State requirements. EPA encourages consumers to recycle their spent CFLs to protect human health and avoid unsafe releases to the environment. Increasingly, communities, neighborhoods, and even some retailers, are offering CFL collection opportunities. For more details, including local recycling locations and contact information for recycling in your area, visit www.earth911.com or www.epa.gov/bulbrecycling and click on "Where You Live."

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SIGN PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO FAMILIES IN GUNNISON COUNTY TO PREVENT ABUSE

Submitted by: Molly Mugglestone, Communications Consultant

Every April child welfare advocates across the nation take time to remind communities that although child abuse and neglect happens in all places; large and small, rural and urban it is something that communities can come together and partner to address. This April for Child Abuse Prevention Month the Gunnison County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Gunnison County Commissioners joined Governor Hickenlooper in declaring that all children have a right to be safe and to be provided an opportunity to thrive, learn, and grow. On 4/5/11, the County Commissioners signed a proclamation determining among other things that "we must come together as partners so that the voices of our children are heard by all and we are as a community extending a helping hand to children and families in need." The proclamation reinforces the mission of the Department and the County to protect the health and wellbeing of children in Gunnison County. For a copy of the proclamation signed by the Commissioners or for any other information, contact Molly Mugglestone at molly@mdmpublicaffairs.com or 275-8909.

COUNTY SCOOP



Above: Carmen Gonzalez, Eligibility Tech for the Health & Human Services Dept., had her baby boy on December 16, 2010. His name is Dominic.

Below: JoAnn Callahan from Public Works is grandma of two new beautiful twin baby boys! On January 18, 2011 Lane William was born at 5:50 am 6lbs. 6 oz. (on the left) and Wyatt Lee was born at 6:18 am 6lbs. 9oz.



UPCOMING 2011 COUNTY HOLIDAYS

- Monday, May 30th – Memorial Day
- Monday, July 4th – Independence Day
- Monday, September 5th – Labor Day
- Monday, October 10th – Columbus Day
- Friday, November 11th – Veterans' Day
- Thursday, November 24th – Thanksgiving
- Friday, November 25th – Day after Thanksgiving
- Monday, December 26th – Christmas (next business day after)



EMPLOYEE IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Submitted By: *Debbie Moore, Human Resources Director*

Carol Worrall has been with Gunnison County going on twelve years. During that time, as her duties have become progressively more demanding, she has held several titles and is currently the Division Director for the Gunnison County Public Health, a Division of the Health and Human Services Department.

Carol went along for years just enjoying her job as a Community Health Nurse II. She has a special way with children and was depended on as the only one in the department that could handle giving immunizations to the small children. She loved her job and was not all that thrilled when she was asked to take on more responsibility as Supervisor of the Nursing Services. She didn't see herself as a leader and was somewhat intimidated by the thought of acquiring all of the other skills that go along with being a supervisor, such as budgeting, grant work, and program management. To her credit, Carol jumped in with both feet. She went to trainings, asked questions, solicited advice and worked hard on the relationships she was to have with her nursing staff.

No one ever said it was an easy task to become the supervisor of employees that were previously your co-workers.

Obviously, the steps Carol took to get to where she is at today were a resounding success. She is now the Division Director and supervising many more people than she started out with. She has simply blossomed as a Manager and as a person. Nurturing Parenting Program Coordinator Lealyn Poconi sums up the approach Carol has settled into. When nominating Carol for the Employee in the Spotlight honor, she said, "Since I came on board with NPP, Carol has been beyond helpful in making me feel confident and informed about my position. It seems Carol has 1,000 things going on all at once, but she remains calm, collected and focused, all with a smile on her face and a great sense of humor. I admire the way someone with Carol's status can admit when she doesn't know the answer and isn't afraid to ask questions and learn right along side of me on NPP matters. She is a pleasure to work for and I couldn't ask for a better supervisor!"



Nursing Services Supervisor
Carol Worrall

EMPLOYEE IN THE SPOTLIGHT NOMINATIONS

If you would like to nominate a Gunnison County employee for this honor, tell the Personnel Board in 100 words or less why you think the person you are nominating deserves for the spotlight to be on them. Email your nomination to: dmoore@gunnisoncounty.org or put it in the Courthouse mailbox for Human Resources. Along with an article in the next County newsletter, the employee chosen by the Personnel Board will receive \$50 in Gunnison Greenbacks.

PUBLIC URGED TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO AVOID HANTAVIRUS

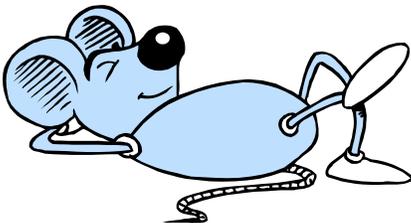
Due to a recent death from the hantavirus in Colorado, it is important to learn appropriate measures to take when cleaning cabins, buildings, sheds, barns, etc., after they have been closed for the winter. Hantavirus is transmitted by inhaling dust contaminated with the hantavirus in a mouse-infested area. The virus is carried by deer mice, which are brown on top and white underneath. Hantavirus causes severe illness and death in nearly half of all cases. The illness begins with high fever, severe body aches, headache and vomiting. The onset of symptoms begins from one-to-six weeks after exposure.

To avoid exposure, follow proper cleaning procedures:

- Air out enclosed areas by opening doors and/or windows for 30-60 minutes *before* cleaning.
- Avoid stirring up dust by wetting down area with mixture of bleach and water (1 cup of bleach per gallon of water) and let soak for 5-10 minutes *before* cleaning up with a mop or sponge.
- DO NOT VACUUM.
- Use rubber gloves to pick up saturated waste.
- Double-bag the waste using plastic bags and dispose in an outdoor garbage can.
- If area is heavily infested or good ventilation is not possible, use a respirator (mask) that seals tightly to the face (HEPA filter, N-100 NIOSH rating).

For more information or to view a photo of a deer mouse, go to

www.cdph.state.co.us/dc/zoonosis/hanta/index.html



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

2011 BOARD REORGANIZATION

The Oath of Office was administered to Phil Chamberland on January 11, 2011. That same day, Hap Channell was appointed as the BOCC Chairperson and Paula Swenson was appointed as the BOCC Vice-Chairperson for 2011. Additionally for 2011, Commissioner Chamberland will represent the BOCC on the Gunnison County Personnel Board, the Gunnison Valley Rural Transportation Authority Board and the Gunnison Basin Sage-grouse Strategic Committee (as an alternate). Commissioner Swenson will represent the BOCC on the Gunnison Valley Rural Transportation Authority Board, the Region 10 Board, the Gunnison Basin Sage-grouse Strategic Committee (as a regular member) and the Gunnison Country Chamber of Commerce Board. Chairperson Channell will represent the BOCC on the Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley Board, the Office for Resource Efficiency Board, and the Gunnison-Crested Butte Tourism Association Advisory Board.



Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners
(left to right) District #3 Commissioner Phil Chamberland, District #1 Commissioner Paula Swenson, and District #2 Commissioner Hap Channell.

BOCC ADOPTS GUNNISON COUNTY RESOLUTIONS

The following is a partial list of the County resolutions that have been passed by the Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners since the printing of the last newsletter. For information on these or any other adopted resolutions, please visit http://www.gunnisoncounty.org/commissioners_resolutions.html or contact Gunnison County Administration at (970) 641-0248.

1/18/11	01	A Resolution to Adopt a Modification to the Existing CCOERA 457 Deferred Compensation Plan Adding a Roth 457 Provision
1/18/11	05	A Resolution Authorizing Submission of the Application to the Colorado Department of Transportation's State Infrastructure Bank to Borrow the Necessary Funds to Finance a Portion of the Reconstruction of the Commercial Ramp
2/15/11	09	A Resolution Concerning Use of Available Fund Resources in the Gunnison County Sewer Fund and the Gunnison County Water Fund
2/15/11	11	A Resolution Prohibiting the Establishment or Operation of Medical Marijuana Centers, Medical Marijuana Optional Premises Cultivation Operations, and Medical Marijuana-Infused Products Manufacturing in Unincorporated Gunnison County; and Reserving Authority to Amend this Resolution or Submit Issues Regarding Medical Marijuana to Eligible Electors
3/22/11	12	A Resolution Authorizing Temporary Seasonal Closure and Weight Restrictions for a Portion of County Road 38, also known as Gold Basin Road
4/5/11	13	A Resolution Further Amending Resolution No: 10-46, a Resolution Amending the Gunnison County Special Development Projects Resolution Concerning the Inclusion of Cumulative Impacts Requirements for Special Development Projects
4/19/11	16	A Resolution Adopting the 2009 Editions of the International Building Code, the International Residential Code for One and Two Family Dwellings, the International Energy Conservation Code, the International Fuel Gas Code, and the International Mechanical Code, with Amendments
4/19/11	17	A Resolution Adopting a Schedule of Fees for Oil and Gas Operations Applications

BOCC MEETING SCHEDULE AND AGENDAS

The Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners customarily meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of every month for Regular Meetings. Work Sessions are held every 2nd and 4th Tuesday. Public Hearings and Special Meetings may be scheduled at any time. Meeting agendas and approved meeting minutes are posted on the County's website at http://www.gunnisoncounty.org/commissioners_meetings.html. For more information, contact Gunnison County Administration at (970) 641-7601 or by email to khaase@gunnisoncounty.org.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

For more information on these and other events, please visit www.GunnisonCrestedButte.com

MAY 2011

- 6 First Friday Gallery Crawl & Music, Various Galleries & Locations, Gunnison
 7 - 8 Gunnison Kiwanis Club Blue Mesa Lake Fishing Tournament, Gunnison
 28 - 29 Rage in the Sage Weekend including Sage Burner 50k/25k Run, Original Growler Mountain Bike Race, 24 Hours of Gunnison Glory rock climbing & Pedal to Paradise Gran Fondo bike ride, Gunnison

JUNE 2011

- 3 First Friday Gallery Crawl & Music, Various Galleries & Locations, Gunnison
 3 Crested Butte Crawl (Pub Crawl Kicking off Restaurant Week),
 3 - 10 Crested Butte Restaurant Week (Special Dining & Lodging Deals)
 3, 10, 17, 24 Fridays @ 5 at the Gunnison Art Center, Live Music on the Courtyard
 4 Fishing & Outdoor Sports Derby, Jorgensen Park, Gunnison
 5, 12, 19, 26 Sundays @ 7 (Free Concerts) Presented by the Gunnison Arts Center, Legion Park
 10 Gunnison Golf Classic Presented by Gunnison Valley Health Foundation, Dos Rios Golf Club, Gunnison
 11 Taylor Park Marina Fishing Derby, Taylor Park Reservoir
 12, 19, 26 Crested Butte Farmers' Market, Elk Avenue & First Street
 16 Annual Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory Bird Survey, Gothic
 17, 18, 24, 25 Gunnison Valley Observatory Open for Public Viewing, Gunnison
 17 - 19 Crested Butte Writers Conference, Elevation Hotel & Spa, Mt. Crested Butte
 18 Readers in the Rockies, Elevation Hotel & Spa, Mt. Crested Butte
 22, 29 Wednesdays at Western State College, Different Activities/Topics Each Week
 23 - 26 Gunnison River Festival, Gunnison
 23 - 26 Crested Butte Fat Tire Bike Week, Crested Butte & Mt. Crested Butte
 24 Western State College-Colorado Brass Band Concert, Quigley Band Shell, Gunnison
 24 - 26 Wildflower Rush Cross Country/Downhill Bike Races, Crested Butte Mtn. Resort
 24-26, 29-30 "Oklahoma!" Presented by CB Mountain Theatre, Mallardi Cabaret Theatre
 25 Gunnison Farmers' Market, Virginia Avenue & Main Street
 25 - 26 Bridges of the Butte (24-hour townie bike tour), Presented by the Adaptive Sports Center, Crested Butte
 27 Alpenglow (Free Outdoor Concert), Crested Butte Center for the Arts
 30 Art Walk Evening, Studios & Galleries in Crested Butte

JULY 2011

- 1 First Friday Gallery Crawl & Music, Various Galleries & Locations, Gunnison
 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, Gunnison Valley Observatory Open for Public Viewing, Gunnison
 22, 23, 29, 30

Please note that these above dates are subject to change.



CHANGES TO GLASS RECYCLING AT THE GUNNISON COUNTY RECYCLING CENTER

The Recycling Center has changed how they process glass to be more in line with the processes utilized by Miller/Coors. The Recycling Center will continue to collect brown, green and clear glass, but will now be separating each type in color-specific bags. After crushing, the clear glass will be shipped separately and must be 95% clean clear glass in order to be accepted and purchased by Miller/Coors at a rate of \$50/ton. Brown and green glass will be crushed and mixed at a ratio of 80/20 (brown/green) in order to be accepted and purchased by Miller/Coors at the same rate as clear glass.

These rates will result in increased revenues paid to the Recycling Center.

Those depositing recyclables at the Recycle Center will notice the change in signage. Continued and proper use of the Recycling Center and is very appreciated as staff members strive to generate the highest quality product possible. For questions related to the Recycling Center, please contact Gunnison County Public Works Department at (970) 641-0044, or speak with Matt or Steve at the Recycle Center.

RECENT ENHANCEMENTS TO THE GUNNISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Submitted By: Rick Besecker, Gunnison County Sheriff

- Kathy Coleman began a successful journey with the Gunnison County Sheriff's Office 20 years ago. Although she embraced and mastered every conceivable task associated with detentions center, she had not put in for a sergeants consideration until November 01, 2009. Recognizing her superior dedication and knowledge of jail operations, she was appointed sergeant. Within a mere 13 months, Kathy was once again considered for a promotion and subsequently surged from Sergeant and Chief Bottle Washer and Cook to Captain Kathy Coleman! Captain Coleman has achieved tremendous support and admiration from all members of the Gunnison County Sheriff's Office as confidence propels us forward.
- Robert Summer began his County experience within the Public Works Department (Road and Bridge) in 1993. He began to transfer his interest towards law enforcement after successfully graduating the Gunnison County Sheriff's Law Enforcement Academy in the 1996. He then attending and graduating from the Law Enforcement Academy at Colorado Mountain College in Glenwood Springs in 1997. In October of 2000, he anchored a patrol position with our office. On December 1, 2010, Robert was advanced to the position of Lead Investigator. In a short three months, he has extended tremendous energy to update files, conduct a complete evidence audit, catalog and organize the evidence vault, and complete investigations on all cases inherited. He is most definitely living up to expectations!
- Randy Barnes first graced us with his enthusiasm in mid-march of 1994. On March 1, 2004, his talents catapulted him to sergeant. On January 24, 2011, I had the distinct honor of appointing Mr. Barnes as the new Undersheriff for Gunnison County. Since then, I have discovered that this was a mistake as I find myself being worked to near death on a daily basis. As a result, I show up an hour early each day so that I can be 10 minutes ahead of him when he arrives! Undersheriff Barnes has eagerly embraced all assignments and challenges with unmatched enthusiasm and energy. Such vigor has been universally infectious!
- Warren Taylor is our newest patrol officer. His previous address was in Montana where he was a Police Officer for Miles City. He began his experience with the Gunnison County Sheriff's Office on February 7, 2011 and expresses great anticipation for a gratifying career.
- Kevin Propernick has worked for the Gunnison County Detention Center since December 20, 2007. On January 24, 2011, he was appointed Detention Sergeant and has eagerly grasped the challenging duty of Lead Cook as well as being one of the front line administrators for Jail Operations. Kevin brings a wealth of disciplines to the new position. Those which are most apparent initially are a calming voice of reason with an obvious physiological presence. Kevin likes to stay in motion while tracking team success.
- Travis Dooley began his law enforcement aspirations with the Patrol Unit on May 01, 2005. He contributes a great sense of "old school" respect, ingenuity and tradition (he was a farm boy in a previous life) with an understanding of the "Y" generation's enthusiasm and electronic-technology expertise. His sense of humor may be of the Death Valley dry variety, but it comes at lightning speed and carries the same effect as a Mohammad Ali solid right; it always lays you out! He was appointed as Patrol Sergeant on March 1, 2011.
- John Turco began his association with the Gunnison Detention Center on November 1, 2008. After quickly developing a great reputation for dependability and an excellent work ethic, John placed a bid for an open patrol position. On February 1, 2011, he was extended a conditional contract for such an appointment beginning immediately after his successful graduation from the Law Enforcement Academy in August. Although he will be sorely missed by detention staff, they have voiced their anticipation that he will succeed beyond expectations with the patrol aspiration.

GREEN CHALLENGES PROGRAM

COUNTY GREEN TEAM GENERATES COMPETITION

Each month, the Green Team announces an environmental challenge for County employees to focus on. The challenges have been designed to encourage environmentally friendly practices that reduce the County's carbon footprint as well as save the County money in the long term by increasing efficiency - something that all employees can support in some fashion. In order to foster participation, the Green Team rewards one lucky employee each month with a **\$50 incentive** by participating in a challenge.

During the first four months of 2011, challenge themes have been audio/web conferencing, windows/heating systems, computer/electronic equipment, and lighting. Green Team challenges are distributed to all staff members via email each month. More information about the Green Team or upcoming challenge themes can be found on the County's website at

http://www.gunnisoncounty.org/environmental_initiatives.html.

TWO COUNTY EMPLOYEES NAMED IN ANNUAL EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR CEREMONY

Submitted by: Molly Mugglestone, Communications Consultant

On March 15, 2011 two outstanding employees were named Employee of the Year by Gunnison County in a ceremony attended by local leaders and county employees. Ben Cowan, Assistant Director of Finance and Mike Lee, Information Technology Director were both given the honorable nod by the County Personnel Board in recognition of their above and beyond contributions to four major, behind the scenes overhauls at the County this year. Both recipients put in many 60 hour weeks without additional compensation to make sure the transition to all of these new systems went smoothly.

In 2010 the entire County accounting and budgeting systems was overhauled, leading to a streamlined finance system. As part of the overhaul, Budgeting for Results was incorporated into each department's budgeting system. Now all departments are working with activity-based budgets, making it easier to tell what individual programs cost and what benefits they are accountable to deliver to citizens. The County has worked in the last year to implement the broader program called Managing for Results which is a new way of both budgeting for and managing departments that provides greater accountability for how resources are spent. Both employees and the public can now see exactly how department's budgets relate to the County strategic plan and to each department's goals. Cowan made both conversions happen.

Finance Director Linda Nienhueser said of Cowan's contributions to these two overhauls in his department, "He would be here at midnight and back the next day ready to go again and with smile on his face." She goes on to explain that the County had been using the same system for 25 years and an upgrade was needed. An outside accounting firm could have been hired to complete the task, but the County kept the job internal, knowing they could rely on employees like Cowan to get the job done. They finished the task of converting all departments into the new system in 6 months, partly due to Cowan's unrelenting work ethic. "We are lucky to have such a talented accountant willing to do the back end systems building work for this new structure for us in such record time. Ben is a native of Gunnison and could have left the valley to work for a big accounting firm making a much larger salary. Instead he remained in Gunnison and is such a valuable public servant who is highly committed to his job."

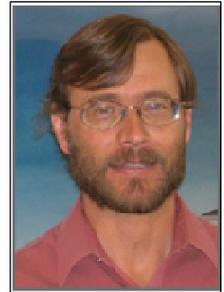
In 2010 the County also needed to upgrade to a new phone system and County leaders knew they could rely on Lee to carry out the job. These weren't just new phones, but a new technology software system that now provides County employees capabilities to do their jobs more efficiently and with less travel. One of the features of the new system is webinar and phone conferencing capability, offering more chances to communicate with the world through technology and less reliance on travel. Lee not only oversaw the installation of the new system in all County offices and buildings, but led all of the trainings focusing on making sure each employee felt comfortable with the new technology. Additionally, he coordinated major software conversions in the Assessor's, Treasurer's, and Community Development Departments.

Joanne Williams, Director of Community Development describes Lee's contributions. "He's sensitive to the fact that often people 'don't know what they don't know' about how computer hardware and software function, or how using them can maximize efficiency, productivity and creativity. He is fun, funny, and to-the-point." She goes on to say that "his support, insight, energy, research, suggestions, constructive criticism and forward-thinking have made it possible for us to provide customer services often not available in counties our size, with a smaller staff."

Both men humbly share their awards with their co-workers. Cowan stated at the ceremony that "I'm embarrassed to be up here in front of you all because I know you all work like crazy each day and working together with all of you is what makes me able to do my job effectively." Lee added "Gunnison County has so many talented and dedicated employees; it is an honor to be selected as employee of the year."



*Assistant Finance
Director Ben Cowan*



IT Director Mike Lee

MOUNTAIN VIEW APARTMENT COMPLEX GETS NEW DOORS

During the December 21, 2010 meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, new electronic doors were approved for installation in the Mountain View Apartment complex. The doors have since been installed and delighted residents thanked the County for the advancement in technology.

GUNNISON VALLEY OBSERVATORY BOARD

COUNTY SEEKS NEW STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

The Board of County Commissioners is currently accepting letters of interest from County employees interested in serving a four-year term as the County's representative on the Gunnison Valley Observatory Board of Directors. To be considered, all letters of interest should be emailed to bocco@gunnisoncounty.org or brought to the County Manager's office before 5:00 pm on June 1st.



The GVO board plans and operates the observatory every Friday and Saturday night (from May 27th this year through September 27th), and it relies on board members and volunteers from the community to help with the operation of the observatory. The observatory's three-pronged mission is as follows:

- **Education.** Educate the public about the night skies of Gunnison, using the large dome telescope and smaller telescopes at the Observatory. We also educate students in the school district, as well as students at Western State College.
- **Outreach.** Provide outreach to tourists, guests, and patrons in Gunnison County and neighboring Counties.
- **Research.** Work cooperatively with Western State College and the University of Dallas to provide research time on the observatory's 30" dome telescope.

The GVO board normally meets once per month during January through November. The meetings are one hour in length from 8:30 until 9:30 a.m., normally held on the second Tuesday of the month in the City Hall Chamber room. A notice and a written agenda are prepared and sent out in advance to each GVO board member.

HB 1177 ROUNDTABLE

COUNTY SEEKS NEW REPRESENTATIVE

Any citizen interested in serving as the Gunnison County appointee to the HB 1177 Roundtable may submit a letter of interest to the Gunnison County Administration Office at 200 E. Virginia Avenue, Suite 104, Gunnison, CO 81230. Letters of interest may also be faxed to (970) 641-3061 or emailed to blucero@gunnisoncounty.org.

The deadline for submitting letters of interest is Monday, May 23, 2011 at 5:00 pm. For more information about the HB 1177 Roundtable, please call Administrative Assistant III Bobbie Lucero at (970) 641-7600.

JUVENILE SERVICES DEPARTMENT UPDATE

By: Janet Reinman, Juvenile Services Director

The Juvenile Services Department has been going through some recent changes. Sadly, Molly Mugglestone, our Gunnison County Substance Abuse Prevention (GCSAPP) Director, resigned her position in order to have more time to spend with her family. We appreciate all the hard work Molly has done for GCSAPP and our community. We also welcome Brooke Harless in her promotion as GCSAPP Program Director, and know with her experience over the past years as GCSAPP Coordinator, she will do a great job. Brooke will continue to teach Positive Action in Gunnison and Project Alert in Crested Butte along with all her new duties. We will miss Molly's outstanding leadership and strong organizational skills but we know she will continue to help us on the sidelines and we wish her well with her continued teaching position at WSC and newly established consulting business.

Meghan Dougherty has been busy coordinating all the work for our County's Family Advocacy and Support Team or FAST. FAST continues to grow and succeed as a community outreach promoting safe, healthy and successful families. Our collaboration has grown to include 45+ members from various agencies, non profits and the community. FAST continues to reach its mission by providing information, prevention and intervention services through early intervention, support and resource services through multiple agencies to youth and families in need. Since July 2010, FAST has worked with 28 families with an overall success rate of 90%, which demonstrates better outcomes for families overall. FAST services have expanded over the past year to include a multitude of prevention services. The objective of FAST is to live the African Proverb "It takes a village to raise a child", and we are proving success in living up to this model.

Our Juvenile Diversion and SB 94 programs remain busy providing services to youth and parents to help keep youth out of the Juvenile Justice system. Some of the youth are matched up with paid mentors called Plus Mentors to help youth work on identified needs and set goals to work on. The goal is for the youth to also learn about the concepts of work ethics, value of community and how they can help improve their community. The youth work crew is being led by newly hired County employee Ben Johnson. Ben will be leading a crew of youth a couple of weekends each month in projects throughout the community. Some of the projects they have worked on in the past include BLM cleanup, spending time at the Willows, cleaning up city- and county-owned areas, and helping with the community gardens and Farmer's Market.