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## **Board Member Spotlight Betsy Blecha**



We hope to have a photo of Betsy in an upcoming newsletter!

Betsy Blecha, Jackson County Commissioner, joined the NWCCOG Council in January of this year. In spite of her short tenure, she's encouraged and very positive about the organization.

"From the start, the NWCCOG staff has been very helpful. They've taken the time to meet with me one-on-one to further my understanding of the organization." She went on to say, "They assisted in facilitating an economic development meeting here in Walden. The whole team has been welcoming and supportive of our efforts in Jackson County."

She moved to Steamboat Springs in 2003 from Endicott, New York, and spent a few years soaking up the seasonal lifestyle. She then moved to the Front Range to attend graduate school, knowing she'd eventually move back to the mountains she'd fallen in love with. Shortly after graduating, an opportunity was presented for her and her family to move to Jackson County, and they jumped at the chance. That was seven years ago, and they've been grateful for that move ever since.

Since she's still fairly new to the organization, she's still learning about all of the activities in which the NWCCOG is involved. She is consistently impressed with the number of programs offered and the professionalism of the staff.

Along with her husband, Matt, and their 19 month old son, William, she takes full advantage of the Colorado lifestyle. The family enjoys camping, hunting, and biking during the warmer summer months, and skiing, fishing, and sledding during the winter. She adds, "Throw in some motorcycle touring and gardening, and that's us!"

## Staff Member Spotlight Doug Jones

Weatherization Field Supervisor and Trainer, Doug Jones, is in his 16th year with the NWCCOG. He was hired in 1999 as a Weatherization Installer and gained experience as a Furnace Technician, Energy Auditor, Inspector and Trainer before taking on his current role. He supervises a total of eight very dedicated employees at locations in Silverthorne and New Castle.

Originally from Hershey, Pennsylvania, like many of us who live in our region, he came for the skiing and stayed for the summers. He fell in love with all things "outdoors" and continues to enjoy all of the activities living in the high country offers.

When asked what he liked best about working for the NWCCOG he said, "I feel like I am part of the solution here. In weatherization we save energy and help people." What could be better? He also remarked that it feels the same throughout the organization. "Everybody here is contributing to the good of our community." He went on to say, "It feels great to be part of this organization."



Doug thinks people would be amazed at all the great services the NWCCOG provides to our region and beyond. It's quite remarkable that so few people can do so much!

As part of NWCCOG's Workplace Wellness Program, the team decided to participate in the garden co-operative in Silverthorne to grow fresh produce. With Doug's expertise in gardening, he was a natural to be on the committee that will plan and manage the gardening project in Silvana's Community Garden. In addition to his green thumb, he also enjoys cooking, skiing, hiking, golf, biking, snorkeling, and travel.

## Save the Dates!

We're hosting educational opportunities, participating in forums, and planning a big award ceremony! Please take a moment to review what we've got in store for you in the coming weeks:

**Don't Miss the Colorado Financing Roundtable!**



**cdfa**  
**Colorado**  
Financing Roundtable

A specialized state initiative of the Council of Development Finance Agencies

In Partnership With:



Endorsed By:



**EDCC**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF COLORADO

**chfa**

**CO** CREDIT

**COLORADO**  
Office of Economic Development  
& International Trade

**2015 CDFA Colorado Financing Roundtable Conference**  
*--Unlocking Development Finance in the Centennial State--*

Wednesday, April 29, 2015  
Steamboat Springs, CO

For additional information [click here](#).

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**April 30th - "Insider Tips to a Bullet Proof Loan Application Workshop" -**  
**Steamboat Springs Colorado Mountain College**

# SUCCESS STEPS SEMINAR

**APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup>, 11:30 TO 1:00 PM**

**Colorado Mountain College**

**2nd floor, Academic Center**

**Classroom 213**

## **Bullet Proof Business Loan Applications**

Topics that will be covered in this program include:

- The art of business lending
- Why lenders need the items they require
- Cash flow versus profit and loss projections
- Management versus market
- Credit scores and collateral
- Loan terms, interest rates and balloon payments
- How long will the process take?

Time will be provided for question and answer as well.

This program will be presented by Anita Cameron, Director of Business Lending for the Northwest Loan Fund. This is a business lender supporting Northwest Colorado. For more information on the loan fund check out: [www.NorthwestLoanFund.org](http://www.NorthwestLoanFund.org)

**\$20 fee includes lunch**

**Please arrive on time. Register at 870-4491**

The Success Steps Seminar Series is held monthly on topics of interest to local businesses and entrepreneurs in Yampa Valley. Seminars times are variable and the program rotates between community venues and the new Academic Center at Colorado Mountain College. The Series is a collaborative effort of the Colorado Mountain College Yampa Valley Entrepreneurship Center, the Steamboat Springs Economic Development Council and

Steamboat Springs Campus

RSVP to Randy Rudasics at 970-870-4491 or [rrudasics@coloradomtn.edu](mailto:rrudasics@coloradomtn.edu)

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**May 5th in Frisco and May 6th in Granby**



# Help for Families



Are you a caring for a loved one? Are you stressed, overwhelmed or worried you're not taking care of yourself?

**You are not alone!**

Join us to learn about resources to manage the challenges of providing care, meet other families and share your experience.

**Tuesday, May 5th**

12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Summit County Community & Senior Center

**Free Lunch**

**RSVP by April 28**

970-468-0295 or [noc12@nwccog.org](mailto:noc12@nwccog.org)

**Wednesday, May 6th**

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Granby Library

Community Meeting Room

**Free Lunch**

RSVP by April 28th for both lunch meetings.  
For more information, call Erin at 970-468-0295 or email to [noc12@nwccog.org](mailto:noc12@nwccog.org)

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Partners Working For Thriving Forests

## 2015 JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

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May  
7 - 9

Glenwood Springs, CO  
Hotel Colorado

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Colorado-Wyoming Society of American Foresters  
Colorado Timber Industry Association  
Colorado Tree Farmers

### The Venue

Located in scenic downtown Glenwood Springs, the historic Hotel Colorado will host the first two days of the meeting. The third day will be held at the Gypsum Biomass Power Plant located in nearby Gypsum, Colorado.

### Who Should Attend

Foresters, loggers, tree farmers and others who love trees will gather to network with and learn from one another. Presenters consist of professionals, elected officials, retailers, forest product manufacturers, guides, researchers, agency officials, professors and students from the Colorado-Wyoming area. SAF-CFE and Certified Logger Credits will be offered.

For more information [Click Here](#)

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**May 20th - Senior Awards Ceremony**

You are invited to our **27th Annual Senior Awards Ceremony** at the Summit County Community and Senior Center on May 20th. We hope that you'll be able to join us and celebrate those who make a difference in the lives of older adults every day!

Every year, we honor the older adults in our communities who have selflessly volunteered their time and talents. We also honor Friends Of Seniors, who serve older adults in many capacities. Nominations are being accepted for a Regional Senior Of The Year and Regional Friend of the Seniors.

Please contact Erin at [noc12@nwccog.org](mailto:noc12@nwccog.org) / 970-468-0295 with questions or to RSVP for lunch.



Last year's award recipients!

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### Mini-Grant Program Deadline

This is the **final reminder** that the Region 12 Regional Advisory Council Mini Grant application deadline is **May 9, 2015, 5:00 p.m. MDT.**

## AlpineAAA releases Request for Proposal

The NWCCOG-Alpine Area Agency on Aging announces the release of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the provision of the following services in the Region 12 area that includes Eagle, Grand, Jackson, Pitkin, and Summit counties:

- Options Counseling
- Congregate Meals
- Evidenced-Based Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
- Home Delivered Meals
- Information and Assistance/Referral
- Legal Assistance
- Nutrition Support Services (Nutrition Consultation, Nutrition Education, Nutrition Counseling)
- Transportation



The RFP and all of its forms, requirements, and other information that will be useful to responding to the RFP is available for completion: [HERE](#)

Proposals are due to the NWCCOG-Alpine Area Agency on Aging by 11:59 pm (MDT) **Friday, May 1, 2015**. This RFP is a solicitation and not an offer to contract.

An open proposer webinar on the RFP proposal and RFP website will be held from **9:00 am-11:00 am, Tuesday, April 21, 2015**. The webinar link and dial in information is available at the above URL. Participation in the webinar is not required for the submission of a proposal; the webinar will be recorded and will be available following the meeting.

The AlpineAAA will be available to provide assistance as needed to any respondent. Questions regarding the RFP outside must be submitted by e-mail to [aaa12@nwccog.org](mailto:aaa12@nwccog.org). Technical questions regarding use of the RFP website, please call Jean Hammes at 970.468.0295. ext.107

Contracts are to be awarded for the period of **July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016**. When the AlpineAAA is reasonably assured of continuous funding and provider contractual compliance, it may enter into a renewable contract in subsequent years for a total of four fiscal years.

NWCCOG-AlpineAAA hereby notifies all interested parties that it affirmatively ensures that all respondents to this notice are afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and that no respondent will be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, nationality, origin, disability, or sex in consideration of an award.

## **2015 NWCCOG Meeting Schedule**

### **Thursday, May 28, 2015**

Full Council & EDD Board Meeting

Location: Gypsum Town Hall

Time: 10:00a.m.-3:00 p.m.

### **Thursday, July 23, 2015**

Full Council Meeting

Location: NWCCOG Office/Conference Call

Time: 10:00a.m.-noon

### **Thursday, August 27, 2015**

Full Council & EDD Board Annual Planning Meeting

Location: Garden Level Classroom, Eagle County Administration Building, Eagle (tentative)

Time: 10:00 a.m.-3:00p.m.

### **Thursday, October 22, 2015**

Location: NWCCOG Office/Conference Call

Time: 10:00a.m.-noon



**Thursday, December 3, 2015**

Full Council & Foundation Board Meeting

Location: NWCCOG Office/Conference Call

Time: 10:00a.m.-noon

**Northwest Colorado Council of Governments**

[www.nwccog.org](http://www.nwccog.org)

970.468.0295

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