

From: Cathy Shull [shullent@twol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2008 4:25 PM
To: shullent@twol.com
Subject: FW: E Update February 12, 2008



2008 Legislative Day
Governor Bill Ritter & Nathan Shaw
(Nathan is the grandson of the Legislative Alumni Roland "Bud" Moellenberger)

Progressive 15 E Update February 12, 2008

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Greetings

You can now join Progressive 15 with a credit card by going to www.progressive15.org/membership.htm

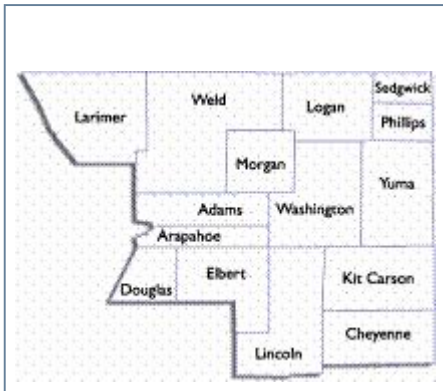
The only exceptions are cities and counties who will need to contact Cathy directly.

Reminder

Standing Committee Conference Calls (Members only)

All committees have the same call in information:

Call #605-990-0220
Pin number 8679167

Membership Application**Senator Wayne Allard****Senator Ken Salazar****Congresswoman Marilyn Musgrave****Congresswoman Diana DeGette****Congressman Ed Perlmutter****Congressman Tom Tancredo****Congressman Mark Udall****State of Colorado****State Boards and Commissions**10:00 am Wednesday Education & Workforce

Bills to be discussed: HB1186 (No penalty for students missing CSAP's); SB021 English Competency Pilot) ; SB023 (High School Graduation Requirements); SB038 (K-12 Ed Regional Service Cooperatives)

11:30 am Thursday Health & Human Services

Bills to be discussed: SB06 (Suspend medicaid for confined persons); HB 1114 (Medicaid Nursing Facility Reimbursement); HB 1124 (Alternative Medicaid program for the elderly); HB1250 County Social Services Funds Relief); HB1311 (Small group limited Health Benefit Plan); HB1327 (Access of affordable health insurance out of state)

2:30 pm Thursday Energy

Bills to be discussed: HB1083 (Mineral Revenue local government distribution); HB1084 (Impact Assistance Prepayment Option); HB1107 (Mun Coop REA ElectricEnergy Efficiency); HB1160 (Net metering); HB 1218 (Allows Counties to form power Authority); SB093 (Net Metering)

Please prepare yourself for the call by going to www.leg.state.co.us and reviewing the bills. Things change so quickly some of the above may no longer be relevant by the time we get to the call.

Be prepared to "vote" on each bill with any of the following:

- Continue to monitor
- Write letter of support or opposition
- Development full resolution of opposition or support
- Take off table - no further action
- Need more information to make a decision

Remember we don't have to take action on everything - let choose the most important for our efforts. Have something you would like to add send an e mail to cathy@progressive15.org

Progressive 15 Policy Updates

Full language available at www.progressive15.org/positions.htm

1. Approved resolution supporting Action 22 on their Pinon Canyon position regarding eminent domain not being an acceptable solution.
2. Letter of support for SB 034 regarding the authorization for county governments to consider transportation factors in reviewing an application for land use approvals in connection with the siting of a facility for persons with special needs.
3. Letter of support for SB 012 regarding the repeal of the requirement that the governor consider appointing to the transportation commission one or more individuals with knowledge or experience in aviation.

**Decision are made on policy in standing committees (members only) and then referred to the board. If you are a member be sure your input is heard by participating in the conference calls for standing committees during this session.

**Remember you can listen to live audio broadcasts of committee hearings and you can watch the House in session by video by going to www.leg.state.co.us and clicking on Video/audio broadcasts

Spring Membership Meeting in Sterling

Northeastern Junior College

March 27-28, 2008

We are in need of sponsors for our Spring Meeting.

Gold	\$750	Sponsor of Alumni Luncheon; logo & link on website; logo on marketing materials and program; banner at event; 2 complimentary registrations; exhibit table
Silver	\$500	Sponsor of Break; logo & link on website; logo on marketing materials; banner at break sponsored; 2 complimentary registrations; exhibit table
Bronze	\$250	General Sponsor; logo & link on website; logo on program; 1 complimentary registration; exhibit

		table
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Gold Sponsor



Silver Sponsor



Bronze Sponsor

Northeast Colorado Vision Report

After almost nine months of work the much anticipated Northeast Colorado Vision Report is complete and posted on our website-www.progressive15.org.

In looking at the success of our 15 counties for the next 20 years four key focus areas were identified:

1. Preserving Our Agriculture Roots
2. Regional / Internal Cooperation
3. Blending our Heritage With Our Future
4. Building A Sustainable Economy

Copies are being mailed to elected officials at a state and federal level as well as agency directors. Copies of the report will also be at all meetings. If you do not receive a printed report and would like one, please contact cathy@progressive15.org.

Membership

New Members

Jim Whitmore

Colorado Mining Association

Perry Buck

Don Ament

Renewals

- Phillips County
- Town of Flemng
- Town of Hillrose
- Town of Julesburg
- Washington County
- Town of Akron
- East Central Council of Governments
- Centennial Area Health Education Center
- Northeast Colorado Association of Local Governments
- Grant Bledsoe
- Town of Bennett
- Morgan County REA
- PC Telecom
- Plains.net
- Morgan County Economic Development
- Lincoln County
- Town of Cheyenne Wells
- Don Rutledge
- Ports-to-Plains
- Douglas County
- Mitch Albert
- Ann Soehner
- Curt Soehner
- Tri State G & T
- Lewis Frank
- Town of Hugo
- PB
- High Plains Bank
- City of Yuma
- Byers Development
- United Power
- Mountain View Electric
- Morgan County
- Burlington Record
- Northeast Colorado Housing

- Lucile Bledsoe
- Haxtun Telephone
- City of Holyoke
- Brush Area Chamber
- Sedgwick County
- Yuma County
- City of Brush
- First Pioneer National Bank in Holyoke

News From Around the State & Country

1. Rep Musgrave will be accepting submissions for the annual Congressional Art Competition. For more information contact her office at 970-522-1788.
2. USDA-RD Announces \$6.2 million in Rural Community Development Initiative Grants for more information go to www.rurdev.usda.gov/co or contact dolores.sanchezmaes@co.usda.gov
3. Colorado Council on the Arts Solicit 2008 Governor's Arts Award Nominations. For more details go to www.coloarts.org.
4. Colorado Academy Information Day Sunday March 30, 2008 1 pm to 4 pm at Douglas County Building, 100 3rd Street, Castle Rock, Co
5. USDA-RD invites applications for rural infrastructure loans and grants. More information at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov> The six programs are:
 1. Distance learning and telemedicine loan and grant program
 2. Public Television Digital conversion Grant Program
 3. Community Connect Grant Program
 4. High Energy Cost Grant Program
 5. Revolving Fund Grant Program
 6. Household Water Well Grant Program

SBA sent out these reasons why Colorado Loves Small Business

 1. Small business makes up 97.8 percent of all Colorado Employers
 2. Small business employ 52.0 percent of Colorado's non farm private sector workers
 3. 52 percent of all small business are home based

Reports online:

 1. Looking Forward Colorado's fiscal prospects after Ref C
www.thebell.org
 2. Foundation of a Great State The Future of Colorado's Constitution
www.du.edu/issues
 3. Recommendations for Health Reform in Colorado
www.colorado.gov/208commission
 4. Colorado Transportation Finance and Implementation Panel A Report to Colorado is available at www.progressive15.org

Governor Creates Forest Health Council that will coordinate and lead efforts to address the mountain pine beetle epidemic and other threats to Colorado's 22.6 million acres of forestland

1.

Calendar

	DATE	EVENT	DETAILS	FOR MORE INFORMATION
2008				
February				
P 15 Event	13	Yuma County Members Meeting	7 pm Indian Hills	cathy@progressive15.org
	21	Senator Ken Salazar in Fort Morgan	2 pm Morgan County REA	RSVP to Mac McGraw at 970-542-9446
	22	Agri-tourism: Is It For Your Farm or Ranch?	Akron 9 am -4 pm	For information and to register call CSU Extension 970-345-2287
	25	Energy Sustainability - Can It Be Done	Fort Morgan 6:30 -8:30 pm	To register or for information kristi.rorabaugh@mcc.edu
	28	Governor's Forum on Colorado Agriculture		www.colorado.gov/ag
	29	Terrestrial Carbon Sequestration Opportunities in Colorado	Adams County Regional Park	For information and registration call Rich Mullaney at 970-522-7440 Ext 4
March				
	5	Wind Energy Workshop for Local Producers and Rural Communities	Wray, Co	Information and registration kristi.rorabaugh@morgancc.edu
P 15 Event	27-28	Progressive 15 Spring Meeting and board meeting in Sterling	Sterling, CO	
April				
	23-25	EDCC Spring Conference in Burlington		
	28-30	Multi-Family Housing Conference in Colorado Springs		
May				
	12-16	CASTA Spring Conference		www.coloradotransit.com
June				
	4-6	Rural Philanthropy Days	Burlington	Information: www.northestrpd.org or 719.346.7689

	9-11	CCI Summer Conference		
	17-21	CML Summer Conference		
P 15 Event	27	Board Meeting in Cheyenne Wells		
July				
P 15 Event	15	Committee Summit in Limon	Telecom, Trans, Health Care,	
P 15 Event	16	Committee Summit in Limon	ED & Tourism, Education / Workforce	
P 15 Event	22	Committee Summit in Wray	Water, Energy & Ag	
August				
	25-28	Democratic National Convention		
September				
	1-4	Republican National Convention		
	5-6	Club 20 Fall Meeting		
P 15 Event	17-18-19	Progressive 15 Fall Meeting with candidates forum and board meeting in Brighton	Brighton	
	22-26	CASTA Fall Conference & Expo		www.coloradotransit.com
	26-27	Action 22 Fall Conference		
October				
November				
December				
P 15 Event	8	Board & Committee chair Retreat in Fort Morgan		

Progressive 15 At The Table:

- CoRHAC - the Colorado Rural Health Advocacy Coalition which includes Progressive 15, Action 22, Club 20, Colorado Rural Health Center and the Rocky Mountain Farmers Union will have Kindra Mulch, Kit Carson Human Services and Denise Denton, D2, Inc. as our represented
- Judy Giacomini, Northeastern Junior College and Barry Gore, Adams County Economic Development will be representing us on the advisory board of the Center for Colorado's Economic Future
- Judy Giacomini, Northeastern Junior College and Mike Thilmony, Bank of Colorado will be representing us on the Governor's Jobs Cabinet
- Cathy Shull, Advisory Committee to Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Reform at State Legislature

Senator Ken Salazar to be in Fort Morgan

The Senator will be in Fort Morgan on February 21, 2008, at 2 pm at Morgan County REA, 20169 Highway 34. He invites you attend an open dialogue session focused on the High Plains Regional Plan. Other regions within our area will also be having similar meetings so watch for details.

To RSVP - mac_mcgraw@salazar.senate.gov or 970-542-9446

To view the High Plains Regional Plan prior to meeting go to www.progressive15.org

Alumni of the Plains Nominations Being Accepted

Please submit the names of people who graduated from high schools in our region (especially the smaller schools) who have gone on to great things that represent our region well. You can submit a nomination until March 1, 2008. Please include in your nomination the school they graduated from, what qualifies them and how they can be contacted now.

The Board will then vote on the two who will receive their awards at the Spring Membership Luncheon.

Previous Alumni Honored: Tim White, White Construction Group; Steve Antonopolus, trainer Denver Broncos; Bazai Kanai, Channel 9 news anchor; and Betty Lee Mullis, USAF pilot retired.

Currently nominated:

Richard George, Brush High School, CEO Suncor Energy

Contact Information

Cathy Shull, Executive Director

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Web: www.progressive15.org Blog: <http://progressive15.blogspot.com>

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