



2009 ARAPAHOE COUNTY COLORADO



Count on Us.

Annual Performance Report to the Citizens of Arapahoe County





Align Arapahoe.

Commissioners

Susan Beckman, District 1
 Jim Dyer, District 2
 Rod Bockenfeld, District 3
 Pat Noonan, District 4
 Frank Weddig, District 5

Elected Officials

Corbin Sakdol, Assessor
 Nancy A. Doty, Clerk and Recorder
 Dr. Michael Dobersen, Coroner
 Carol Chambers, District Attorney
 Ana Maria Peters-Ruddick, Public Trustee
 J. Grayson Robinson, Sheriff
 Doug Milliken, Treasurer

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Mission

Enhancing your quality of life through exceptional delivery of services and efficient use of public funds.

Vision

First in Colorado, First in Service – Your County of Choice

Values

To achieve our vision, we dedicate ourselves to:

- Service First
- Excellent Quality
- Responsive Government
- Visionary Thinking
- Innovation
- Caring Leadership
- Effective Communication
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Integrity
- Respect for Others
- Safety
- Teamwork

Arapahoe County's Strategy for the Future

In 2009, Arapahoe County launched Align Arapahoe, a strategic planning and performance management program that is helping our organization align and prioritize our day-to-day work with our overall strategic plan.

Align Arapahoe is strengthening our organization through better communication, cooperation and teamwork – all with a focus on our vision to be *First in Colorado, First in Service – Your County of Choice.*

With Align Arapahoe, our goal is to become a results-oriented government by using performance measures to monitor progress and to give us the necessary information and feedback to help make better program, service and budget decisions.

Our strategic plan includes 17 objectives that focus on how we will improve our organization. These include:

- Improve Customer Experience
- Enhance Quality of Life
- Improve Trust in Government
- Optimize Use of Financial Assets

- Maximize Financial Stability
- Improve and Align Business Processes
- Increase Customer/Stakeholder Input
- Improve Internal and External Communication
- Increase Inter-Departmental Cooperation
- Increase Community and Regional Partnerships
- Optimize Use and Capabilities of Technology
- Enhance Quality of Workforce
- Increase Accountability
- Improve Organizational Leadership
- Increase Employee and Volunteer Engagement

If you would like to review the 17 objectives that make up our strategy map or learn more about how this innovative program is transforming Arapahoe County into one of the most effective and efficient governments in Colorado, visit our web site at www.co.arapahoe.co.us.

Arapahoe County Elected Officials



Corbin Sakdol
Assessor



Nancy A. Doty
Clerk and Recorder



Dr. Michael Dobersen
Coroner



Carol Chambers
District Attorney



Ana Maria Peters-Ruddick
Public Trustee



J. Grayson Robinson
Sheriff



Doug Milliken
Treasurer

Arapahoe County Commissioners pictured on page 3.

Count on Us.

Dear Citizens of Arapahoe County,

On April 1, you will be asked to take part in one of the oldest traditions in our nation's history – the Census. In Arapahoe County, residents will fill out a simple 10-question form that will help ensure our community is accurately counted, represented and receives our fair share of federal and state funding.

In the spirit of the Census, we are proud to present our *Annual Report – Count on Us*, which offers an overview of our many accomplishments in 2009.

Throughout this 16-page report you will see examples of the many ways in which you can *Count on Us* to Deliver Quality Services ... to Make a Difference ... to Use your Tax Dollars Wisely ... to Keep you Safe and Informed.

You will read about how we scaled down a \$193 million court expansion into a \$13.8 million project that will add 10 new courtrooms, a new jury assembly room, a self help center and improved court efficiency - all without increasing taxes.

You will see that the Clerk and Recorder leads the way with one of the highest percentage of people joining the Colorado organ and tissue registry; how the Treasurer's innovative economic stimulus program is encouraging local banks to invest in small to medium-size businesses within Arapahoe County; and how a new software tool introduced by the Sheriff's Office is aiding in the identification and apprehension of criminals.

Every year, Arapahoe County produces this report, which is printed on newsprint and distributed in your *Denver Post* or local community newspaper because – at just 17 cents a copy – it is an affordable manner in which to share this information with you.

Included you will find a quick reference of County phone numbers and a listing of services that are available on our web site. We hope you will tear it out and keep it in the event you need to reach us, whether it is in person, by phone or online.

Our 2009 *Annual Report – Count on Us* brings our accomplishments to life – some in your own words – and demonstrates how our *Service First* vision is at the forefront for everything we do. As citizens and taxpayers, you deserve nothing less and that is why we are proud to present our 2009 report of accomplishments to you.

Sincerely,

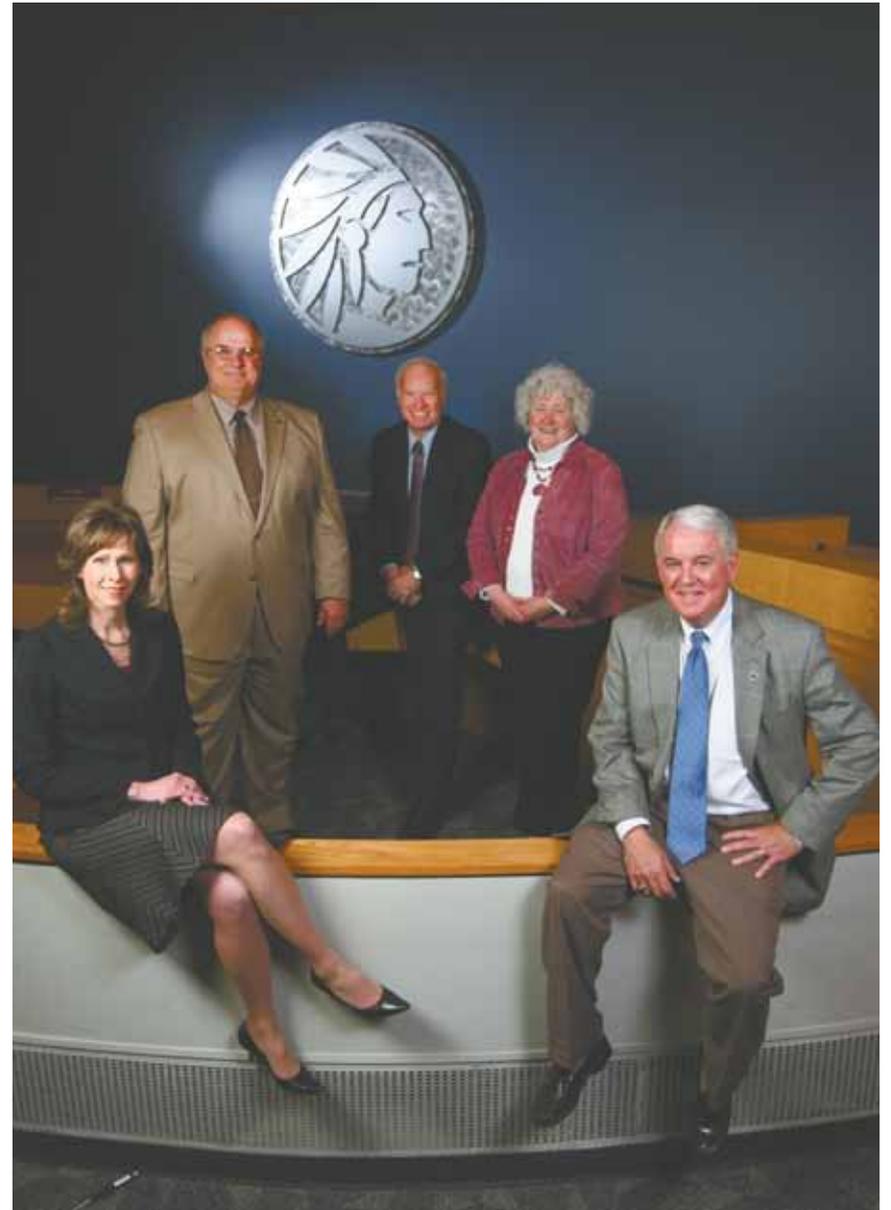
Susan Beckman
District 1

Jim Dyer
District 2

Rod Bockenfeld
District 3
Chairman

Pat Noonan
District 4
Chair Pro Tem

Frank Weddig
District 5



The 2010 Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners •
Commissioners: (from left) Susan Beckman, District 1; Rod Bockenfeld, District 3;
Frank Weddig, District 5; Pat Noonan, District 4 and Jim Dyer, District 2.

Count on Us to Use Your Tax Dollars Wisely.

Being efficient, enterprising and effective are just some of the ways in which you can *Count on Us* to *Use Your Tax Dollars Wisely*. We leverage tax dollars through public and private partnerships. By thinking outside the box, we often find new ways to accomplish our goals and honor our commitment to you – the taxpayer – to stretch your tax dollars as far as they can go without compromising quality or service.

In your words.

Clerk and Recorder's Office Motor Vehicle

"I've lived in Arapahoe County since 1979. In my opinion your Motor Vehicle Department on Prince Street is the best run government office that I have ever been in. Your office should be the role model after which all others should pattern their operation. Please extend my compliments to your Motor Vehicle Team."

– Joe Z.

Your Tax Bill

The Treasurer's Office is responsible for collecting property taxes in Arapahoe County and distributing these funds back to cities, towns, schools and special districts. Did you know that only 15.9 percent of your tax bill goes directly to Arapahoe County? At right is a breakdown of your tax bill. ●

2010 Budget

Arapahoe County's budget is \$324.4 million and during the last several years, we've focused on maintaining a balanced budget by finding ways to become more efficient and effective; using fund balance for one-time budget needs and capital projects, instead of ongoing operations; and limiting growth of the County's general fund operating budget. At 14.672 mills, our County has the lowest mill levy of counties in the Denver metro area, and one of the lowest in the state. ●

Expanding Courts without Increasing Taxes

Through cooperation, innovation and creativity, Arapahoe County completed the first two phases of a Court expansion project that moved the District Attorney's Office to a new building off the justice center campus, added three new courtrooms, expanded another courtroom and expanded the jury assembly room. Initially a \$193 million project, Arapahoe County will complete it in 2010 for \$13.8 million, and without raising taxes. ●

Court Notification

The number of people who fail to appear in court has decreased dramatically thanks to the County's Court Notification program, which aims to minimize the number of defendants who fail to appear in court by simply providing a court date reminder call. By reducing the number of warrants issued to people who fail to appear in court, the program is reducing the number of people going to jail on Failure to Appear warrants, thus freeing up jail space for people committing serious crimes. ●

Tax Lien Sale

In 2009, the Treasurer's Office generated \$5.8 million during its online tax lien sale, which included \$108,000 in premiums, or additional revenue, for the Arapahoe County general fund. ●

Property Tax Collection



Left:
Commissioners Jim Dyer, Frank Weddig, Susan Beckman, Chief Judge William Sylvester, and Commissioners Pat Noonan and Rod Bockenfeld celebrate the grand opening of the court expansion project.

Right:
Commissioners Rod Bockenfeld, Susan Beckman, 18th Judicial District Attorney Carol Chambers, Commissioners Pat Noonan and Frank Weddig celebrate the grand opening of the new District Attorney's Office, which relocated from the Justice Center to make room for the court expansion.



Your Tax Dollars at Work

In 2009, Arapahoe County received more than \$8.5 million in federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds for a variety of programs and services to stimulate the economy, help put people back to work and benefit low-to-moderate income residents. Here is a breakdown of Arapahoe County's ARRA funds:

Approximately \$2.6 million went to improve the energy efficiency of 1,125 low-income homes through the County's Weatherization program.

The Board of County Commissioners distributed \$274,862 to community organizations such as, the Colorado Center for the Blind in Littleton; Developmental Pathways in Englewood; Family Tree House of Hope in Englewood; Gateway Battered Women's Services in Englewood; and the Town of Deer Trail in eastern Arapahoe County.

Arapahoe/Douglas Works! received \$3.1 million in funds for employment and training programs to help put people back to work, including a \$892,665 grant for Win At Works!, a youth workforce training experience that partnered 250 youth with 75 local employers. To date, more than 800 people have participated with more than 300 jobs created.

Construction on the Dry Creek Pedestrian Bridge over I-25 was made possible through \$709,093 in ARRA funds, as well as funding from Arapahoe County, Inverness Metropolitan District and Denver Regional Council of Governments.

The County received \$633,000 in Energy Conservation Block grants that will be used to complete projects, such as chiller replacements, building commissioning, thermal imaging and weatherization of County facilities.

Approximately \$618,000 in community services block grants have been distributed for Community Resources programs, such as emergency assistance, job training and services for seniors.

Human Services received \$266,787 in funds that were used to help process the increase in food assistance applications and to provide additional funding for child care assistance.

A Community Service Specialist, Court Notification Clerk, automated license plate readers, HazMat suits and mobile GPS units are just some of the ways in which the Sheriff's Office has put \$304,218 to work in Arapahoe County and the City of Centennial. ●

Child Support Enforcement

Every child needs and deserves financial support from both of their parents. Child Support Enforcement helped residents to establish, enforce or modify 13,972 child support orders, and by working with the County Attorney's Office, brought in \$38.3 million in child support for families. The County is committed to helping parents overcome barriers to paying support, and welcomed hundreds of citizens into its Parents To Work program, which partners with Arapahoe/Douglas Works! to offer individualized assistance with finding a job. ●

Energy Efficient Buildings Save Money

As the first government in Colorado to be recognized by Xcel Energy for our energy efforts, Arapahoe County is saving more than \$879,749 annually in energy costs. ●



Treasurer Doug Milliken joined bank and chamber leaders in launching a program to help banks invest in small to medium-size businesses in Arapahoe County.

Investing in the Local Economy

By purchasing \$16 million in certificates of deposit at six local banks, Treasurer Doug Milliken launched an innovative economic stimulus program that is encouraging banks to invest in small to medium-size businesses within Arapahoe County. The program enables local businesses to borrow funds. ●

County Investments

Arapahoe County earned approximately \$14 million through investments in 2009, due in part because Treasurer Doug Milliken locked in investments at 5 percent to 6 percent rates for multiple years before the recession started. ●

Open Space Sales and Use Tax

Since 2004, Arapahoe County has distributed and invested more than \$85 million in open space sales taxes and protected more than 15,000 acres of land that preserve natural habitats and wildlife corridors, protect sweeping vistas and provide outdoor recreation for residents of all ages.

These taxes have been invested throughout Arapahoe County, from projects along the South Platte River in Littleton, Sheridan and Englewood; and along the Highline Canal in Greenwood Village; to parks and trails in Centennial, Glendale and Aurora; and on the grassland prairie in eastern Arapahoe County. This would not be possible without the voters who generously approved the Arapahoe County open space sales tax in 2003. ●

Parker/Arapahoe Road Improvements to Begin in 2010

During the last several years, Arapahoe County has led efforts to improve congestion at the Parker and Arapahoe Road intersection. By setting aside \$9.1 million in County funds; advancing funds to take advantage of available federal dollars and current construction pricing; and seeking the federal and state dollars to complete these much needed improvements, CDOT in conjunction with Arapahoe County, will begin construction of the Parker and Arapahoe Road grade separated interchange improvements in early summer 2010. ●

Count on Us to Deliver Quality Services.

In your words.

County Web Site and Assessor's Web Page

"Thanks for having such a great county web site. I'm on it almost every day for property information, and it is so much better and easier to use than the other county sites. They could learn a thing or two from the Arapahoe County Assessor's web page; it really makes my job easier."

– Peter D.

During the good times and the bad, you rely on us to deliver core services and programs that improve your quality of life. We do this with a commitment to excellence, and a vision of being *First in Colorado*, which means always doing our best. Here are some of the many ways that Arapahoe County touched your lives in 2009.

Strengthening the Workforce

In 2009, Arapahoe County's unemployment rate was 6.6 percent. More than 65,500 job-seekers turned to the workforce center to help them get the skills to stand out in a competitive job market. By accessing free services ranging from workshops and resume critiques to personal assessments, certifications and training opportunities, Arapahoe/Douglas Works! placed more than 15,400 residents in jobs and created a positive ripple effect in our local economy. ●

CSU Extension

Where do residents find information on everything from stain removal and high-altitude cooking to rabbit problems and lawn maintenance? The County's CSU Extension is your free 'reference desk' for up-to-date information on nutrition, food safety, finances, gardening, youth development and much more. In 2009, disabled farmers and ranchers took advantage of the AgrAbility program to learn how to adapt equipment and practices to stay in business. ●

From Foster Families to Forever Families

Arapahoe and Jefferson counties are working together to recruit and train foster families who provide temporary homes for abused or neglected children. The Collaborative Foster Care Program welcomed 135 new foster homes in 2009, nearly doubling its pool of available families. Monthly information nights are offered for residents interested in learning more about foster care.

While the County makes every effort to reunify foster children with their parents, sometimes concerns for the children's well-being and safety go unresolved, and they become legally free for adoption. The County placed 111 children in 'forever' families, including 20 adoptions that were finalized during National Adoption Month in November. ●

Improving Parker Road

Arapahoe County completed a study that outlines recommendations to improve the Parker Road corridor between Hampden Avenue and E-470. Recommendations include improvements to the roadway, major intersections, bicycle/pedestrian facilities and transit services. ●

Go Online to Report a Crime

It's easier than ever to report a non-emergency crime, thanks to COPLogic, a new online tool debuted by the Sheriff's Office. The tool allows citizens to file an official police report any time of day for identity theft, theft from motor vehicles, theft under \$5,000, graffiti, vandalism and more. Online reports receive the same investigative attention as one taken by a deputy sheriff. ●

Veterans Service Office

Arapahoe County's Veterans Service Office assists many of the county's 50,000 veterans and their dependents with obtaining eligible benefits, such as disability, medical care, pension and burial benefits. ●



A local teen participates in the Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Youth job fair.



It's a family affair for Rosie Lucerne of Centennial and her adopted sons Alex and Isaiah after Judge Anne Ollada finalizes their adoption.



County residents participate in a Master Gardener class through CSU Extension.



Commissioner Jim Dyer presents the prescription drug discount card.



Homemaker Services provides free, light housekeeping services to seniors.

Senior Services

Arapahoe County works hard to coordinate with communities and organizations to offer services that assist 67,000 residents over age 60 in maintaining a healthy, active and independent life. Here are a few ways we're working to meet those needs:

Homemaker Services provide free, light housekeeping services to senior residents for a few hours each month, while Chore Services assists with heavier household chores, such as yard work and major cleaning or organizing projects. The County also supports Rebuilding Together™, which rehabilitates low-income seniors' and disabled citizens' homes to ensure the residence is safe, accessible and energy-efficient.

By partnering with First Transit, seniors received 11,600 free rides to and from medical appointments, senior dining centers, grocery stores and food banks on small, wheelchair-accessible buses.

Through the County's support of Town of Littleton Cares and Senior Hub's Meals on Wheels programs, nutritious, home-delivered meals arrived to more than 425 seniors in the eastern and western portions of the County.

The Sheriff's Office offers Colorado LifeTrak, state-of-the-art radio transmission devices, to assist law enforcement in locating persons with Alzheimer's, autism, dementia and related disorders who wander from home.

The County also works to protect seniors and adults who may be victims of abuse, neglect, self-neglect or exploitation, and are unable to perform or obtain services necessary for their own health, safety or welfare. ●

Food Assistance and Medicaid

Arapahoe County saw a dramatic increase in the number of residents seeking assistance due to the economic downturn. Food assistance caseloads increased 42 percent to 15,544, while Medicaid rose 17 percent to 16,084 cases. To help people obtain benefits and services, Human Services added more full-time and temporary staff and streamlined work behind-the-scenes to maximize efficiencies. ●

Prescription Drug Discount Card

Arapahoe County offers free discount cards to help citizens afford the high costs of retail prescription drugs that do not fall under health insurance. The cards are offered at no cost to the County or taxpayers, and can be presented at most local pharmacies. Arapahoe County consumers saved \$90,672 from the cards in 2009, an average savings of \$22 per prescription. ●

Convenient Payment Options

Residents were offered a variety of convenient methods to pay their property taxes, including online payment with a credit card or electronic check, in person at the Treasurer's Office in Littleton, drop-box locations in Aurora and Centennial, and by delivery to the tellers at Guaranty Bank in Byers.

The Clerk and Recorder's Office introduced PayPort to allow citizens to pay their motor vehicle registration by credit card.

Clients in Arapahoe County who owe fees for court-ordered community service hours or pretrial supervision can now use credit cards to pay for fees via the internet, or at kiosks in select County offices. ●

Clerk and Recorder's Office

You expect an accurate count of your vote in every election, and the Clerk and Recorder's Office delivers. The 2009 general election was conducted entirely by mail and more than 31 percent of the County's 340,000 registered voters cast their ballots, which determined the outcomes of local races for mayor, council, school boards and other important issues.

The Clerk and Recorder's Office streamlined the ballot acceptance process to process ballots more efficiently and effectively, which also allowed voters - for the first time - to check online whether their ballot had been received.

Residents who were planning trips abroad found it easy to apply for their passports through the Clerk and Recorder's Office on National Passport Day, which offered Saturday business hours for customers who couldn't make it in during the week. Nearly 3,000 passport applications came through our doors in 2009 and were submitted to the U.S. State Department for processing.

More than 3,977 newlyweds obtained their marriage licenses through the Clerk and Recorder's Office. The Clerk and Recorder also recorded 141,000 real estate documents and processed 490,980 vehicle registrations, 141,553 titles, 49,467 permits and 21,148 driver's licenses. ●

Transportation Improvements

Public Works and Development began updating the County's 2035 Transportation Plan, widening Broncos Parkway, and construction of the Dry Creek Pedestrian Bridge. Smoky Hill Road was widened from E-470 to South Versailles Parkway and turn lanes were added on Gun Club Road at the Quincy Road intersection and Dove Hill subdivision. ●

Count on Us to **Make a Difference.**

In your words.

Sheriff's Office

"I would like to commend the Sheriff's Office for the kind and compassionate response I received to my plea for help in rescuing a beloved family pet. The officer was extremely polite and professional. Our dog had been missing since 5:30 p.m. the previous evening and was found at the bottom of a neighbor's four-foot deep uncovered window well. Happily, he was found uninjured and thanks to the kind officer who rescued him, he is back home with his family and we are all extremely grateful."

– Kristy R.

When it comes to strengthening our community, our work is never done. Not just because that's the role of local government, but because we care about making a difference. In addition to our many programs and services, our employees donate time, money and resources to charitable causes to improve the lives of those in need. We build places and events that bring people together. We also teach and inspire youth in a spirit of giving, in hopes that future generations will keep paying it forward.

County Employees Give Back

When it comes to service, County employees don't just stop at their jobs. They run, swim, bake and even bowl for a cause. Employees also have created and run two charitable non-profits, H.O.P.E. and Adopt a Family to help improve the lives for youth and families in need.

Thanks to the generosity of citizens, employees and local businesses, the County's first annual "Salute to Veterans" Bake Sale raised funds to benefit the Colorado State Veterans Nursing Home at Fitzsimons. The proceeds were used to purchase postage stamps and phone cards for veterans to contact loved ones during the holidays.

Sheriff's Office deputies took to the roof of Krispy Kreme stores, waited on tables at Applebee's, and took an icy plunge into Chatfield Reservoir to raise \$12,600 for Special Olympics Colorado.

The Clerk and Recorder's Office annual charity drive for soldiers fighting overseas collected 22 boxes packed with personal care items and magazines to send to soldiers fighting in Afghanistan. ●

Holiday Food Boxes

Volunteers from Arapahoe County's CSU Extension filled 704 food boxes that were donated by the County to low-income families who were registered with the Arapahoe Santa Claus Shop, a non-profit charitable organization that allows low-income parents to select donated toys for their children. ●

4-H Youth

Youth members of Arapahoe County 4-H gained self-confidence, responsibility and skills that will last a lifetime. The County is home to more than 30 4-H clubs, where members can explore their interests in 270 general, home economics and animal-related project areas. ●



A young 4-Her proudly presents her chicken during the Poultry Show at the Arapahoe County Fair.



Brian McKnight and Kathy Lynn of the Sheriff's Office help collect and dispose of outdated and unused medications.



Sheriff Grayson Robinson and employees of the Sheriff's Office helped raise 404,000 pounds of food and more than \$115,000 – an all-time record – through their participation in the 27th annual 9Cares Colorado Shares Holiday Drive.



A view of the Rocky Mountains from Kiowa Creek in eastern Arapahoe County.

Picture Perfect Kiowa Creek Purchase

In an effort to preserve water quality and wildlife habitat, Arapahoe County purchased 265 acres along Kiowa Creek for open space near the Town of Bennett with \$1.27 million in Arapahoe County Open Space funds. ●

Operation Medicine Cabinet

Operation Medicine Cabinet is a community event co-sponsored by the Sheriff's Office to help seniors and others dispose of expired medications in a safe, eco-friendly manner. Properly disposing of medications reduces the risk of accidental poisoning, theft and drug abuse, misuse of medication and pollution of our groundwater and waterways. ●

Foreclosure Prevention

In 2009, the Public Trustee's Office processed a record 6,243 foreclosures and 30,843 releases. Struggling homeowners reached out to the Colorado Foreclosure Hotline, which is managed by Brothers Redevelopment. Arapahoe County provided a federal grant to help the non-profit agency provide counseling and workshops on foreclosure prevention or reverse mortgages, with 80 percent of callers reaching a positive resolution for their property and loan. ●

Judicial Services Toyland Project

The Toyland Project donated 5,943 handmade toys and fleece blankets, gloves and other items in 2009 to non-profit and charitable organizations. These items were made by citizens fulfilling court-ordered community service hours, and are passed along as gifts to children and individuals in need. ●

Backyard for Glendale Residents

Glendale is home to 5,000 residents and only three single-family homes. In 2009, Arapahoe County committed \$3.375 million dollars in open space funds toward the City's purchase of an additional eight acres of open space at Infinity Park, which will serve as the City's new backyard playground. ●

99 Trees in the Park

Planting 99 trees at Arapahoe County Community Park not only provided aesthetic value, but shade from the summer heat and a noise buffer for park users, including the 100,000 residents who participate in organized sports programs at the park annually. ●

Revised Flood Maps

Arapahoe County participated in an effort by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to update and modernize the nation's flood maps. The maps show the elevation where flood waters might reach in any given year. Because these elevations can affect a property's flood-risk designation and insurance rating, citizens were invited to review and comment on the proposed updated maps. ●

Youth4Success

Arapahoe County helped to produce a three-week summer pilot program to teach at-risk teens skills in culinary arts, information technology, architecture, engineering, automotive technology, business and marketing. Aurora Youth4Success helped 60 students gain work-ready skills and prepare for a positive and productive adulthood. ●

Community Development Block Grants

Arapahoe County helped dozens of non-profits increase their capacity to serve vulnerable populations with Community Development Block Grants. The grants supported safety-net organizations, such as Project Angel Heart, which provides home-delivered meals for people with life-threatening illnesses; House of Hope, the only county shelter for homeless women and children; and Doctor's Care, which provides pediatric care for low-income, uninsured children. Food pantries and emergency rental also received funding to help fill the gap for families in need. ●

Arapahoe County Fair

More than 20,000 thrill-seekers went 'Hog Wild' at the 103rd Arapahoe County Fair. For five days in July, fairgoers enjoyed carnival rides, concerts, rodeos, demolition derby, fireworks and much more at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds and Regional Park in Aurora. ●

Public Works Week

Arapahoe County celebrated National Public Works Week at Byers Elementary School, where school children got the chance to sit in the driver's seat and learn about equipment such as, motor graders, John Deere mowers, a tandem with wing plow blades, a street sweeper and an animal control truck. ●



Animal Control Officer Ben Gutierrez demonstrates how the County reunites lost dogs and cats with their owners during Public Works Week at Byers Elementary School.

Count on Us to Keep You Safe and Informed.

In your words.

Communication Services

“Thank you so much for the information. We are both truly impressed with your quick responses and finding the information that we requested. During an age where customer service has taken a back seat, it is wonderful to have someone that is so diligent in their work and making sure we have the information that we need. Please pass this message on to your manager because you deserve recognition for your work.”

– Christine and Andy S.

First and foremost, we are here to keep you safe and informed – to not only respond to an emergency but to work to prevent them. As you will see, the County offers a variety of programs and services that help achieve and maintain public safety, keep residents informed and improve our quality of life. You can count on that.

New Emergency Notification System

Arapahoe, Jefferson and Douglas counties launched a state-of-the-art emergency notification system to alert citizens of emergencies. The system enables Arapahoe County to provide residents essential information within minutes in the event of an emergency, such as fires, floods, or building and neighborhood evacuations. Residents can register to receive notifications through a variety of communication devices including cell phones, e-mail, instant messaging, text messaging and pagers. ●

Teen Drivers Learn Safety

The Sheriff’s Office, in partnership with the City of Centennial, promotes driver safety and awareness among youth. *Take it to the Track* encourages teen drivers to make good driving choices and provides them a safe, legal and organized environment in which to race vehicles.

In conjunction with *Alive at 25*, the Sheriff’s Office spoke to 1,400 students at Byers, Deer Trail, Eaglecrest and Arapahoe high schools about the importance of making positive choices and taking responsibility for their actions while behind the wheel.

Alive at 25 is a 4.5 hour defensive driving course for young adults, 15-25 years old. According to Colorado State Patrol records, a student who completes the program is 72 percent less likely to be killed in an automobile crash before their 25th birthday. ●



Take it to the Track encourages teen drivers to make good choices when behind the wheel.



Victims' Rights Week pays tribute to crime victims and the advocates and public servants who work with them.



With Alive at 25, the Sheriff’s Office spoke to 1,400 students about the importance of making positive choices and taking responsibility for their actions when driving.



County Assessor Corbin Sakdol and the dedicated employees of the Assessor's Office valued and mailed more than 200,000 property valuation notices to property owners in 2009.

Assessor Notices of Valuation

Notices of Valuation issued by the Assessor's Office provided property owners with information on the actual value of their property as of the June 30, 2008 appraisal date. The notices also included photos and information on five neighborhood sales, giving homeowners a better understanding of the valuation process and how the value of their home is determined. The County Assessor, in partnership with assessors throughout the Front Range, conducted a campaign to educate property owners about the valuation process. ●

National Crime Victims' Rights Week

Victims of crime experience hardships that no one should ever have to face. To pay tribute to these survivors and the advocates and public servants who work with them, the Sheriff's Office hosted a recognition ceremony and sponsored a poster contest for students during Victims' Rights Week, April 26 - May 2. ●

H1N1 Prevention

Arapahoe County took extra precautions to keep employees and residents who do business with the County healthy during the H1N1 pandemic. We were one of the first local governments to create a *Pandemic Response Plan* and *Sick Leave Policy and Procedures Under Pandemic Conditions* to minimize the potential impact to County operations.

Standard operating procedures now include disinfecting door handles and frequently-used surfaces in County buildings, and requesting employees to wipe down computer keyboards, telephones and desks daily. Antibacterial sanitizer stations are set up in high traffic areas and facial masks are available upon request. ●

Medical Marijuana Moratorium

The Board of County Commissioners approved a temporary moratorium through June 2010 on the establishment of any new medical marijuana dispensaries or growing operations in unincorporated Arapahoe County. The moratorium gives the County time to review any potential adverse impacts of these operations and ensure those impacts are adequately addressed in the County's Land Development Code. ●

Doing Business with the County

Our Purchasing Division partnered with the Aurora Chamber of Commerce to host workshops for companies interested in doing business with Arapahoe County by identifying possible business opportunities and sharing tips on how to be successful in the solicitation process. ●

Operation Cache Flow

The Sheriff's Office, along with 14 agencies that serve Arapahoe County, participated in *Operation Cache Flow*, a full-scale, mock exercise to help develop guidelines for the activation of CHEMPACK by first responders. CHEMPACK is a federal supply of nerve agent antidotes that is prepositioned within each state to assist in the medical treatment of people exposed to specific chemicals. ●

Shred to Protect Your Identity

Hundreds of citizens took part in the third annual Metro Denver Crime Stoppers Shred-a-thon. The Arapahoe County site collected almost \$9,000 to benefit the Metro Crime Stoppers and 242,000 pounds of documents were shredded, helping residents protect their identity from potential thieves. ●

COPLINK Aids in Apprehending Criminals

COPLINK, a new software tool introduced by the Sheriff's Office, is helping to aid in the identification and apprehension of criminals by searching through incompatible databases and record management systems and offering a rapid analysis and identification of crime suspects, relationships and patterns that can help solve crime and thwart illegal activity. ●



Sheriff's Office volunteers partnered with 9News and collected 242,000 pounds of documents during the 2009 Shred-a-Thon.

Count on Us to Partner with You.

Arapahoe County is a place where residents actively take part in their local government. You are our customer and our boss. We value your perspective. We count on those who volunteer their time to Arapahoe County and we encourage more to get involved. Together, we can make Arapahoe County, *First in Colorado, First in Service – Your County of Choice.*

In your words.

Arapahoe/Douglas Works!

“I wanted to share with you my recent experience with Arapahoe/Douglas Works! on behalf of a company relocation prospect considering our community. After placing a call to Joe Barela, I immediately was contacted by Pat Holwell. Pat took the time to fully understand what we needed and in a very quick fashion, provided me with reports that simply blew away my expectations. The quality of information provided and the professional way in which it was packaged truly allowed me to exceed the prospect’s desires.”

– Bart S.

Volunteer Service

Volunteer service in Arapahoe County hit a record-high in 2009, with more than 400 citizens contributing their time and talents to the County in tough economic times. Citizens donated 17,364 hours of service, which translates into \$358,392.96 in budget relief and helps Arapahoe County maintain its reach in the community. ●

Adopt a Highway

Under a new ‘Adopt a Highway’ cleanup program, volunteer groups take on cleaning debris and litter on a stretch of roadway in the county. The first cleanup was conducted by the Columbine Kiwanis on Coal Mine Road, where a new roadside sign now displays the group’s name and alerts drivers when litter clean-up is underway. ●

Rebuilding Day

Employees, citizens and elected officials donned work gloves and joined Rebuilding Together™ Metro Denver to tackle home repairs and safety improvements for low-income homeowners. The teams installed wheelchair access ramps, hand rails and grab bars, new doors and locks, fire extinguishers and carbon monoxide detectors, as well as completed plumbing, carpentry and painting for senior or disabled residents. Arapahoe County supports the non-profit agency for housing rehabilitation and homeowner fix-up projects with Community Development Block Grants. ●



Columbine Kiwanis volunteers helped launch the County's new Adopt a Highway program.

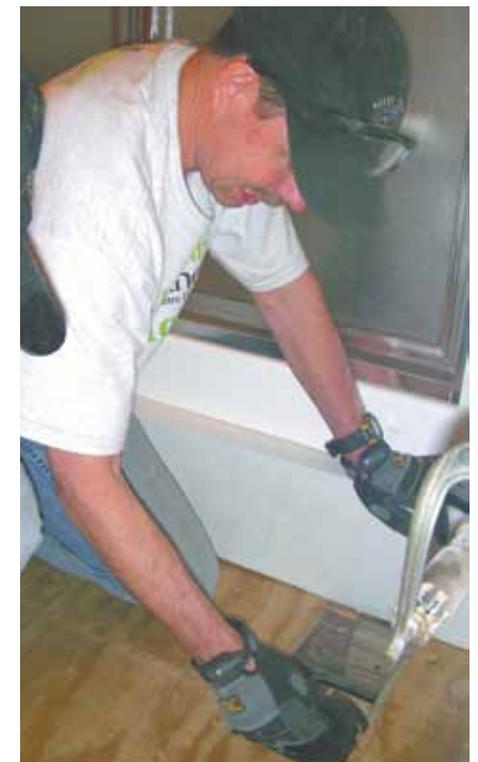


Left:

Commissioners Frank Weddig and Pat Noonan helped celebrate the 17,364 hours volunteers contributed to Arapahoe County.

Right:

Assessor Corbin Sakdol and County employees donate their time to help low-income homeowners with home fix-up projects.





The Fairgrounds and Regional Park Master Plan envisions a premiere destination for family entertainment, recreation, education and relaxation.

Fairgrounds and Regional Park

The Board of County Commissioners approved the Fairgrounds and Regional Park Master Plan, which included ideas cultivated through numerous conversations with citizens, public agencies and other interested parties. The plan envisions the Fairgrounds and Regional Park to become a premiere destination for family entertainment, recreation, education and relaxation. ●

Citizen Boards and Committees

Appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, 144 citizens volunteer their time and talents on 23 advisory boards and committees to shape our community and take part in the decision-making process. Committees cover a wide-ranging topics, from arts and 4-H youth development, to the County budget and employee retirement plan. ●

Byers and Strasburg SubArea Plans

Arapahoe County worked with citizens in Byers and Strasburg to identify areas of concern and potential growth as we revised the Strasburg and Byers SubArea Plans. These plans are the roadmap to guide future land use, zoning changes and development within these communities. ●

Greener Choices

In 2009, residents and employees pledged to take some easy steps to save energy including driving smarter and using energy-efficient light bulbs as part of the National Association of Counties green county contests. The Drive Smarter Challenge invited consumers to lower their gasoline costs by keeping their vehicles in good working order, driving less and driving more fuel-efficiently. ●

Shaping the Future of Parks, Trails and Open Spaces

Thousands of citizens took the time to share their vision and needs for the County's parks, trails and open spaces. This information is being used to help develop an open space master plan that will serve as a guide for making strategic decisions about the program's future. ●

Adopt a Family

More than 600 children, adults and seniors in need were given a special holiday season through this annual employee-run charitable gift-giving program. County residents, staff and organizations generously gave wrapped gifts from the needs and wish lists of their neighbors, ranging from basic household items and diapers to toys and bicycles. ●



County employees package presents to help brighten the holidays for more than 600 children, adults and seniors in need.

I-70 Corridor Study

In partnership with Adams County, the Towns of Bennett and Deer Trail; the communities of Watkins, Strasburg and Byers; and the Regional Economic Advancement Partnership, Arapahoe County conducted a study of the I-70 Corridor. Residents said they appreciate the friendly, rural way of life, but want to see economic development and local employment opportunities. As a result, an economic assessment is underway that will identify strengths and weaknesses to best position the corridor for increased business opportunities. ●

Arapahoe County Partners with Broomfield, Jefferson Counties on Software System

The Assessor, Treasurer and Information Technology department began a computer software system upgrade that will ultimately integrate property appraisal, Geographic Information Systems, and property tax billing and collection into one shared system. The new system replaces the County's mainframe system from the 1970s and will be shared by Arapahoe, Jefferson and Broomfield counties. Denver County is actively involved in the standardization process with plans on implementing in the future. Ultimately, the new system will serve 1.4 million residents and owners of 660,000 real property and 74,500 personal property accounts when it goes live in late 2010 or early 2011. ●



Cyclists Gloria Siekmeier and Karle Meyer join Commissioner Susan Beckman and Englewood Mayor Jim Woodward to celebrate the grand opening of two new bridges that span the South Platte River near Dartmouth and Oxford avenues. The bridges were made possible thanks to the Arapahoe County Open Space sales tax, City of Englewood and Great Outdoors Colorado.

Count on Us to Lead the Way.



Clerk and Recorder Nancy Doty and employees were recognized for Donor Awareness in 2009.

Arapahoe/Douglas Works!

The Arapahoe/Douglas Workforce Board was recognized as a Distinguished Honoree of the Theodore E. Small Workforce Partnership Award by the National Association of Workforce Boards. The award recognizes innovations by workforce investment boards to advance innovative partnerships with their business communities. ●

Assessor's Office

The 2009 Property Assessment Study, conducted by an independent appraisal company, found the Assessor's Office met or exceeded all standards set by the State Board of Equalization. ●

County Commissioners

Commissioner Rod Bockenfeld was appointed to serve as Chair of the Fiscal Policy sub-committee of the Finance and Intergovernmental Steering Committee for the National Association of Counties. He also was elected vice-chairman of the Denver Regional Council of Governments Board of Directors and serves as chairman in 2010.

Commissioner Frank Weddig was appointed by Gov. Bill Ritter to serve on the State Complete Count Campaign Board for Census 2010. The panel was created to promote the 2010 Census, respond to public questions and concerns and ensure the highest census participation rate possible. ●

Arapahoe County's success depends on our employees and elected officials who are dedicated to excellence, service and hard work. *Count on us* to lead the way and exceed your expectations every time you do business with us. Check out the awards, accolades and recognition our employees and elected officials received in 2009.

Facilities and Fleet Management

For the fourth year, the County's Fleet Management Division was named among the top 100 Best Fleets in North America. ●

Child Support Enforcement

For the second year, the Child Support Enforcement Division was recognized by the State for its excellence in increasing child support collections and improving the lives of Colorado's children.

The Western Interstate Child Support Enforcement Council recognized Child Support Enforcement as the best program of its kind west of the Mississippi River. ●

Clerk and Recorder's Office

The Donor Awareness Council recognized the Clerk and Recorder's Office for having the highest percent average of people joining the Colorado organ and tissue registry in 2008. About 74 percent of people who walk into our Motor Vehicle offices agree to be a donor, as compared to 60 percent statewide. ●

Coroner's Office

Coroner Mike Dobersen, M.D., PhD., was appointed to serve on the Governor's Committee on Epidemic Issues. He also serves on the Coroner Standards and Training Board.

The Coroner's Office investigated 2,603 deaths and completed 456 autopsies in 2009. ●

Energy Star Ratings

The Environmental Protection Agency awarded Arapahoe County ENERGY STAR designations for five County buildings, a mark of superior energy performance and efficiency. ●

County Attorney's Office

Meghan Loftus, assistant county attorney, received the 2009 Outstanding Attorney recognition from the Colorado Family Support Council. ●

Finance Department

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada awarded Arapahoe County with the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 2009 budget. ●

Human Services

The Colorado Department of Human Services' Division of Child Welfare awarded the Arapahoe/Jefferson Collaborative Foster Care Team with the Excellence in Practice Awards. Jessica Roberts, Caseworker with the Division of Children, Youth and Family Services, received an individual Excellence in Practice award for her outstanding management of child welfare cases. ●

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Grayson Robinson was elected vice chairman and reappointed to a second term as a Commissioner for the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

The Sheriff's Office once again earned accredited status through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. The Sheriff's Office holds five separate public safety accreditations through CALEA, the American Corrections Association, the National Commission on Correctional Health Care and the County Sheriff's of Colorado/Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving Law Enforcement awarded Deputy Jay Zachman the Outstanding Individual Dedication to Minors in Possession Enforcement Award for his commitment to enforcing Colorado's underage alcohol laws.

The Sheriff's Office earned the Model School Officer Agency Award from the National Association of School Resource Officers and the Federal Trade Commission's first Identity Theft Partnership Award for the exceptional work performed in the fight against identity theft. ●



County Commissioners celebrate the Energy Star designation awarded for five County buildings.

Connect with Us.

As Colorado's first county, our vision is to be *Your County of Choice*. We want to exceed your expectations every time you do business with us. We believe in providing citizens with exceptional services, keeping taxes low and being as efficient as possible with your tax dollars. If you need to reach us, visit our web site at www.co.arapahoe.co.us or contact us at the following phone numbers and e-mail addresses.

Main Information

303-795-4400 • 303-738-7915 TDD
info@co.arapahoe.co.us

Arapahoe/Douglas Works!

Career Development, 50+ & Fabulous, Employer Recruitment, Youth Services
303-636-1160 • 303-636-1207 TDD
www.adworks.org

Assessor's Office

Assessed Values, Business Personal Property, Mobile Home Title and Transfer, Real Estate Information, Proof of Sales Tax, Senior and Disabled Veteran Exemption
303-795-4600 • 303-795-4645 TDD
assessor@co.arapahoe.co.us

Board of County Commissioners and BOCC Administration

Boards and Committees, Metro Mayors and Commissioners Youth Awards Program, public hearings and study sessions, legislative issues, citizen inquiries
303-795-4630 • 303-795-4644 TDD
commissioners@co.arapahoe.co.us

Clerk and Recorder's Office

Clerk to the Board, Elections, Recording Real Estate Documents, Registering Automobiles, Driver's License Renewal, Marriage License, Passports, Voter Registration
303-795-4200 • 303-738-7890 TDD
clerk@co.arapahoe.co.us
www.arapahoevotes.com

Communication Services

Media and citizen inquiries
303-795-4284 • 303-795-4644 TDD
communicationservices@co.arapahoe.co.us

Community Resources

Arapahoe/Douglas Works!, Community Corrections, Community Development Block Grants, CSU Extension, Food Distribution Program, 4-H, Housing and Community Development, Judicial Services, Pre-Trial Release, Senior Resources, Veteran Services, Volunteer Connections
303-738-8040 • 303-738-8033 TDD
communityresources@co.arapahoe.co.us

Coroner's Office

Death investigations
720-874-3625 • 303-738-7915 TDD
coroner@co.arapahoe.co.us

County and District Courts

County Court A (Littleton):
303-798-4591
County Court B (Aurora):
303-214-4000
District Court: 303-649-6355
www.courts.state.co.us
Jury Information: 303-649-6318
arapahoejury@judicial.state.co.us
<http://arapahoe.cojury.org>

District Attorney's Office

Bad Check Restitution Program, Communities Against Senior Exploitation Partnership, Consumer Fraud and Complaints, Essentials for Life, Juvenile Assessment Center, Juvenile Diversion, Victim and Witness Advocates
720-874-8500 • DA18@da18.state.co.us
www.arapahoeda.org

Fairgrounds and Regional Park

Facility Rental, County Fair
303-795-4955 • 303-738-7915 TDD
openspace@co.arapahoe.co.us

Finance

Accounts Payable, Budget, Purchasing
303-795-4620 • 303-738-7915 TDD
finance@co.arapahoe.co.us

Human Resources

Recruitment, training, benefits and compensation
303-795-4482 • 303-795-4634 TDD
humanresources@co.arapahoe.co.us

Human Services

Financial assistance and protective services to children, families, elderly and disabled adults, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, Low Income Energy Assistance, Food Assistance, Adolescent Services, Low-Income Child-care Assistance, Foster and Adoption Program, Family Empowerment, Child Support Enforcement
303-636-1130 • 303-636-1522 TDD
humanservices@co.arapahoe.co.us

Open Space and Recreation District

Open Space Grant and Shareback Program, Arapahoe County Recreation District, Fairgrounds and Regional Park
720-874-6500 • 720-874-6574 TDD
open_space@co.arapahoe.co.us

Public Trustee

Foreclosures, deeds of trust, releases of deeds of trust, tax escrow accounts for land purchase contracts
303-730-0071 • 303-738-7915 TDD
publictrustee@co.arapahoe.co.us

Public Works and Development

Animal Control, Building, Engineering, Mapping, Mosquito Control, Planning and Zoning, Road and Bridge, Weed Control
720-874-6500 • 720-874-6574 TDD
publicworks@co.arapahoe.co.us

Sheriff's Office

Concealed Weapons Permits, Emergency Management, Patrol, Detentions, Investigations, Warrants
9-1-1 emergency
303-795-4711 non-emergency
303-795-4711 TDD
sheriff@co.arapahoe.co.us

Treasurer's Office

Property Taxes, Tax Deeds, Tax Lien Sale, Senior and Disabled Veteran Exemption
303-795-4550 • 303-795-4646 TDD
treasurer@co.arapahoe.co.us

Tri-County Health Department

Birth Certificates, Death Certifications, Dental Services, Disease Prevention, Education, Environmental Health, Family Planning and Prenatal Care, Immunizations, Nutrition, Restaurant Inspections
303-220-9200 • www.tchd.org

Check out our web site

Arapahoe County provides a wide variety of services for residents, businesses and visitors, including many services online. Check out our web site at www.co.arapahoe.co.us to find out how you can:

- Apply for assistance benefits
- Apply for a career with Arapahoe County
- Apply for a marriage license
- Apply for a passport
- Apply to serve on a County Board or Committee
- Determine if your neighborhood is safe
- File an accident report online
- Find resources for seniors and veterans
- Foster or adopt a child
- Learn about our Open Space program
- Pay your taxes online
- Register to vote
- Renew your drivers license or vehicle registration
- Rent our Fairgrounds facility
- Report abuse or neglect
- Report a crime
- Report potential road concerns and hazards
- Review our budget
- Review Commissioner meeting agendas
- Review your property value
- Search/obtain copies of legal documents
- Sign up for County News and Events through Access Arapahoe
- Sign up for Emergency Alerts from the Sheriff's Office
- Volunteer with Arapahoe County

Commissioner Districts.

Arapahoe County is our home. When people ask, "Where do you work?" We are proud to say Arapahoe County. It is rewarding to represent this wonderful community and we are happy to serve you.

Thank you for helping us to make Arapahoe County *First in Colorado, First in Service – Your County of Choice.*

On this page you will find a Commissioner District map where you can easily find the commissioner that represents you.

Arapahoe County Commissioners meet for administrative and study sessions on Mondays and for public hearings and study sessions on Tuesdays. Copies of Commissioners' agendas are posted on our web site at www.co.arapahoe.co.us.

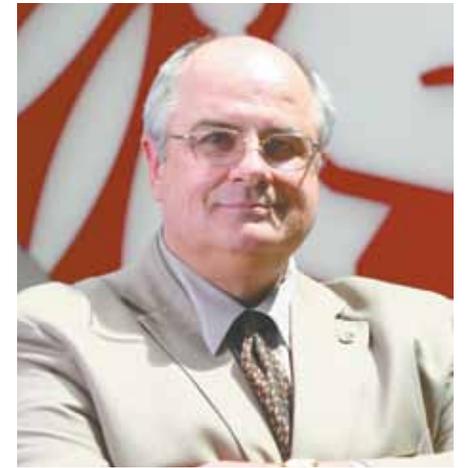
If you have a question, concern or just want to find out more about Arapahoe County, contact the Commissioners' Office at 303-795-4630 or by e-mail at commissioners@co.arapahoe.co.us.



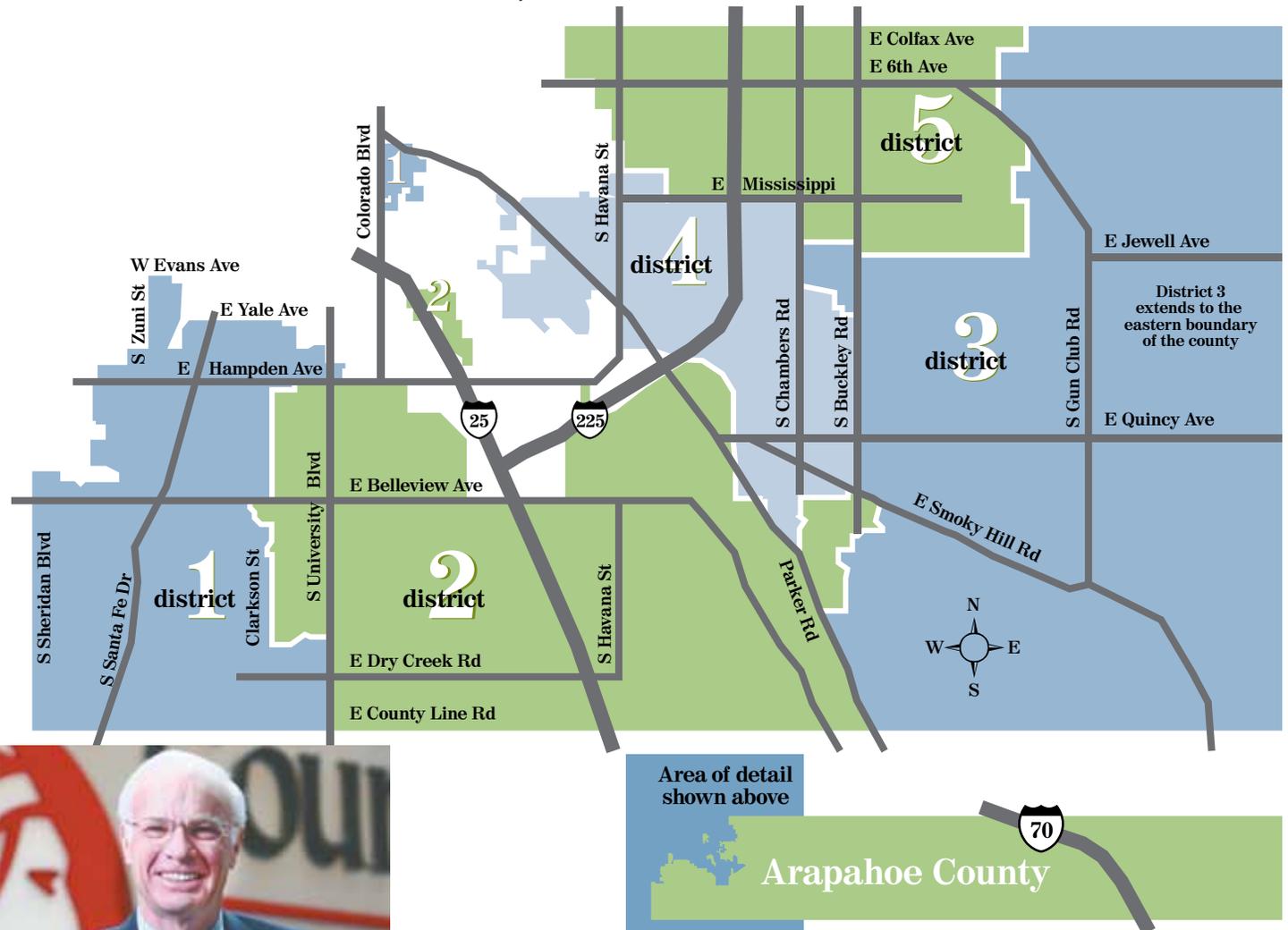
Susan Beckman, District 1



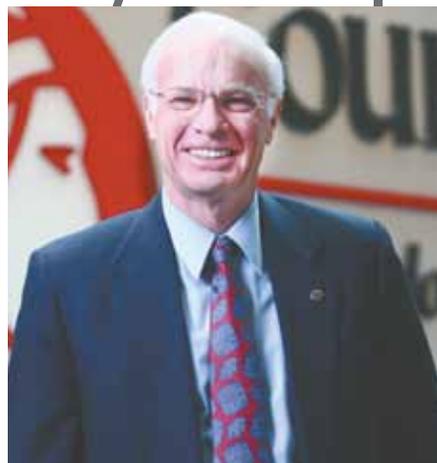
Jim Dyer, District 2



Rod Bockenfeld, District 3



Pat Noonan, District 4



Frank Weddig, District 5

