

# Staff News

January 2007

Volume 2, Number 1

PIKES PEAK REGIONAL BUILDING DEPARTMENT

## applause

**New Certifications**

## spotlight

**Angela Lehr**

**Permit Counter**

## celebrate

**Birthdays**

**Anniversaries**

## web watch

**Intranet In touch!**

## pera

**Retirement update**

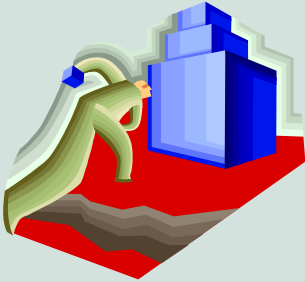
**Savings plans**

## revolution resolutions

**Reach your peak**



December 2006 Snow photo by Tatianna Gruen



## snow policy

In the event of extreme weather, RBD closure will be determined by the Regional Building Commission Chairman and Regional Building Official. If they decide to close, RBD will be listed on the County roster of closures after 6 AM - call

**520-7669 (520-SNOW)**

If you usually leave home prior to 6 AM, please wait and call the information line. This is for your safety! Follow the regular guidelines of contacting your immediate supervisor if you will be late or absent. (You will not be penalized for being late or absent due to extreme weather.)

RBD will continue the policy of contacting local TV stations, posting notice on our web site, and changing the telephone messaging system.

## Riddle of the Month

A cowboy rode to an inn on Friday  
and stayed two nights.  
He left on Friday.  
How could that be?

## Quote of the month

"Laughter gives us distance. It allows us to step back from an event, deal with it and move on."

— Bob Newhart

## Congratulations Certifications!

Larry Walsh — ICC Building Plans Examiner

Dale Hoke — ICC Mechanical Plans Examiner

Terry Schneider — ICC Electrical Plans Examiner

Shelby Erickson — ICC Electrical Plans Examiner

## HEALTHY RESOLUTIONS CHALLENGE

*a couch potato revolt!*

**January 15 - February 12, 2007**

The Healthy Resolutions Challenge encompasses your mind, body, and heart to incorporate a healthy everyday life-style. Participants will partake each day in personal relaxation, exercise, and healthy eating. The goal of this challenge is to accumulate 50 points in 4 weeks to receive 5 Credits. The last day to enter Credits is February 19. These 5 credits can be used towards reaching the 40 or 50 points needed at the end of the year to receive \$200 or \$250, respectively, in your flex spending account for 2008!

## 2007 Contribution Limits to Savings Plans

### 457 PLAN (ICMA)

2007 limit is \$15,500 for those under age 50.

Those over age 50 can contribute an additional \$5,000 for a total of \$20,500.

### 401K PLAN (PERA)

2007 limit is \$15,500 for those under age 50.

Those over age 50 can contribute an additional \$5,000 for a total of \$20,500.

## January holidays

**Monday, January 1, New Year's Day**

**Monday, January 15, Martin Luther King's Holiday**

# ANGELA LEHR

interviewed by  
Heather Keeling Silva

Angela began her career with RBD in August 1998 as an administrative assistant on a temporary basis through an agency. She was promoted to permit technician within a few years. Permit technicians handle a variety of tasks, from issuing permits to checking plans in and out. They are certified as Permit Technicians or Residential Building Inspectors by the International Code Council.

Angela prides herself on customer service. She likes to make sure that the customer feels that they are being taken care of. I observed this first hand as she helped a contractor with a parking garage. Angela's years of experience and knowledge have enabled her to perform additional duties such as tracking the revocable permits, resolving problems and closing them.



Photograp by Matthew P. Johnston

Angela is also the mother to four children, and has two grandchildren. One son is currently serving in Iraq. She always wears a smile and radiates an endearing positive attitude. Next time you see Angela, you might want to pat her on the back for a job well done!

## We need YOU!

We want your ideas and suggestions for the newsletter - from features to fun stuff! E-mail your ideas to Heather Keeling Silva.

The photo of the "snowsoon season" on this month's cover was taken by Leslie's daughter, Tatianna. We'd like to publish photos taken by you or a family member on the upcoming monthly covers!

Send your photos to Leslie by e-mail or call 491-4493. (We can scan originals into the newsletter too.)

celebrate  
celebrate  
celebrate

### JANUARY RBD ANNIVERSARIES

Bev Patterson	16 years
Terry Schneider	13 years
Marianne Mallon	4 years
Terri Walker	2 years

### FEBRUARY RBD ANNIVERSARIES

Les Hildebrand	13 years
Tim Allen	7 years
Russ Kauk	7 years
Bret Fogle	3 years
Scott Ross	2 years
Ted George	2 years
Dave Hendrian	1 year
Dick Roberts	1 year

### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Tim Langness	Jan 1
Lee Guthrie	Jan 6
Frank Atchison	Jan 8
Andy Barker	Jan 8
Tom Sandoval	Jan 8
Heather Keeling Silva	Jan 8
Terri Walker	Jan 10
Kye Lehr	Jan 15
Russ Kauk	Jan 18
Blake Nunnelley	Jan 18
Richard Shelton	Jan 24

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Matt Seeback	Feb 2
Tim Crippen	Feb 6
Sharon Falcone	Feb 14
Tim Swartzell	Feb 15
Owen Graff	Feb 16
Phil Wuthier	Feb 21

### FRIDAY POTLUCK LUNCH

January 26, 2007

Wow! I didn't know  
Jim Austin could hula  
like that! I read it on  
Intranet!



## web watch

Keep up with news in your area of work as well as others at RBD. Also don't forget to check out the web site for public information, particularly regarding codes, inspections and plan reviews. Copy this link to Intranet in your "favorites" on your Outlook menu bar. You'll find the latest newsletters, staff notes, and much more!

<http://intranet.pprbd.org/>

## Austin steals show in hula holiday revue

The award goes to Jim Austin for his hula dancing routine to the sounds of *Christmas island* that took nerve, talent and humor! He also had to multi-task to dance, ham and keep the grass skirt on!

Thanks Jim for being such a great sport — and giving us the best laugh in the show at Iron Springs Chateau!

## Riddle Answer

The cowboy's horse was named Friday.

## new rules for PERA retirement calculations effective January 1, 2009

As a result of Senate Bill 06-235, which Governor Bill Owens signed into law in May 2006, the Highest Average Salary (HAS) will be calculated differently for retirements on or after January 1, 2009 in an effort to limit "salary spiking." The law was changed because some members were able to receive lifetime retirement benefits based upon unusually high salary increases at the end of their careers. This hurt the PERA fund since members make contributions based on lower salaries paid over their careers, but will receive a benefit that is based on their last three years of employment.

HAS is one-twelfth of the average of the highest annual salaries on which PERA contributions were paid that are associated with three periods of 12 consecutive months of service credit. The three 12-month periods do not have to be consecutive or your last three years of employment. A 15% annual limit in salary increases applies if any salary used in the HAS calculation is from the three years prior to retirement.

The new law will change calculations as follows:

A base salary year (4th highest salary year) will be used to determine the starting point for the 15 percent annual salary increase limitation on the 3-year HAS calculation for benefit determination purposes; and

You will not be impacted by the new HAS calculation unless your PERA-includable salary increases by more than 15% annually in your four highest years of earnings.

PERA media release

## Top 10 List of New Year's Resolutions

If you haven't set your 2007 resolutions — or goals — it's not too late. Here are some resolutions that might be inspirational --- or NOT!

### I resolve to:

1. Fall in love with my "Delete Key" & learn the power of "Right Clicking"
2. No scroll bar in my email "In-Box" at the end of the day
3. Respect my time and the time of others
4. Set & keep appointments on my calendar to do my own work
5. Get organized so I stop wasting time looking for things I can't find
6. Get fit - both physically and mentally - it relieves stress
7. Schedule the priorities, instead of prioritizing the schedule
8. Don't over distribute emails to my colleagues and boss
9. Say yes to effective meetings and no to time-drainers
10. Work from anywhere but not anytime — have a life!

Courtesy of The Institute for Business Technology of Santa Clara, Calif.