

A newsletter published by the Nevada Dept. of Business & Industry Housing Division

Nevada Department of Business & Industry
HOUSING DIVISION
1771 East Flamingo, Ste. 206-B
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

NHD Web site
www.nvhousing.state.nv.us

Staff News

Congratulations to **Betty Roark** of the Division's Las Vegas office! Betty's handwoven cloaks were featured in the November/December 2004 issue of Handwoven magazine.

In response to the magazine's request of fellow weavers to share handwoven Fellowship Cloaks based on J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, Betty entered her created designs.

Betty has a passion for history and brings it to life through her weaving. She designed and weaved the cloaks from her stash of various green and blue wools. Betty designed what she calls "woodland elf" versions of the cloak for daughter, Bethany Titus and grandson Jonathan.

Creating her own patterns for the cloaks, Betty says, "I cut the hood in a single piece to avoid having a seam down the middle. I lined Jonathan's hood with fleece for comfort and added a tassel for fun."



Modeling the cloaks are Betty's daughter Bethany Titus and grandson, Jonathan.

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Mark Your Calendar:

**Notice of Public
Hearing on Proposed
Issuance of Multi-Unit
Housing Revenue Bonds
by NHD**

**October 25, 2004
10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.**

1802 N. Carson St., Ste. 154
Carson City
1771 E. Flamingo, Ste. 206-B
Las Vegas

Golden Apts.
Reno
159 family units
\$11,000,000 bond issue

Sonoma Palms Apts.
Las Vegas
238 senior units
\$15,000,000 bond issue

**November 5, 2004
Deadline for Entries in NHD's
Annual Children's Art Contest**

**December 7, 2004
1:15 p.m.
Advisory Committee on Housing
Video Teleconference Meeting**

Bradley Building
2501 E. Sahara Avenue
2nd Floor Conference Room
Las Vegas

Dept. of Business & Industry
Conference Room
788 Fairview Drive
Carson City

October is Energy Awareness Month Governor Guinn Signs Weatherization Day Proclamations



Governor Guinn proclaims October 30th as Weatherization Day in Nevada.

Proclamations signed by the Governor will be presented to NHD's Weatherization Program's sub-grantees at their October Board of Directors meetings.

Proclamations will be presented to the City of Henderson's Neighborhood Services, HELP of Southern Nevada, Community Services Agency of Washoe County, and the Rural Nevada Development Corporation. Shown in photo (from left) is Chas Horsey, Administrator, Nevada Housing Division, Governor Guinn, and Art Thurner, Federal Programs Supervisor, Nevada Housing Division, during the Governor's signing of proclamations.

Weatherization Program

The 2001 Nevada Legislature's passage of Assembly Bill 661 provided for the creation of a special revenue fund for assisting low-income families in weatherizing their homes to improve energy efficiency and for meeting health and safety standards. The State's Welfare Division administers the fund with 25 percent of the funds being distributed to the Housing Division's Weatherization Assistance Program.

The Weatherization Assistance Program is the nation's largest residential energy efficiency program. The Program was initiated and funded by the U.S. Dept.

of Energy in 1976 in response to the energy shortage and to help low-income families conserve energy while achieving safe and healthy homes.

The Division contracts with four sub-grantees who carry out energy audits and make recommendations for improvements for achieving energy conservation.

These audits, recommendations, and improvements are free to the very-low to low-income families throughout the state and without liens placed on their property.

For a listing of sub-grantees, and how to reach the agencies, see page 2.

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From the Administrator



Charles L. Horsey
Administrator

Residential Heating Costs Are Projected to Soar This Winter

All households face rising energy costs this year. Help is available for those families that have incomes at or below 60% of the area median income as they are eligible for federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Payments or the Division's Weatherization Assistance Program's energy efficiency services. According to the U.S. Dept. of Energy, residential customers will pay about 70% more for their natural gas bills this winter than last winter.

With our oil and gas prices at an all-time high, no immediate relief appears to be forthcoming. Insulating and weatherizing our homes are two of the fastest and most cost effective ways to use a whole-house approach for reducing energy waste and maximizing energy cost savings.

Warm air leaking into your home during the summer and out of your home during the winter can waste a substantial portion of your energy dollars. One of the quickest dollar-saving tasks you can do is caulk, seal, and weatherstrip all seams, cracks, and openings. You can save 10% or more on your energy bill by reducing your air leaks.

Other energy conservation measures one can take includes such simple tasks as changing to fluorescent lamps and fixtures, installing Energy Star® appliances, and programmable thermostats.

I encourage any nonprofit organization, faith-based organization, and others who are in daily contact with our state's lower-income populations to contact one of our sub-grantees for assistance. Working together we can all make a difference.

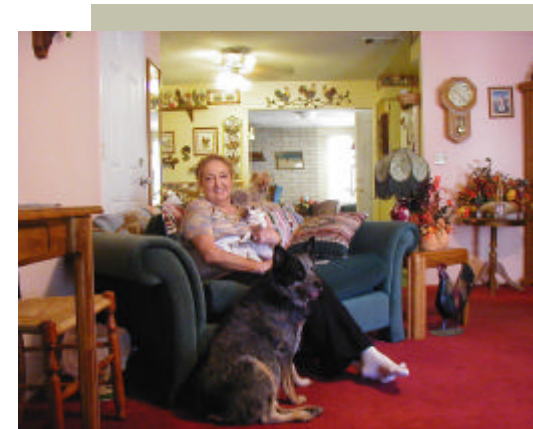
Charles L. Horsey

Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program Sub-Grantees (Service Providers)

Sub-Grantee	Address	Phone #	Area Served
HELP of Southern Nevada	953-35B East Sahara Ave., Ste. 208 Las Vegas	(702) 369-4357	All of Clark County, except for the City of Henderson
City of Henderson Neighborhood Services	240 Water Street Henderson	(702) 267-2010	City of Henderson
Community Services Agency of Washoe County	1090 East 8th Street Reno	(775) 786-6023	Washoe County
Rural Nevada Development Corp.	1320 East Aultman Ely	(775) 289-8519	Counties of : Carson, Churchill, Douglas, Elko, Esmeralda, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lincoln, Lyon, Mineral, Nye, Pershing, Storey and White Pine

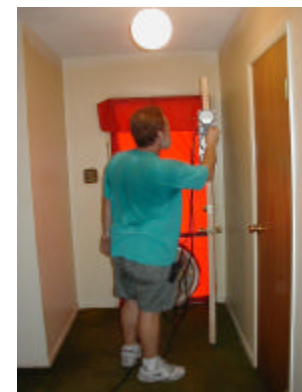
"The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that, assuming normal winter weather, residential customers will pay about 70% more for their natural gas bills this winter than last winter."

Weatherization Client



Frankie Miller pictured with pets, Blue (sitting on floor), Mr. Miller (in lap) and Sparky (top of couch).

Frankie Miller was surprised when the City of Henderson's Neighborhood Services knocked on her door. Her name had been given to them by a nonprofit organization, Christmas In April, who had completed some structural repair on her home. Faced with mounting medical bills, and living on a fixed income Mrs. Miller needed help with her home's energy efficiency. On an energy audit, the weatherization subcontractor found inordinate air leakage in her house. They proceeded to insulate her ceiling, replace doors and add weather stripping. The efforts resulted in reduced electric bills of \$500+ a month to just over \$200 a month.



Blower doors are used to test the amount of air leakage in a home. Also, checking your home's insulating system is one of the fastest and most cost effective ways to use a whole-house approach to reduce energy waste and maximize energy dollars.

NHD reports, forms, notices, and program compliance literature can all be found on NHD's web site: www.nvhousing.state.nv.us

HOME Program

The Division's HOME Program recently purchased four homes in Elko to assist the nonprofit organization Friends in Service Helping (FISH) in providing transitional housing for the homeless and for persons at-risk of becoming homeless.

HOME's purchase of homes in Elko provided assistance to serve families at or below 60% AMI. Two of the purchased rental units have been leased to single moms with kids.



Homes, like the one on the left, provide transitional housing for the homeless in Elko.

Staff Attends Fair Housing Workshop



NHD's Bond/Tax Credit Compliance and Monitoring Investigators (from left) Pat Miller, Brenda Birthwright, and Donna Brewer review fair housing materials at recent workshop on the ABCs of Fair Housing.

NHD's bond/tax credit compliance/monitoring team stay informed about the Fair Housing Act. On site visits, the team check that Fair Housing posters are on display, managers are asked if they are aware of the Fair Housing Law, and, at the end of the year, an inquiry is made regarding if any findings of discrimination under the Fair Housing Act has occurred for a project.

Findings of discrimination include an adverse final decision by the Secretary of HUD, an adverse final decision by a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing agency, or an adverse judgment from a federal court.