

Glenwood Springs

# Post Independent

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## Glenwood's Martha Cochran named new director of AVL T

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Long-time valley resident and community leader Martha Cochran has been named Executive Director of the Aspen Valley Land Trust. The announcement was made Thursday evening at a Summer Solstice Party celebrating the organization's 35th anniversary of land conservation in the Roaring Fork Valley.

Cochran is a former member of the Glenwood Springs City Council and served for six years on the city's Planning and Zoning Commission. She is the former publisher of the Glenwood Independent and the Glenwood Springs Post Independent newspapers and has lived in the valley since 1974. Cochran has a bachelor's degree of journalism and a master's degree in public administration.

"It is an honor to work with the Aspen Valley Land Trust and to do conservation work at this time in our valley's history," Cochran said.

The Aspen Valley Land Trust is Colorado's oldest land trust and is an acknowledged leader among conservation and land trust enterprises. The trust currently holds 44 property interests totaling over 7,500 acres in the Roaring Fork Valley.

Local landowners looking for a way to preserve their land or to maintain agricultural operations can look to the trust as a resource of information and assistance with conservation techniques and financial information on tax benefits and incentives for conservation. The trust also monitors land, trails and conservation easements that landowners donate to the trust.

"We at Aspen Valley Land Trust feel there is a diminishing window of opportunity for preserving open lands and agricultural operations in the greater Roaring Fork Valley and that now is the time to make our best efforts at preserving key habitats, open lands and view corridors," said Chairman of the Board Michael McVoy. "We think Martha Cochran, with her experience and contacts in the valley, is the person to lead us in a time of expansion and active land conservation."

Cochran is a member of the board of the Aspen Valley Community Foundation, Colorado Animal Rescue Inc., the Glenwood Springs Chamber Resorts Association and the J. Robert Young Foundation. She succeeds Reid Haughey, who resigned last month to accept a position with the Wilderness Land Trust.



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