

# Festival City USA This Month

CEDAR CITY, UTAH, COMMUNITY UPDATE



FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 2010

## Polar Plunge will aid Special Olympics cause

*January 30 event will also allow citizens to check on the progress of the Aquatic Center construction*

Cedar City staff members, along with the Special Olympics and Cedar City and area law enforcement officers, will brave the frigid waters of the Leigh Hill Reservoir in the Polar Plunge on Jan. 30.

The public is also invited to take the plunge at noon in the effort to aid the Special Olympics program. Sponsorships of the plungers will help provide funds for Special Olympics and those who would like to participate as either a sponsor or a plunger may register through Cedar City Leisure Services at 865-9223.

The Polar Plunge will mark the first event in the reservoir, which will open for public use in the late spring.

City crews will use heavy equipment to break the ice covering the reservoir to provide space for plungers. Leisure Services Director Bob Tate will be first into the water, followed closely by City Manager Ron Chandler. Tate came up with the idea, noting that many such events are held around the country to aid Special Olympics. Tate also hopes

that the Polar Plunge will become an annual tradition in Cedar City.

Sweatshirts will be available for the participants, as well, said Tate.

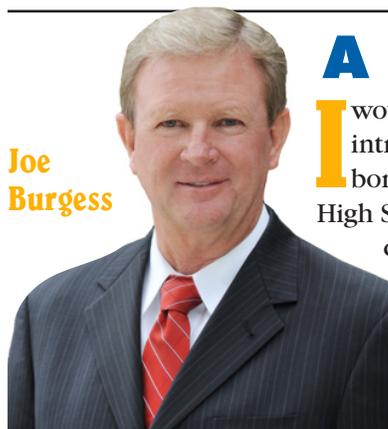
“Plus,” he said, “the Polar Plunge will provide a great opportunity for people to see what the reservoir is all about and to check on the progress of the construction of the nearby aquatic center, which is coming along nicely.”

Chandler echoed that feeling.

“This event will give us the opportunity to show off our progress and will be the impetus to create more events in the future at the recreation complex, which will not only include the aquatic center and reservoir, but ballfields as well,” he said.

Chandler is excited about the event, which he sees as not only aiding a worthwhile cause, but to be the first of what he sees as a long string of events at the reservoir.

“We are certain that once the reservoir attains regular useage, that people will find it an enjoyable multi-use addition to Cedar City,” he said.



Joe Burgess

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I would like to begin my term as mayor by introducing myself and family to you. I was born in St. George, Utah, attended Dixie High School and went through the plumbing course at Dixie College. I married Beverly Hawkins, my high school sweetheart, and we spent the first few years of our married life in St. George. In March of 1976 we had the opportunity to move

to Cedar City and buy a plumbing and heating business. That was the beginning of Zion Plumbing and Heating, which we owned and operated for almost 31 years. We were young when we bought the business but we had many friends and business associates who helped us and taught us many things. During the next

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

CEDAR CITY CORP. • 10 NORTH MAIN STREET, CEDAR CITY, UTAH 84720 (435) 586-2950 [www.cedarcity.org](http://www.cedarcity.org)

FOLLOW CITY MANAGER RON CHANDLER ON TWITTER: [twitter.com/cedarcityutah](https://twitter.com/cedarcityutah)

CEDAR CITY OFFICERS • Mayor: Joe Burgess Council Members: Ron Adams, Nina Barnes, Dale Brinkerhoff, Georgia Beth Thompson, Stephen Wood

## Sherratt will be honored Jan. 14

Cedar City Corp. will join with Southern Utah University to commemorate Gerald R. Sherratt's extraordinary life of public service on Thursday, Jan. 14, in the Gilbert Great Hall of the Hunter Conference Center at SUU. The reception and program to honor the president emeritus of SUU, two-term Cedar City mayor and former Utah State University administrator will last from 4:30 to 6 p.m. There will be "heavy refreshments" and all are welcome to attend at no cost.

## Fire Dept., 12 City employees lauded

Twelve Cedar City Corp. workers were honored in December as employees of the year, while the Cedar City Fire Department was named department of the year.

"The Cedar City Fire Department was and continues to be outstanding, both in fire prevention and fire fighting," said City Manager Ron Chandler. "Not only do they protect the City in responding to fires and other problems, but they also do a great job educating the public in how to prevent such tragedies."

Chandler also congratulated a dozen City employees who performed in an outstanding manner in 2009:

- **Luene Byers**, Library assistant;
- **Mark Browne**, coordinator of the Volunteers in Police Service program;
- **Clint Pollock**, Police officer;
- **Justin Ludlow**, Police school resource office;
- **Jason Thomas**, K-9 Police officer;
- **Dave Evans**, Police sergeant;
- **Bart Lambert**, Streets field supervisor;
- **Wyatt Miller**, Water worker;
- **Eric Bonzo**, Wastewater plant operator;
- **Steve Farmer**, Airport manager;
- **Curt Neilson**, Surveyor;
- **Steve Carter**, Golf Course superintendent of maintenance.

## Public Works Report

### CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL:

Cedar City Public Works and Rocky Ridge Roll Offs are offering disposal of Christmas trees this year. Trees may be taken to any of the following locations:

- 75 East Cobble Creek Drive
- 150 West Coal Creek Road
- 100 East College Ave.
- Royal Hunte Drive north of Cedar Middle School

Dumpsters at these locations are being provided by Rocky Ridge Roll Offs. These are for Christmas trees only. Please, no other waste. The dumpsters will be available until Jan. 11.

**STREET:** The City will begin its annual street maintenance this month with crack sealing. The area scheduled for maintenance activities includes the Equestrian Point, Sunset Canyon and Cedar Meadows areas and surrounding streets. When you see crews approaching your neighborhood, we encourage you to park your vehicle in the driveway so the maintenance work can be done completely. The work should be complete in a couple of hours.

**Snow removal:** The Street Division's

goal is to make the roads as passable as possible. A few suggestions: (1) please keep cars parked off the street as much as possible to allow the snow plows to be more effective; (2) those who do their own plowing with their 4-wheelers are appreciated. Please keep piles of snow as close to the gutter as possible. Piles should be on the right-hand side of the driveway (facing the street) to avoid getting pushed back into the drive approach; and, (3) please remove from and don't pile snow on sidewalks. According to City ordinance, sidewalks should be cleared of snow to allow pedestrian traffic. When snow blowing your sidewalk, please blow the snow onto your lawn instead of into the street. This benefits your lawn as it melts.

### Monday, Jan. 18 is a holiday:

Garbage for that day will be picked up on Wednesday, Jan. 20. Please place your garbage can(s) on the asphalt in front of the curb and not in the gutter. During the winter months, if the snow plows have been through, place the can next to the window so the garbage truck can pick it up easier.

**Recycling information:** Pure Recycling is a local recycling facility where you may turn in your

recyclables such as aluminum cans, bottles, plastic, paper cardboard and metal. The facility is located just off of 1500 West and 400 North. You will notice several large bins lined up on the right side just inside the entrance. For your convenience, these bins are labeled with the acceptable type of recyclables. Cardboard boxes and plastic containers should be flattened. Please utilize this facility for your recyclables. We all can reduce household waste going to the landfill. **Streetlights:** If you notice streetlight outages around the city, please notify the City by emailing the street light address, pole number and your contact information to [streetlights@cedarcity.org](mailto:streetlights@cedarcity.org). You may also call 865-4510. Street light repairs may be the City's responsibility or Rocky Mountain Power, depending on the street light. The City will follow up on the request.

### ENCROACHMENT PERMITS:

Anyone doing work within the road right-of-way must obtain an encroachment permit. Forms can be obtained at 716 N. Airport Rd.

The Public Works Department appreciates any comments or observations. Please call 586-2912.

# General Plan a result of compelling history

*The following is the first installment in a three-part series on the Cedar City General Plan Update.*

The General Plan provides a common base of understanding for everyone involved in matters related to the community and among its functions are that it focuses the decision-making responsibilities of Planning Commissioners and City Council members in evaluating proposals and projects in the context of long-range considerations and, thereby, helps prevent arbitrary decisions or choices that may be detrimental to the long-term growth and viability of the community. Additionally, it provides a common base of understanding for public agencies and private property owners related to their projects, focusing on community interest rather than special interests. It also serves as a source of information and data describing the future of Cedar City and the goals of the community at large.

Zoning of land within the City's boundaries should be consistent with the adopted General Plan. Zoning and community leadership are the tools for fully implementing the General Plan.

The 2009 General Plan for Cedar City updates a plan that was prepared by the community in 1994 and partially updated in 2001. In the years since the prior plan was adopted, much has changed in Cedar City and the environs of southern Utah. The 1994 plan has served the community well and, in most respects, the population growth and forecasts were reasonable and accurate. However, as the 1994 plan was intended to guide the City to a point where the population reached a level of 25,000 residents, the City's current population of more than 27,000 residents is ample evidence of the immediate need for the current update.

By covering the entire area within the City's current annexation policy boundary, the update looks at the ultimate build-out potential of some 77 square miles.

Specific Area Plans have been prepared for six areas of the City that

face unique challenges while offering exciting opportunities for community development. It is the City's intent that all areas within the annexation policy boundary are eventually included within a Specific Area Plan. This allows the City to directly respond to changes and needs in identifiable areas as they occur rather than waiting for the entire plan to be updated.

Although initially settled in 1851, it wasn't until 1855 that the current layout for Cedar City was established. Rapid growth and threat of Indian attacks had caused the first site, Fort Cedar, to be abandoned by 1853 in favor of a new town site (Cedar City Fort-Plat A) established the year before along the south side of Coal Creek. But, after experiencing flooding along Coal Creek from runoff of heavy rain storms in the mountains, it was decided to relocate the less than four-year-old settlement once again, away from the most flood-prone areas.

The new site, still known as Plat B, became the City's third and final site. Compared to the one-half mile square Plat A, Plat B reflected Cedar City's continued growth as it included an area of approximately one-mile east to west, and one and-a-half miles north to south.

While most Mormon settlements formed square blocks, Cedar City's Plat B blocks are elongated rectangles. Originally, each full block of 10.8 acres had 18 lots of 0.6 acres each (132 feet wide by 198 feet deep), with nine lots facing the street on either side. Although the greater part of the Plat B block pattern still exists, only a few of the original lots remain in their original dimensions.

Utah adopted enabling legislation for land use planning in the 1920s, but it still wasn't until Dec. 11, 1941, that Cedar City adopted its first Zoning Ordinance. And, although Municipal Zoning Ordinances had become common, prior to the early 1970s, only the largest cities in the state had significantly addressed the need for Land Use Planning and the development of formal, comprehensive Master Plans.

In March, 1972, Cedar City adopted its first formal Master Plan.

## Coming Up...

### IN THE HERITAGE THEATER

◆ **The Cathedral of the Madeleine Choir**, presented by Cedar City Music Arts, is Friday, Jan. 29, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$15 for Iron County School District and SUU students.

The Heritage Theater (phone 865-2882) is located at 105 North 100 East, immediately north of the City Parking Terrace, where there is no charge for parking. Unless otherwise noted, children under the age of six are not admitted.

## Animal Control is important

The Animal Control division of the Cedar City Police Department (586-2960) reminds citizens to all be good neighbors when it comes to pets and other animals.

**STRAY ANIMALS:** It is important to remember that not only is it illegal and costly to let your animals free roam, it is also dangerous to the animal and people. It could cost you up to \$1,000 in fines.

**BARKING DOGS:** This is by far the biggest problem the division has to deal with. Be considerate of your neighbors. If your dog is an outside dog and you are at work, ask your neighbors to call you if it barks a lot. It will save you from a \$100-\$300 citation.

**SPAY AND NEUTER PETS:** The mobile clinic "The Big Fix" comes to town every two months. The next visit is scheduled for Feb. 4 at Cal Ranch. There is also a free voucher that can be obtained from [www.utahpets.org](http://www.utahpets.org) for people on Social Security, Medicaid, and Veteran's disability.

**CORRECTION:** Gladys McConnell was misidentified as Gladys McDonald in December's Mayor's Column.



## MAYOR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

30-plus years my wife and I have had the opportunity to be involved with other businesses, with many great partners and associates.

While here in Cedar City we have been blessed with four children: Jeff, Jim, Jayme and Jace. They are now all married to wonderful spouses and have given Bev and me eight (this month it will be nine) of the most wonderful grandchildren in the history of grandchildren. They have also taken over the family business, which gives me the time to be mayor.

Beverly and I love Cedar City. It has been good to us as we raised our children and earned a living here. Our children have all graduated from Cedar City schools where they have had wonderful teachers and friends. Jace is currently attending SUU; our other three children are SUU alumni.

Our family enjoys the arts, the beautiful outdoors and most of all the good people that are here. We look forward to serving the citizens of Cedar City and doing what we can to keep Cedar City a great place to live.

**N**ot long after Bev and I moved to Cedar City a neighbor who was a business professor at SUU gave us a copy of the first chapter of the book, *The Richest Man In Babylon*. As we read the book we realized that what it was teaching was true and we have tried to live by the things it taught us. This book has been such a blessing to us that we want to share some of the things we have learned with you, the citizens of Cedar City.

From the foreword of the book:

“Our prosperity as a nation depends upon the personal financial prosperity of each of us as individuals.”

This book deals with the personal successes of each of us. Success means accomplishments as the result of our own efforts and abilities. Proper preparation is the key to our success. Our acts can be no wiser than our thoughts. Our thinking can be no wiser than our understanding.

With the economy the way it is we all need to be more careful with our money. So I have decided to use part of the space allotted me each month to touch on ways we can improve our personal finances. The first cure for a lean purse mentioned in the book is to save 10 percent of what you make. I am sure that when you read this you will say to yourselves “If I am not making it on 100 percent of my take home pay how will I make it on 90 percent?”

It may take some doing but it can be done and I will bet after a few months you won’t even miss it. Eating beans and rice a few times a month will help along with a few other resourceful things. So to start our personal quest to financial security as we learn from the book is:

“For every 10 coins that thou placest within thy purse take out for use but nine. Thy purse will start to fatten at once and its increasing weight will feel good in thy hands and bring satisfaction to thy soul.”

**I** have also asked Lasse Bjerga to contribute ideas for physical fitness for Cedarians. He says that the concept of “A New Me” starts from within.

Needless to say, this is the time of the year when many “contemplations” are devoted to the thought of improving one’s physical well being, says Lasse. As many of us have experienced—and are experiencing—life is simply better and a little easier when the body functions properly. Exercise is most definitely one of those things which help in this respect and is naturally the target focus for many as the new year approaches.

I have been given the opportunity to advance some practical advice on exercise related subjects this coming year and look forward to it with enthusiasm, Lasse continues. Let me this time start with the beginning of the beginning. That is the premise for change: It starts from within!

The most crucial aspect of changing your physical habits is going to come from your inner resolve. Ask yourself:

Why am I doing this? For whom am I doing this? You should have some very clear answers to these questions if you expect to be successful. Consider the words of James Allen: “The body is the servant of the mind...Men will continue to have impure and poisoned blood, so long as they propagate unclean thoughts. Out of a clean heart comes a clean life and a clean body. Out of a defiled mind proceeds a defiled life and a corrupt body. Thought is the fount of action, life and manifestation; make the fountain pure, and all will be pure.” (James Allen - *As a Man Thinketh*)

“Think” this over. It will be more than half the battle. It is the premise and my promise, says Lasse.

*Lasse Bjerga has been a Cedar City resident since 1997. He holds an M.S. in physical education from BYU and has been an educator in the fitness/wellness industry since 1982.*

**A**lso, Valley View Medical Center will offer tips for better health on these pages.

This month, VVMC wishes to point out a significant addition to the community:

Although the 2009 Holiday Season has passed, the spirit of giving and generosity will continue throughout 2010 and in the years to come at Valley View Medical Center’s Ellsworth Jubilee Home. The Home, a 1,900-square-foot, four-bedroom home on the hospital’s campus, is a place for patients and their families to stay while receiving medical care. The home is also equipped with two RV pads with full hook-ups.

The Ellsworth Jubilee Home officially opened in July of 2009 and was constructed entirely on donated funds and materials from generous businesses and individuals in our community. Since the home opened last summer, more than 150 grateful patients and family members have stayed in it while receiving care.

Valley View Medical Center and its patients thank the great members of this community who helped make this home a reality.