

Cedar City This Month

CEDAR CITY, UTAH, COMMUNITY UPDATE



FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2015

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor Maile Wilson

Legislative Session

The 2015 Legislative Session began on January 26th with the 45 day session ending on March 12th. On January 28th, during “Local Official Day” at the Utah State Legislature, our City Manager Rick Holman and I were able to go up to Capitol Hill and meet with Senator Evan Vickers and Representative John Westwood about legislation that will impact each of us and is relevant to our community. With

their assistance we were also able to meet with a number of the “ranking members” from the House of Representatives to further promote Cedar City. Thank you to both men for their efforts on behalf of Cedar City!

Again this year, the various legislators continually mentioned the necessity of local leadership being involved in the legislative process and making an effort to travel to the Capitol. Due to these comments, I believe there is a direct correlation between fostering relationships with the legislative bodies and their support for our community. Therefore, similar to the commitment I made last year, the staff and I will continue to advocate during this, and the future legislative sessions, on behalf of Cedar City.

Honor Flight

As always we have a number of exciting things upcoming in our community, one of these is the Utah Honor Flight. Approximately 25 local WWII and Korean War Veterans will have the opportunity to travel to Washington D.C. this June to see the war memorials. I was lucky enough to attend the informational session where the trip was discussed and see the pride and sacrifice beam from the faces of our veterans. As the date of the trip approaches I will provide an update on their experience.

Heritage Theater Ticket Buying Guidelines

I have had a number of individuals ask how to purchase tickets for events that take place at the Heritage Theater. While the City sells tickets for a majority of the events that take place in the Theater, there are some exceptions and changes that have taken place over the years.

The most convenient method is to purchase tickets online. This can be done anytime by going to www.heritagectr.org and then clicking on the buy tickets icon. There are no additional fees for purchasing tickets this way. However, tickets can only be purchased online by credit card. Some organizations have requested that their tickets not be available for sale online, therefore, not all of the shows that we sell tickets for will be available through this method.

The next way to purchase tickets is in person at the Festival Hall Lobby located on the Southwest corner of the Heritage Center Building. Tickets are available for purchase using this method during regular business hours Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm. We are able to accept cash, credit cards, or checks for walk up sales. During these hours tickets are also available by phone at 435-865-2882 a credit card is needed for phone orders.

The final way to purchase tickets is in person at the Heritage Theater Box Office starting 90 minutes before any ticketed show. We are able to do cash, credit cards, and checks for this methods as well. Please be aware that we often get long lines of people wanting to buy tickets for the last 30 minutes before most shows. So in order to avoid long lines it is recommended that when possible you purchase your tickets using another method or arrive at least 30 minutes before the show is scheduled to begin. Although, during this time we try to accommodate credit card orders by phone as well, this is not always possible due to high volumes of walk up customers.

SCAMS –Coming to a Home Near You

The Police Department has sent me the following information about scams they have been investigating lately:

“I write to you in good faith and trust that you will take a moment to consider the contents of this letter. I am Andreas Peterson, the Chief Auditor of Lloyds Financial Services Ltd, United Kingdom.” Sound familiar? Most of us are wise to the opening ploy of a scam

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Dane Glazier honored

Patrol Officer Dane Glazier has been selected as Employee of the Month for February by the Cedar City Employee Advisory Committee. Dane was nominated by Officer Clint Pollock

who submitted the following, "Officer Glazier has really stepped up working alcohol enforcement shifts. Officer Glazier has made multiple contacts resulting in proactive alcohol and



drug-related arrests this last month. Officer Glazier has become a great asset to this department and has worked hard enforcing and in educating the community on the alcohol laws."

Biosolids available March 2

Beginning March 2, 2015, the Cedar City Wastewater Treatment Facility is giving away a limited amount of biosolids at no cost. Due to their high nitrogen and phosphorus content, biosolids are great for lawns, gardens and flowerbeds and can ultimately decrease soil erosion and the amount of fertilizer needed.

Biosolids are produced at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. During the process bacteria break down and stabilize the organic material. Biosolids are dried and tested to ensure they pass regulatory requirements. This product meets all state and federal requirements for Class A biosolids (also known as exceptional quality (EQ) biosolids).

The biosolids must be hauled by pickup truck or trailer only. **NO DUMP TRUCKS.** All hauled biosolids shall not exceed a maximum of one metric ton (2200 lbs.) per visit. However, you may make as many trips as you like (remember, quantities are limited). Hours of pickup are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information contact:

Cedar City Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility
7218 North 2300 West
Cedar City, UT 84721
(435) 867-9426

City Manager's Corner

Here we are, one month of 2015 on the books. Many of us may still be writing 2014 now and again. Nevertheless, 2015 looks to be optimistic for Cedar City.

There are many exciting construction projects going on in the community which are providing current and future employment opportunities. The Southwest Applied Technology College construction project on 800 S. and 860 W. will be a wonderful addition to the quality educational and training opportunities Cedar City offers to students from around the region. When completed, this new campus will continue to address the needs of local and regional employers with highly trained employees. The Beverly Taylor Sorenson Center for the Arts is also well under construction. This unique Center will enhance the quality of the amazing "arts" component of Cedar City that attracts visitors from around the world. Anticipated to be completed early in 2016, the easterly expansion of the Center will create a more impressive connection between SUU and Cedar City's Historic Downtown.

There are many commercial construction projects in progress now, adding to the optimistic retail activity in Cedar City. Speaking of which, I'd like to thank Scott Jolley for the wonderful job he has done as the Chamber of Commerce Executive Director. His enthusiasm and commitment for Cedar City is unmatched. We wish him well in his new endeavor. The City looks forward to continuing to work closely with the Chamber in strengthening the retail, commercial and industrial components of Cedar City. Last month at a City Site-Plan meeting, the LDS temple was presented for review. The location is 280 South Cove Drive. The review was to address various utility locations, building and parking locations and to discuss any building code items. No dates have been offered for ground breaking or beginning of construction.

Last week the Iron County Homebuilders held their installation banquet. Cedar City congratulates the new leadership and thanks the outgoing leaders for their efforts in the local construction industry. The Home Builders have been an active partner with the City in addressing various issues and their perspective is very much appreciated.

Rick Holman, Cedar City Manager



Cedar City's website offering information for businesses

The Office of Economic Development has recently been revamping the business portion of Cedar City's website to provide useful information for existing local businesses and for companies that might be interested in locating here.

Additionally, the office is reaching out, along with the mayor and the city manager to visit local companies, allowing us to gain a better understanding of Cedar City's businesses and learning how the city can help these businesses grow and prosper. In January, Mayor Wilson, City Manager Rick Holman, and Economic Development Director Danny Stewart made their first visits to several local businesses. They recognize that each business brings something unique and special to Cedar City, making our community a great place to work and live. Our city leaders look forward to visiting many more businesses this year and in the future.

Back to the website: There is a new section on the city's website located under the "Doing Business" section of our homepage (www.cedarcity.org) titled "How to get your business started." This section features dozens of helpful links for entrepreneurs who are looking to start up a new business. On this site, you can learn about zoning, available commercial properties, local ordinances and regulations, licensing, etc. We will continue to refine this page to help

new business owners obtain as much information as possible as they prepare to do business in Cedar City.

Our goal with the website is to provide a step-by-step process that assists entrepreneurs with gathering and submitting pertinent documents and information that will allow a smooth process from business idea to opening the doors.

Our website can also help companies who are looking to relocate or expand to Cedar City; and why wouldn't they? We have it all! We are conveniently located on Interstate-15 within a day's drive from the west's major markets. We have a wonderful regional airport, capable of accommodating small aircraft as well as large commercial planes and firefighting tankers. We also have something that many cities don't have: railroad access. Many companies look to rail as an alternative means of shipping and it is just one of the many great things that sets Cedar City apart from other cities.

Cedar City has great resources for businesses, including Southern Utah University, the SUU Business Resource Center, the Southwest Applied Technology College, the Utah Department of Workforce Services, a strong Chamber of Commerce, and a host of other amazing assets. It helps that and we live in a state that has been one

of the nation's business leaders through the recession and into recovery. Our association with the Governor's Office of Economic Development and the Economic Development Corporation of Utah help us to assist new and expanding businesses of all sorts and sizes.

The city's website now features several new pages that highlight our quality of life, infrastructure, healthcare, employment trends, and several other topics. The website is a great resource for business owners and visitors. It allows them quick access to ample amounts of relative information with ease and convenience. But our website is far from finished. As new information is received, the Office of Economic Development will continue to improve our online presence.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or if you would like to have us visit your business, please contact Cameron Christensen, Cedar City's economic development coordinator at (435)586-2770 or at cameronc@cedarcity.org. We appreciate your participation and we thank you for your efforts to make Cedar City a great place to be.

Cameron Christensen, Economic Development Coordinator

NOTICE OF MUNICIPAL OFFICES

to be voted on in the Cedar City Municipal General Election
on November 3, 2015

(3) City Council Members - 4 year term each

Candidate Filing Period: June 1, 2015 through June 8, 2015, at that time

Declaration of Candidacy Forms or Nomination Petition must be filed in person with the Cedar City Recorder at 10 North Main, Cedar City, Utah between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5p.m.

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letter. In this instance, “Andreas” has stumbled upon \$15.5m in an account belonging to a deceased customer. He’s willing to share the windfall with you, provided you help him transfer the money overseas. Scammers like Andreas persist because every now and again someone takes the bait.

Scam artists in the U.S. and around the world defraud millions of people each year. They use the phone, email, postal mail, and the internet to trick you into sending money or giving out personal information. Residents of Cedar City are targeted all too frequently. In 2014, the Cedar City Police Department investigated 86 cases of residents being scammed and an additional 82 cases of credit card fraud. We are confident there are many more victims of these scams who have not reported it for a variety of reasons such as embarrassment, still convinced a “pay out” is coming, or they don’t think the police can do anything about it. Some examples of the different types of scams/frauds are:

- A non-profit organization had an unknown suspect fraudulently charge over \$4,000 on their organizations business card for merchandise from Microsoft.
- A student at SUU had over \$4,000 fraudulently charged to their credit card from a bank in China at a Target in Canada
- A local convenience store chain started a new program in which customers could obtain a debit card specific to their stores where they would get discounts every time they used it, automatically withdrawing funds from their bank account. These transactions however would not hit the customers bank account for 48 hours. Suspects quickly learned to open fraudulent bank accounts, obtain the stores bank card and begin making purchases. Once the purchases hit the bank account, the account would either be closed or have insufficient funds. An organized group purchased thousands of dollars of merchandise from this company.
- An individual identifying themselves as a lieutenant with the Iron County Sheriff’s Office would call residents telling them they missed jury duty. They were instructed to obtain a pre-loaded debit card for \$640 and give them the information or they would be arrested.
- A resident listed an item for sale on KSL.com for \$800. They received a check for \$1,950 and were asked to cash the check and send the remaining balance to a third person who would stop and pick up the item. They sent a cashier’s check and then found out the check they received was fraudulent and they were responsible for the \$1,950.
- An elderly resident received a telephone call from another country where the caller said they had been in a car accident. They asked if this was their grandson and the caller stated it was. The caller told them they needed \$4,800 to pay the repair bill before they could leave the country. They sent the money by Western Union. They received another phone call and were told they needed to send an additional \$4,800 to pay for damages from the car accident.

They sent this money as well. They were contacted again and told they needed to send an additional \$4,600 for their grandson and another individual to fly home. They sent this money also. Shortly after this, their grandson called and the victim found out he had never been out of country.

- An individual approached an elderly female and advised her he would clean her chimney for \$2,275. She paid a down payment of \$300. Fortunately she contacted the police department and investigation revealed this individual had committed fraud against several Iron County residents.
- A resident attempted to purchase a vehicle off of autotrader.com from an individual who identified himself as a soldier in Florida. The resident sent \$5,600 by Western Union and was told the vehicle would be shipped by military transport to the nearest military base. The car did not arrive and when the resident contacted the military base, they told them they were the 4th person to call who had been a victim of this fraud.
- An elderly resident was contacted and told they had won the Publishing Clearinghouse sweepstakes. They gave them their banking information so they could deposit the money. The suspect(s) were able to withdrawal over \$16,000 from their accounts.
- An elderly resident was contacted and told their grandson had been arrested in another country. The caller said he was the grandson’s lawyer and to send \$6,000 so the grandson would not be detained for a longer period of time. The money was sent. When a second request for more money was made, the resident contacted their family and they got involved so the money would not be sent. The grandson had never left the U.S.
- An employee at a local business was contacted by a female who said she was the owner from the corporate office. The female knew a lot of personal information about the employee and the business. She told the employee the business had not paid their property taxes and they needed to wire over \$6,000 to pay for these. They were also contacted by someone who said she was with “human resources” and they would be receiving a phone call from the corporate office which seemed to verify this information. The money was wired and it all turned out to be a scam.
- With tax season we are seeing the re-emergence of the IRS pervasive telephone scam.
- Victims are told they owe money to the IRS and it must be paid promptly through a pre-loaded debit card or wire transfer. If the victim refuses to cooperate, they are then threatened with arrest, deportation or suspension of a business or driver’s license. In many cases, the caller becomes hostile and insulting.