

Cedar City This Month

CEDAR CITY, UTAH, COMMUNITY UPDATE



FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 2014

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor Maile Wilson

As I write this month's newsletter, I can't believe another month has come and gone. I love this time of year, especially Thanksgiving, and the opportunity it gives each of us to reflect on the bountiful blessings we enjoy by living in this beautiful community. I truly hope that each and every one of you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday. I also love

Christmas-time and since my next newsletter will go out at the beginning of January, I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Since it is my last newsletter of the year, I also want to take the opportunity to publicly thank all of the City employees for their hard work and dedication. Our City staff often goes about their day to day activities (and many of these are not very glamorous!) without any public recognition unless there is a problem. Yet, I can proudly tell you that we are very fortunate here in Cedar City to have such a high quality and caliber of City staff. These individuals take great pride in their work and in trying to provide the best service possible to our residents. Thank you Cedar City staff for your commitment to our community!!

Last month I highlighted the two Strategic Planning Community Input Meetings scheduled for November 20th and December 2nd. While I will be able to

provide more detail next month, as both meetings will be over by the time you get this newsletter, I did want to give everyone an update on our first meeting. We had a great turn out and received comments or questions on everything from our parks to the actual structure of our document. I also want to let everyone know how much I appreciated all of those that came to the City Strategic Planning Community Meeting. Although we have been working on the draft strategic plan since January, the comments, concerns and questions that were discussed provided valuable insight into the direction our residents want to see our community progress over the next five plus years. However, I also understand how busy everyone is, especially this time of year, and that it is often challenging to make everything fit into a full schedule. Therefore, we have placed the current draft of the Cedar City Strategic Plan on the Cedar City website at www.cedarcity.org for your review. To further facilitate community interaction during this process, we have set up an email account for residents to provide us any comments, questions or suggestions related to the draft strategic plan. This email is strategicplan@cedarcity.org.

In October's newsletter, I included some information about a great program, the Utah Honor Flight. As a refresher, this is a program that flies our aging veterans (free of charge) to Washington, D.C. to visit the War Memorials. I have been asked to put out the word that the Honor Flight Program is currently identifying veterans to take part in its next flight, which will take place in May. Those eligible to take advantage of this one-in-a-lifetime opportunity are veterans of any war who are terminally ill; Korean War veterans; and World War II veterans.

Applications are due by the end of December so don't hesitate! To submit the name of a qualifying veteran call Dennis Robison at (435) 592-1865. For more general information on the program, go to www.honorflight.org.

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CEDAR CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

This month we will finish with the various divisions of the Police Department by talking about the Administration, Animal Control, Records and Communications Divisions. Next month we will begin discussing crime trends and crime prevention.

Administration

The Administration Division is comprised of the Crime Scene Investigator/Evidence Technician, Records Clerk and the Administrative Assistant/Receptionist. The Administration Division Sergeant supervises these positions, and is also responsible for reviewing all case reports for accuracy and completeness on a daily basis. He then conducts briefings about these cases with the local media and is the Department's Public Information Officer. The Administrative Sergeant also serves as the Department's webmaster, and utilizes Department data bases and computer programs to produce reports for the Detectives and for Patrol to facilitate selective and targeted crime enforcement. Further, he provides informational reports and statistical data to the Chief of Police. He also serves as the Department quartermaster and maintains an inventory of Department equipment, orders new equipment and disposes of surplus equipment.

Animal Control

The two Animal Control Officers and two part-time Shelter Assistants work diligently to provide education, protection and humane treatment of animals in order to ensure a safe and healthy community. They also work to promote responsible pet-ownership. Over the last five years the Animal Control Division has impounded an average of 881 animals a year. On average, 235 of these animals are redeemed by the owners. All of the other animals (646 a year) are adopted, turned over to rescue groups or euthanized if they are not adoptable. To lower the number of animals at our shelter, our resident pet-owners need to be more responsible by having their animals spayed or neutered, and not allowing them to roam the neighborhoods.

The Animal Control Division is currently seeking volunteers at the shelter to assist with the care and socialization of the animals. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the shelter at (435) 586 2960.

Crime Scene Investigator/Evidence Technician

The mission of the Crime Scene Investigator (CSI)/

Evidence Technician is to respond to crime scenes and document incidents through photography, videography, scale drawings, written reports and the collection of physical evidence. This evidence can include weapons or items used in the commission of a crime, fingerprints and trace evidence (such as hairs or fibers and bodily fluids). The unit sends physical evidence to the State of Utah Bureau of Criminal Identification Laboratory for testing, and works closely with the Iron County and Cedar City Attorney's offices during the criminal prosecution process. The CSI/Evidence Tech is also responsible for maintaining the integrity of evidence by properly packaging, preserving, securely storing and tracking all evidence which is collected by members of the Department

Records

The Records Unit is responsible for all aspects of report processing and document control within the Police Department. The Records Clerk manages criminal records, connects community members with the right employee to process a specific issue and provides support to our officers. The Records Clerk also makes computer entries into local, state and federal law enforcement systems. The Division works closely with the City and County Attorney's Offices, Parole and Probation, the Division of Family Services, and the Courts, along with other County and State agencies. The Records Clerk also processes warrants, processes all requests for copies of reports, stores, purges and archives files as required by law, and helps track sex registrants.

Communications

Our Department contracts with the Utah Department of Public Safety as part of a consolidated dispatch service. They dispatch for all agencies in Iron County as well as State agencies in Iron, Washington, Beaver and Millard counties. The mission of the 9-1-1 communication's (Cedar Dispatch) well trained professional dispatchers is to provide both emergency and non-emergency services for our community in a professional and expedient manner. In 2013, Cedar Dispatch received 77,973 calls for service in the communications center, of which 24,041 or (30.83 percent) were for police response to residents of Cedar City. This is the total number of calls that were answered, including all emergency, non-emergency and professional or business related inquiries. Of these 77,973 calls for service, 12,352 (or almost 16 percent) were 911 (emergency) calls.

CHIEF ROBERT D. ALLINSON



2015 HOLIDAY GARBAGE PICK-UP CEDAR CITY PUBLIC WORKS

HOLIDAY	DATE GARBAGE WILL BE PICKED UP
New Year's Day, Thursday, January 1st	Friday, January 2nd
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday, January 19th	Wednesday, January 21st
Presidents' Day, Monday, February 16th	Wednesday, February 18th
Memorial Day, Monday, May 25th	Wednesday, May 27th
Independence Day Holiday, Friday, July 3rd	Monday, July 6th
Pioneer Day, Friday, July 24th	Monday, July 27th
Labor Day, Monday, September 7th	Wednesday, September 9th
Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11th	Thursday, November 12th
Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26th	Wednesday, November 25th
Day After Thanksgiving Day, Friday, November 27th	Monday, November 30th
Christmas Day, Friday, December 25th	Monday, December 28th

'Tis the season for service

Toys for Tots

Donate a new, unwrapped toy and deliver a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive and patriotic citizens. Toy collection boxes are at local stores (for a complete list, go to cedar-city-ut.toysfortots.org). Cash donations can be made on the website as well.

Iron County Holiday Assistance Program

Donations of new, unwrapped toys, clothing and stocking stuffers for children ages 0 - 17 can be dropped off at the SUU Community Engagement Center (417 W. 200 S.) or placed under the "angel tree" at the Cedar City Offices. Items for teen-agers are especially welcome. Volunteers are also needed to help distribute holiday boxes the week of Dec. 8th through 12th. You may apply on-line to volunteer at www.suu.edu/community or call Pam at (435) 865-8340.

Iron County Care and Share (ICCS)

ICCS currently needs family size boxes of stuffing and mashed potatoes. Also needed are hams and turkeys. These can be dropped off at the Care and Share at 222 W. 900 N.

Bread of Life Community Kitchen

Food donations needed for the Christmas Eve luncheon are: ham, paper towels, cranberries, bacon, French fried onions, cleaning supplies, broth, canned sweet potatoes, fresh fruits and vegetables, milk and brown sugar. The soup kitchen is located at 2569 N. Freeway Drive. For more info, email Breadoflifecommunitykitchen@yahoo.com.

Coming up...

Christmas at the Homestead - Dec. 8th through 13th - 5:30 to 8 p.m. during the week; 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. on Sat. at Frontier Homestead State Park. Enjoy a Christmas of yesteryear with activities and music. Go to www.frontierhomestead.org for complete schedule.

The Forgotten Carols - Dec. 10th - 7:30 p.m. at the Heritage Theatre. For info and tickets go to www.forgottencarols.com/tour-schedule or call (866) 832-8211.

Community Creche Festival - Dec. 14th - 5 to 9 p.m. at Canyon View Stake Center (1985 N. Main). Live music, live nativities and creches on display. Free! Call (435) 590-1335 for more information.

Handel's Messiah - Dec. 14th & 15th - 7:30 p.m. at the Heritage Theatre. Free admission, but tickets are required and are available at the Heritage Box Office (435) 865-2882.

Christmas Concert featuring the Master Singers, In-Jubilo, Bell Choir and Elementary Student Choir - Dec. 21st - 7 p.m. at the Heritage Theatre. Free! For more info call (435) 586-8442.

Live Music featuring Courtney Marie Andrews - Jan. 3rd - 7:30 p.m. at Groovacious (173 N. 100 W.). Admission TBA. For more info call (435) 867-9800.



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