

# Cedar City This Month

CEDAR CITY, UTAH, COMMUNITY UPDATE



FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2017

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



*Mayor Maile Wilson*

It seems like everywhere you go lately someone is sick ('tis the season). Please be considerate of others and, if possible, stay home while you have the pesky bug that is going around.

On a more positive note, can you believe it is already February, 2017? I don't know about the rest of you but the start of 2017 has seemed more hectic than previous

years, and it seems like there is way more going on. With all things political in the news (don't worry this newsletter is not going to discuss either political party or crowd size), I thought it might be fun to provide some insight into what the past few weeks have involved as I try to serve and promote our amazing community.

A few items that I took part in during January included: attending the Washington County Economic Summit, co-chairing the Iron County Intergenerational Poverty (IGP) meeting and representing our County at the IGP leadership meeting, meeting with the Iron County Homebuilders' Association Executive Committee, attending various SUU athletic events (go T-birds), honoring the "Best of Cedar" at the Chamber of Commerce awards banquet, participating in Local Officials Day at the State Capitol, attending the 65th Field Artillery 2017 Redleg Social, and being a panel member for the Emerging Leaders Initiative launch event, among other things.

Each year during the 45-day legislative session our state nickname "the beehive state" gains new meaning with the legislators buzzing around the Capitol fulfilling their various committee roles, debating bills, and doing their best to serve the people of our great state of Utah.

January 25th marked "Local Officials Day" at the Utah State Legislature. Similar to the previous few years our City Manager, Paul Bittmenn, and I were able to go up to Capitol Hill and meet with Senator Evan Vickers and Representative John Westwood about legislation that is relevant to our community, and will impact each of us. 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. Senator Vickers even introduced me on the Senate Floor to the other Senators.

As always, 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. Just as I have the past few years, I will continue to advocate on behalf of Cedar City during this and future legislative sessions, and provide updates to all of you throughout the process.

Cedar City started off the new year with an exciting announcement of a new manufacturing company coming to town. Mueller Industries has purchased the Cerro Copper building and is planning to add up to 125 new jobs. The copper products manufacturer has dozens of locations throughout the U.S., and in Canada, China, Great Britain, Scandinavia, and Mexico. The company is headquartered in Tennessee. Mueller

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## Seth Julian honored

Equipment operator Seth Julian has been nominated for Employee of the Month of February by the Cedar City Employee Advisory Committee.

Seth was nominated by Street Superintendent, Jeff Hunter, who wrote, "Seth is a very skilled operator. He loves to be in an excavator moving dirt. Seth



comes to work each day with a positive attitude and ready for anything that may come his way. He goes the extra mile in making sure the storm drain system is working by keeping lines clear of debris and making sure the storm drain basins and channels are clear and

meet state requirements. Seth is also willing to help out with any job that needs to be done in the Street Division from spring clean-up to road maintenance and repair. Seth is a very valuable employee for the Storm Drain and Street Division and we appreciate having him in the Public Works Department."

Congratulations Seth!

## Volunteers needed

This April marks the 100th anniversary of America formally entering World War I.

In an effort to recognize the sacrifice of those that served in WWI, over the next year there will be different programs and events taking place beginning Veterans Day 2017 through Veterans Day 2018.

There is a group of local Veterans that want to form a committee and are seeking additional community volunteers to ensure those that sacrificed 100 years ago in WWI are properly recognized. Some of the possible volunteer activities include coordinating programs and activities, collecting information on all 294 names listed at the Veterans Park, etc. If you are interested in getting involved with the WWI 100th Anniversary, please email Barbara Barrick at [barbarab@cedarcity.org](mailto:barbarab@cedarcity.org).

## Public Works

**SOLID WASTE:** We would again like to remind all residents living in cul-de-sacs to bring their garbage cans to the beginning of the cul-de-sac. We are required to keep vehicle backing maneuvers to a minimum to keep everyone safe and also for insurance purposes. Putting your garbage cans on the straight-a-way before the cul-de-sac allows for safer operation of the equipment. Also, please make sure your garbage cans are at least 3-feet from vehicles or other cans to allow the safe operation of the equipment in emptying your garbage cans.

If you have called in with a repair or replacement of a damaged garbage can, and our crew has determined that the can needs to be replaced, they will spray paint an orange "P" on that can which designates it to be picked up. Your new garbage can might be delivered before the damaged can has been picked up, so if you have a damaged can that has an orange "P" placed on it, please leave it out where our crews can get to it so it can be taken care of properly.

During the winter when the streets are icy, our trucks can deviate from the typical way the routes are run by picking up trash before they start up a hill to give them some weight for traction, so cans may not be picked up at the time they normally are, or in the order the route is usually run so please have your cans out by 7:00 a.m. on your designed pick-up day to avoid any missed cans.

**AIRPORT:** The reconstruction and maintenance project for the Terminal Airline Ramp and Taxiway Delta has been completed. The new concrete hardstand for the terminal ramp allows for heavier aircraft to utilize the terminal, and the maintenance of the taxiway asphalt will increase its longevity through the use of an emulsified seal coat. All taxiway markings have been repainted to FAA standards. The Airport's new broom and plow system has enabled the crew to keep the runway clear of snow and ice and, so far, there have been no delays or cancelled SkyWest flights from Cedar City this winter season.



## *Economic Development news*

The Economic Development Department will be introducing new and existing business to the City Council's regular action meetings, held twice monthly. As part of the department's business expansion and retention efforts, the Economic Development staff will team up with representatives from the Cedar City Chamber of Commerce and the SUU Business Resource Center to visit these businesses and discuss resources that are available to help local companies succeed. Representatives from these businesses will then give a brief presentation at council meetings. We look forward to learning more about our city's thriving business community.

In January, one of the owners of Cedar Sports introduced this new company at City Council meeting. Cedar Sports is located at the Cedar City Towne Center just north of the City Offices (next to Sheldon Family Chiropractic and Little Caesar's Pizza). This business offers ski and snowboard equipment for rent or for purchase, as well as outdoor gear and apparel. Cedar Sports has had great support from the community and business has far exceeded the owners' projections. We wish Cedar Sports many years of success as they expand their products lines to include gear and clothing for all seasons.

There are far more businesses in Cedar City than there are action meetings to accommodate them, but we will do our best to include new companies as well as existing businesses that have new, noteworthy things to share with the Council.

We are also excited to announce that the Cedar city Chamber of Commerce, in connection with our Economic Development Department, will begin a new quarterly breakfast meeting to update our citizens on the status of our local economy. The first breakfast will be held at Springhill Suites on Wednesday, February 15 at 8:00 AM. I will join Economic Development Director Danny Stewart to give a brief update on local business and economic indicators in Cedar City. Chris McCormick will report for the Chamber of Commerce, Maria Twitchell will report about tourism, a local bank will be represented, and other elected officials including Representative John Westwood, Senator Evan Vickers, and one of the County Commissioners will also speak at these meetings. Each presenter is limited to just five minutes so the entire update will last only an hour. Everyone is invited but space is limited, so those who want to attend need to register online at [www.cedarcitychamber.org](http://www.cedarcitychamber.org). Cost is just \$5.

## Zion National Park addresses visitation issues

Zion National Park has begun a Visitor Use Management Plan (VUMP) in order to address the issues of increasing visitation in the park. This planning process will help park managers identify strategies that will allow visitors a safe and enjoyable experience, while protecting the park's fundamental resources and values.

The park has recently concluded the public scoping component of the planning process, where six public meetings were held throughout the state and a WebEX - where the public had an opportunity to share ideas through the NPS planning website, email, and U.S. post mail. In this process they received over 900 comments from more than 450 individuals from 23 states in the U.S. and the country of Japan.

They are currently reviewing all the comments in search of any new ideas or plan alternatives that can be incorporated into the management plan. Once this task is complete they will publish a summary on the NPS website at [www.parkplanning.nps.gov/zion](http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov/zion). They are also beginning to formulate preliminary alternatives that meet the purpose and need for the plan. Once they have been identified they will go out for public review and comment which they anticipate will occur in summer 2017. In the meantime, stay informed of progress on the VUMP through periodic news releases or by visiting the park planning website.



Industries will make copper tube products at its new Cedar City location beginning this summer.

In our continuing efforts to support and promote our local businesses, City Manager Paul Bittmenn and I will join Cedar City's Economic Development staff for a monthly visit to a local manufacturer. Our diverse manufacturing base gives Cedar City's economy great stability, as hundreds of our residents are employed by these companies. Our goal in visiting these businesses is to better understand their operations, and to find ways we can help them be even more successful here.

The Cedar City Fire Department would like to express a huge thank you to Firehouse Subs, for their recent and generous donation (\$9,990.00) allowing the department to purchase a new dryer for firefighters' protective clothing.

One of the dangers firefighters face comes into play after the fire is over and has to do protective clothing that has become contaminated with carcinogenic smoke and other dangerous products of combustion. Because of this risk, the department requires the washing of firefighter's personal protective equipment after each structure fire in a specially designed washing machine. Prior to purchasing the new dryer, the gear after washing was hung out to air dry which took several days and sometimes up to a week. This new dryer will dry six sets of gear in a few hours and will expedite the process of getting the protective gear back in service. Thank you Firehouse Subs!

I'm sure many of you have noticed the construction on Coal Creek Road. I am happy to report that the final phase (Phase 3) of the Coal Creek Flood Control Project, which was originally conceptualized in 1991, is scheduled to be completed next month. If you will indulge me for a minute, I will try to explain the importance of this project, and why I am so thrilled that it is being completed.

Since 2005 our City has been working on the Coal Creek Flood Control Project. The project's main purpose was to provide flood protection and eliminate the FEMA 100-year flood zones for a significant area of developed private and City property along the Coal Creek channel that runs through the center of town from the mouth of Cedar Canyon to I-15. Eliminating the FEMA flood zones would also eliminate the need for the numerous property owners and businesses within this zone to have to purchase the

required flood insurance associated with the potential flooding of Coal Creek. A secondary purpose for the project was to develop a parkway along the flood channel.

When the project first began, and was initially funded by the federal government, there was an understanding that there would be the necessary funding to complete all three phases. The first and second allocations of federal funds, obtained through Congressional "earmarks," were received and Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Coal Creek Flood Control Project were completed. However, the final allocation to complete the project was never obtained. With the end of Congressional earmarks, our Federal funding source dried up (pun intended!).

Not having the entire Coal Creek Flood Control Project completed has caused problems over the years, both for our residents and business owners, because our partially completed flood protection project could not provide the flood protection intended. The incomplete sections of the project are located both up- and down-stream of the completed sections of the project. This means that none of the areas, even where the improvements are constructed adjacent to Coal Creek, are completely protected from being flooded. Consequently, the FEMA 100-year flood zones cannot be removed until all the improvements are completed. It has been very difficult for us to explain to the homeowners and businesses adjacent to these completed sections of the project that they are still in a flood zone and are required to pay for flood insurance.

Considering that I hate unfinished projects, I really wanted to see the Coal Creek Flood Control Project completed and was anxious for our community to finally receive the benefits from this project that began all those years ago. After meetings, meetings, and more meetings followed by more paperwork and grant applications than we can count, I was thrilled when we received notice in Fall 2016 that Cedar was being awarded funding to assist with the completion of the Coal Creek Flood Control Project Phase 3. From here, once the project is complete, the City will work with FEMA on a final Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) so flood zones can be eliminated.

I would like to personally thank Kit Wareham for his continued patience with answering all of my questions and ensuring that I had all of the correct information as I presented to our state legislature and continually lobbied our federal legislators on the importance of this project. It is truly through Kit's dedication and tireless work that this project is getting completed. Thank you Kit!