

Cedar City This Month

CEDAR CITY, UTAH, COMMUNITY UPDATE



FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 2017

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor Maile Wilson

Summer is finally here and, as usual, there are a wide variety of events coming up in our community. The “Festival City” certainly hits its stride during the summer months!

Thursday, June 8th, is the Opening Ceremonies for the Larry H Miller Utah Summer Games at the SUU Eccles Coliseum, beginning at 8:30 p.m.

This year, in conjunction with KSL

Read Today, the Larry H Miller Utah Summer Games will be holding a Summer Block Party! The fun begins on June 8th from 4-8 p.m. in front of the SUU Centrum. Join us for food trucks, face painting, games, prizes, and more - be sure to head over to the Opening Ceremonies directly after! The Opening Ceremonies is always a spectacular kick-off to the summer season. Tickets are available at the SUU Centrum Box Office or at www.tbirdtickets.com.

That same busy weekend, (June 9th – 10th), there will be the Cedar City PRCA Championship Rodeo at the Cross Hollow Arena. For additional details on the event, and tickets, visit its website: www.cedarcityprcarodeo.com. You also don't want to miss the Paiute Restoration Gathering, with its annual parade on Saturday, June 10th, and other activities celebrating this ancient culture throughout the weekend. For more information visit <http://www.utahpaiutes.org/powwow>.

Ask anyone why they live in Cedar City and inevitably people will mention the beautiful scenery, quality of life, clean air, good people, and a plethora of positive declarations. Indeed, every one of the statements above is true and is indicative of what makes Cedar City such an amazing place to live. Throughout the years, communities often find they've become a little tired, faded, or run down. This certainly is not something intentional, but is the result of time, the elements, and neglect. Recently, we have started a City-wide beautification campaign encouraging our community to join forces in an effort help make Cedar City sparkle.

Each year, millions of tourists from all across the globe converge upon Southern Utah to experience those things that make our community so unique. This year is no exception. In the coming months, we will have an influx of tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of additional visitors. What an incredible opportunity this is to showcase our community.

Myself, the City Council, the Cedar City Chamber of Commerce, America First Credit Union, JustServe.org, and numerous individuals and business owners from the community are all making an effort to identify areas where we can help make our City shine. Each month we will identify and present the monthly “Sparkle Award” to a business, individual, or group that has gone above and beyond to spruce up a tired, worn out, or blighted area or building.

To learn more, please like our Facebook page, “Sparkle CedarCity” and follow our progress. In addition, we encourage you to share your stories, and show us what you have been doing to help make our community shine.

The kick-off project for our Make Cedar Sparkle campaign will be held on Saturday, June 10th from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Highway 56 between Lund

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Patriotic concert planned

All freedom-loving patriots in Cedar City and surrounding areas are invited to attend the annual Patriotic Concert at Christ the King Catholic Church at 690 S. Cove Drive on Monday, July 3rd at 7 p.m.

The concert will feature uplifting patriotic songs performed by the Catholic Worship Team, Interfaith Patriotic Choir, Southern Utah Children's Choir, and Southern Utah Bell Choir, accompanied by the Color County Winds Community Band. There will be patriotic readings, poems, and musical numbers to set the mood. The concert is free to all, and ice cream will be served afterward! Please come and celebrate with us.

There is a need for more singers to participate in the Interfaith Patriotic and Children's Choirs, as well as additional band members. For those interested in being in the program, the practice schedule is listed below:

- Southern Utah Children's Choir - June 14th, 21st, and 28th at 10 a.m. at St. Jude's, 70 N. 200 W.
- Interfaith Patriotic Choir - May 28th, June 4th, 11th, and 25th at 7 p.m. at Christ the King Catholic Church, 690 S. Cove Dr.
- Color Country Winds Community Band - Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Community Presbyterian, 2279 N. Wedgewood
- Dress rehearsal is July 2nd

Please contact Harry Taylor, music director, at taylorachi@gmail.com for more information.

Arbor day celebration

On Tuesday, May 2, 2017, Cedar City held its annual Arbor Day Celebration at the Main Street Park. Elementary students from Iron Springs, Fiddler's, and North Elementary attended and learned about planting trees from Daniel Allen, a forester with the Department of Natural Resources. There were three poster contest winners in the Southern Region there who received recognition and a few prizes. Denver Whicker, 2nd Grader and Wyatt Fawson, 3rd Grader from Fiddler's Elementary, and Mia Hatch, 5th Grader from Iron Springs Elementary all submitted posters representing the theme "Trees Tell Stories of the Past."

Over 100 children attended and help plant four big trees around the playground. Then each child got to plant a flower in a container, all donated by Lady Bug Nursery. The children got to take their flower home along with a couple of other prizes. Council Members Ron Adams and Fred Rowley joined us for the festivities and it was a fun afternoon for everyone!

Public Works

STREETS: The Street Division will begin road maintenance in Area 2, which includes the majority of roadways west of I-15 excluding Planned Unit Developments (PUDs). To view the map showing the work area, please go to www.cedarcity.org. Cedar City's road maintenance is divided into 7 areas. Work is performed in one area annually. The entire 7 areas are completed every 7 years. We will begin with skin patching, which fills dips and potholes in the asphalt, and is done before the crews come back and chip seal the roadways. When we start the chipping and sealing process, we will be distributing flyers in the affected areas to make sure all residents are aware of the roadwork. After chipping, a sealant is applied to the roadway. This involves oil and tar and it takes several hours for the process to dry so please be aware of this, and if possible, try to keep your vehicles out of the roadways. We will make every effort to notify residents 1-2 days in advance of street closures. Please make arrangements to have all vehicles moved off the street during scheduled maintenance.

SOLID WASTE: Our solid waste crew has encountered more than the average number of residential trash cans filled with construction and landscaping materials recently. There have been several times when the driver was unable to lift a can due to it being filled with dirt and rocks. As a reminder, we cannot take lumber, fencing, concrete, bricks, furniture, blocks, metal poles, rocks, trampolines, large tree limbs, etc. The packer in the trash trucks is not equipped to handle these types of materials. Please take these items to the Iron County Landfill located at 3127 North Iron Springs Road.

WASTEWATER: Construction will be starting on the expansion of the lab and administration building at the wastewater treatment plant. The current lab is undersized for the amount of sampling needed for the new nitrification removal process. We will also have a section of the lab isolated for running culinary water samples. This will help our water division receive test results more expeditiously. Our wastewater lab is certified to perform testing under the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP.)



The right amount of water can make all the difference

Watering the lawn can be a bit of a guessing game. Under watering leads to brown spots and poor coverage that eventually fills in with weeds, while over watering (or daily watering) flushes nutrients from the soil, increases thatch growth, and promotes a short root system. Both extremes stress the lawn, making it more vulnerable to insect and disease damage. Ideally, you want to keep the top 6” of soil irrigated to promote a deep and healthy root system. More often than not, the run time needed to achieve this ideal is unknown. This is where Iron County’s free Water Check Program comes into play. A water check consists of a few simple sprinkler tests performed by a trained technician. From those tests, we can create a customized lawn watering schedule for you based on your lawn and sprinkler system. Every system distributes water a little differently. Having a water check done will take the guess work out of your watering routine.

After the water check is completed, you can use the Utah Division of Water Resources weekly lawn watering guide, available at slowtheflow.org. This guide uses weather stations in our area to determine how frequently your lawn should be watered each week. Lawns require more water than any other landscape plant, but their water needs change throughout the year. Seasonal adjustment to your irrigation controller is one of the easiest and most effective ways to avoid over watering and promote a health lawn.

The weekly lawn watering guide provides watering recommendations for those with a traditional cool season lawn, like Kentucky Blue Grass or Tall Fescue, but those with water-wise alternatives can also benefit from this resource. On average, water-wise ground covers need about a third of the water required by Kentucky Blue grass. If the weekly lawn watering guide is suggesting three waterings per week, your water-wise alternatives will only need one. The Water Check Program is a partnership between Iron County, USU Extension, and the Central Iron County Water Conservancy District. Give us a call at (435) 865-9901 and we’ll create a watering schedule tailored to your landscape.

CANDACE SCHAIBLE

USU Extension Horticulturist

Frontier Folk Festival

Frontier Homestead State Park Museum and The Frontier Homestead Museum Foundation are pleased to bring the second annual Frontier Folk Festival to Cedar City on June 16th-17th, from 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. each day. Thanks to the support of sponsors, admission is free. Last year the Frontier Folk Festival brought in over 1300 visitors, vendors, and performers from all across the Intermountain West. Original art, live music, and delicious food combine to celebrate the diverse heritage of southern Utah. The Frontier Folk Festival promises to be filled with remarkable talent. Featured performers include Clive Romney, The Red Hill Rangers, Karyn Whittemore, Silversage, and the Griffin Family.

The Frontier Homestead Museum Foundation is looking forward to a diverse, high quality show, and wish to thank its exhibiting artists, musicians, and food purveyors in advance for helping to bring the arts in all of their forms to the residents of Iron County and beyond. The Foundation Board also wishes to extend a special thank you to the Cedar City/Brian Head Tourism & Convention Bureau (<http://scenicssouthernutah.com>) for their support in helping to advertise the festival throughout the western U.S. A list of all Folk Festival sponsors can be found at <http://frontierhomestead.org/arts-festival>.

For more information call the Park at (435) 586-9290, or email frontierhomestead@utah.gov.



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Highway and Port 15. We will be picking up debris along the north side of the highway. Bring your gloves, hats, and sunscreen. We will provide trash bags and safety vests. Our thanks to Rocky Ridge Roll-Offs, M & C Sanitation, and Mosdell Sanitation for providing roll-off dumpsters for the event. Also thanks to Bruce Anderson of the Iron County Landfill for heading up this project and waiving the landfill dumping fees. Please come and join us and help make Cedar Sparkle!

Each quarter, the Cedar City Chamber of Commerce and the Cedar City/Iron County Office of Economic Development host the Iron County Economic Review breakfast. This meeting is sponsored by Rocky Mountain Power and is open to the public. The purpose of this meeting is to provide an economic snapshot of our community and beyond. At our most recent meeting we heard from EDCUtah, World Trade Center Utah, Cedar City-Brian Head Tourism Bureau, State Bank of Southern Utah, Iron County Commission, and the Office of Economic Development.

Currently, the economy in Iron County is healthy and growing. In fact, Iron County is growing faster in non-farm jobs than the state average. Unemployment claims are down, wages are increasing, and the number of housing permits issued is on the rise. Tourists continue to visit Cedar Breaks in record numbers with growth of over 100,000 visitors in 2016 over 2015's numbers.

Cedar City was recently featured in a news story on KSL with reporter Alex Cabrera. In fact, Cedar City is starting to get noticed by more media outlets every day. To learn more about the Iron County Economic Review, visit www.CedarCityChamber.org and click on the events page.

One of my goals when I was elected was to improve the City's technology capabilities and we have made some great strides, a few of which I will highlight.

In the past, the City used a basic email service that did not have contacts or calendar services and restricted the inbox size to 2 gigabytes. Some departments had older versions of Office software than other departments. This made it difficult for departments to collaborate on documents and share files. Last summer the City upgraded all computer users to Office 365 and Exchange email, and now contacts and calendars can be managed and synchronized across all devices and shared with

others. This has boosted employee productivity!

It's interesting how one technological improvement leads to many others. Initially, the City desired more control over its treatment plant, sewer lift stations, water wells, tanks, and booster pumps, so a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system was implemented. These SCADA sites require a wireless network to communicate back to a central server, so we installed 6 wireless backhaul sites throughout the Cedar valley. Roughly 40 SCADA sites link to these wireless backhaul sites. Then, to take advantage of the backhaul sites infrastructure, we linked all of the City facilities to this network backhaul. The City was able to consolidate its internet service providers for each facility down to two redundant providers that feed the wireless network. Consequently, City facilities have been able to improve their internet bandwidth, while realizing a 30% savings on its monthly bill for internet service (roughly \$3,365 savings per year).

The wireless network has been set up to canvass most of the City's properties and interests. This allows future systems an easy link into the City network (ie. smart irrigation systems at our parks, public wifi hotspots in special interest areas, smart street lighting with traffic and environmental sensors, smart irrigation and water meters, etc.) potentially saving the City thousands of dollars in the future.

When the City network was successfully installed, we started on upgrading our outdated phone systems. We now have consolidated to one phone system across all City facilities, utilizing the Citywide network. The new phone system provides our City employees with outstanding communication and collaboration services, and the phone system realizes nearly 50% savings on the City phone service costs (roughly \$18,000 annual savings).

With a unified network, the City has installed a central server and will use the old servers at each facility as backup servers. City employees can now access their department files in any City facility, at any time.

Along with all of this, we are also upgrading our website! I am passionate about finding ways to boost efficiency and productivity. As technology advances, we have a responsibility to minimize wasted resources by continuously improving. I am excited to be a part of these upgrades and grateful to see the realized benefits. I look forward to continuing to help Cedar City improve efficiency!