

# Cedar City This Month

CEDAR CITY, UTAH, COMMUNITY UPDATE



FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2017

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



*Mayor Maile Wilson*

I don't know about each of you, but it seems to me like the summer is flying by! As always there have been so many activities and events these last few weeks. From the Cedar City PRCA Rodeo, the Paiute Restoration Gathering and Pow Wow, the Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games, and the Flag Day Celebration - to the opening of the Utah Shakespeare Festival,

there has been something for everyone.

Yet, with all of the fun activities, the item that seems to be on everyone's mind is the Brian Head Fire. I wanted to provide you with a little information related to the Brian Head Fire. This fire started around midday Saturday, June 17th, and grew very quickly through dense timber on lands administered by Brian Head Town, Iron County, in cooperation with the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands. It has since burned onto lands managed by Dixie National Forest and Color Country District Bureau of Land Management. The Cedar City Fire Department assisted with the initial attack on the fire and have been assisting in the firefighting efforts ever since. Although I don't want to provide any specific details of the fire (as they are changing by the hour), I did want to share some different facts about this fire that I have found interesting. In the past 10 years, this is one of the largest wildfires that has occurred in Utah and it is still growing. Fighting this fire has been a very intensive process and has included at one point or another

the following substantial resources: 1,900 personnel on the fire, 14 helicopters, numerous fixed wing aircraft, 82 fire engines, and 51 different crews. In fact, at one point there was roughly 72 miles of fire hose out on the ground, or put another way, that is enough hose to stretch from Cedar to Beaver and back to Parowan. Overall, the men and women that have been fighting this fire have done an amazing job protecting homes and cabins that could have otherwise burned. They are risking their lives each and every day trying to get this monster out and I want to let them know how much we all truly appreciate their efforts and sacrifice.

However, even before the Brian Head Fire broke out we were all fearful that this could be a bad fire season. With an unusually wet winter and spring, the light fuels and grasses have grown fast and plentiful. Combined with the high temperatures, these grasses have dried out and fire season has arrived early in Cedar City and Iron County. During the month of June, we have seen a large number of careless and preventable fires, all which were human caused. The Cedar City Fire Department wants to remind everyone that open burning is strictly prohibited within Cedar City limits per City Ordinance 17-17(B). Also, fire restrictions are currently in place for unincorporated Iron County as well.

By the time you get this letter, Independence Day will have come and gone. I hope each of you had a wonderful (and more importantly safe) 4th of July celebrating the Independence of this great Country! I would like to give a special thank you to the members of the Lions Club for all of their work in organizing the 4th of July Parade. I don't think I have ever seen so many families and friends in attendance at this parade.

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## *Pittser and Ova honored*

The Cedar City Employee Advisory Council has voted to honor Legal Executive Assistant, Onjulee Pittser, and Parks Maintenance Worker, Dale Ova, as Employees of the Month for June and July.



June's nominee, Onjulee, was nominated by City Manager, Paul Bittmenn, who wrote: "Onjulee has worked for Cedar City for a little over one year. She has brought with her a positive energy and attitude. Onjulee

is eager to learn new things and she is very proactive and helpful with everyone in the office. There is no task that she is not willing to tackle. She is such a joy to work with and I am very glad that she chose to come work with us."



Dale Ova was nominated by Parks Division Head, Wade Orme, who wrote: "Dale's ability to manage multiple seasonal workers in different locations during the spring with multiple sports leagues going on at

the same time makes him a valuable member of the Leisure Services Department. Dale has been with Parks Division since October, 2013. Along with maintaining the sports fields at the Bicentennial Soccer and Softball Complex, Field at the Hills complex, and Little League Baseball Complex during the year, Dale has many other tasks such as coordinating with the Sports and Recreation Division and the multiple little league groups that use the City's facilities. He adjusts his schedule to make sure the City is providing the best experience to the public for these types of events and does so with a great attitude. He is liked and respected by the crew he supervises as well as his co-workers."

Congratulations Oni and Dale!

## **ELECTION INFORMATION**

The following have filed to run for office in our fine City:

### **Mayor:**

Ryan James Durfee  
Maile L. Wilson

### **City Council:**

R. Scott Phillips  
Bruce S. Hughes  
Ron Adams  
Scott Johnson  
Rich Gillette  
Andrew McAfee

We will be holding a primary election for **City Council only**, to narrow the candidates to four (4). This will be held August 15th, 2017, in the City Council Chambers, 10 North Main, Cedar City.

Iron County is a by-mail county. All active voters will receive a ballot in the mail. Ballots are mailed to the address where you are registered by July 25th for the Primary Election. Be sure your mailing address is correct at: [www.vote.utah.gov](http://www.vote.utah.gov). To have your ballot mailed to an address other than your residence or PO Box, please contact the County Clerk at (435) 477-8340, or the City Recorder at (435) 865-5106 for an absentee application. The deadline to submit this application is the Thursday before each election.

Returned ballots must have postage and be clearly postmarked by the day before the election. You may also drop off your ballot to the locked ballot box at the Cedar City Office (10 N. Main, Cedar) or at the County Clerk's (due to the Courthouse renovation the temporary location is 88 E Fiddler's Canyon Road, Cedar).

Voters who have moved or changed their name must register or re-register to vote. Register online: [www.vote.utah.gov](http://www.vote.utah.gov). Registration deadlines are: By-mail -July 17th, 2017; Online or in person: August 8th, 2017.

You may drop off your ballot during early voting and election day voting at the provided locked ballot box or vote on the voting machines at the Cedar City Council Chambers (10 N. Main, Cedar).

### **Early Voting for The Primary:**

|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| August 1st & 2nd   | 9 a.m. – 1p.m.  |
| August 3rd & 4th   | 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. |
| August 8th & 9th   | 9 a.m. – 1p.m.  |
| August 10th & 11th | 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. |

If you choose to vote on the machines during early voting, or on election day, you will need to bring (1) **your ID** and (2) **the ballot that is mailed to you.**

Decisions made by the local elected officials affect your life every day. Be proactive. Get out and vote!

**RENON SAVAGE, MMC**  
**Cedar City Recorder**



## Rainwater harvesting: Making every drop count

Evidence of rain water harvesting has been found in ancient texts, inscriptions, and archaeological remains dating back thousands of years. In Utah, the most familiar harvesting systems are reservoirs, and wildlife guzzlers that collect and store water from snow and rain. While harvesting rain water is not a new practice, it is one that is underused by homeowners. This is partially due to a prior law prohibiting the collection and storage of rain water. But in 2010, Senate Bill 32 went into effect, allowing for the legal harvesting of rain water in Utah.

As I write this, it's been over a month since our last rain event. Cedar City averages around 5 ½" of rain during our six month growing season. To put this into prospective, your lawn needs close to 30" during the same time frame. A covered rain barrel connected to a downspout is an effective and inexpensive way to make the most of our infrequent rain events. An average roof (estimated at 1000 square feet) would yield roughly 3000 gallons over the course of the growing season. This collected water is great for watering your yard and garden, but should not be used for human consumption. Every rain barrel needs an overflow outlet and a place for water to go once the barrel is full. Directing overflow into a rain garden is one option. Put simply, rain gardens are large shallow depressions within the landscape that collect overflow from a rain barrel, or runoff from a roof, driveway, or other hard surfaces. These depressions are turned into attractive landscaped areas that work like a sponge and natural filter, allowing the rain water to slowly spread and soak into the ground. Later this summer we're planning to incorporate a few rain barrels and a rain garden into the Main Street Water-Wise Demonstration Garden. You're welcome to stop by and check on the progress anytime. The garden is located on Main Street, south of the Visitor Center and welcomes visitors seven days a week. Happy Gardening!

**CANDACE SCHAIBLE**  
**USU EXTENSION EDUCATOR**

## Public Works

**WATER DIVISION:** A few amazing facts about water!

- Less than 1% of the water supply on earth can be used as drinking water.
- Most of the earth's surface water is permanently frozen or salty.
- 2/3 of the water used in a home is used in the bathroom.
- A small drip from a faucet can waste as much as 20 gallons of water a day.
- At least 400 million people live in regions with severe water shortages.
- Most of the world's people must walk at least 3 hours to fetch water.

Please remember that we have water restrictions in place to help conserve this precious natural resource. It is a violation of City Ordinance 37-7-1 to use culinary water for outside watering between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. This restriction goes into effect on April 1st and continues through October 31st. For tips on how to conserve water, please visit [slowtheflow.org](http://slowtheflow.org).

**WASTEWATER DIVISION:** Construction on the addition to the Administration Building at the Wastewater Treatment Plant is scheduled to begin July 3, 2017. This addition will double the size of our current NELAC Certified lab and allow us to perform all of the required testing pertaining to our wastewater permit and in-house process testing. The new lab will also allow us to provide a separate section for clean water testing of drinking water samples. In-house testing is less expensive and also gives us faster access to the test results which helps us keep the plant processes running more efficiently.



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As we get closer to the 24th of July and fireworks are again permitted, we all want to be sure that everyone understands how critical fire conditions are. The Fire Department urges everyone to use only legal, class “C” fireworks (those purchased in Utah) and use them in a safe manner. Legal, class “C” fireworks can be discharged between the hours of 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. July 21st – 27th (hours extended to midnight on July 24th). It is recommended that fireworks only be used in large open spaces where conditions are present to provide for fire control. Such recommended locations include: the south parking lot of Cedar High School; the parking lot at the Bicentennial Softball Park; and the Canyon View Middle School parking lot. If you have any questions, please call the Fire Department at (435) 586-2964.

The citizens and organizations in our community never cease to amaze me. In an act to better our community and honor our Country, as part of the Flag Day Celebration, the Elks Lodge generously donated 20 American Flags to the City for use at the Veterans Memorial Park. Fun Fact: This year was the 240th anniversary of Flag Day which also happened to be the 242nd birthday of the United States Army. Thank you to the members of the Elks Lodge and the many individuals that donated their resources for these flags. This donation will help ensure that we have flags that properly represent the appreciation we have for those that are honored by these beautiful memorials.

In his 2017 State of the State address, Utah Governor Gary R. Hebert challenged Utah businesses to build 25,000 jobs throughout rural Utah in the next four years. The 25K Jobs Initiative brings partners from all corners of the state to engage with rural communities and explore new opportunities.

Join us at the Iron County 25K Jobs Launch tour along with local and statewide business leaders, community members, government officials, and resource partners. The event will be held on Thursday, August 3rd from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Southern Utah University Upper Quad.

Lt. Governor Spencer Cox will be the keynote speaker at the event, where you can learn to grow your business, find a job through Utah DWS, enjoy free food and giveaways, and network with private and public partners. Learn about business funding and connect with resource providers from throughout the state at this family-friendly event.

Resource Providers include World Trade Center Utah, Utah Dept. of Workforce Services, Zions Bank, edcUTAH, GOED, USTAR, UDAF, the Salt Lake Chamber, Utah Manufacturers’ Association, PTAC, Impact Utah, MEP, Rural Planning Group, SBA, LSI, STEM, Rural Community Consultants, SBDC, BRC, Accelerant, OED, 5 County AOG, Cedar City Chamber of Commerce, SUU, Southwest Tech, Southern Utah Manufacturing Association, Cedar City - Iron County Office of Economic Development, and more!

This event will be held in conjunction with the 30th annual Utah Rural Summit held on the SUU Campus. The Utah Rural Summit features keynote addresses from internationally acclaimed community branding expert Roger Brooks, Utah Governor Gary Herbert, and NBA head coach and Utah Jazz All-Star Jeff Hornacek. The Summit includes a special tourism track, featuring Vicki Varela and the Road to Mighty marketing campaign, both a keynote address and a breakout session with Roger Brooks on the art of branding, sessions on Heritage Tourism, outdoor recreation and Waypoint Grants, and the new certification training from the Utah Film Commission.

Other Utah Rural Summit highlights include Lockheed-Martin’s recruitment of rural Utah suppliers, infrastructure investment incentives for rural businesses, updates on the Public Lands Initiative and County Resource Management Plans, and a special report on The State of Rural Utah. For more information and to register for the Utah Rural Summit, go to <https://utahlinks.org/urs/>.

Over the next few months we will try to keep everyone informed on the specifics related to the upcoming municipal election. On Tuesday, July 25th, the SUU Michael O. Leavitt Center for Politics and Public Service will host a Cedar City Council debate and candidate meet-and-greet. This event is open to the entire community and will provide an opportunity to interact with and learn more about each City Council candidate and their views on local issues prior to the Primary Election. The debate will take place in the SUU Starlight Room which is on the second floor of the Sharwan Smith Student Center. There will be a Candidate meet-and-greet from 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. with the debate going from 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. For more information, contact Cami Mathews, Director of Marketing and Public Relations at (435) 586-7868 or [leavittcenter@gmail.com](mailto:leavittcenter@gmail.com).