

Cedar City This Month

CEDAR CITY, UTAH, COMMUNITY UPDATE



FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2014

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor Maile Wilson

During the nearly three months I have been in office, I have had the opportunity to participate in some amazing activities. Two of the most unusual (and educational) experiences I've had so far occurred on March 13th and

March 25th when I participated in flash-over and "FAST" firefighter attack skills training with our Cedar City Fire Department. Fully outfitted in firefighter apparel including boots, bunker pants, coat, gloves, Nomex hood, helmet, and Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, I was able to experience first-hand what a firefighter feels like just before entering a burning structure. Having the opportunity to see how smoky the fire environment is, I learned just how important an expensive piece of equipment, a thermal imager, is in helping firefighters identify people in a smoky fire.

The Utah Fire and Rescue Academy's Flashover Trailer is designed to allow firefighters to experience pre-flashover conditions along with an actual flashover. While in this controlled environment firefighters are taught to recognize an impending flashover. The ability for firefighters to recognize these conditions is essential to their survival. This experience gave me a new perspective on how dangerous and difficult a firefighter's job can be and what extensive training and equipment they need to

perform their jobs effectively. I appreciated the opportunity to take part in these trainings and look forward to more training with other first responders in the future.

One great thing about living in Cedar City is that there is always something to brag about in the newsletter, and this month is no exception. Last month at the Utah Airport Operators Association awards banquet the Cedar City Regional Airport was named Airport of the Year for 2013/2014 by the Utah Division of Aeronautics.

The inscription on the wooden plaque reads "To the Dedicated Employees of Cedar City and the Local Pilots Who Have made their Airport one of the Finest in the State. Our Sincere Thanks. Utah Division of Aeronautics." This is an outstanding achievement for our Airport, and congratulations to all who made this award possible!!

In regard to the Airport, there have been a lot of comments about the helicopter school based out of our Airport. Please see page three for a description of Upper Limit Aviation, and what their future plans entail.

WATERING RESTRICTIONS

I want to remind everyone that the snow pack this year is extremely low, only about 50% of normal. As we begin considering outdoor irrigation, please remember that watering is permitted only after 6 p.m. and before 8 a.m. when there is less of a chance for evaporation. Watering only during these hours also allows the water tanks from City wells to fill during the day. Remember, Utah is the second driest state in the nation. Please help us conserve water by watering only during the designated hours.

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Tina Garrison honored

The Cedar City Employee Advisory Committee has selected Tina Garrison as April's Employee of the Month. Tina was hired as Kennel Staff at the Animal Control facility in May of 2013.

Tina was nominated by Animal Control Officer Zac Banz who wrote, "Tina is an outstanding employee. She works hard every day to take care of the animals at the Shelter and loves her job. She has excellent customer service skills and is a licensed Veterinary Technician. Tina is amazing at getting animals adopted and rescued from the Shelter. She knows what is best for the animals in the Shelter, and gives them extra special care. Tina often stays late at the Shelter to assist customers and



adopt out animals. We have been seeing an increasing number of adoptions since she has been hired. Tina is familiar with Cedar City's Animal Ordinances and has the ability to explain them clearly to the public. Tina is an important asset to Cedar City Animal Control and is greatly appreciated for all of her hard work."

Tina has lived all over the Southwest, having been born in Arizona, raised in Colorado, and residing in Nevada prior to moving to Cedar City two years ago. She received her Veterinary Technician certification from Southern Nevada Community College. Before being hired by Cedar City Corporation, Tina worked for a veterinarian in Pahrump, Nevada.

Tina is married and stays busy with two young grandchildren and one twelve-year old child at home.

Tina says she loves working with all the animals and "enjoys the guys she works with." Congratulations Tina!

Protecting against auto burglary

If you could protect yourself from falling victim to a thief, would you? Did you know that 90% of all auto burglaries in Cedar City last year involved vehicles that were left unlocked? Of the ten percent that were locked, over half of those had items of value in plain sight.

In 2013 the Cedar City Police Department responded to an average of ten auto burglaries per month. Between January 1 and March 15 of this year, 46 auto burglaries were reported; an increase of 84% over last year.

So, how do you protect yourself from this type of crime? The percentages do not lie! If 90% of all auto burglaries last year were from vehicles that were left unlocked, then the best way to protect yourself is to secure your vehicle. Always lock your vehicle and roll up your windows, even if you are just running into a store for a few minutes.

The second step to protecting yourself is to remove all your valuable items from your vehicle. Thieves are attracted to laptops, GPS units, purses, etc. that are visible inside your car. Auto burglary is generally an opportunistic crime. If the thief sees that your vehicle is unlocked or that you have valuables inside, you are more likely to be a target. If you have to leave valuables inside your car place them underneath the seat or in the trunk. Following these two simple tips will send most would-be thieves away to look for an easier target.

Police have arrested a total of eight people for auto burglary this year. In January, investigators arrested one adult male in connection with an auto burglary. In February, one adult male and three juvenile males were arrested in connection with 14 auto burglaries. Finally, in March investigators arrested two juvenile males and one adult female in connection with 13 auto burglaries. In total, 28 of the 46 reported auto burglaries have been closed with arrests. Investigators believe most, if not all, of the remaining unsolved auto burglary cases from this year are linked to these same suspects.

Typically when police arrest an auto burglary suspect the suspect has committed the crime multiple times, with multiple victims. In most cases we recover large quantities of stolen property, and often times we don't know who the owners are because the crime was never reported. If you are a victim of a crime please report it to the police. This will help us return your stolen property to you and better direct our patrol efforts to the areas of town that are being victimized.

While we all love that Cedar City is a quiet and safe community, we need to realize we are not immune to crime. Let's work together to stop crime in our community.

SERGEANT JIMMY RODEN



Our special thanks to the citizens of Cedar City

Upper Limit Aviation would like to take this opportunity to convey our appreciation to the wonderful residents of Cedar City. We are proud to be a presenting sponsor of the Utah Summer Games and look forward to serving in many other exciting areas. A large portion of the instructors and students at Upper Limit Aviation are military veterans. We know how very important it is to have a strong relationship with the communities we train in. We have been meeting with the Mayor on a weekly basis to get feedback from the community. We are aware that helicopters make noise and sometimes this can be a nuisance. Your voices have been heard, and we are happy to let you know that we have decided to eliminate our early Sunday morning flights. We haven't stopped there. In an effort to do all we can to address your concerns we have implemented several other policies and procedures for noise abatement. Operating at much higher altitudes, avoiding flying over residential areas, and following set training routes are just a few of the changes we have made. These policies and procedures should have a tremendous impact, and we will continue to do all we can in this regard.

Upper Limit Aviation has brought close to 150 students and over 30 Instructors to Cedar City. Several small businesses have shown their gratitude for the economic impact this has brought to their bottom line. With a large amount of student pilots new to the area, we would like to give you a quick glimpse inside their day-to-day routine. The life of a student pilot will likely involve being a part-time or full-time student at Southern Utah University. If students take this route they are enrolled in ground courses at SUU and flight classes that are considered a "Lab" course. This Flight Lab takes place at the Cedar City Airport through Upper Limit Aviation. Students spend a couple hours a day at the airport where they are learning to fly, and a couple hours at SUU where they learn everything needed in order to become a professional pilot. When students are not flying or in classes, they will need to dedicate time for studying. There is still plenty of time for a personal life and a family; but becoming a student pilot is a serious commitment. If the life of a student pilot seems like it's something you're interested in, contact Upper Limit Aviation and we will make it happen! www.upperlimitaviation.edu.

Public Works

The Wastewater Collection Division is starting its annual sewer line flushing. Flushing sewer lines is performed to remove debris such as rocks, roots, silt, sand, and grease that has accumulated in the sewer pipes. If debris is allowed to build up, this blockage will reduce the capacity of the pipes and can eventually result in sewage overflow into the streets, basements, and yards.

Each year our wastewater crews clean $\frac{1}{4}$ of the sewer lines in the City. This year the lines scheduled for cleaning are located west of I-15 and south of 200 North.

Sewer lines are flushed using high-pressure water that flushes out stones, sediment, and other residue. This debris is flushed downstream where it is vacuumed out. While flushing sewer lines the pressure can create a vacuum and blow water back through the toilet. You may see bubbling in the toilet or hear strange noises coming from the bowl. Residents should keep their toilet lids down while the lines are flushed to avoid any back spray or water splashing out of the toilet.

If you have an odor coming out of your drains just run some water down the drain to refill the S-bend, sometimes called a P-trap, with water.

Sewer line cleaning will continue through September, 2014 in this section of the City. If you have any questions, please call the Public Works Department at (435) 586-2912.



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THE GREAT UTAH SHAKEOUT

Another fact about living in Utah that we tend to forget is that our state has a seismic belt about 100 miles wide extending north - south along the Wasatch Front and through Richfield to Cedar City and St. George. Utah averages a magnitude six earthquake once every 15 to 20 years.

On April 17 at 10:15 a.m. the Great Utah Shakeout will take place. This is a great way for you and your family or organization to prepare to survive or recover quickly from big earthquakes. We invite all residences and businesses to go to shakeout.org to get ideas on how to participate and prepare for this important emergency preparedness activity.

When the Utah State Legislature wound up last month, we got the news that many of the projects dear to our hearts here in Cedar City were funded. I asked Senator Vickers and Representative Westwood to give us a synopsis of what was accomplished.

SENATOR EVAN VICKERS

The Southwest Applied Technology College (SWATC) building is a very big win not only for Iron County but for all of Southern Utah. This building will provide construction jobs while being built, and then will provide training for jobs that will greatly benefit our area when it is completed.

Along with this local funding issue there were some other important funding accomplishments: 1. Higher education received an additional \$50 million for equity growth which will benefit SUU. 2. New growth in public education was funded along with an additional 2.5% increase in the WPU which is the basic funding mechanism for our public schools. 3. State employees and higher education employees will receive a 1.25% salary increase. 4. Six additional Highway Patrol troopers will be hired this year.

Thanks for the support we received from our mayor, local elected officials, Chamber of Commerce, economic development, education, arts, and business community during the legislative session. Without this support and the many visits they made to the Capitol, it would have been very difficult to accomplish all that we

did this year.

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN WESTWOOD

I'm thrilled that we were able to finally fund the new SWATC building. The Legislature appropriated \$19.3 million to build it. This building will be a great benefit to all the citizens of Iron County and Southern Utah. I was grateful to see the support of people from Iron County as they came to the Capitol during the session to testify before the Appropriations Committee of the dire need for the SWATC Building. Mayor Maile Wilson and Cedar City Chamber of Commerce President Scott Jolley came up multiple times and visited with key leadership people in the Senate and the House of Representatives. Along with SWATC President Dana Miller (who I think slept at the Capitol), Cedar City Economic Development Director Brennan Wood and Cedar City MSC Aerospace Whitney Clayton were also there to help stress the importance of the building. Chris Holmes of Cherry Creek Radio stated that we all applied the "full court press" when it counted most, and we did.

The Utah Summer Games was funded with a one-time appropriation of \$50,000. We had asked for \$50,000 ongoing and will go back next year with that in mind while demonstrating to the Appropriation Committees the tremendous good that was accomplished with the one-time money and how important the Games are to Cedar City and to Utah. I was grateful that we were able to also secure \$50,000 for the Utah Shakespeare Festival to assist in facility renovations and relocation during the construction of the new arts complex. In addition to the immeasurable quality of life and culture these entities bring to our community, they are also essential economic catalysts and are very much worth the investment. Monies were also appropriated for assisting with the prairie dog fence around the Cedar Ridge Golf Course, and that too was truly a team effort for this great City.

All in all, the 2014 Legislative session was a productive and successful one. Thanks to all who have assisted in coming to the Capitol to support our area.