



CEDAR HILLS

OUR HOME TOWN

City Newsletter • January 2013

Office Hours:
Mon-Thurs: 8 to 5
Fri: 8 to 4
801-785-9668
www.cedarhills.org



What's Inside?

Mayor's Minute	2
Message Board	2
Storm Water Tip	2
Council Corner	3
Spotlight on Business	3
Recycling in Cedar Hills	4
Spirit of Volunteerism	4

Upcoming Events

City Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Jan 8 & 22
Weekly Story Time at the Rec - 11:00 a.m.	Jan 8 & 9
City Offices Closed for MLK, Jr. Day	Jan 21
Planning Commission Meeting - 6:00 p.m.	Jan 24

City Phone Numbers:

Dial 801-785-9668 then ext. number:
Front Desk, 100
City Recorder, 503
Zoning & Code Enforcement, 500
Business Licensing, 504
Building Dept, 200
Utility Billing, 400
Community Services, 300
Public Works, 200

Other Phone Numbers (801):
Public Works After Hours, 420-2243
Golf Pro Shop, 796-1705
Animal Control, 763-3020
Police, 763-3020
Fire Department/EMT, 763-5365

Year in Review

Noteworthy Milestones from 2012

The City announced release of a newly designed and updated website with improved navigation and new features.

A new ordinance allows temporary businesses in the commercial zone during the summer months.

An open house was held to celebrate the one-year anniversary of firefighters and medics stationed at the Public Safety Building.

The City's 14th annual Spring Clean-Up was held on April 14 and 21.

Due to redistricting, the City received a new fifth voting precinct.

The Youth City Council presented the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Heritage Park.

The Community Services Department introduced FIRST LEGO League to kids ages 9 to 14.

A grand opening and a ribbon cutting ceremony were held on May 5 for the opening of the Cedar Hills Community Recreation Center.

City officials and local businesses signed a commitment to the Community Covenant program, supporting military service members and their families.

On March 20 the Sutherland Institute gave the City an A+ Website Transparency Award.

The Beautification, Recreation, Parks and Trails Citizens Advisory Committee was organized to increase community involvement in Yard of the Month, Light Up Cedar Hills, etc.

Silver Star Day (May 1) was observed from April 30 through May 3 with free rounds of golf at the Cedar Hills Golf Club for military personnel.

The annual Cedar Hills Family Festival was held June 9-16, including a 5K, carnival, parade, and fireworks.

On June 22 the City offices were merged into the Public Works Facility, 10246 N Canyon Road.

A variety of weekly fitness and recreational classes began at the new Cedar Hills Recreation Center.

Due to extreme dry conditions during the summer, fireworks and open fires were restricted.

On July 19 the City Council appointed Gary Gygi as mayor due to Eric Richardson's resignation on June 25.

The City paid off Series 1999 Lease Revenue Bonds (for the Fire Station building) six years early, saving over \$50,000 in interest and fees.

David Bunker was appointed City Manager on July 31.

The City declared August 8 as Arielle Martin Day. As additional ways to communicate information to residents, the City opened Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Brenna Bergeson and Mark Schvaneveldt were elected as mayors on the Cedar Hills Youth City Council.

On August 14, Daniel Zappala was appointed to serve on the City Council to fill the vacancy left by the mayoral appointment of Gary Gygi.

Mayor Gygi created an ad hoc resident advisory committee to arrange regular town hall meetings to help keep residents informed on City issues.

A free weekly story time for children began at the recreation center.

Osmond Senior Living began business with an open house on Sept. 15.

A 'State of the City Report' was created by the City Council and mailed to residents.

Harts Gas and Food opened its doors for business on Oct. 4 and had a grand opening on Oct. 19 & 20.

The Community Services Department sponsored a 'Spooktacular Pumpkin Walk' in October and a 'Princess Day' in November.

The City celebrated its 35th anniversary of incorporation, which took place on November 2, 1977. At that time there were 31 occupied homes.

An ad hoc Golf Course Finance Advisory Committee was formed by the mayor to provide assistance to City officials in shaping the financial future of the golf course. The committee held a public town hall meeting on November 15.

The City offered various youth sports programs throughout the year: Lacrosse, Tot Soccer, Flag Football, Jr. Jazz Basketball, FIRST LEGO League, and the Cedar Hills Ski Bus.

The City shaved nearly \$500K from the golf course bond by refinancing to a lower rate.

The Youth City Council held its fifth annual Santa's Workshop, which helped to brighten the holidays for many Cedar Hills families.

Current Population: approx. 10,066.

Many more items available on the City's website at: www.cedarhills.org/about

Light Up Cedar Hills Winners The following residents were recognized by the Beautification, Recreation, Parks and Trails Citizens Advisory Committee for having some of the most beautiful outdoor decorations this year: Brad and JoLynn Robbins, Mulberry Drive; Wes & Gina Higbee, Birch Cove; Brent Anderson, Birch Cove; Jayne Madsen, Bayhill Drive; and Kevin Seppi, Silver Lake Drive. Thank you for brightening our holidays!



OUR HOME TOWN



Mayor's Minute

ABOUT THIRTY YEARS ago, I was a 19-year-old boy serving in Japan as a missionary, learning the language and the culture of a country so foreign to me. I had heard of the saying, "When in Rome, do as the Romans do," so I did; I tried to adopt the Japanese culture as much as I could. The story

I want to leave with you this month centers around one of those customs.

I was living in the historic city of Hiroshima and was asked to join with friends and other missionaries for a midnight hike on December 31, New Year's Eve. There is a famous island not too far from Hiroshima called Miyajima, and that is where thousands of people gather on New Year's Eve to hike a very tall mountain at night to see the very first sunrise of the year. This tradition began in the Meiji era (1868-1912), and is called Hatsuhino de. It is believed that the God of the year will appear, and, if you pray to it at sunrise, it is thought to bring blessings throughout the year.

We started hiking at about midnight, and as far as I could see in front of me and in back of me there were similar-minded people trying to stay warm and buoy each other up, as we all became tired and discouraged. But we made it to the top shortly before sunrise. I have never seen a sunrise so spectacular and memorable as the one I saw that morning. Like everyone there, I said a silent prayer and made some goals for myself. Sadly, I have not kept up that wonderful tradition, but I do make resolutions and goals every year at this time to remind me of the many things I want and need to do.

This year, in addition to my personal goals, I do have a few goals for our wonderful city—so here goes. My first goal is to always communicate with you in a completely transparent way. Good news or bad news, I will share it with the knowledge that we will celebrate our successes and work through our challenges. Second, I will encourage and foster the growth of our commercial zone, which is key to our fiscal stability. Third, I will continue the conservative principals of paying down our debt and living within our means to keep our property taxes from going up. Lastly, I want to make our city a recreation destination site, where people can come and golf, hike, bike, and access our beautiful canyon for camping and fishing. I envision perhaps a winter festival in the future, in addition to our fantastic summertime Family Festival. Who knows, perhaps next year we can hike Timp at midnight and start a new tradition for our city.

I want to end this month's minute with an expression of gratitude. I feel a difference in our city and hope you do also; it is palpable and rings of a new and positive attitude that springs from you! I hear it from people at Walmart, Harts, and just about everywhere I go. Thank you very much for inspiring me to always do my best for all of you and for the City of Cedar Hills.

Let's have a great year!



Mayor Gary Gygi

Message Board

City Offices Closing

The City offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 21, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and on Feb. 18 in observance of Presidents Day. Garbage and recycling pick up services will run as usual both weeks.

Code and Ordinance Problems Persist

Just a reminder that we still have people parking on the street overnight in violation of the City's on-street parking ordinance. **Street Parking During Snow/Ice Removal:** So as to provide access to snowplows for snow removal, it is unlawful for any person to park or allow to remain parked any vehicle upon streets from November 1 to the following March 31 from 1:00 A.M. to 7:00 A.M. or during snow/ice removal. **Illegal Staging:** Also, we are seeing dumpsters and storage/moving containers being placed on the streets in violation of our city code.

Street Light Maintenance

If you see a street light that isn't working properly, please contact the City to report the problem. The City owns and maintains about half of the existing lights, with Rocky Mountain Power responsible for the rest. The City's Public Works Department will either service the light or request the repair through Rocky Mountain Power. To request street light service, contact Public Works at 801-785-9668, ext. 202, or e-mail the department at publicworks@cedarhills.org.

STORM WATER TIP OF THE MONTH

What you do makes a difference!

Chemical Waste Accumulation

You might not think that you can help solve the problem, but you can! The average home can accumulate as much as **100 pounds of chemical waste each year** from common household and lawn/garden products such as:

- Paint & paint thinners
- Cleaning solutions & degreasers
- Pesticides, weed killers, fertilizers
- Motor oil, gasoline, diesel fuel, antifreeze

Proper disposal of chemical waste helps protect our water systems. For more information, contact Utah County Health Department at 801-851-7000 (utahcountyonline.com) or the following State agencies: Division of Solid & Hazardous Waste (801) 538-6170; Environmental Hotline (800) 458-0145; Pollution Prevention Coordinator (801) 536-4477.

City Council Corner

Jenney Rees, City Council Member

Bond Interest Rate Lowered

On December 12, 2012, the City refinanced the general obligation bond for the golf course at a new lower rate of 2.47%. This new rate was made available after the City received an AA- bond rating by both Fitch and Standard & Poor in November. It is difficult for any community as small as Cedar Hills to obtain such a high rating as rating agencies generally believe that risk is reduced as costs are spread out to a larger population.

In their report Fitch stated "the city has maintained good reserves, including 18% unrestricted general fund balances the past two years and excess reserves in the capital projects fund, some of which have been used to support golf course operations. The city's moderate debt levels, which are primarily related to its golf course, are likely to decrease over time as the city intends to continue financing capital needs through pay-go sources."

The new interest rate equates to a total savings of almost \$500,000 over the life of the loan, or approximately \$23,000 each year. City officials and staff continue to strive to reduce costs while providing quality service to the community and are dedicated to improving the community in all areas.

Sledding and Other Non-Golf Wintertime Activities Prohibited on the Golf Course

In an effort to protect and preserve the golf course turf and landscaping, a policy has been approved and put into place that prohibits all wintertime activities, such as skiing, sledding, snowshoeing, skating, or any other non-golf related activity, on the Cedar Hills Golf Club course. Damage to the course is expensive and time consuming to repair, thus costing the City and, ultimately, the residents thousands of dollars in repairs, not to mention the loss of revenue at the beginning of the golf season to allow the damaged turf grow back in.

Temporary orange fencing was recently installed on holes 13 and 15 (where most of the activities take place) and was torn down and destroyed by vandals. Police will increase patrols during and after snow storms to enforce this policy.

Thank you for your cooperation.

YCC's 5th Annual Santa's Workshop is success!

A number of enthusiastic Youth City Council members helped brighten the Christmas mornings of many Cedar Hills families last month. Thanks to the many generous donations from residents, corporate sponsors, and YCC fund raisers, each family left with their arms full of personally wrapped gifts. The remaining items were donated to entities that could further help others in need.



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Spotlight on Business

Matt Sorensen Law

Matt Sorensen Law is a Cedar Hills law firm offering affordable, convenient legal services to Cedar Hills residents—entirely online. Every adult should be protected with a will and an advance health care directive. Families, parents and business owners may also benefit from having the flexibility of a trust as a will substitute. We can register your new business with the state and federal government within 48 hours. We help clients with their homeowners associations, real estate questions, and a wide variety of general legal questions.

Don't go it alone with do-it-yourself books or fill-in-the-blank forms sold by online websites. For the same cost you can benefit from the personal attention and representation of Utah attorney Matt Sorensen.

Visit his website at www.mattsorensenlaw.com, browse his services and register for a free account today. All Cedar Hills residents get 30% off. First responders, active duty military, and educators get 50% off all services—every day! Cedar Hills residents, who are stationed overseas in hostile fire zones, and their spouses can qualify for free legal services through the Cedar Hills Community Covenant. Call 801-513-3529.



MATTSORENSEN.LAW.COM

Monthly Spotlight on Cedar Hills Businesses

Cedar Hills will spotlight commercial and home businesses within our community to inform residents of goods and services offered in our city. If you are a licensed business owner in Cedar Hills and would like to have your business spotlighted in the newsletter, please send a short summary, including contact information, to the City's front desk.

"I have a question...."

Q: What are the dates for this year's Family Festival? We are planning our family vacation and do not want to miss the City's summer celebration.

A: The 2013 Family Festival carnival is set for June 14 and 15, with the parade and fireworks on Saturday, June 15. Other fun activities will be scheduled earlier during the week. Watch the City's website and newsletter for up-to-the-minute details!



If you have a City-related question or comment that you would like addressed in a future edition of the City newsletter, simply e-mail your question to: frontdesk@cedarhills.org with the words "I have a question" in the subject line.



Resident Feedback on Facebook

The City has begun to use its Facebook page to solicit feedback from residents on a variety of topics. If you haven't already done so, please "like" our Facebook page at:

www.facebook.com/cedarhillsutah.

Fitness Classes at the Rec Center

Come try out our fun fitness classes at the recreation center! Classes offered include Zumba, Hot Hula, Total Body Sculpt, and more! Unlimited monthly passes for fitness classes are \$15 and a punch pass for 10 classes is \$25. Visit the City’s website to purchase a monthly pass and view the fitness class schedule.

Book the Vista Room for your special event



Treat your guests to an unforgettable experience: Hold your event in the Vista Room at the Community Recreation Center. Panoramic windows provide breathtaking views of Utah Valley, creating the perfect backdrop. Amenities include tables, chairs, linens, a sound system with a 55” HDTV and Blu-Ray player. Contact Kaity at 801-785-9668, ext. 300, or events@cedarhills.org for more information.

Story Time at the Rec

Join us for story time at the Recreation Center every Tuesday and Wednesday morning at 11:00. Story Time is for children of all ages. An activity is provided after the story time. Invite your friends and come join the fun!



Night Out with the Jazz

We have Utah Jazz tickets available for the Sacramento game on Feb. 4 and the Oklahoma game on Feb. 12. The cost is \$14 per ticket, which includes a hotdog and drink. Tickets may be purchased at the City Office, 10246 N Canyon Road, during regular business hours.

Curbside Recycling in Cedar Hills

Recycling collection occurs every other week on the same day as trash collection. The every-other-week- collection begins with the week of January 7. Place recycling and trash containers at the curb between sundown on the day before collection and 7:00 a.m. the day of collection. Despite their best efforts, Waste Management occasionally misses scheduled collections. If they do, please call WM customer service at 801-785-3000 as soon as you can. They will try to return on the same day to pick it up, without charge. Questions: 888-496-8824 or visit www.wm.com.



Observed Holiday Pickup Schedule

If a scheduled collection day for garbage or recycling falls on a holiday or the day after, collection will be delayed one day for that week. Affected holidays are: Memorial Day, Independence Day, Pioneer Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day.

**The Spirit of Volunteerism
by Council Member Stephanie Martinez**



WE HAVE SOMETHING very unique about our great state: Utah ranks first among the 50 states in resident volunteerism. That is pretty amazing! We volunteer in our children’s schools, our places of worship, as coaches, and at shelters and food banks, contributing our time and skills. Many people volunteer to gain new experiences, to learn the value of caring, to create, and to connect with people, while making meaningful contributions to their community.

As each of us start out the New Year and set new goals and resolutions, I would like to challenge the members of our community to undertake the task of continuing the winning streak of being amazing volunteers. These acts of kindness can be as small as helping an elderly neighbor or volunteering an hour or two at a local school. Other possibilities on a larger scale are: being a chair of a committee for our Family Festival, spending a Saturday to clean up a trail, or coach a child’s sports team. The value of such acts goes much deeper and becomes more fulfilling to us, our youth, and our community through volunteering—and our children learn personal responsibility, resilience, and compassion, through caring for those who may be suffering. Together—as a family or group—or individually, our time, given freely, binds communities together, by helping those in need or by just being another set of helpful hands. And, as a Girl Scout would say, "To Make the World a Better Place."

Our great City has many opportunities to volunteer. To sign up, please contact me at smartinez@cedarhills.org and I will be happy to connect you, your family, or youth group to an area of need. "Volunteering is an act of heroism on a grand scale. And it matters profoundly. It does more than help people beat the odds; it changes the odds" (President Bill Clinton).

Let your happy New Year depend on what you do for others.

Volunteer today with Mountainland Aging and Family Services Department. We have a variety of volunteer opportunities for people with different skills and interests:

Volunteer Ombudsman: As a spontaneous, friendly visitor to a few residents of a local nursing home each month and observing overall quality of care in these facilities, you can be “our eyes and ears” as we try to be good advocates for many who feel that there is no one to turn to for their concerns. For more information, call 801-229-3807 or email nmadsen@mountainland.org. Be a **Friendly Visitor Volunteer** and provide respite (a break) to family caregivers. By providing a few hours of companionship each month to an elder, you can preserve the well-being and quality of life for both the caregiver and the elder they are caring for. For more information, call 801-229-3818 or email cwheatley@mountainland.org. Make a difference one hour once a week! **Meals-on-Wheels** needs volunteers to deliver meals to homebound seniors in our community. For more information, visit www.mountainland.org/volunteer or call 801-229-3821. Light up a life—volunteer!