



CEDAR HILLS

OUR HOME TOWN

City Newsletter • December 2015

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



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Upcoming Events

City Council Meetings 7:00 p.m.	Dec 1 Jan 5
A Night with Santa 6 to 8 pm	Dec 7
Story Time: <i>The Polar Express</i> - Vista Room	Dec 9
Christmas Tree Recycling Drop Offs	Dec 28 -Jan 4
Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m.	Jan 26

City Phone Numbers:

Dial 801-785-9668 then extension:
Front Desk, 100
City Recorder, 503
Zoning & Code Enforcement, 500
Business Licensing, 400
Building Department, 200
Public Works, 200
Utility Billing, 400
Recreation, 302 or 601
Vista Room, 300

Other Phone Numbers (801):

Public Works After Hours, 420-2243
Golf Pro Shop, 796-1705
Animal Control, 763-3020
Police, 763-3020

State of the City Report

We are pleased to present the 2015 State of the City Report. This report provides detailed information on topics such as the Fiscal Year 2016 budget, projects that are planned for the upcoming year, recreation and events, city debt, volunteer groups, and a discussion on property taxes. We hope you will find the report useful and informative. The State of the City Report is just one of the many ways we work to be transparent and provide information on what is occurring in the city.

In an effort to reduce expenses and still provide this service, this year and in all subsequent years the report will be emailed to residents and also continue to be available on the city's website. We appreciate feedback, so feel free to contact any member of the city council or the city manager with questions you may have. **Please go to: cedarhills.org/state-of-city to access the 2015 report.**

A Night with Santa

The annual Cedar Hills "Night with Santa" party will be held on Monday, Dec 7, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Cedar Hills Community Recreation Center.

YCC Requests Cash for Annual Santa's Workshop

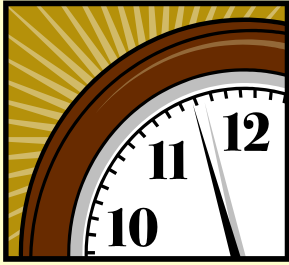
Each year our Youth City Council plans and executes multiple fundraising projects, with proceeds going toward helping families in our community at Christmas-time. This year we are asking for donations in the form of money or gift cards to Wal-Mart. No new or used toys please. Donations may be mailed or dropped off at the city office building. Just mention it's for YCC's Santa's Workshop.

Light Up Cedar Hills!

The Beautification, Recreation, Parks and Trails Citizen Advisory Committee will sponsor the city's annual Light Up Cedar Hills contest. Judges from the committee will canvass the city on Friday, Dec. 18, to determine who has the best outdoor lighting displays. Five winners will be announced in the January newsletter.

Official Results of the Nov. 3 General Election

After the final results of the November 3, 2015, general election were all accounted for, the following candidates were elected to four-year terms to the City Council: **Jenney Rees, Mike Geddes, and Ben Bailey.** A canvass of the general election results was conducted at the regularly scheduled City Council meeting on November 17. The canvass was based on election data received from the Utah County Clerk's Office, which administered the city's all vote-by-mail election and counted and tallied all Cedar Hills ballots. The purpose of the canvass is to account for every ballot cast and ensure that every valid vote is included in the election totals. We congratulate council members Rees and Geddes on their re-elections and welcome Ben Bailey to the council as a new member.



Mayor's Minute

When I was in college in what seems like a lifetime ago, I did a couple of semesters in Washington D.C. interning at journalism-related places. I kept hearing the word FOIA and came to understand it to be an acronym for Freedom of Information Act. The journalists that I worked with were obsessed with it. They were always upset that they were not getting all the information that they felt they should be getting. It seemed that sometimes more information was redacted than was given. Some years later, I have come to find out much more about FOIA or GRAMA as we call it in Utah. GRAMA stands for Government Records Access Management Act.

GRAMA is the process whereby you or anyone can access most government records so that you can see what your government is doing. As I studied the act, I discovered two very important aspects of the statute. Obviously, one is to allow access to government records, but one aspect is to protect yours and everyone's private and protected information. Interestingly, the penalty is the same for withholding information as well as giving out information that you should not. This is where my DC journalist friends got frustrated, because

they wanted everything, even if it contained private information.

I am finding out that there is seedy underbelly to this law. The best of intents was to keep government actions honest and transparent, but there are some with nefarious and bogus intentions that can clog the work that we try and do. There are big corporate interests that would like all kinds of information, so they can use it to market you and me. Think of it like this: If a large pet supply company wants to target all homeowners with pets, they will GRAMA request public records of all pet owners. There are others who want to prevent government work, even if it is good work, from getting done. These vexatious litigants cost small cities much in terms of time and tax dollars, even though we can pass some of the cost along to them.

GRAMA affects us here in Cedar Hills. The city always lawfully complies with GRAMA requests, but we are very careful to protect your private information in case it may be there. I will talk more about this on my blog at garygygi.com, but you can see a video dated Nov. 29, 2015, on this topic online at: thecountyseat.tv/episodes. Merry Christmas, everyone.



Mayor Gary Gygi

Storm Water Tip of the Month

Since winter is here, it's time to think about environmentally friendly ways to control ice. Deicers lower the melting point of ice to help remove ice and snow from pavement. Sodium chloride (rock salt) is the most common product because it's effective and cheap. However, it is highly corrosive and ecologically damaging. Some deicers are a significant source of phosphorous. Always apply deicing products according to the manufacturer's instructions. Using the old-fashioned approach of a shovel means eliminating ice and snow without harmful chemicals and rewards of the added benefit of physical exercise.

Snow and Ice Removal from Streets

The city's policy regarding snowplowing is that streets will be cleared according to priority, beginning when the street has accumulated a minimum of two inches of snow and continuing until driving conditions are considered adequately safe. Streets receive higher priority according to volume of traffic, location near schools or

public buildings, steepness of grade, collector streets, etc. Typically, low-volume streets and cul-de-sacs remain the last to be plowed. The staff is committed to provide safe conditions for city residents and encourages everyone to be cautious and patient when driving in adverse conditions.

Winter On-Street Parking Reminders

Winter is just around the corner, and the city would like to remind residents of winter parking regulations. Street parking is prohibited between the hours of 1:00am and 7:00am November 1 through March 31 AND when one or more of the following conditions exist:

- when snow is falling
- when there is a visible amount of snow on the street
- when the street has not been plowed
- during snow/ice removal

Please make sure that city sidewalks abutting your property have been cleared of snow and ice. This will provide safer travel for pedestrians. Snow from sidewalks or driveways should not be placed in the street.

Council Corner



Jenney Rees

Recently the city emailed a link for the 2015 State of the City Report. This report provides detailed information on topics such as the Fiscal Year 2016 budget, planned projects for the upcoming year, recreation and events, city debt, volunteer groups, and a discussion on property taxes. We hope you will find the report useful and informative. The State of the City Report is just one of the many ways we work to be transparent and provide information on what is occurring in the city. Feel free to reach out to any member of the council or the city manager with questions.

With the new year approaching, there are a few changes coming. First, Councilmember Trent Augustus will finish his four-year term serving on the City Council. We appreciate the time and dedication he has given over the past several years; it is no small task. Joining the council will be Ben Bailey, who serves as the fire marshal for Lone Peak Fire Department. We welcome him and look forward to his insight.

Secondly, the format for the Council Corner in the newsletter will change. Instead of having a monthly article, each member of the council will have the opportunity to provide a link to their council blog, where they can share city-related information with residents. We hope this new method will increase communication and will provide a variety of views on the important topics facing our city.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve the residents of Cedar Hills and hope you have a Merry Christmas!

City Offers Christmas Tree Recycling

Designated drop-off areas for live trees ONLY will be available Monday, Dec. 28, through Monday, Jan. 4, in the parking lots at Mesquite Soccer Park, 10440 N. Mesquite Way, and Heritage Park, 4425 W. Cedar Hills Drive. All attachments must be removed from the trees, including stands. Flocked trees are NOT accepted, as they are not recyclable. No other waste, garbage, or commercial dumping is permitted. Mixed loads cannot be recycled and will cause significant increases in costs to the city. With everyone's considerate compliance, the city will be able to continue this service each year.

Rental Property Business Licenses

A business license is required for all non-owner-occupied residential properties. Owners of new rental properties should submit a request for a license, which is available on the city's website, or contact the city's business licensing department for more information. All current rental property owners will receive renewal papers in the mail in December.

Cedar Hills Grill Sets Winter Hours

Come and enjoy delicious food at "The Grill at Cedar Hills" in the Cedar Hills Community Recreation Center, 10640 N Clubhouse Drive. The Grill's winter hours are Monday-Friday: 11:00-2:00 and 5:00-8:00; Saturday: 9:00-7:00 (buffet breakfast: 9-11am); closed Sundays. The Grill will be closed for the holidays Dec. 24-Jan. 3.

Committee Installs Holiday Display

A holiday light display was recently constructed under the direction of the city's Beautification, Recreation, Parks & Trails Committee in the roundabout on Cedar Hills Drive. "It looks great," exclaimed one committee member. "I drove by tonight and was wowed!"

The all-volunteer committee, chaired by Boyd Wilkins, meets monthly to explore opportunities to improve and enhance the city and to make recommendations to the City Council. Chandler Goodwin, assistant city manager and city planner, acts as a staff representative. The committee also oversees community involvement in recreation, parks, and trails programs and projects.

In May they involved over 50 resident volunteers in an annual service day to make improvements throughout the city. Families planted flowers at the Cedar Hills Drive roundabout, and others cleared trash and debris from miles of trails. Still others participated in general yard cleanup and improvements at several homes in the city, and an area of the south boundary on Canyon Road was cleared of overgrown vegetation and covered with landscape rocks.

The committee also hosts the city's annual pancake breakfast, Night with Santa, and the Light Up Cedar Hills and Yards of the Month contests. We appreciate the dedication and service of this committee.

There will be a one-day delay in garbage and curbside recycling services after Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Story Time: *The Polar Express*

"For all who truly believe," come to the annual reading of the children's holiday classic picture book *The Polar Express*. Children accompanied by adults are invited to attend on Wednesday, **December 9**, at 11:00 a.m. at the Cedar Hills Recreation Center in the Vista Room by the fireplace. There will be songs, activities, and treats! Questions? Call Marisa Wright at: 801-900-1036.

Musical Theater Classes for Youth

On Thursday evenings beginning January 14, the city will offer theater classes for youth, ages 8-18, with exceptions made for seven year olds on a case by case basis. The classes will be taught by Jordan Long, assistant administrator and fine arts chair at Liahona Preparatory Academy. During the twelve week course, students will learn the basics and finer points of musical theater and will be taught the proper way to prepare for auditions and call backs. Each student in the class will have a role in Disney's *The Little Mermaid Jr.*, which will be performed three times at the end of the semester. The past two semesters have been wildly successful, so if you are interested, sign up now as the classes fill up quickly.



The classes run from 4:15 to 8:30 p.m., and all students will meet together for the first day. After auditions, the children will be divided into two classes: 4:15-6:15 and 6:30-8:30. If you cannot do a certain time, please make sure to notate it on the registration form. Online registration may be accessed from the city's website. You will also be able to choose a buddy at that time. If you have any questions, please email Nicole Allen at: recreation@cedarhills.org.

City Night with BYU Men's Basketball

Join us in the BYU Marriott Center for the Cedar Hills City Night with the BYU men's basketball team vs. Pepperdine on January 30. Tickets start at \$6 online at byutickets.com. Click on Promotions to access the shopping cart. The promo codes is: BYUCEDARHILLS. The promo is valid for ALL home games.

New Karate Session Begins Jan. 4

Karate classes for children ages 6-12 are offered at the Cedar Hills Recreation Center. The one-hour classes are held Mondays and Wednesdays for different levels. Registration fee is \$50 for each five-week session. Online registration is available on the city's website. The next session of classes begins January 4.

Golf Club Pro Shop Winter Hours

The golf club pro shop will be open Mondays through Fridays from 9 to 5. The pro shop offers competitive selection and prices on golf supplies. Need clubs, apparel, or gift certificates for that special golfer on your list? Visit the pro shop today!

Cedar Hills Ski Bus 2016

Attention skiers and snowboarders ages 7 to 17! The city offers lessons for all skill levels on February 6, 20, and 27, 2016. The cost per person is \$200, which includes transportation, lift tickets, two-hour lessons each week, and a half day on the slopes. Sign ups need to be completed in person at the Cedar Hills city office building, 10246 N Canyon Road, in order for the guardian to sign a waiver. Chaperones are needed and will receive a complimentary lift ticket for each day. For more information, please contact the Cedar Hills Recreation Department at: recreation@cedarhills.org or call 801-785-9668, ext. 302.

Bookmobile Fall/Winter Schedule

The Utah County Bookmobile comes to town every other Monday (Dec. 14 & 28) from 1:00 to 3:00. The bookmobile is parked at the LDS church located at the roundabout behind Walmart. For information, including updates and cancelations, visit bookmobiles.utah.gov/utah.

