



SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2007

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A NEW LOOK

After many months of deliberation, the City Newsletter is finally getting a new look. There are many new and exciting changes that are taking place and will continue to take place in the next few months. We hope you find these changes informational and to your liking. If you have any suggestions to what you would like to see in future newsletters please contact Valerie at the City offices (766-6506).

*****RESIDENTS, THE SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY NEWSLETTER IS LOOKING FOR A NEW NAME TO CALL ITSELF. IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS OR IDEAS ON A NAME, PLEASE EMAIL THEM TO VCHRISTENSEN@SARATOGA-SPRINGS.NET*****

ELECTION NUMBERS ARE IN

Congratulations to our newly elected Council Members, Bud Poduska, Brent Call, and incumbent Mia Love.



Bud Poduska

The City looks forward to working with you over the next four years. Council Member Poduska and Council Member Call will be sworn into office in January.

We would also like to extend our



Brent Call

heartfelt thanks to City Council members Marsha Paskett and Council Member J. Scott Kahn for their dedi-



Mia B. Love

cated service to the City and its residents. We appreciate all the hard work you willingly gave, and know your contributions will be felt for years to come. You will truly be missed.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

East-West Connector Study Open House 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Dec. 6
City Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Dec 11
Planning Commission 6:30 p.m.	Dec 18
Council Work Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Dec. 18

WELCOME NEW FIRE CHIEF

The City of Saratoga Springs is pleased to announce the hiring of the new Fire Chief, Tim Hay. "Tim comes highly recommended and has all the experience and credentials we could ever hope for



Fire Chief Tim Hay

in a new Fire Chief. I believe he will do great things for our City," says City Manager Ken Leetham. Fire Chief Hay is from Parsons, Kansas but currently made his home here in Saratoga Springs. He and his lovely wife

have 3 wonderful children, two boys and one girl. During his spare time, Fire Chief Hay enjoys woodworking and working out in the yard. The City is excited to have him here. Welcome Fire Chief Hay!

LIGHT UP SARATOGA SPRINGS

Saratoga Springs City invites you to **LIGHT UP SARATOGA SPRINGS** this December! So get your lights and decorations out and show off your festive side. Judging for this outdoor lighting and decorating contest will take place between December 17-21, 2007.

To register for this event or to submit a neighboring home, please call Valerie at 766-6506 by December 14, 2007. Prizes will be awarded for the three best-decorated homes!

YOUR CITY AT WORK FOR YOU

New Office Hours:



To better serve you, beginning January 7, 2008 the City offices will have extended business hours. The hours are as follows:

- M-TH 7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
- Fri. 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

JOB OPENINGS

The City is currently looking to fill the following positions:

- Court Clerk (full-time/part-time)
- City Historian

Visit www.saratoga-springs.net for more information.

SNOW PLOW

As colder months continue and snow begins to fall, the Public Works department is asking residents to keep parked cars, trailers, and other items off of the streets. Doing so makes it easier for snow plows to get in and out of the streets, creates safer conditions for other residents, and keeps cars

from being trapped along the side of the road. Also, please be advised that snow plowing will commence once the accumulation of two inches of snow has fallen and

will continue after each accumulation of two inches. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact the Public Works Department at 766-6509.

"Snow plowing will commence once the accumulation of two inches of snow has fallen."



NORTH SHORE AREA PLANNING PROCESS

On October 18, during National Community Planning Month, the City held a meeting to introduce the new Planning Director, Jim McNulty, and department staff. Following this, a student group from the University of Utah led a discussion about the future of the North Shore Area. The city would like to craft a small area plan with input from residents to guide development in this portion of the community. The North Shore Project Area is bounded by the Jordan River on the West, the City's Annexation Boundary on the North, Loch Lomond Subdivision on the East and Utah Lake on the South.

The City of Saratoga Springs commissioned an energetic group of students to update the area's current land use map which presently designates this area for rural residential development. The City is considering what other types of development may be more suitable for the community's long range vision and goals. Issues discussed during the meeting include: future land use and potential zoning, development possibilities, transportation corridors, potential annexations, and environmental concerns.

Comments from residents indicated that the City should:

- Capitalize on the natural beauty of the North Shore area as both a local and regional water sports themed attraction,
- Expand the trail network for increased mobility,
- Use contemporary urban planning principles such as mixed-use zoning to address the city's commercial and residential needs, and use the area to create a "heart" or community center of activity that may include both entertainment and civic spaces.

The discussion and comments from community residents was invaluable in this process. The design of the Small Area Plan is now underway and a draft will be presented to the City Council on December 11, 2007 for consideration. The student group can be reached at:

crimsongroup07@gmail.com to provide input or ask questions. Planning staff can be reached at 766-6508.

REMINDER:
All comments for the Mountain View Corridor must be submitted by January 24, 2007.
UDOT Website:
www.udot.utah.gov

SARATOGA SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT EXPLORER POST

The Saratoga Springs Police Department (SSPD) is proud to announce the formation of a new program for the youth of the city. The Utah National Parks Council, of the Boy Scouts of America, is chartering the all-new POLICE EXPLORER POST for the City's new police department.

Police Chief Gary Hicken, with appointed advisors Corporal Aaron Rosen and Officer Derek Johnson, will be over-seeing the Explorers. The new Explorer Post is designed for youth between the ages of 14 -19, and who are residents of Saratoga Springs. The purpose of the organization is to provide a positive experience and exposure to youth who may be interested in the field of Law Enforcement.

Explorers can expect to become involved in various activities, including training relative to Law Enforcement (i.e.- tactical training, firearms orientation, emergency vehicle operations, criminal law and procedure, traffic control, radio procedure, and ride-alongs). Explorers will also assist Patrol Officers with various duties, such as: property checks, and traffic control. They will become a viable part of the SSPD Organization.

Students who are interested in joining the Post are required to maintain a 2.0 g.p.a., attend at least one meeting per month, be willing to assist in purchasing their equipment, and be of good moral character. Prospective applicants will be subjected to a background check prior to their appointment as a Saratoga Springs Police Explorer.

Meetings are planned for the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at the Saratoga Springs Police Department. For more information contact Corporal Aaron D. Rosen at 766-6503 x264 or at arosen@saratoga-springs.net.



Did You Know...

- **Come January 2008 Saratoga Springs will have its own Judicial Court System.**

The Back Page

A WORD FROM THE MAYOR

At a recent public policy session, City Council member Scott Kahn expressed concern over the fact that the police report listed a number of suicide attempts over the past several months. Everyone is grieved when a member of our community is injured or killed. It is doubly saddening when that loss and pain is the result of suicide, since it is so preventable.

In a document issued in May of this year ("Utah Suicide Prevention Plan"; available at: <http://www.intermountaininjury.org/>), the Utah Department of Human Services reports that Utah ranks eighth highest in the nation for deaths from suicide. (Utah's suicide rate is 17.08 per 100,000 persons compared to the national average of 10.75 per 100,000.)

It is troubling that this state - with its reputation for a wholesome, healthy, family centered lifestyle - has such a high suicide rate. The above mentioned report identifies some factors that may explain this phenomenon: "According to Utah studies, talking about suicide or symptoms of mental illness is perceived as a sign of weakness or failure, which makes any discussion of how to prevent suicide or seek treatment for symptoms of mental illness difficult for everyone."

Maybe the stoic self-reliance we regard as central to the Utah way of life gets in the way of recognizing danger, and seeking help for the mental illnesses that lead to suicide.

The desire to commit suicide is *almost always* a symptom of underlying mental illness. When mental illness (especially clinical depression) is not

recognized, is untreated, or undertreated, the risk of suicide soars.

As we learn to recognize suicide danger signs, our power to prevent tragedy increases. When we learn what mental health resources are available to those suffering from the despair and anguish of mental illness, our power to help is magnified. Lives *will* be saved.

A few weeks ago, a member of our administrative staff recognized suicidal intentions in an otherwise ordinary telephone conversation with a Saratoga Springs resident. A police officer then applied his training in suicide prevention and helped the resident find the medical care he needed. The resident later wrote a letter expressing gratitude for that intervention, declaring that if his situation

had not been recognized and assistance given, he would have taken his life that day.

I urge all of us to be aware of the signs of suicide risk so we can better recognize when our friends, family members, and neighbors (as well as ourselves) are in danger.

We also must know what services are available for dealing with suicide and other mental health crises.

In this season of thanksgiving and celebration, let us be mindful of those among us whose joy is dimmed

by the despair of mental illness. Let us do what we can to help them avoid the ultimate tragedy.

For a list of warning signs, please visit:

www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/publications/allpubs/walletcard/engwalletcard.asp

Sincerely,



Timothy L. Parker

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Get the Facts:

East-West Connector Study

The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) is conducting an open house for the East-West Connector Study that will be between Redwood Road and I-15. Come learn about possible alternative routes.

Public Open House

Thursday, December 6, 2007

5:00-7.30 p.m.

Snow Springs Elementary
School

850 South 1700 West, Lehi

Rockwell Charter High School is now accepting enrollments for students in August of 2008. For more information, or to enroll, visit www.rockwellhigh.net