

# Cedar City This Month

CEDAR CITY, UTAH, COMMUNITY UPDATE



FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2020

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor Maile Wilson-Edwards

community.

A few more events have announced they will be cancelling their 2020 season because of COVID-19. These include: The Renaissance Fair, the July Jamboree, the 24th of July Pioneer Day, and the 2020 USA Cycling Masters Road National Championship. Be sure to check our website or Facebook page for the latest information on these and many more events. Or you can visit the Tourism Bureau's website, [www.visitcedarcity.com](http://www.visitcedarcity.com) for a list of all the events that are planned (or cancelled) in the upcoming months.

One of the few events that are still planned this month is the 15th Annual Cedar Breaks National Monument Wildflower Festival, July 10th-19th. At the festival, you can participate in self-guided hikes that focus on the beautiful wildflowers and how to identify them. The Festival highlights include special activities on weekends and Zion Canyon Field Institute classes. The park admission fee of \$10 per person does apply. What better time to get out and enjoy nature than at this beautiful event! For more information, call (435)586-9451 or (435)586-0787. Or visit their website at [www.nps.gov/cebr](http://www.nps.gov/cebr).

The Cedar City Council, along with the Cedar City Chamber of Commerce, have joined together to create the Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant program. This program is administered by the Salt Lake Chamber Foundation and is

available for the small businesses in our community that are experiencing financial difficulties as a result of COVID-19.

Through this grant, the City Council hopes it will help small locally-owned businesses stay afloat, retain their employees and minimize their losses from this pandemic. During this crisis, many businesses have had to close their doors temporarily, some permanently, and small business owners in the community are encouraged to apply.

There is \$25,000 available to help support our locally-owned small businesses. Grant awards will be no more than \$1,000. In order to be eligible for this grant, your business must be licensed and located in the Cedar City municipal boundaries and have been in operation before January 1, 2020. Whether a person or organization has a Chamber membership will not be a factor in the selection of awards.

The application needs to be filled out completely, so they will be able to process it in a timely manner and as efficiently as possible. Any applications with missing information may not be accepted. To see if you are eligible or would like to apply, visit <https://www.cedarcitychamber.org/business-relief-fund-grant-application/>, or if you have questions, call the Cedar City Chamber of Commerce at (435)586-4484 or email them at [office@cedarcitychamber.org](mailto:office@cedarcitychamber.org).

Be sure to join SUMA at their upcoming exhibit planned for local artist, Jimmie F. Jones. This long-awaited retrospective will showcase art that spans Jones' life, from grade school through his landscape period (1976-2009). The exhibit will run from July 13th-September 12th, Monday-Saturday, 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. in the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA) located at 13 South 300 West here in Cedar City. Admission is FREE. For information, visit [www.suu.edu.suma](http://www.suu.edu.suma).

I would also like to personally thank the Cedar City Lion's Club and everyone involved for their hard work in putting on a spectacular 4th of July parade. Even during these unprecedented times and the challenges we all face, there is so much that we can be thankful for, and how honored we are to be living in the greatest country in the world. I am so proud to be the Mayor for our wonderful city, and I hope everyone had a fun and especially safe holiday!

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)



## PUBLIC WORKS

**AIRPORT:** Work is almost wrapped up on the Airport Runway Project. The contractor has started paving the north half of the runway and should be finished the 2nd week in July, 2020. We will then have a week to finalize the touch-up of the striping in the safety areas, and the Airport will reopen for service on July 19, 2020. Thanks to everyone who has made this project a great success, and thanks to all the pilots and businesses on the Airport for their patience during the construction process.

### \*GRAND REOPENING\*

The Airport will be holding a Grand Reopening of the Runway on July 18, 2020 between 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. with a ribbon cutting at 9:30 a.m. We have been granted special permission by the FAA to allow the community to come out and walk, skate or bike on the new runway. **EVERYONE IS INVITED.** Motorized vehicles will not be permitted inside the perimeter of the fence of the Airport. We encourage you to practice the 6-foot rule for social distancing. Masks are not required at this time but are encouraged.

**SOLID WASTE:** Our Solid Waste crew has noticed there has been a lot of trash left on the ground next to the trash cans. For the health and safety of our drivers, we do not pick up anything that is not inside the can. Remember to have your cans out by 7:00 AM, and don't rely on "the usual time" the truck comes by. With road maintenance, construction, utility work, etc., trucks can come earlier than you expect! Please keep cans at least 3 feet apart and 6 feet from vehicles and other objects so the truck can access your can.

**WATER:** Did you know?

- Water is the most common substance found on Earth.
- Water regulates the Earth's temperature.
- The driest half of our planet contains 85% of the world's population.
- If the entire world's water were to fit into a 4-liter jug, the fresh water available for use would equal only about 1 tablespoon.

To water well, timing is everything. Water in the early morning. It is cooler and winds tend to be calmer so water can soak into the soil and be absorbed by the grass roots before it can evaporate. Midday watering leads to wasteful evaporation. Just a reminder about water restrictions in Cedar City: Ordinance 37-7-1 prohibits the use of culinary water for irrigation between the hours of 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM every day beginning April 1st and continuing through October 31st. So far since April 1st, 2020, there have been 228 watering violations. Please follow the watering ordinance, and do your part to conserve this precious resource. Find out more about conservation tips from [conservewater.utah.gov](http://conservewater.utah.gov), [slowtheflow.org](http://slowtheflow.org) or check [waterwiseutah.org](http://waterwiseutah.org).

**STREETS:** Our street crews have started the annual road maintenance project. This year work will be in Area 5 and will begin July 13, 2020. Crews have been finishing up the remainder of Area 4 this past several weeks. Area 5 is west of I-15, south of Center Street and includes the Providence Center area and Eagle Ridge Subdivision.

The Public Works Department can help you with maintenance of streets, water lines, water meters, water leaks, sewer lines, missed trash pickups, replacement trash cans, streetlights, etc., but we can't help you set up new service, or pay bills. We're happy to forward these calls to the City Utilities Department, but to help save you frustration from being transferred from department to department, please call 435-586-2951 to ask questions about your utility bills, pay your bill or set up new services with the City.



## EAC EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH - JULY 2020 - AUSTIN BINGHAM



Austin has been nominated by his supervisor, Steve Carter, and Steve had this to say about him:

Austin has worked for Cedar City Corporation since 2013, where he began as a maintenance worker for the Parks Department. He then made the transition over to Cedar Ridge Golf Course in 2016 and is now the Assistant Golf Superintendent.

Austin is a great employee. He has many years experience in golf course maintenance, from time spent at Wasatch Mountain State Park while growing up in his home town of Heber, Utah. He made a short stop here at Cedar Ridge back in the early 2000's before returning to Wasatch where he was an assistant superintendent until 2013. His experience is like having another superintendent at Cedar Ridge.

Austin has a great work ethic and attitude. He has been instrumental in the great changes that have been taking place at Cedar Ridge. Since November, Cedar Ridge has been going through some irrigation renovations, and Austin has always been willing to do what is necessary as the project moved along. He will always come in if there is an emergency or an issue that arises at the golf course, which hopefully now that the front 9 irrigation is done, will not happen very often.

He is a great leader to the other employees at the golf course. There is nothing that he would not ask another employee to do, that he wouldn't do himself. He is very good at looking for things that can improve the conditions each day at the course and helping the other employees to do their best.

We are a better facility because of Austin, and he is very deserving of the employee of the month award.

## Rally in the Valley

**Wednesday, July 29, 2020 - Saturday, August 1st - 7:00 am-9:00 pm**

Join D & P Performance as they lead a variety of rides through the City and the surrounding area! Family appropriate atmosphere. Any brand of UTV, ATV, 4 wheeler, or motorcycle to participate!

You can pick to ride: 1) Bumble Bee/Pine Valley Mountain 2) Sydney Peak on Cedar Mountain or 3) Skull Canyon (difficult). We will all ride to Kolob Reservoir Saturday!

Schedule:

\*Wednesday – 4:00 pm -9:00 pm – registration

\*Thursday – 9:30 am – leave for rides

\*Friday – 9:30 am – leave for rides

\*Saturday – 9:30 am – leave for rides

Poker Run during ride

6:00 pm – included in your registration is dinner, Tiki Shack sno cones, family photos, and a raffle ticket.

Ride Description:

Ride #1: Day 1: Easy – Ranger Station (2000 Flushes and the Iron Mines)

Day 2: Parowan Gap Petroglyphs Ride

Ride #2: Easy – (Trailer ONLY) Red Desert Loop on Cedar Mountain

Ride #3: Advanced – Skull Canyon & Wild West

(Must have 32-inch tire, locker & winch. Expect body damage)

Cost is \$50 per person, 12yrs and under are FREE. Please register at [www.can-amcrew.com](http://www.can-amcrew.com), by purchasing an event t-shirt. Ride selection will be at the Can-Am Crew Booth during registration. For more information, call **(435)586-5172**.

*(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)*

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CITY MANAGER - PAUL BITTMENN

In the past year the Mayor and City Council have completed some remarkable projects to the benefit of Cedar City. Below are just some highlights of the approved and completed projects. These are some highlights, but there are many more wonderful things being accomplished under the leadership of the Mayor and Council on behalf of the citizens of Cedar City.

Beginning in approximately February of 2020 the Mayor and City Council decided to take advantage of the current economy and save money by refinancing some of the City's bonds. This was done in consultation with our financial advisors at Zions Public Finance and the help of State Bank of Southern Utah and J.P. Morgan Chase. There were four bonds that were targeted for refinancing.

First, the City's \$4,000,000 Stormwater revenue bond was originally issued in 2013. This bond was issued to finance development of the City's storm water infrastructure and is paid back with storm water user fees. Cedar City refinanced this bond from a 3.04% interest rate to a 2.09% interest rate. With the refinance this year the City saved \$107,031.17 over the life of the bond, or \$10,703.13 per year for the next 10 years.

Second, the City has a \$3,860,000 Water revenue bond that was originally issued in 2011. This bond was issued to finance the replacement of aged water infrastructure and is paid back with water user fees. Cedar City refinanced this bond from a 4.06% interest rate to a 2.23% interest rate. With the refinance this year the City saved \$158,121.85 over the life of the bond or \$14,374.71 per year for the next 11 years.

Finally, the City refinanced two general obligation bonds. These general obligation bonds are paid through a property tax assessment. The 2002 general obligation bond was for \$2,500,000 with an interest rate of 2.5%; the proceeds paid for a portion of the construction costs associated with the Library in the Park. The 2009 general obligation bond was for \$7,000,000 with an interest rate of 4%; the proceeds paid for a portion of the construction costs associated with the Aquatic Center. These bonds were refinanced to a 1.11% interest rate, saving \$650,584.36 over the life of the bond or \$40,661.52 per year over the next 15 years.

Bicentennial softball park has undergone some renovations over the past year. The concession stand and restrooms were rebuilt, the spaces between the fields have been renovated, shade structures have been added over the bleachers, the dugouts have been renovated, the parking lot has been re-surfaced and re-stripped, new playground equipment has been installed, new signage installed, and the entrance to the parking lot has been re-worked. These renovations have improved a facility that hosts local softball leagues for players of all ages and many tournaments throughout the warmer months of the year. The total cost for these renovations was \$676,911.06. A portion of the shade structure cost was paid with a generous donation from Iron County through the restaurant tax fund.

The Lake at the Hills is another recreation area that has been improved in the last year. A paved walking trail was constructed around the lake, and the parking lots are being paved. The walking trail is well used throughout the year. The addition of pavement to the parking lot and the walking trail has made it easier for persons with disabilities to go fishing and access one of the City's best recreational areas. The cost of these improvements is approximately \$81,777.94.

The Cedar Ridge Golf Course has provided a recreational amenity for golfers for over 50 years. Unfortunately, the irrigation system on the front 9 holes has served for the same amount of time. This system has declined in efficiency and increased in leaks throughout its life. This year the City replaced this irrigation system. The City started renovating the old system a number of years ago with upgraded computer controls and new irrigation systems around the greens. In this past year, the project has been completed with a new water storage pond, new supply lines, and new sprinkler heads located throughout the front 9. The entire project cost approximately \$2 million dollars. The City's consultants estimate the water savings with the new system to be between 20% and 30%, or an estimated savings between 100,000 and 200,000 gallons each time the system is ran. Watering time for the front 9 holes has been lowered from 13 hours to 9 hours, and staff will not have to fix leaks on an almost daily basis. This new system will serve Cedar City for many years to come.

Cedar City's Regional Airport is in the process of a major renovation over the past year. The Airport's main runway is being reconstructed. The Airport's secondary runway is being rehabilitated. The Airport's runway approach lighting system is being replaced. During this project more than 64,300 cubic yards of existing material will be excavated. The main runway is scheduled to be back up and running by July 18th. All of the above projects will cost approximately \$17.3 million dollars. The Federal Aviation Administration is paying for 95% and Cedar City is paying for 5%. Cedar City's Street Department has completed renovations on the north end of the airport as the City's local project match. By completing this work, the City's Street Department has saved the City an estimated \$875,000. Special thanks for all of the hard work the Street Department has completed.

The City's Street Department continued to provide spring clean-up services to the residents of Cedar City. This year the Street Department cleaned up approximately 4,944 tons of material. This saved citizens countless trips to the land fill. To deposit the same amount of material in the land fill would cost an estimated \$84,048. Thanks again to our Street crews for providing a great service at a great value to our citizens.

The Water Department has been looking to the future with the completed and pending purchase of 248-acre feet of underground water rights. This purchase costs in excess of \$900,000. All of these water rights have priority dates prior to 1934. In addition, the City picked up another ½ share of surface water in the South and West Field Irrigation Company.