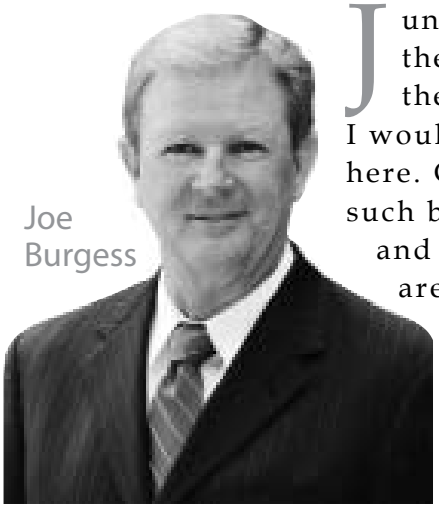
Festival City USA This Month

CEDAR CITY, UTAH, COMMUNITY UPDATE FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 2013

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Joe Burgess

June is here and for the next four months there is not anyplace I would rather be than here. Cedar City has such beautiful summers, and although there are many activities in our community all year long, when June arrives things really become busy. Utah Summer Games opening ceremonies will be on June 13th. The Utah Shakespeare Festival begins June 24th. Make sure you get your tickets for *Peter and the Starcatcher* early as it should be a great family production and you won't want to miss it. More information on this play and the other activities going on in our community can be found in the inside pages of the newsletter.

As always in the summertime, the good news is all the fun things to do, and the bad news is the projects that need to be completed during the warm weather, which can cause some inconvenience to our residents for a few weeks. City road crews have started resealing streets in the Leigh Hill area and have some to do north of 200 North and west of Main Street that weren't completed last year. The storm drain project on 300 West is moving right along, and should be completed by the first part of August. This should solve a good portion of our summer flooding problems.

The City is busy with many other infrastructure improvements as well. We will be opening bids for the upgrades on our wastewater treatment plant this month. If the bids come in like our most recent ones, we should be well within our budget. The land has been purchased to complete the trail system from Squaw Cave to the existing Canyon Park trail. When this phase is completed, the trail will extend from south Main Street to Canyon Park, up the canyon to Rusty's, and then northwest past the ball fields on Constitution Avenue. This will be a great addition to our trail system, and we hope to add more to it in years to come.

It has been fun the last few weeks to see all the use the new playground equipment at the Main Street Park is receiving. This is a welcome addition, and it already looks like the City's goal of increasing the usage of the park has been accomplished.

The Cedar City Family Festival will be August 23 - 24, and we'll post more information about it in next month's newsletter. This year the Festival will include a fun project that will help families improve their health this summer. A group of employees from the Utah State University Iron County Extension office have teamed up with the Family Festival to develop a family fitness challenge leading up to the Festival. The challenge begins June 10th and continues through August 17th. It consists of small changes families can make to create habits for a healthy life style. A cash grand

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Steve Carter selected

Golf Maintenance Supervisor Steve Carter has been selected as the Employee of the Month for June by the Cedar City Employee Advisory Committee. A ten year employee of Cedar City Corporation, Steve was nominated by Leisure Services Director Dan Rodgerson and Golf Director John Evans.

His nomination reads: "It is a privilege to nominate Steve Carter as Employee of the Month. Mr. Carter is essential to the overall operation and success of Cedar Ridge Golf Course. Steve has excellent work habits, high work standards, and a willingness to learn. Steve is very knowledgeable and eager to find better ways to improve the Golf Course for his staff and the customers' experience. He has proven to be a valued employee and leader and a tremendous asset to Cedar City Corporation."

Steve is originally from Blackfoot, Idaho and attended Utah State University where he majored in ornamental horticulture. Prior to being hired by the City, he worked at the Logan Golf and Country Club.

Steve has been married for 16 years and he and his wife, Marisa, have four children. His hobbies include golf (naturally), and spending time with his family. He said he has always been interested in farming and growing things and enjoys that part of his job. He also enjoys being outside each day and the variety of his job.

Congratulations Steve!

Public Works

CHIP SEAL: It is that time of the year when all the conditions are right to start the street maintenance projects. The Street Division will be doing chip seal and other street maintenance projects for the next few months. We realize this is an inconvenience, but we would ask for everyone's cooperation to make this go smoothly so we can get to as many roads as possible. The Street Department will try to send out courtesy fliers prior to any chip seal work being done. Please have all vehicles cleared off the street on those days so that we can get as much done as possible. For more details, you can call Jeff Hunter at 586-2967. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

WATER: The Water Department is asking for everyone's help during these hot summer months to utilize the system efficiently, and to do our part to conserve water for future generations. There are several practices initiated to do just that. Please remember that watering is to be done before 8 a.m. and after 6 p.m. These watering times are year round. Please try to keep the water off the sidewalks, and on the lawns, as much as possible. Watering for June should be ½ inch every 3 days.

WATER METERS: Please remember that it is against Cedar City ordinance for anyone other than the Cedar City Water Division to access water meters at residences. If the need to access the water meter arises, please call our office at (435) 586-2968, and a member of our Water Division crew would be happy to assist.

GARBAGE PICK-UP: Please place your garbage can(s) on the asphalt in front of the curb, not in the gutter, and away from cars for pick-up. Please make sure your cans are out on your pick-up day by 7 a.m. every week.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY: There is a growing concern about incompletely metabolized medicines getting into our waterways, lakes and aquifers, and the contribution that people are making to this problem by flushing unused medication down the toilets. Please help by using some of the following proper disposal techniques:

- The Police Department has an on-site pharmaceutical take-back and drop-off station. Call the Police Department for details at (435) 586-2956.
- Take unused prescription drugs out of their original containers and mix them with an undesirable substance, like used coffee grounds or kitty litter. Put them in impermeable, nondescript containers such as empty cans or sealable bags, and throw these containers in the trash.
- Contact your local pharmacy to inquire if they offer a pharmaceutical take-back program.
- NEVER flush prescription drugs down the toilet.

STREETLIGHTS: If you notice streetlight outages around the City, please notify our office by emailing the street light address and pole number, if possible, and your contact information to streetlights@cedarcity.org. You may also call our office at (435) 865-4510.

The Public Works office would like to remind you that any work done within the road right-of-way requires an encroachment permit which can be acquired at our office at 716 N. Airport Rd. We appreciate any comments or observations on any Public Works operations. Please call us at (435) 586-2912 x-300.

Festival (cont.)

But he still has much of that youthful faith and wonder that infuses this retelling of one of the world's most famous stories.

According to Vaughn, *Peter and the Starcatcher* celebrates what we love about theatre: "It takes a classic novel and turns it on its head in an inventive, fun way. It has a sense of adventure and innovation on par with what we do here at the Festival."

The play is guided by the spark of imagination that is in every young boy and girl, and in every fortunate adult. For instance, it uses props to help tell the story: a rope becomes a door frame, an ocean wave, or the bow of a ship; a bamboo stick becomes a spear or a cage to hold a crocodile; a flashlight becomes a piece of magic. Its imaginative theatricality will remind audiences of *The 39 Steps,* which Vaughn and David Ivers starred in during the 2010 season.

It also is a story about believing in who we are, having faith. "We need to believe in who we are," said Vaughn. "Peter Pan can defeat Captain Hook. Molly can fly. An orphan boy who has nothing learns that he has something to offer."

The entire play and all the roles are performed by twelve talented actors. The show also features two musicians, playing keyboards, and percussion. "There is a lot of music and sound," said Vaughn, "including musical interludes and the entire soundscape." That means when a box drops, the musicians provide the "thud"; when a door opens, they provide the "creak"; and when a group of manly sailors provide a kick line of "beautiful" mermaids, they provide the dance music.

In his director's notes Vaughn includes another quote from *Peter and the Starcatcher*. The line is at the end of the play and is spoken by the Boy as he and his companions look toward the future in the magical world of Neverland. "This is going to be one awfully big adventure."

Thus far, it has been a big adventure at the Festival. "It is like nothing I have ever done before," said Vaughn. "It is really fun, I have to say. We find ourselves laughing continually in rehearsal. It is a grand story told in a grand, theatrical way."

Soon the adventure will be in the hearts and imaginations of Festival audiences, and we who live here will have an opportunity to see it all firsthand. I hope we will all make this once-in-a-lifetime occasion part of our summer or fall plans.

Besides *Peter and the Starcatcher*, this year's Festival lineup includes Shakespeare's *King John*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *The Tempest*, and *Richard II;* the toe-tapping Cole Porter musical *Anything Goes*; the courtroom drama *Twelve Angry Me*n; and a musical featuring pop hits from the 1950s and '60s, *The Marvelous Wonderettes*. (Incidentally, *The Marvelous Wonderettes* was written by S.U.U. graduate and former Cedar City resident, Roger Bean.)

Tickets to all the plays are available online at www.bard.org, by calling 800-PLAYTIX, or by visiting the ticket offices in the Adams or Randall L. Jones theatres.

Coming up...

- **June 13 - Utah Summer Games Opening Ceremonies** at S.U.U. Eccles Coliseum - gates open at 7:30 p.m. - program begins at 8:30 p.m. - call (435) 586-7872 for tickets or go to www.utahsummergames.org for info
- **June 14 - 15 - Cedar City PRCA Rodeo** at Iron Rangers Arena - 8 p.m. - tickets available at Market Grill, Jolley's Ranchwear, and IFA Country Stores - For more info call (435) 635-7628
- **June 24 through October 19 - 52nd annual Utah Shakespeare Festival** - go to www.bard.org or call (435) 586-7878 for info
- **June 24 - 30 - 11th Annual Groovefest American Music Festival** - featuring art, music, vendors, and food - go to www.groovefestutah.com for schedule of events or call (435) 867-9800 for more info
- **June 28 - 29 - 12th Annual Cedar City Summer Arts Festival** at Main Street Park - featuring all styles of visual art, food booths, and live entertainment - call (435) 865-8420 or (435) 531-3089 for more info
- **July 4 - Cedar City Independence Day Celebration** - Parade at 9:30 a.m. followed by activities at Main Street Park - for more info call (435) 463-5501 or (435) 559-4877
- **July 6 - Third Annual Fire Road Cycling Race** on Cedar City Main Street - 8 a.m. - beginning this year, Fire Road Cedar City will have 25 qualifying slots for the iconic Leadville Trail 100 MTB Race - for info contact paul.huddle@gmail.com or go to www.FireRoadCycling.com.

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prize will be awarded to the winning family. For more information, or to sign up, go to cedarcityfamilyfestival.com.

June is the perfect month to spotlight the Leisure Services Department. Dan Rodgerson is the Department Director. A graduate of Brigham Young University, Dan has worked for Cedar City for a little over a year, and has 15 years prior experience working in recreation in both the public and private sector.

Leisure Services consists of five divisions: The Aquatic Center, Golf Course, Cross Hollows Arena, Parks and Cemetery, and Sports and Recreation. There are 15 full-time staff and up to 120 part-time seasonal staff during the summer months. Division managers are: Derek Bryan, Aquatic Center; John Evans, Golf Course; Larry Olds, Cross Hollows Arena; Wally Davis, Parks and Cemetery; and Marlene Barth, Sports and Recreation.

The Leisure Services Department manages hundreds of activities, programs, and special events throughout the year. The Department also closely coordinates with other major groups to ensure smooth operation of events and programs which occur within the City. The following amenities are also managed by the L.S. Department: the Cedar City Community Center, Cross Hollows Equestrian Event Center, Cedar Ridge Golf Course, Lake at the Hills Complex, Park Discovery, and more than a dozen community parks. The Department also maintains over five miles of paved trails, 17 athletic fields, and the Cemetery.

The Department has many special programs including karate, youth & adult basketball, youth T-ball and machine pitch, tumbling, archery, kayaking, and too many others to list. Some of the events that are sponsored by Leisure Services include: The Main Street Mile, Hershey's Track and Field, Flashlight Teen Easter Egg Hunt, Polar Plunge, Moon Walk, Get Out & Ride Skateboard Exhibition, golf tournaments, and a variety of other events. More information on activities sponsored by Leisure Services can be found on the City website at www.cedarcity.org.

The Leisure Services Department welcomes your comments and suggestions. Please call (435) 865-9223, or visit the office at the Aquatic/Community Center at 2090 W. Royal Hunte Drive.

The Utah Shakespeare Festival opens at the end of June, and this summer the residents of Cedar City and the surrounding area are once again going to have the opportunity to see theatre history in the making. The Utah Shakespeare Festival will present the regional premiere of *Peter and the Starcatcher*, which tells the tale of the Neverland you never knew, and will play at the Festival from June 24 to October 19.

This is a major feather in the cap of the Festival and Cedar City. The play, originally produced on Broadway, won five Tony Awards in 2012. It will be starting a national tour this fall, but its regional premiere will be in Cedar City. That means, unless you happened to see it on Broadway, this will be your only chance for quite some time to see this fun family play. And the same will be true for thousands of other theatre-goers across the country who will be flocking here this summer for the opportunity.

Peter and the Starcatcher is a theatrical prequel to the much-loved *Peter Pan*. It tells a story much like the story of Oz-before-the-wizard in the popular musical *Wicked*. It relates the story before Wendy flew off to Neverland with Peter Pan and the lost boys—how Peter got his name, how Tinker Bell and Captain Hook came to be, and how Neverland was created.

When director Brian Vaughn talks about *Peter and the Starcatcher*, which he obviously loves, he almost always starts with one of his favorite lines from the play: "To have faith is to have wings." When he quotes that line (uttered in the play by the heroine, Molly), it is difficult to tell if he is talking about the play or himself. In fact, when asked, he doesn't make much of a distinction. He is certainly not Peter Pan; he is grown up, with a family, a job, and responsibilities.

(SEE 'FESTIVAL' ON PAGE 3)