

TOWN OF SPRINGDALE

AUGUST 2022

ESTD 1862



From Mayor Bruno

THE TRUTH ABOUT RUMORS

About 30 years ago, I was having a conversation with my older sister and she said something I thought was rather hard to believe. When I asked her where she heard that, she told me she had read it in the National Enquirer magazine. I suggested that it might still be untrue, and she said (very seriously) that "they can't print something that's not true."

I think today we can all agree that "they" can print things that are not true (although I haven't checked in with my sister on this point). There are facts, and there are often "alternative facts." Sometimes truth is simply a matter of perspective. I think it's true that I speak loudly enough for anyone to hear me, and my husband thinks it's true that I don't. And opinions are just that -- opinions. They are neither true nor false.

Notwithstanding all of this, Springdale is a small town and rumors spread quickly. A recent example of an untrue rumor that many people believed was that we were dredging the Virgin River. We were actually dredging our settlement pond for our culinary water supply in order to remove sludge and increase capacity. Another untrue rumor was that the Town Council had made the decision to build a history center at the George Barker River Park. We had merely made a decision to begin a process to get public input on the idea.

(Continued on page 4)

springdaletown.com

118 Lion Boulevard
Springdale, UT 84767

An Ongoing Conversation about Water *Incentives & Rebates*

Water conservation can take many forms. Over the past couple months, we've provided several ideas that can help reduce water use during the excessive drought. This month we want to talk about incentive programs that can help cover some out-of-pocket costs.

Two incentive programs are available in our area through Utahwatersavers.com, a toilet replacement and a smart irrigation controller program. Toilets that use more than 1.6 gallons per flush and are installed in homes built before 1994 should qualify for the incentive. Old toilets are a leading cause of wasted water, either through leaks or more gallons per flush than needed.

Smart irrigation controllers can help save water by adjusting watering based on local weather and landscape needs. Landscaping water is also a major cause of wasted water for many reasons including watering when it's not necessary, watering too much and allowing water to runoff, or sprinklers that are not adjusted and spray impermeable surfaces.

A water check analyzes the efficiency of your sprinkler system, along with soil type, grass root depth, water pressure, and precipitation rates. Properties in Washington County are eligible for a free water check. Call 435-673-3617 to schedule an appointment.

More information on these rebates and programs can be found at <https://utahwatersavers.com/>. You'll need to make an account to access information on rebates and will need a copy of your water bill to create the account. You can also get information on water use, conservation, tools and other resources at <https://slowthewflow.org/>. Thanks for helping to conserve this most precious resource.

Aeration for Healthy Lawn and Trees

Aerating is simply perforating the soil with small holes to allow air, water, and nutrients to reach the grassroots. The aerating process also helps improve compacted soils, develop stronger roots, increase fertilizer effectiveness, and improve water movement. Before aerating, water the lawn to soften the soil. The Parks



Department tries to aerate once a month due to the clay in our soil and high foot traffic in our parks. We have noticed that doing this has improved our soil and allowed for healthier lawns. It has

allowed our lawns to have less runoff because the soil is softer and allows the water to percolate deeper into the soil. Aeration can also be good in planters and around trees.

Happy Aerating!



What's the Difference Between a Public Meeting and a Public Hearing?

Nearly all the work conducted by public bodies is performed in meetings or hearings that are open to the public. By definition, a public body is created by ordinance or resolution, consists of at least two persons, expends or is supported by tax revenue, and is vested with the authority to make decisions regarding Town business. The Town of Springdale has five public bodies including the Town Council, the Planning Commission, the Historic Preservation Commission, the Appeal Authority, and the Art Review Board.

The *Open and Public Meetings Act* ([Utah Code Title 52 Chapter 4](#)) declares that the “people’s business” must be conducted in an open and public manner. This Act protects the public’s right to listen to and watch the deliberations and actions of those who represent them. Generally, all parts of a meeting are required to be open and public. There are, however, a few circumstances when a portion of a meeting may be closed to the public including for the discussion of pending or reasonably imminent litigation, for the purchase/sale/exchange of real property, or to consider the character/professional competence of an individual.

When a *public meeting* is scheduled, the public is invited to come and watch the decision-making process but not to actively participate or speak. By contrast, during a *public hearing*, the public has the right to speak, give information, and share their opinions during the time in the hearing procedure when public comments are accepted. A public meeting can be held without a public hearing, but a public hearing can only be conducted in a public meeting.

To conduct a public meeting, there must be a quorum (or simple majority) of the public body members present. A gathering of two officials by themselves when no formal or informal action is taken is not considered a meeting. Neither is a meeting between one or two members of a public body and a member of Town staff. It is not improper or uncommon for two members of a public body to discuss a matter without it being a meeting.



Public hearings are not scheduled randomly. The law requires public hearings are held for specific reasons such as consideration of budget issues or the enactment of land use ordinances. The law also requires that a public hearing is properly noticed. Generally, notice must be provided 7-10 days in advance of the public hearing. Notice of a public meeting only requires a minimum of 24-hour advance notice. Normally Springdale provides notice of a public meeting 3-5 days in advance including the agenda and packet material. This information is posted on the Town’s website for the community to conveniently access.

You may recall recent public hearings were conducted to adopt the General Plan, approve the new fiscal year budget, and consider a zone change. These issues were all related to budget or land use items. On the other hand, public hearings were not scheduled for changes to animal trapping, policies about hydrant meters, and the prohibition of open fires and fireworks.

Although the chair of the meeting can set reasonable limits on the time each person is allowed to speak, public hearings are an opportunity for public officials to listen. They are not a time for public officials to debate with speakers, correct misstatements, or answer questions. Understanding that some issues can be contentious, people on both sides of the dais are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous, civil manner. We may not all agree but we need to respect each other and the public process.

Even if a public hearing is not scheduled for a certain item, members of the public can always submit written comments or reach out to their public officials prior to a meeting. The opinions and thoughts of the community are drivers in the decision-making process. Public officials were elected or appointed to represent you; engage with them, and with staff, to stay informed and better understand the public process.



A New Crisis Hotline: 988

All Utahns need to know - you are not alone. When things get tough, please reach out for help.

Now anyone can call or text 988 to reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. When people call, text, or chat 988, they will be connected to trained counselors that are part of the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network. These trained counselors will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources if necessary.

The current Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-TALK) will always remain available to people in emotional distress or suicidal crisis, even after 988 is launched nationally.

We're grateful to Rep. Chris Stewart and Sen. Orrin Hatch for taking this Utah idea and making it a reality for the nation. We'd also like to give a well-deserved shoutout to Utah Sen. Daniel Thatcher and so many others for leading in this space. This change will save countless lives.



NPS & Regional Partners Contain Fire

Wildland firefighters successfully contained the ~17-acre Kolob Upper Fire on Friday, July 22, 2022. This means the Kolob Terrace Road is again fully open to drivers. Traffic had been guided by a pilot car to allow space on the road for wildland firefighters to work. Zion extends special thanks to our interagency partners:

- Bureau of Land Management
- US Forest Service
- Hurricane Valley Fire
- State of Utah

As you already know, during hot, dry conditions, everyone can take simple steps to reduce the chances of accidentally starting a wildfire. It is especially important to remember:



Photo courtesy of NPS

- Don't build campfires in the park when fire use is restricted (fires are not allowed in most Zion campgrounds now and are **never** allowed in Wilderness).
- Secure trailer chains to make sure they don't drag and spark a fire.
- Keep trailers and RVs properly maintained, including tire pressure.
- Don't park a hot car or recreational vehicle in dry grass.



Music Festival Tickets for 'Locals'

The Town of Springdale is happy to announce that we have partnered with The Zion Canyon Music Festival to provide free Friday night tickets to residents and workers of Springdale. Tickets can be picked up at the town offices and are limited to four per person. Pick yours up before they are gone. Please do not share the tickets with non-residents, guests, or customers.

These tickets are intended to be a special gift to the people of the canyon, so please respect our desire to keep the tickets local. The Zion Canyon Music Festival takes place on September 23rd and 24th at the O.C. Tanner Amphitheater.

More information can be found at zioncanyonmusicfestival.com.



The Night Sky and Why It's "For the Birds"

When most people think about the night sky, they usually think of stars/planets/solar systems, etc. Something many people do not consider is the role it plays with birds. Did you know that every spring and fall billions of birds migrate through the US and that most of these are nighttime migratory birds? Because of this, we are seeing problems arise with regard to light pollution and these nighttime migratory birds.

Nighttime migratory birds rely on the stars to help them navigate, and when they see lights through windows, it confuses them and causes bird collisions. This has become a major cause of death among these birds and reducing the number of these bird collision deaths is very attainable. Simply reducing light pollution during peak migration times can have a dramatic impact on the number of bird collisions.

While this is a problem that is much more prevalent in urban areas, we can still do our part here in Springdale to make a difference. A lot of research has been done on the migratory pattern of these birds and we can now track their patterns using radar. These patterns are available to anyone and can be found at <https://birdcast.info/>. Below, is a list of *Lights Out Guidelines* that residents can do during peak migration times:

- Keep lights off, low, long, or shielded during migration, 11 pm-6 am
- Do not use landscape lighting to light up trees or gardens where birds may be resting.
- For essential lights (like security and safety lighting) use the following dark skies friendly lighting practices:
 - Aim lights down;
 - Use lighting shields to direct light downwards and avoid light shining into the sky or trees;
 - Use motion detectors and sensors so lights are only on when you need them; Close blinds at night to reduce the amount of light being emitted from windows.
- You can find examples of dark skies friendly lighting from the International Dark Sky Association and additional guidance and language regarding dark skies from the McDonald Observatory's dark skies resources and recommended lighting practices.
- If you own or manage a building, consider the following for custodial services:
 - Consider adjusting custodial schedules to end by 11:00 pm.
 - Ask custodial staff to ensure that lights are off after they leave work.

Much of this information is taken from an [International Dark Sky presentation](#) on July 21, 2022, presented by Julia Wang from The Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

Back into the Swing of Things

Springdale Elementary is opening its doors after a wonderful summer vacation. The first day of school will be August 11. We are so excited to welcome our students, and get back into the swing of things.

Our theme this year is "Rise Up," and we are ready to meet the challenge! There have been quite a few long-awaited changes to the building over the last several months. Stay tuned for a community open house date. If you would like to contribute to our students by sharing your time, talents, or resources we have many opportunities available including our community garden, art programs, after-school activities, and much more. Let's "Rise Up" together!



Rumors

(continued from page 1)

I want to remind you that (1) just because someone says something, that doesn't make it true, (2) just because someone puts something in writing, that doesn't make it true, and (3) just because someone gives or reads a speech in a public meeting, that doesn't make it true. Please, please, please, don't spread rumors. Verify before you believe. Give others the benefit of the doubt. Be kind. Be fair. Be neighborly.

And don't read the National Enquirer.

— BARBARA
 bbruno@springdale.utah.gov
 801-243-5861

Springdale Town Community Calendar

AUGUST 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	01 6:30pm-7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous Gallery Show: Tony Moreton and Jane Moreton	02 5:30PM-6:30PM Al-Anon Gallery Show: Tony Moreton and Jane Moreton	03 5 - 7pm Planning Commission Work Meeting Gallery Show: Tony Moreton and Jane Moreton	04 Gallery Show: Tony Moreton and Jane Moreton	05 Gallery Show: Tony Moreton and Jane Moreton	06
07 8:30AM Catholic Service	08 6:30pm-7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	09 5:30PM-6:30PM Al-Anon Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	10 5 - 7pm Town Council Regular Meeting Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	11 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	12 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	13 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff
14 8:30AM Catholic Service Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	15 6:30pm-7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	16 5:30PM-6:30PM Al-Anon Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	17 5 - 7pm Planning Commission Regular Meeting Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	18 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff 5:00PM Artist Reception- Bruce VanderWerff	19 9AM-2PM Community Blood Drive 9PM MOVIE IN THE PARK- In the Heights Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	20 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff
21 8:30AM Catholic Service Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	22 6:30pm-7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	23 5:30PM-6:30PM Al-Anon Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	24 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	25 4PM Public Art Engagement Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	26 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	27 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff
28 8:30AM Catholic Service Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	29 6:30pm-7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	30 5:30PM-6:30PM Al-Anon Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	31 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	01	02	03

SEPTEMBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	01 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	02 FACILITES NOT AVAILABLE FOR RENTALS Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	03 FACILITES NOT AVAILABLE FOR RENTALS Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff
04 FACILITES NOT AVAILABLE FOR RENTALS 8:30AM Catholic Service Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	05 FACILITES NOT AVAILABLE FOR RENTALS 6:30pm-7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	06 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	07 Mayor's Bring Your Own Lunch 12PM-2PM 5 - 7pm Planning Commission Work Meeting Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	08 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	09 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff	10 Gallery Show: Bruce Vanderwerff

Canyon Community Center Class Calendar

126 Lion Blvd, Springdale

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Scan the QR code below or visit springdaletown.com/454/Fitness-Wellness-Classes to do any of the following:

- Purchase a CCC Wellness Loyalty Card
- Pay a single Wellness class drop-in fee
- Sign a class waiver

Scan the QR code below or visit springdaletown.com/467/Workshops to do any of the following:

- Purchase an Art Workshop Loyalty Card
- Pay a single Art Workshop drop-in fee



FIRST FITNESS/WELLNESS CLASS IS FREE

LOCAL ARTIST TALK IS FREE

BINGO IS ALWAYS FREE

Paint Night @ the Library



Thursday
August 4th @
6:30 p.m.



Space is limited. Please register in advance

- 435-772-3676
- anna.weyher@washco.utah.gov

**THE EVENT IS OPEN TO PATRONS 18 AND OLDER.
ALL MATERIALS ARE PROVIDED.**



ART IS ELECTRIC! PUBLIC ART ENGAGEMENT EVENT

Electrical Box Art Project

Join us Thursday, **August 25th** from **4:00 pm – 5:30 pm** to learn more about the project to wrap electrical boxes throughout Springdale with unique, public art. The event will be led by art instructor Lanell Dike to help us brainstorm ideas, work through different art exercises, and consider what is possible. **Additional project details and design submission timelines will be shared.**

If you have questions, send us an email at:
springdale.public.art@gmail.com

A Unique Art Project
Open to Everyone!

Enhance the Beauty
and Vibrancy of
Springdale!

Artists of All Levels
Are Invited!

Help Promote
Community Pride!

Design Theme:
What I Love About
Springdale!

CANYON COMMUNITY
CENTER

**126 Lion Blvd.
Springdale, UT 84767**

**Thurs., Aug. 25th from
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm**