

TOWN OF SPRINGDALE

Property Tax

After attending a session on property tax at the Utah League of Cities and Towns conference in Salt Lake City last month, I took a closer look at my 2025 property tax bill. I see that my Springdale Town taxes are only \$125.39. The biggest chunk of my taxes goes to the school fund, a total of \$3,324.46. Another big chunk (\$483.59) goes to the Hurricane Valley Fire District, but that should be reduced next year after the sales tax on EMT services is implemented.

I don't have children in the Washington County School District (and never did), so I don't get much for my contribution to the school fund. I'm happy to support the system, and I appreciate the District's commitment to keeping our little school in Springdale. I wish we had more families to fill it up.

Without question, the best bang for my buck is the Springdale tax. For that small annual contribution, I get all of this:

- George Barker River Park, Town Park, and Town Plaza
- Well-maintained roads
- 24/7 police protection
- Community Center with art classes, exercise classes, speakers, and performing artists
- An annual Town birthday party
- An annual senior birthday party
- Night sky events
- Miscellaneous events and services

I'm sure I missed some things, but you get the idea.

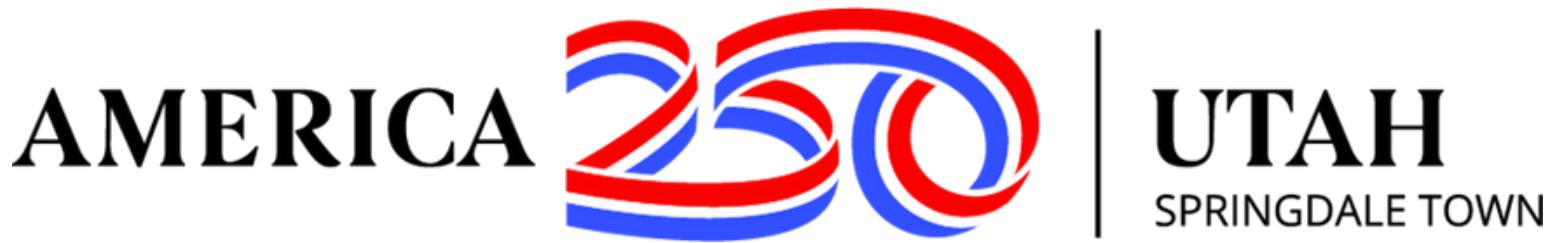
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BUTCH CASSIDY 10K/5K ROAD CLOSURE

There will be temporary road closures Saturday, November 8th on the SR-9 Highway for the Butch Cassidy 10K/5K Race from 8:30AM to approximately 10:45AM. The road closure will start on SR-9 near the Driftwood Lodge in Springdale, down SR-9 to Bridge Road in Rockville. As well as a closure on Grafton Road to the finish line in Grafton.

Please plan accordingly!





Springdale supports America250 events, volunteer initiatives, and service projects, including those that combine these elements. The founding of our nation in 1776 was more than a political revolution; it was a collective community endeavor. Ordinary citizens united in pursuit of shared ideals, liberty, equality, and the establishment of a government by and for the people.

This same spirit of service continues to inspire our communities today.

As the United States approaches its 250th anniversary, Springdale encourages the community to uphold our foundational values through action, service, and civic engagement to strengthen our community. Below are America250 opportunities within Springdale and Utah.

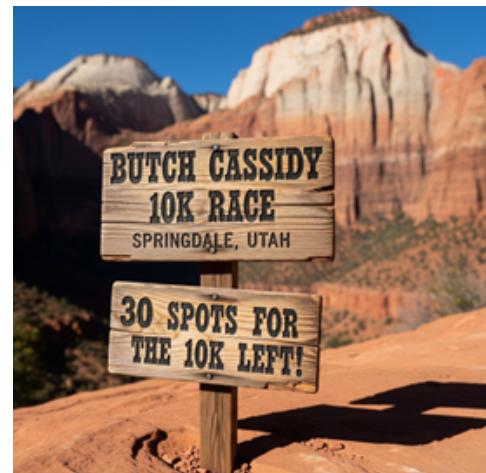
- Butch Cassidy 5K/10K combined with the Walk250 Challenge.

The Walk250 Challenges every Utahn to complete 250 miles of outdoor exercise between July 2025 and July 2026. Visit

<https://america250.utah.gov/walk250/> to review the Walk250 Challenge.

Kick off this challenge by participating in Butch Cassidy 5K/10K (hurry only 30 spots left for the 10K) on November 8th! Register with code LOCALS for \$5 off at

<https://www.raceentry.com/races/butch-cassidy-10k-5k-/2025/register>



- Sock-Tober - During October, take intentional action to help others by dropping off any sizes of new socks at the Canyon Community Center. All donated socks will be given to the Dove Center.
- Wreaths Across America - Volunteer for Wreaths Across America on December 20th. Email Robyn Sanders at rsanders@springdale.utah.gov to volunteer
- The Giving Tree Wrapping Party - Volunteer to wrap presents for children in the Greater Zion area. Email Ryan Gubler rgubler@springdale.utah.gov for more information
- Celebrate Springdale's 66th Birthday on March 6th - more details to come
- Speaker Series - We will have the opportunity to listen to professional speakers. More information to come
- The Pen is Mightier: Writing a Revolution Exhibit- An exhibit communicating in the pursuit of life, liberty, and happiness. The traveling exhibit will visit the Springdale Canyon Community gallery in November 2026.
- Stargazing - dates and details to come
- Check out Washington County's America250 page <https://www.america250wc.com/>
- Check out Utah Events' page <https://america250.utah.gov/events/>



Town of Springdale Employees of the Year 2025



Congratulations to Niall Connolly, Robert George, and Raylynn Akkerman as the 2025 Town of Springdale Employees of the Year! These individuals have been recognized by their peers and by the community for their dedication to their work, their commitment to the community, and for their positive impact on their colleagues. We are lucky to have such amazing staff working for the Town!

Property Tax

(Continued from page 1)

Springdale has not raised its tax rate in at least 22 years. We collect about \$80,000 per year in property taxes, and the rest of our revenue comes from sales tax, resort tax, and transient room tax. We may not always love our visitors, but they certainly provide us great amenities and services. They also pay for our Town staff so we have people to maintain those amenities.

Cities and towns are a level of government that never has an off-season and never shuts down. We are fortunate to get our work and services for such a small personal cost.

BARBARA

bbruno@springdale.utah.gov

801-243-5861



Updates on the George A Barker River Park Expansion Project

Over the past several weeks, there have been several key updates on the George A Barker River Park expansion project.

Plans for Phase 1 as Approved by the Town Council in June 2024 Regular Meeting

Based on the public input received during the design stage of the project, Phase 1 will retain the existing character of the River Park, with some important enhancements. Phase 1 will also extend the Park in its current character into the adjacent town-owned vacant property. Specifically, Phase 1 of the River Park expansion will include:

- Improvements to the existing parking lot to allow for more logical flow and parking configuration while keeping the existing Mother Earth statue in place.
- Improvements to the existing restroom, a 25-year-old structure in need of some updates, but retaining the existing building.
- Irrigation and drainage improvements to allow more efficient use of irrigation water and better management of stormwater.
- Additional landscaping, consistent with the character of the existing park, to open up the newly acquired parcel and create usable park space for patrons.
- Additional benches, trash cans, foot paths, and picnic tables.



Updates on Project Funding

Earlier this year, the Town was awarded \$200,000 for this project from the Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation as part of their Community Parks and Recreation Grant. More recently, the Washington County Commission committed \$684,000 as a grant to help fund phase 1 of the project (and an additional \$566,000 for a future phase 2). These grants, coupled with funding from Town Park Impact Fees, RAP Tax reserves, and the Town General Fund, will allow the first phase of this project to be completed debt-free. A budget amendment regarding this funding will be proposed to Town Council and voted on in the November 2025 Regular Meeting. At the same meeting, the Town Council will also be voting on an interlocal agreement between the Town and Washington County for the previously mentioned \$684,000 county grant.

Timeline

Following the Town Council's action in November's meeting, several steps remain to move the project to construction, including advertising for the construction portion of the project, a design development review in January's Planning Commission regular meeting, and bidding and selecting a contractor. Once a contract is awarded by the Town Council for construction of the project, we anticipate a 10-to-12-month period between beginning and end of construction.

Phase 2 of this project is still pending based on future funding. Additional updates will be provided as information becomes available. If you have any questions, please contact Director of Parks and Recreation Ryan Gubler at rgubler@springdale.utah.gov or at 435-772-3434 ext. 312.

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)

In the document from HVFSSD chief Joe Decker spells out information on the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) that was passed by the Utah legislature in HB48. After talking with Joe, I have some updates and will attempt to answer some of the questions residents might have about the effects of HB48 on their property.

Right now, HB48 has a map of Washington county that shows the whole county as being red. That means it is all in Zone 3 (see Joe's information for what this means). We know and the state knows that this is not the case. HB48 also says that each municipality must adopt the WUI code by the end of this year. The good news is that the bill is going back into the special session of the legislature in November. Joe says that the legislature is going to change the municipal adoption date from the end of 2025 to the end of 2026. So, there is a little breathing room. One of the reasons for this is that the county must send an inspector to each property to assess which Zone that property falls under. This will not start until after the first of the year. Once all the properties are inspected, the map will change and the zones will be more applicable to the actual property. As an example, Joe thinks that all the property that is near SR-9 will be in Zone 1 because of all the buildings and the pavement and lawns around those buildings. He thinks that the properties in the foothills of Springdale will probably be in Zone 2. And if foothill property owners do mitigation on their property, that could be lowered to Zone 1.

Hurricane Valley Fire department has hired a new wildland fire chief. He starts on October 27. Joe said that if residents request an inspection of their property from HVFSSD after the new chief starts, they will come for free and inspect your property to tell you what you need to do to mitigate the fire danger to your structures.

-Randy Aton

The Springdale Town Council will be discussing this in November, but will not take action prior to the special legislative session.

Fire Chief
Joseph Decker

Treasurer
Megan Ayala

Clerk
Melinda Falaniko



Deputy Chief
Kohl Furley

Deputy Chief
Nicholas Wright

Fire Marshal
John Postert

✉️ From the Chief's Desk: Protecting Our Community in the Wildland–Urban Interface

Chief Joe Decker – Hurricane Valley Fire District

Living Safely Where We Love to Live

As Hurricane Valley continues to grow, more homes are being built in the Wildland–Urban Interface (WUI) — the area where our neighborhoods meet the natural vegetation of southern Utah's desert and foothills. These settings are beautiful, but they also bring higher wildfire risk.

Our mission at Hurricane Valley Fire District is to protect lives, property, and the natural beauty that surrounds us. Wildfire safety in the WUI starts long before a fire begins — it starts with awareness, preparation, and defensible space.

🔥 Understanding the WUI

The Wildland–Urban Interface is where homes and infrastructure border flammable vegetation such as brush, grass, or forest. In these areas, fire can move quickly between the wildland and residential zones. Wind-driven embers can ignite roofs, decks, or dry vegetation in seconds.

By planning ahead and reducing hazards around our homes, we can make the difference between a small fire and a devastating loss.

🌿 Defensible Space: Your Home's First Line of Defense

Defensible space is the buffer between your home and the surrounding vegetation. It slows or stops the spread of fire and gives firefighters a safe place to defend your property.

Zone 1 – 0 to 5 feet:

Keep this area completely free of combustible materials. Use gravel or stone instead of bark mulch, and keep roofs, decks, and gutters clear of debris.

Zone 2 – 5 to 30 feet:

Space trees and shrubs, prune lower branches, and remove dead vegetation.

Zone 3 – 30 to 100 feet:

Thin dense vegetation, mow tall grasses, and maintain open areas to slow an advancing fire.

🏛️ Utah H.B. 48 (2025): Strengthening WUI Standards

In 2025, the Utah Legislature passed **House Bill 48 – Wildland–Urban Interface Modifications**, a major step forward for wildfire prevention across the state.

This law:

- Defines WUI zones and standardizes wildfire-risk terminology statewide.
- Requires cities and counties to adopt the Utah Wildland–Urban Interface Code, ensuring new construction meets ignition-resistant standards.
- Directs the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands to create a statewide wildfire-risk mapping tool for public use.
- Improves transparency between property owners and insurers regarding wildfire risk.
- Allows jurisdictions to require additional fire-safety features—like sprinklers or ignition-resistant materials—when homes don't meet WUI code standards.

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Most provisions take effect on **January 1, 2026**, giving local communities time to align codes and educate residents.

What This Means for Hurricane Valley Residents

The message is clear: **wildfire prevention begins at home**. You can make a difference today by taking these steps:

- Review your property and improve defensible space.
- Use fire-resistant materials when remodeling or building.
- Keep driveways and access routes clear for emergency vehicles.
- Ensure your address is visible from the street.
- Stay informed about local wildfire-risk maps and code updates.

Our firefighters are ready to respond, but the most effective fire protection begins with preparation and prevention.

Homeowner Tip Box: Small Changes, Big Impact

- Replace wood shake roofs with fire-rated materials.
- Screen attic and crawl space vents with 1/8-inch metal mesh.
- Store firewood and propane tanks at least 30 feet from the home.
- Clear gutters and decks regularly during fire season.
- Keep a 100-foot clearance from tall dry grasses or brush.

Together, We Build Resilience

Every homeowner in the Wildland–Urban Interface plays a vital role in protecting our community. By maintaining defensible space, using ignition-resistant materials, and staying aware of local wildfire risks, we can all help keep **Hurricane Valley** safe.

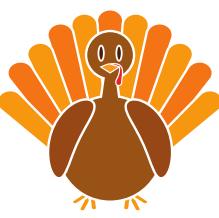
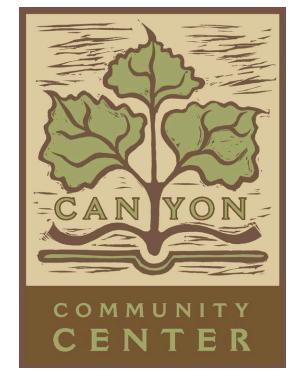
Thank you for doing your part to make our community stronger and more fire-resilient.

Stay alert. Stay prepared. Stay resilient.

— *Chief Joe Decker*

Hurricane Valley Fire District

November CCC Classes/Programming Calendar



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

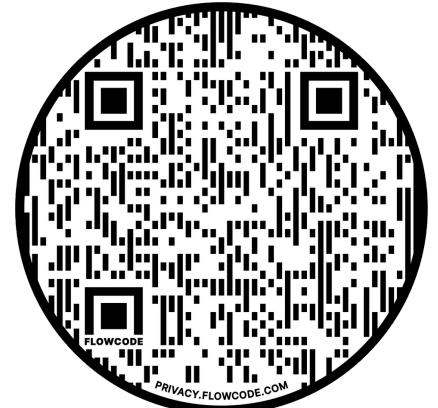
THURSDAY

FRIDAY

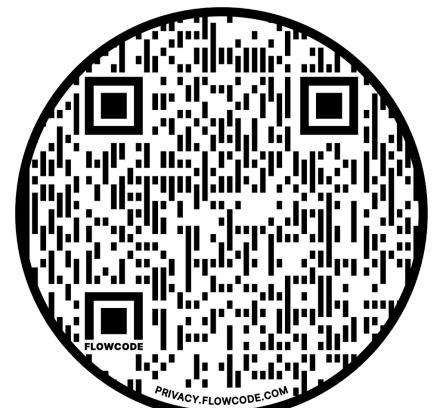
SATURDAY

							1
2	3pm-5:30pm Art Workshop- Open Studio: Make Art Live to be 100	3	NO HIGH FITNESS NO YOGA 2pm-4pm Knitting/Crochet/ Craft Group	4		5	
							6
							7
							8
9	3pm-5:30pm Art Workshop- Open Studio: Make Art Live to be 100	10	CLOSED- VETERAN'S DAY 8am-9am High Fitness	11		12	
							13
							14
							15
16	3pm-5:30pm Art Workshop- Open Studio: Make Art Live to be 100	17	NO HIGH FITNESS 10am-11:15am Yoga- Claire 2pm-4pm Knitting/ Crochet/ Craft Group	18		19	
							20
							21
							22
23	3pm-5:30pm Art Workshop- Open Studio: Make Art Live to be 100	24	8am-9am High Fitness 10am-11:15am Yoga- Claire 2pm-4pm Knitting/ Crochet/ Craft Group	25		26	
30							27
							28
							29

To purchase a CCC Wellness Loyalty Card, pay to attend a single class or sign a class waiver please visit: bit.ly/CCCWellFit or scan the QR code below



To purchase an Art Workshop Loyalty Card or pay to attend a single class visit: bit.ly/CCCWorkshops or scan the QR code below



For more information on the Springdale Library and CCC After School Club please see the After School Club flyer or call/email: (435)-772-3676 emily@washco.utah.gov



**SPRINGDALE LIBRARY &
CANYON COMMUNITY CENTER**

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Starting November 13th!

Kids' Crafts, Movies & Games

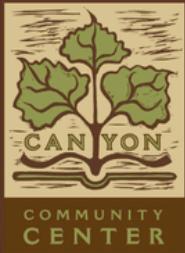
Something awesome is coming after school! The Springdale Library and Canyon Community Center are teaming up to bring you a brand-new After School Club - where fun, friends, and fantastic activities come together every week!

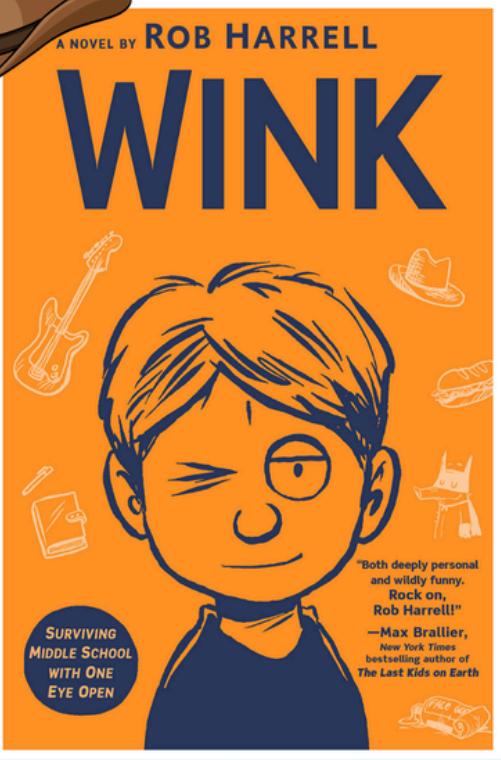
Thursdays @ 4:00PM

What we have planned

- Once-a-month movie
- Crafts & Painting
- Fun Group Games
- Science Activities

(435) 772-3676
emilyj@washco.utah.gov



**TWEEN BOOK CLUB
[AT] THE SPRINGDALE LIBRARY**

Discussion of
WINK
By Rob Harrell

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH [AT] 4:00PM

For more information contact:
435-772-3676 or
emilyj@washco.lib.ut.us



Washington County Library System

Crafting with Karen Create Your Very Own Topiary Tree

Thursday, November 20, 2025
At the Springdale Library @ 5 pm

This FREE event is open to all patrons 18 and older. All materials are provided, but space is limited, so please register in advance at 435-772-3676.

**Springdale
Adult Book Club**

Discussing

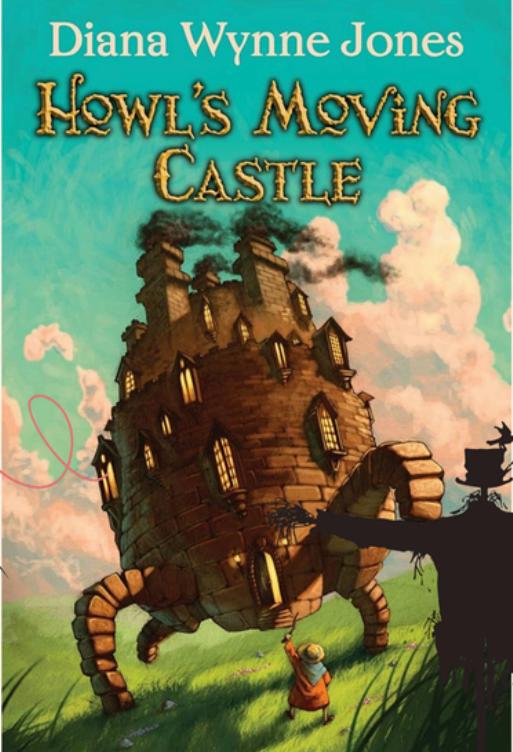
Howl's Moving Castle

by Diana Wynne Jones

Wednesday, November 12th
@ 11:30AM

For more information please call (435) 772-3676
or email emilyj@washco.lib.ut.us







6 PM

12/7/2025

DULIVIA RISTORANTE &
GATHERING

CHRISTMAS IN ZION

Springdale Community Christmas
Dinner & Concert

JOIN US FOR A FESTIVE EVENING OF CHRISTMAS
MUSIC, DELICIOUS FOOD AND HOLIDAY
GREETINGS

SPACE IS LIMITED SO
RESERVE YOUR PLACE

RSVP

(435) 772-3700 Ext. 101 or
switchbackgrille@gmail.com