

THE ROCKVILLE GLOBE

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February 15, 2017



Notes from the Mayor

MAYOR PAM LEACH

Happy New Year! I am pleased to report that many of you joined me as we celebrated the holiday season at our annual Christmas Party. We were entertained by the Square Peg Chamber and Sterling Tones with joyful music. Bob and Mary Cox were recognized for their many years of leading us in Christmas carols. Santa and Mrs. Claus were in attendance to hear your Christmas wishes and lend their smiling faces to the wonderful holiday photos taken by Jim Harlan – thank you Jim and Carol! Thank you also to everyone who brought sweet treats to share. A special thanks to Greg Dennison for providing the electricity to run the lights on the bridge this year.

This winter has proven to be a wet, cold one, and has brought the usual hazards – rock falls and mud slides. Thanks to Mark Hartless for clearing the debris from Eagle Crags Road so that residents could pass. The County has indicated it will be assessing the road for further repairs as soon as things dry out.

The cold weather may have also been responsible for several breaks in the culinary water system. Work is ongoing to repair these leaks. Your efforts at conserving water are appreciated.

The Bridge Restoration Project is moving forward. Terry Bell and I worked to negotiate an acceptable cost for the Design Phase. A large thank you goes to Greg Gifford, who helped review the proposals and brought his extensive knowledge of Federal projects and assisted with the final negotiations. The contract is currently in UDOT's Salt Lake City offices being reviewed prior to signature. It is hoped that the actual design work will begin within the next two weeks, with completion of the Design Phase scheduled no later than October of this year. At that time, it is expected to be advertised for contractors to do the actual work.

Fundraising efforts for the Bridge Project are continuing. We currently have approximately \$70,000 in place. Kim Konikow is working on submissions for an additional grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. A plein air art event is being planned for late April by our Bridge Fundraising Committee. We are also working with Utah Representative Brad Last and Senator Evan Vickers to seek funding assistance from the State Legislature.

They fully support our bridge restoration and preservation efforts. We hope to have good news to report on this front in our next newsletter. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the project. We look forward to its completion next spring!

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have thoughts or suggestions for the benefit of Rockville.

Town Council Updates



MEGAN HONER-ORTON

The Rockville Bridge Fundraising Committee

has been busy planning our latest fundraiser, a Plein Air art event for April 27, 28, 29. Artists will be invited to paint scenes around Rockville and/or of the Bridge. Some of the artists will be staying in homes and B&B's in Rockville while they paint. These paintings will be sold to raise matching funds for our Bridge rehab grant. There will be a reception before the showing at Larry McKown's home; the sale will take place across the street in the Community Center. The Discovery Road film crew will be here to film the event for showing on Discovery Road Show and KUED. More info to come!

Thanks to Kim Konikow, the Town has received three grants for Bridge funds. We also organized the very successful Bridge Art show last Spring and this Fall displayed more work at Rockville Daze. In addition we organized a lecture focused on the Bridge and helped co-sponsor another talk with the Zion Canyon Field Institute.

If you have funds you can contribute to this campaign, please let us know. We will be happy to pick up your donation, or you can contribute at the Town Office Monday through Friday from 9am to 1pm. If you haven't contributed yet, please consider doing so now. It would be great to be able to demonstrate to those we apply to for grant funds that EVERY HOUSEHOLD, whether a property owner, owner or renter, gave something to show support for this incredible project. BE COUNTED! We have raised \$70,605 of the \$170,000 needed. Together we can do this! All contributions to a municipality for public works are fully tax deductible.

Kudos to Jodi McGregor for all her work with the artists and her amazing work on the new thermometer in the town square. And thanks to Kim and Joyce for your great suggestions for this article.

Community Emergency Response Team--A new CERT course is being offered in February. If you are interested in being of service to our community in the event of a disaster, please contact Megan at 772-3393. The February class will probably be underway by the time you read this, but there will be others and we will be happy to make arrangements for you to attend one.

Integrated Pest Management Group—I send out information to those who have fruit trees about tree care and pest management. If you would like to receive these emails, please let me know. It looks like it might be an early spring this year (not so as you can tell from the recent low temps!) so it is time now to prune your trees during dormancy and spray them with dormant oil to reduce future pests and diseases. Some of us use organic products, some do not, but I can email the spray schedules for codling moth and peach tree borer so that you are spraying at optimal times to target the pests.

Western Zion Canyon Collaborative Group (will be renamed soon to something more clear) is a large group of us who are concerned that we implement the best methods for balancing the needs of residents and visitors to our area. The group is comprised of people from Zion National Park, Bureau of Land Management, Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration, Utah Office of Tourism, Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation, Washington County Commission, Five County Association of Governments, Washington County Economic Development, Springdale, Rockville, Virgin, representatives from East Zion, Cedar City and Kane County and businesses from our area. We have organized into committees to consider impacts to Quality of Life/Community Character, Transportation, Messaging, Interpretive Plans, and Camping/Recreation. We will be considering the best ways of handling problems in each area and making recommendations to businesses, towns and agencies to alleviate problem areas. There are currently openings on several committees including camping/recreation so if you would like to be part of this, please let me or Mayor Pam Leach know so we can put you in touch with the committee chairs. I think it is particularly important that Rockville be represented on the camping/recreation subcommittee.

Town Notifications—If you want to be notified about water outages, power outages and town events, please let our Town Clerk, Vicki, know. If we have your phone number, we can put it on our phone tree. If we have your email, we can send notifications via email. Please give Vicki a call at 772-0992 or stop by the Town Office M-F 9 am-1 pm.

BARRY SOCHAT

Circuit Breaker and Indigent Property Tax Abatement

Circuit Breaker

This property tax credit is available to homeowners or renters who are 66 years of age, (or un-remarried surviving spouse; must submit death certificate) and whose 2016 household income is **less** than \$32,101. Only the owner-occupied home (or renter-occupied dwelling) is eligible. The applicant must file with the county by September 1st of each year. Property tax may be abated based on income. For renters, the relief is also based on a percentage of gross rent paid. (Rent abatement filed thru State.)

Eligible Homeowners Credit

Household Income is: Homeowner's Credit:

\$0 – \$10,913	\$951
\$10,914 – \$14,553	\$829
\$14,554 – \$18,190	\$711
\$18,191 – \$21,828	\$533
\$21,829 – \$25,468	\$415
\$25,469 – \$28,890	\$237
\$28,891 – \$32,101	\$117

Indigent (County) Abatement

Indigent (County) abatements may be granted by the County Commission and are available to people who are **age 65**, with a 2016 household income of **less** than \$32,101. Generally, people qualifying for the Circuit Breaker may also qualify for the indigent abatement. The abatement is also available to people under 65 who may have a disability or extreme hardship. The abatement is for **owner-occupied** residences. You must apply **every** year.

The applicant must file by September 1st with proof of ownership, income, disability and/or hardship and other information required by the county. The abatement is the **lesser** of the Eligible Homeowners Credit amount allowed or 50% of the tax due, not to exceed \$951.

WANTED: 25 customers in Rockville who would be interested in a higher speed wireless internet service. Prices would range from \$20/mo. for low volume users; \$40/mo. for 8-10 mb; \$49/mo. for 10-20 mb; \$80/mo. for those needing higher upload speed. The service provider needs at least 25 customers to make it viable to install the necessary equipment. Please contact Vicki Bell at 772-0992 to express your interest.



NOTES FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

Vicki S. Bell

SAVE THE DATES

- Feb. 24-26 Rockville Dumpsters
- Feb. 25 Rockville Appreciation Breakfast
- Mar. 1 Hall & Grafton Annual Stockholders Meeting—6:00 pm.
Rockville Pipeline Annual Stockholders Meeting—6:30 pm.
- Mar. 25 Rockville SR-9 Road Cleanup—9-11 am.
- Apr. 14 Public Officials Training—8 am to 2:30 pm at the Canyon Community Center—Mandatory for Public Officials
- May 19-21 Rockville Dumpsters

**ROCKVILLE CLEANUP DAYS
February 24—February 26**

Washington County Solid Waste will provide roll-off dumpsters to assist Rockville residents in disposing of yard debris and other unused items that would normally go to the landfill, but do not necessarily fit into your residential garbage can.

The dumpsters will be located on Center Street from Friday afternoon thru Sunday evening.

This service is provided as a courtesy to the Town as an option to hauling items to the landfill for disposal. We encourage all Town residents to take advantage of this service.

Please **DO NOT** put the following in the dumpsters:

- * Oil * Batteries * Paint * Tires
- * Concrete * Dirt * Asphalt
- * Construction or building materials

Please **DO NOT** leave large items that **YOU** cannot put **INTO** the dumpster outside the dumpster for others to try to put inside.

The ends of the dumpsters are removable for large items—Please move all your trash to the front of the bins, and compact as much as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation.



APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

The annual Rockville Appreciation Breakfast will be held on Saturday, February 25th, 9-10:30 a.m. at the Recreation Hall. Watch for additional information posted at the Town Office. If you know of someone you feel deserves acknowledgement of efforts made on behalf of the Town, or if you are interested in volunteering to help with breakfast preparation and serving, please let Vicki Bell in the Town Office know. Hope to see you all over a wonderful breakfast!

**Rockville SR-9 Road Clean Up
March 25, 2017 - 9 – 11 a.m.**

As most of you know, the Town of Rockville participates in the Adopt-A-Highway program and is responsible for picking up litter on SR-9 between mile posts 26 and 28 and promoting a litter-free environment in the community. We have scheduled our next cleanup for Saturday, March 25 and are looking for willing volunteers to come out and help. It is recommended that participants be at least eleven (11) years old and that volunteers wear latex or vinyl gloves under leather gloves. Orange vests, latex gloves and trash bags will be provided. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Vicki Bell at (435) 772-0992.

REMINDER—DOG LICENSES ARE PAST DUE

Dog licenses for 2017 were due December 31, 2016. An application can be picked up at the Town Office. Please remember that a copy of **PROOF OF AN UP-TO-DATE RABIES VACCINATION IS REQUIRED.**

DOG VACCINATION CLINIC

Zion Animal Lovers will be having their annual dog vaccination clinic on March 25, 2017 from 9 am to 12 pm at the Springdale Town Hall.

REPAIRS/NEW GARBAGE TOTER

Please call (435) 673-2813 for all requests for repairs/new garbage toters. There is no charge.

A MESSAGE FROM SPRINGDALE/ZION CANYON POLICE CHIEF BRECKE

With the SR-9 construction project under way, I want to remind the citizens traveling through the construction zone to slow down, be alert, patient and pay attention. It is important to us that the residents and the construction workers stay safe. Crews are actively working in Rockville and are asking pedestrians and bicyclists to avoid work zones whenever possible. Plan ahead and leave early to give yourself enough travel time to help deal with delays. Please follow directions from flaggers and obey all signs that are posted. It is always best to give yourself a safe distance between you and the vehicles ahead. The officers have noticed once people are through the construction, they tend to speed and pass unsafely.

Our department will be traveling the canyon regularly and we will be enforcing speeding and unsafe passing. If you have questions or concerns about the construction, please call the project hotline at 888-556-0232 or email them at sr9@utah.gov.

**ROCKVILLE TOWN COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE
FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2017**

The Planning Commission and Town Council will meet on the following dates at the designated time and place for the remainder of the calendar year 2017 unless otherwise posted. The Planning Commission usually meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Rockville Town Hall, 43 E Main, Rockville, Utah. The Town Council usually meets on the Wednesday following the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Rockville Town Hall, 43 E. Main, Rockville, Utah.

<u>PLANNING COMMISSION</u>				<u>TOWN COUNCIL</u>			
Mar 14	Apr 11	May 9	Jun 13	Mar 15	Apr 12	May 10	Jun 14
Jul 11	Aug 8	Sep 12	Oct 10	Jul 12	Aug 9	Sep 13	Oct 11
Nov 14	Dec—No meeting			Nov 15	Dec 13		

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax preparation help to people who generally make \$54,000 or less, persons with disabilities and limited English speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns. IRS-certified volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals. Before going to a VITA site, please read IRS Publication 3676-B online at: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p3676bsp.pdf> for services provided and check out the "What to Bring" section on that page to ensure you have all the required documents and information our volunteers will need to help you.

*Note: available services can vary at each site due to the availability of volunteers certified with the tax law expertise required for your return.

*Also please note: Returns that qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) or additional Child Tax Credit (ACTC) will not be distributed until February 15th or later. Beginning this year, the IRS must hold their refund until February 15. This new law requires the IRS to hold the entire refund—even the portion not associated with EITC or ACTC. This change helps ensure that taxpayers receive the refund they are owed by giving the IRS more time to help detect and prevent fraud.

The Five County Association of Governments office in St. George is one of several locations in the five county region where you can have your taxes prepared.

Five County Association of Governments office building
1070 W. 1600 S. Building B; St. George, UT 84770
Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Fridays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

See our VITA web page for the locations of the tax preparation services in other locations within this region: <https://viecountycap.wordpress.com/cap-programs/volunteer-income-tax-assistance-vita/>

WANT TO CONTACT YOUR TOWN OFFICIALS?

You are welcome to contact your Town officials at the following email addresses:

Rockville Town Council

Mayor pam@rockvilleutah.org
 Megan Honer-Orton meg-n-bo@infowest.com
 Mark Hartless markhartless@gmail.com
 V. Terry Bell terry@rockvilleutah.org
 Barry Sochat rubrpoet@infowest.com

Rockville Planning Commission

Joyce Hartless joycehartless@gmail.com
 Linda Brinkley linda@rockvilleutah.org
 Bob Ford geobobford@gmail.com
 Chair Jane Brennan jane@rockvilleutah.org
 Cheryl McGovern cheryl@rockvilleutah.org

Town Clerk, Vicki S. Bell rockville@rockvilleutah.org
 Deputy Town Clerk, Elaine M. Harris elaine@rockvilleutah.org



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