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news

Southwest
Spine and
Pain Center
Ribbon Cutting
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IRON
COUNTY

today

Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games and SUU join with Special Olympics Utah to host

2025 Special Olympics Utah Summer Games Opening Ceremony



STORY IN SPORTS

2025 CEDAR CITY MUNICIPAL ELECTION

NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 10-3-301(2)(a) of the Utah Code, notice is hereby given that Cedar City will hold a municipal election to elect four-year terms for the following:

- Mayor
- Two (2) Council Members.

A primary election will be held, if necessary, on Tuesday, August 12, 2025. The general election being held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

A Cedar City resident who is interested in becoming a candidate must file a Declaration of Candidacy with the Cedar City Recorder, 10 North Main Street, Cedar City, Utah. The filing period is during regular office hours (Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) June 1 through June 6, 2025.

Published on May 22, 29, & June 5, 2025



Family Support Center Partner with Kiwanis Club of Iron County for National Children's Day

by *Connie Furnival*

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER OF SOUTHWESTERN UTAH

The Family Support Center of Southwestern Utah is happy to be partnering with the newly formed Kiwanis Club of Iron County to host their third annual Teddy Bear Picnic at Main Street Park on Saturday June 7th from 11am-2pm. The two organizations are working together to provide a free community family activity in celebration of National Children's Day.

The Kiwanis Club of Iron County was formed on March 14th, 2025 and is looking for ways to serve children in our community. Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time. Kiwanis clubs and members conduct service projects, helping young

people develop mentally, physically and emotionally.

Every year, Kiwanis members stage more than 1.3 million service projects and raise nearly US\$390 million for children, families and communities around the world. Kiwanis club projects are based on the community's needs. The Kiwanis Club includes members of all ages and abilities. In addition to Kiwanis clubs for adults who serve kids, they offer Kiwanis Service Leadership Programs with Key Club International for high school students and Circle K International for college and university students. The Kiwanis Club of Iron County will be a great addition to our community. To get involved with the Kiwanis Club please email: ironcountykiwanisclub@gmail.com

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435-590-1073
rshipp@le.utah.gov

Representative Carl Albrecht - District 70
435-979-6578
Carlalbrecht@le.utah.gov

State Senator District 28

Evan J. Vickers
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Home: 435-586-4399
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Utah Water Conditions Update

from *Michael Sanchez*

UTAH DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

SALT LAKE CITY (May 29, 2025) – As we head into hotter months, we expect increased demand for water. With the state's subpar snowpack, which feeds our reservoirs, continued water conservation will remain a top priority for the state. State agencies will continue to monitor conditions and assist communities where needed. The governor issued a drought declaration on April 24, which has now expired.

"The governor's drought declaration sent a message to us all that water conservation is essential for Utah's future," Candice Hasenyager, director at the Utah Division of Water Resources, said. "Rising temperatures and increased demand will be a cause for concern this summer. Our reservoirs will get us through this year, but another year like this will stress our water supply."

While reservoir storage remains generally healthy statewide, the impact of a subpar water year, particularly in the southern regions, is becoming increasingly apparent. The southern part of the

state continues to experience below-normal stream flows. The Virgin River has been flowing much below normal since January. The Sevier River reached an all-time low flow in May.

Due to low water levels, the Utah Division of Wildlife recently issued an emergency change to increase the fishing limit at Crouse Reservoir.

Great Salt Lake has seen a modest increase of about 1.5 feet since its seasonal low in November. However, the rate of increase has slowed, and it appears the lake is currently leveling off.

"Let's be mindful of how we use water," Hasenyager said. "Most of our water use happens outdoors, start there. SlowtheFlow.org has incentives for drought-resilient landscapes, which can save water and money."

In Utah, about 95% of our water supply comes from snowpack. Reservoir storage helps us preserve that water for use in dry summer months and drought years. To encourage water conservation among Utahns, the Department of Natural Resources continues to promote initiatives such as the Agricultural Water Optimization Program for farmers and SlowtheFlow.org for residents. These programs aim to educate and incentivize water-saving practices, ensuring Utahns become more drought-resilient and prepare for future conditions. Many indoor water-saving tips are available on the Slow the Flow website.

Iron County man sentenced to 25 years to life after pleading guilty in child sex abuse case

by *Tracie Sullivan*

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

CEDAR CITY — A 50-year-old Iron County man was sentenced Friday to serve 25 years to life in prison for sexually abusing a child, following a plea deal that reduced the number of charges he initially faced.

Fifth District Judge Jeffrey C. Wilcox handed down the sentence after rejecting a request from defense attorney Clifford Gravett, who asked the court to consider a shorter term. The judge imposed the maximum mandatory minimum sentence allowed under Utah law for the conviction — sodomy on a child, a first-degree felony.

Court records show Rubio entered the plea on August 13, 2024, as part of a negotiated agreement that dismissed two additional felony charges: Rape of a child and Sexual abuse of a child.

Initially, Rubio's case appeared headed for trial. However, shortly after the plea was entered, he requested a court-ordered competency evaluation — a step often taken when a defendant's ability to understand the legal proceedings is in question. That process was halted weeks later when Rubio withdrew the request and agreed to proceed with sentencing.

According to the plea agreement and sentencing order, Rubio

will not be eligible for parole for at least 25 years, with the Utah Board of Pardons retaining authority over any release beyond that minimum term.

Because of the nature of the case, details of the investigation were limited in court. However, a probable cause statement filed at the time of Rubio's arrest alleged he sexually abused a child on multiple occasions between the ages of approximately 11 and 13, during periods when the child was left in his care as a babysitter.

Rubio is currently being held at the Iron County Jail but will likely be transported to the Utah State Prison within a couple of weeks.

Teen girls bring life, color to Cedar youth shelter — and find healing along the way

by *Tracie Sullivan*

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

With a little dirt under their nails and a lot of heart in their hands, a group of teen girls spent the final days of May pulling weeds, planting flowers, and bringing new life to the front yard of Youth Futures, a homeless shelter for youth in Cedar City.

The project was more than landscaping. It was a moment of connection — one that bridged two vulnerable groups of young people and underscored how service, even in hard times, can build something beautiful.

The girls are residents at Havenwood Academy, a residential treatment center for adolescent girls. They not only volunteered their time and labor, but Havenwood also provided the plants and flowers used to refresh the planter boxes in front of the

shelter.

"They're encouraged to participate, but it's always optional," said Jessi Marchetti, program director at Havenwood. "I think it's important for our girls to learn how to give back to others and to the community."

At least two of the girls said the project struck a personal chord.

"One of the girls told me, 'I want them to feel happy and proud of where they are living because everyone deserves a beautiful environment,'" Marchetti said. "Another said she used to live in places that were run down and would have loved it if someone came and did the same for her."



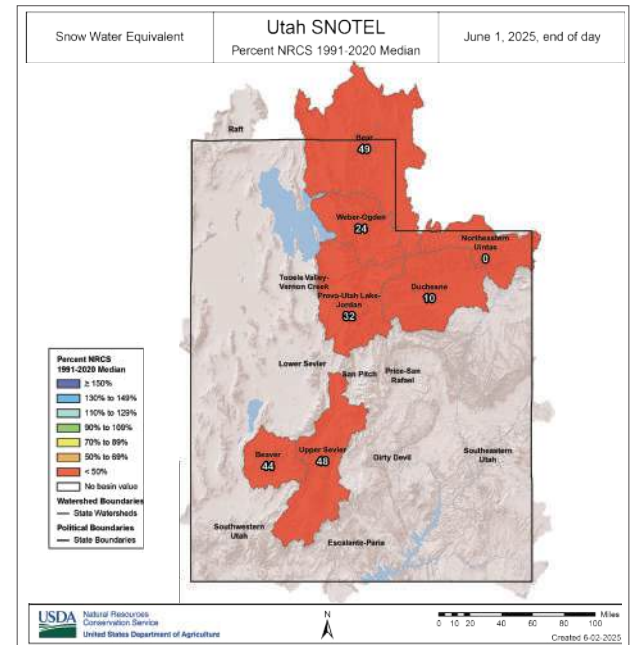
House Manager Chad Whitehead said the project helps both staff and residents.

"My staff can be freed up to help clients with case management or transportation while the yard still gets taken care of," Whitehead said. "The kids who live here come home to a place that looks like a home — not overgrown or neglected."

The partnership between Youth Futures and Havenwood Academy began about five years ago and continues to expand.

"Healing doesn't happen in isolation. This kind of community partnership not only helps us continue our mission, it gives young people the chance to lift each other up," said Heidi Rugg,

see **TEEN GIRLS** » 9



IRON COUNTY FORECAST

ISOLATED STORMS WILL BE POSSIBLE TO WRAP UP THE WEEK.

A BIG RIDGE OF HIGH PRESSURE WILL SETTLE OVERHEAD LEADING TO A BIG WARM-UP AND DRIER CONDITIONS FOR THE WEEKEND INTO NEXT WEEK.

Check your local forecast anytime at: ABC4.com/weather

THURSDAY
Isolated Storms
76°/49°
PRECIP: 30%
WINDS: SW 15-25

FRIDAY
Isolated Storms
80°/51°
PRECIP: 30%
WINDS: SW 15-25

SATURDAY
Partly Sunny
86°/53°
PRECIP: 20%
WINDS: SW 5-10

SUNDAY
Mostly Sunny
88°/56°
PRECIP: 10%
WINDS: SW 5-15

MONDAY
Mostly Sunny
90°/56°
PRECIP: 10%
WINDS: SW 15-25

TUESDAY
Mostly Sunny
89°/55°
PRECIP: 10%
WINDS: SW 15-25

WEDNESDAY
Mostly Sunny
88°/56°
PRECIP: 10%
WINDS: S/N 10-15

opinion

FROM THE EDITOR



**ESTHER
HAILSTONE**
OFFICE MANAGER

One of my favorite things about living in Cedar City is that we get to experience all four seasons. There's something special about each one—the foods, the smells, the activities. Whether it's the crisp air of fall, the fresh bloom of spring, the snowy magic of

winter, or the warmth of summer, I love them all.

Of course, Utah's weather likes to keep us on our toes. Sometimes the seasons blend together—with warmer days in winter and cooler days in spring—but that's part of the charm. Still, I've noticed something lately: time seems to be slipping by faster than ever.

Earlier this year, I found myself talking with friends and family about this exact feeling—that just when we start to settle into a season, it's already over, and we're onto the next. In response, I decided to approach this summer with intention. I've filled it with family reunions, trips with loved ones, hikes, events, weddings—you name it. I've also made it a point to take more walks and spend time outside soaking up the sunshine. There's something so grounding about stepping away from the rush of daily life and simply enjoying a quiet moment in the warmth of the day. I want to soak it all in and make sure that when the season changes again.

My hope for you, our readers, is the same. Savor the sunshine, the laughter, the long evenings. Soak up the moments—big and small—because life moves fast, and seasons come and go before we know it. Life's too short not to pause, be present, and truly enjoy the time we're given.

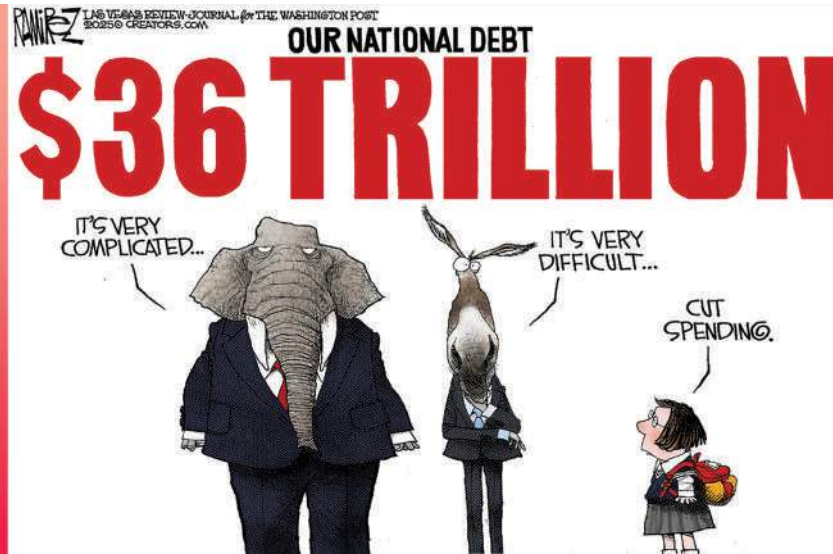
WORD OF THE WEEK

HALCYON

[hal-cy-on]

adjective

denoting a period of time in the past that was idyllically happy and peaceful.



How Nations Rise and Fall

PART I

by *Edy Meredith*

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

Many people throughout Iron County and the United States are wondering how our nation and state will survive the discord, chaos, and disagreement of the last few years and the division not only between U.S. states but also in the counties of Utah such as between Salt Lake County in northern Utah and Iron County in southern Utah. As we study the history of the world currently in March of 2025 with a population of 8,213,269,530, we find that many countries and governments and people have risen and fallen with some of them even disappearing from history, and only recently having

been rediscovered by archeologists digging in the dirt through ruins.

1) The Catalhoyuk (c. 7,500 BCE - 6,700) were in Southern Anatolia called modern-day Turkey today. They developed one of the earliest urban and city settlements and are the most well-preserved Neolithic settlements. The people are not still around. They were among the earliest people to adapt to a sedentary life and practice agriculture. It is estimated that the average population was 5,000 to 7,000. Their settlement had no streets or footpaths; instead, their houses were clustered together with roof access. There is also evidence that they kept their living spaces clean and disposed of their sewage and food in an area outside of the ruins

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Do the difficult things while they are easy and do the great things while they are small. A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step."

- Lao Tzu

IRON COUNTY **today**

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opinion

RISE AND FALL

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

of the settlement. They buried their dead, painted murals, sculpted figures, and painted skulls to recreate faces. No identifiable temples have been discovered among the ruins although researchers believe that the people had a religion rich in symbols because large concentrations of certain symbols have been found in rooms, which may have been meeting places. They are gone with no other evidence of their lives.

2) Aboriginal Australians have lived from about 50,000 years ago to the present. Some of their notable achievements are ritual cremation, the oldest known rock paintings, built the oldest traps to catch fish, and lived in a “dream time” according to Australian Aboriginal mythology. The Dreaming represented a concept of “Everywhen” during which the land was inhabited by ancestral figures, often of heroic proportions or with supernatural abilities based on a meaning that is close to “eternal, uncreated” like ancient Biblical references. It is believed that Australians first settled in Australia

about 75,000 years ago. Their culture has basically remained the same, so it is considered one of the oldest known civilizations on Earth. For more information about these unusual people who still exist today, please go to Wikipedia. The European exploration of Australia first began in February of 1606 when the Dutch navigator Willem Janszoon landed in Cape York Peninsula, and in October of the same year when the Spanish explorer Luis Vaz de Torres navigated the area. Later 29 other Dutch explorers traveled the western and southern coasts in the 17th century, and called the “big island” New Holland, followed by when the English established Australia as a penal colony for their most difficult criminals between 1788 and 1868. The British penal system transported about 162,000 convicts from Great Britain and Ireland to Australia when London was overcrowded with unemployed poor people and the harsh living conditions forced many people to commit petty crimes resulting in overcrowded prisons. Australia to the

English was the perfect place to transport the criminals to—an empty large island forgetting about the aboriginal Australians. Of course, these ancient people did survive the convicts sent to their land from 1788-1868 although indigenous rights are a primary issue in 2025 federal elections with issues about reconciliation, self-determination, and equity because of the English colonial dispossession and systemic discrimination against Aboriginal Islander peoples. The following problems remain for the indigenous versus European origin: 1) Life expectancy is 8-9 years lower; 2) Education and employment also is lower, 3) Indigenous Australians make up 3.8% but 30% of the prison population. They still survive as humans but much of their culture was lost and their struggle for truth-telling continues as a political and election issue.

Will our American culture survive American indigenous reconciliation as well? More to come next week as we close the gap between past exploitation and current problems.



SOUTHWEST SPINE AND PAIN CENTER RIBBON CUTTING

by *May Hunter*

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

Southwest Spine and Pain Center celebrated the opening of their brand-new facility with a community health fair held at their new location: 2311 North Main Street, Cedar City, Utah. It was a great opportunity to connect with local healthcare resources and vendors. Dr. Casey Muir, Dayne Johnson,

PA-C, and the rest of the Southwest Spine and Pain staff were on hand for tours and to answer questions. They are excited about this beautiful new building and the state-of-the-art technology and equipment it provides.

Southwest Spine and Pain Center is a pain management practice specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic pain conditions, particularly

those related to the spine. They offer a variety of minimally invasive treatments, injection therapies, and comprehensive care plans tailored to individual patient needs. The practice has multiple locations across Utah, and we are fortunate to have one right here in Cedar City.

Congratulations on their grand opening and new location!

IRON COUNTY GOVERNMENT RECAPS

Iron County Commission Meeting

by Iron County Today Staff

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

The Cedar City Planning Commission The Iron County Commission met Tuesday morning with one commissioner absent.

The County Clerk gave updates on key issues, including the upcoming municipal primary filing period set for June 2–6. He also discussed the county's involvement in the Utah Counties Indemnity Pool (UCIP), which provides insurance coverage for law enforcement, vehicles, and liability. The pool operates conservatively, maintaining strong financial stability and offering coverage that's otherwise hard to obtain.

A major concern was the loss of Secure Rural Schools funding, which dropped from \$180,000 to \$9,000 after Congress failed to renew the program. This funding, crucial for road improvements that support rural school access, now poses a significant challenge for infrastructure maintenance.

The Council on Aging reported a sharp rise in Meals on Wheels deliveries—up by 400 meals since January, totaling 6,666 through April—largely due to an influx of new residents. This growth has strained resources and revealed infrastructure issues, including basement flooding and safety risks from aging transportation. Efforts are underway to acquire safer transit vans. On a brighter note, the center completed low-cost improvements, launched newsletters, and is planning its first senior prom.

Emergency Management shared updates on a FEMA extension and a \$6,900 reimbursement check. The landfill is facing a growing crisis, with lithium battery

fires increasing to 60 annually, prompting urgent calls for protective gear and worker health monitoring.

A representative from Congresswoman Celeste Malloy's office shared updates on federal legislation, including a House-passed budget bill with a lands amendment to transfer about 10,000 acres—mainly in Washington County—for infrastructure needs like road and pipeline access. Concerns about misinformation were addressed, and ongoing efforts to reintroduce land legislation were noted. The Congresswoman is also pushing for faster action on replacing Panguitch Lake Dam, citing flood risks.

The commission approved a youth gopher abatement program in partnership with USU Extension and the ENI Conservation District. Youth will earn \$3 per gopher tail, funded equally by the county and local farmers. Iron County allocated \$1,500 for the pilot program, which includes safety training and specialized traps. The initiative targets gopher damage on farmland while encouraging youth engagement in agriculture.

A discussion involved sewer infrastructure planning for the growing BZI Innovation Park area. Engineers presented a cost-sharing agreement between Iron County, Cedar City, and the developers, covering major sewer upgrades, including larger lines and lift station improvements. Cedar City will cover 62.3% of the costs, with Iron County handling 37.7%, based on zoning and growth projections. The project supports future developments like a proposed 2,000-unit housing project and connects industrial and residential areas via a 30-inch sewer line along Iron Springs Road.

About \$750,000 in sewer impact fees—not general funds—will be used, addressing long-standing concerns over proper use of these fees and ensuring infrastructure readiness for regional growth.

The meeting ended with personnel approvals and updates on efforts to sell the old jail and 18 acres near the former airport.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



SEN. EVAN VICKERS
UTAH SENATE DISTRICT 28

Friends and neighbors,

Many of you have asked whether the Legislature will meet for a veto override session following the governor's recent vetoes. After careful thought, it was decided not to hold one this year. But that doesn't mean the conversation is over—we'll keep working through these important topics during the interim and into the next session.

We've also seen some exciting developments on the energy front this month. Governor Cox hosted a ceremonial bill signing to celebrate several new energy bills passed during the 2025 session—each aimed at keeping power reliable and affordable for Utah families. At the event, Utah signed a partnership agreement with the Idaho National Laboratory (INL), one of the country's top nuclear energy research institutions, to explore advanced nuclear technology and help grow Utah's energy workforce.

Nuclear energy has come a long way—it's clean, dependable, and safer than ever. This partnership with INL strengthens our efforts to provide reliable power while also creating quality jobs across the state.

We're already seeing the payoff of Utah's smart energy policies. For the second year in a row, Utah has the lowest electricity rates in the country, according to the Kem C. Gardner Institute. That kind of success doesn't happen by accident—it's the result of thoughtful planning, innovation, and collaboration.

And there's more good news: U.S. News & World Report just named Utah the best state overall—for the third year running. The ranking takes into account things like our economy, healthcare, infrastructure, and education. Utah was No. 1 in fiscal stability and ranked No. 3 in both infrastructure and economy. It's a great reflection of the strength and values of our state.

Of course, for those of us who call Utah home, it's not a surprise. Our state is not just full of opportunity and beauty—it's filled with resilient, hardworking communities with the best people anywhere.

BUDGET SUMMARY

YEAR	STATE OF UTAH	IRON COUNTY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	CEDAR CITY	COUNTY POPULATION	INFLATION RATE
2020	\$18,500,000,000	\$64,397,882	\$97,275,145	\$84,121,067	57,286	1.4
2021	\$20,300,000,000	\$68,529,185	\$111,206,179	\$82,661,906	58,672	7.0
2022	\$25,600,000,000	\$80,413,678	\$116,183,977	\$82,219,239	62,508	6.5
2023	\$26,000,000,000	\$78,255,317	\$172,080,787	\$97,198,239	64,211	3.4
2024	\$29,400,000,000	\$67,789,445	\$200,512,950	\$150,125,060	65,765	3.2
2025	TBD	\$132,282,649	\$221,113,931	TBD	TBD	TBD
ANNUAL INCREASE	11.78%	20.57%	21.23%	15.58%	2.96%	4.3

* Information was obtained directly from the governmental entities listed.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Others may come for the jobs or the scenery, but they stay because of the community. I'm proud to be part of that community and to represent you at the Capitol.

Before I close, just a quick note about water. With much of our district still facing severe drought, please keep being mindful of your water use—especially as we head into the dry summer months. Every small effort counts, and I'm grateful for all you're doing.

As always, it's an honor to serve you. I'll keep working hard to make sure the voices of our area are heard loud and clear.

Warm regards,

Sen. Evan Vickers

TEEN GIRLS

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5 »



executive director of Youth Futures. "It's inspiring to see youth with different lived experiences coming together and finding common ground through service."

Havenwood now makes regular monthly donations to Youth Futures, and more collaborative projects are being planned. The partnership is a win-win - especially at a time when the shelter is grappling with funding

challenges.

Youth Futures is currently navigating a tight financial stretch after one federal grant was frozen and another delayed. While administrators are still hopeful about upcoming funding rounds, Rugg said community support like this makes a real difference.

"This is about more than flowerbeds," she said. "It's about reminding these kids that they matter, and that people care - and those messages can echo far beyond what we see today."

Youth Futures, Utah's first homeless youth shelter, operates locations in Cedar City, Ogden, and St. George. The organization provides temporary housing, meals, case management, and outreach services to youth ages 12 to 18.

To support Youth Futures, visit youthfuturesutah.org/donate.

Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games, Intermountain Health - Cedar City Hospital Collaborate for 2025 Games

by Brooke Heath

SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

CEDAR CITY, Utah (June 2, 2025) - A pair of iconic Cedar City brands are working together once again. The Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games, an outreach department of Southern Utah University, and Intermountain Health Cedar City Hospital have come to an agreement in support of the 2025 program year for the games. As part of the agreement, Cedar City Hospital will provide medical support to the games, while also providing outreach opportunities with the community.

"The Utah Summer Games and Cedar City Hospital are vital parts of the engine driving Cedar City and Iron County forward," said Jon Oglesby, Executive Director of the Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games. "We are grateful to Jamison Robinett, Cedar City Hospital President and CEO and Rachelle Hughes, Marketing & Communications Manager at Cedar City Hospital for their belief in the work we're doing to make Cedar City a better place to live and to play. We're excited to work with them in improving the quality of life in our community."

"We are thrilled to support the Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games, an incredible event that promotes active, healthy living and brings together so many of our caregivers and community members," Robinett said. "The Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games' mission of fostering community and well-being perfectly aligns with Intermountain Health and Cedar City Hospital. We are excited to help kick off this year's games and celebrate the spirit of health, teamwork, and

community that makes our region so special."

About the Utah Summer Games

Founded in 1986, the Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games is the official state game of Utah, welcoming athletes from around the state and surrounding states to compete in the Olympic-style sports festival. The Southern Utah University department will host the 40th consecutive rendition of the games in 2025, and will also host the State Games of America in Salt Lake City in 2030. For more information on the Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games, visit <https://utahsummergames.org/index.aspx>.

About Intermountain Health

Headquartered in Utah with locations in six states and additional operations across the western U.S., Intermountain Health is a nonprofit system of 33 hospitals, approximately 400 clinics, medical groups with some 4,600 employed physicians and advanced care providers, a health plans division called Select Health with more than one million members, and other health services. Helping people live the healthiest lives possible, Intermountain is committed to improving community health and is widely recognized as a leader in transforming healthcare by using evidence-based best practices to consistently deliver high-quality outcomes at sustainable costs.

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The GOP's Opportunity to Lead on Fiscal Responsibility

by Casey O. Anderson

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

The Republican Party stands at a pivotal moment to redefine itself as the party of fiscal sanity, balancing budgets, and averting a looming financial collapse. Historically, the GOP has championed limited government but often shied away from the tough choices needed to curb spending, fearing political backlash. With rising public concern over the national debt, now is the time for Republicans to seize the mantle of responsible governance, proving they can be the adults in the room and save the country from fiscal ruin.

Recent polls underscore the public's appetite for fiscal restraint. A Democracy Institute poll from March 2025 revealed that 61% of Americans support the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) and its aggressive push to cut federal spending. This reflects a

growing sentiment that government bloat must be addressed. Similarly, policies like implementing work requirements for Medicaid recipients enjoy strong favorability, with a 2023 Kaiser Family Foundation poll showing 70% of Americans, including majorities across party lines, support such measures as a way to ensure fairness while preserving resources. The Pew Research Center's January 2023 survey found 57% of Americans prioritize reducing the budget deficit, while a November 2024 Peter G. Peterson Foundation poll reported 77% of voters want the national debt among candidates' top three priorities. These numbers signal a clear mandate: Americans want leaders who confront fiscal challenges head-on.

Yet, specific spending cuts often face resistance from niche groups. Power players in Washington D.C. and their allies in the media malign even the most common-sense adjustments no matter how small. Despite these narrow political challenges, the GOP's broader brand would be significantly strengthened by embracing a disciplined fiscal identity. By consistently advocating for prudent budgeting, Republicans

can appeal to the 39% of Americans who identify as fiscally conservative (Gallup, 2024) and the moderates who value stability, crafting a coalition that transcends partisan divides. Unfortunately, only 9% of Democrats identify as fiscally conservative, however those individuals are anxious to support candidates with time and resources to address what they consider an existential threat to our way of life.

The numbers tell a stark story. In 2019, federal spending was \$4.4 trillion, with revenue at \$3.5 trillion. By 2025, spending has ballooned to \$6.7 trillion, while revenue grew to \$4.9 trillion. If spending were frozen at 2019 levels, the budget would be balanced today, eliminating the \$1.8 trillion deficit. This gap illustrates the urgency of action. The GOP can lead by prioritizing efficiency, eliminating wasteful programs, and streamlining bureaucracy without slashing essential services.

Even locally here in Iron County we grapple with issues of fiscal irresponsibility. By adopting a more disciplined approach—such as prioritizing high-impact projects and cutting redundant administrative costs—Iron County could set a model for fiscal prudence

that would more align with state and national GOP values. Local political leaders should lead on reducing taxes, paying off debt, and putting our community in a more self-reliant trajectory to prepare for the potential collateral damage due to the lack of responsible decisions being made in the capitol. We simply cannot wait any longer for them to do the right thing.

The GOP has a golden opportunity to lead with a responsible budget approach. By maintaining current tax rates, which have driven revenue growth, and reducing spending in a prudent, compassionate manner, Republicans can balance the budget without alienating voters. This means targeting inefficiencies, as DOGE aims to do, while protecting vulnerable populations through reforms like Medicaid work requirements. The party must communicate that fiscal discipline is not about austerity but about securing a prosperous future for all Americans. By taking the reins on this issue, the GOP can redefine itself as the party of fiscal sanity, earning the trust of a nation weary of reckless spending and poised to reward those who act decisively to prevent financial collapse.

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Summer Games Serves Initiative to Benefit SUU HOPE Pantry

by Brooke Heath

SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

The second year of the Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games Summer Games Serves, presented by the UServe Utah initiative will feature an exciting new addition. The SUU HOPE Pantry will have a booth at this year's Utah Summer Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games Block Party, presented by KSL 5 TV, which will take place on Friday, June 6 from 5 - 8 p.m. at the SUU Practice Field (located west of Eccles Coliseum). Those attending the block party will have the opportunity to stop by the HOPE Pantry booth to make donations and help SUU students for the upcoming school year. The booth will also have complimentary stickers and opportunities for prize packages.

"Almost half of all SUU students struggle with food insecurity each

school year," said Pam Branin, Director of the SUU HOPE Pantry. "Being able to provide a campus pantry makes a huge difference, as students often reflect, 'the pantry saved me.' We're so grateful to the Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games and the Summer Games Serves initiative, as each donation makes a difference for a struggling student."

Block party attendees can support the SUU HOPE Pantry and students facing food insecurity for the 2025-26 academic year by bringing any of the following food donations:

- Bags of rice
- Pasta and pasta sauce
- Canned meats (chicken, tuna)
- Ready-to-eat soups
- Full-size toiletry items (soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc.).

Donations will be accepted at the SUU HOPE Pantry booth until 8 p.m.



the evening of June 6.

"We are very grateful to continue to work with the SUU HOPE Pantry to 'help our people eat' on the SUU campus throughout the year," said Jon Oglesby, Executive Director of the Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games. "The Summer Games Serves initiative has been elevated by the tremendous support of UServe Utah and the Utah Department of Cultural and Community Engagement this year, and we are hopeful to see Summer Games Serves participants help positively impact the battle against food insecurity in the southern Utah community."

The Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games Block Party, presented by KSL

5 TV on June 6 will also feature State Bank of Southern Utah, Visit Cedar City/Brian Head, the NFL Las Vegas Raiders, Parents Empowered, KSL 5 TV, the Zone Sports Network, 99.9 KONY Country and other USG sponsors.

The Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games Opening Ceremony, presented by State Bank of Southern Utah will follow the block party with doors to the Eccles Coliseum opening at 8 p.m. The opening ceremony will feature the largest fireworks show in Utah Summer Games history, and the music of Neon Circus - a Brooks-and-Dunn tribute band. Tickets for the opening ceremony are on sale at TBirdTickets.com.

MISS IRON COUNTY TAKES MISS UTAH STAGE

by May Hunter

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

The "Miss Iron County" title exists as part of a pageant tradition in Iron County, Utah, which includes a Miss Iron County Pageant and Miss Iron County's Outstanding Teen Pageant. These pageants have become cherished traditions in the community, celebrating grace and beauty, and the titleholders represent the county at various local and state events throughout the year. The pageant contestants are actively involved in community service initiatives and showcase their skills and poise in areas like interviews, talent, fitness, and evening gown.

Miss Iron County, Ashtyn Giles,

reflects on this past year and states that it has been one of the most meaningful and fulfilling experiences of her life.

"This title has been so much more than wearing a crown and sash—it has been about connection, purpose, and service."

Through her Community Service Initiative, Happy Hearts, Ashtyn has worked to create meaningful opportunities for others to serve and find fulfillment through giving. One project close to her heart is Hearts and Hangers, a



clothing drive supporting local students and families in need. After visiting schools and community resource centers, she learned that while the need for clothing is significant, there simply wasn't enough space to store it long-term. Ashtyn's goal is to collect enough donations by the end of summer to host a free back-to-school clothing event for teens and families in our community. If you would like to contribute to those in need, please drop your donations off at Belle's On Main, 27 N.

Main Street, Cedar City, Utah, during the month of June.

As Ashtyn prepares to take the Miss Utah stage, her heart is full of gratitude for the people who have loved and supported her along the way. Finals night will be live-streamed on June 14th. Find the link on the Miss Iron County Instagram page.

"Service hasn't just filled my time—it has fulfilled me. The beauty of service is that it lifts both the giver and the receiver. As Miss Iron County, I've been committed to making a difference, but what I've learned is that when we come together, we're capable of making an even greater one."

—Ashtyn Giles, Miss Iron County

CREATIVITY:

Essential in Art and Business

by Sara Penny

CCAC VICE PRESIDENT

"Creativity is the big bang. It's the genesis. There would be no mathematics if it wasn't for human beings' infinite creativity. There would be no science because creativity's embedded within science and not the other way around,"
said T Bone Burnett, musician and producer.

One of my students gave me *Two Beats Ahead* by Panos A. Panay and R. Michael Hendrix. The book explores how artists and business can cooperate for innovation. It is not that art and business are at odds. It is that they benefit from incorporating both worlds. "I have always believed that the best outcomes in life come from the discipline of business combined with the chaos of art. All successful musicians are entrepreneurs and all great business leaders are artists," Kevin O'Leary, investor in the book's review. Artists have to develop some business skills to succeed and many individuals have skill sets that are complementary. "Leonardo da Vinci was both scientist and artist and seamlessly used one discipline to inform the other. Artists and entrepreneurs alike work and produce better work when they learn to listen, experiment, collaborate, demo, produce, connect, remix, sense, and constantly reinvent. Our world is no longer defined by brick and mortar. The possibilities are endless," from *Two Beats Ahead*. Part of the equation with any project is who is a part of the team. "You want somebody you can rely on to be trustworthy on the business side, but also creatively. You want people you can trust in the room. So choose wisely, but also don't be afraid to experiment," said John Legend, singer and songwriter. Collaborations can begin by looking at the edges of

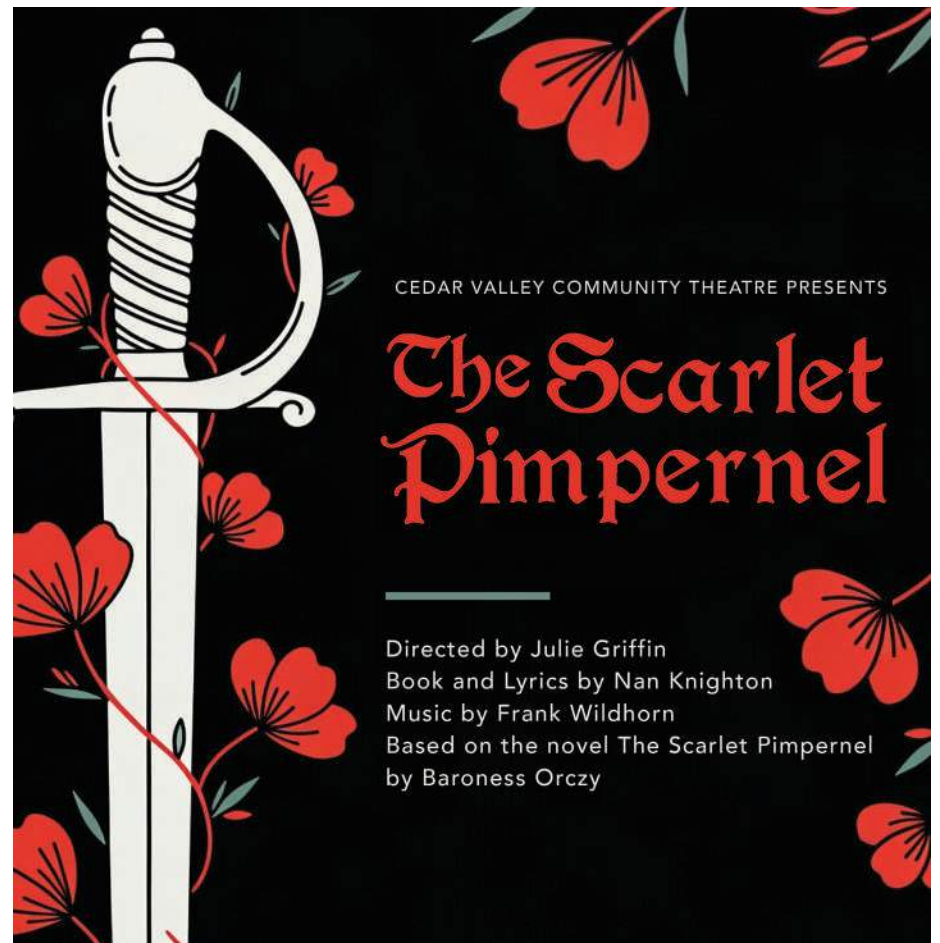


different cultures to create something new as Yo-Yo Ma did in his Silk Road Project. He included musicians playing instruments from across Asia that are not normally included in mainstream music.

New technology may create new efficiency, but inspiration is not usually efficient.

It takes a lot of listening and thought to come up with new music, poetry, or dance.

Sometimes it takes years to write a book and sometimes the words flow. Tenacity is required. Having an idea and following through are enhanced by dedication and a willingness to open up. "I don't care what anybody plays, I just care who's playing it. I want that person to put all of his love and his whole self, his whole heart, into what he's doing," said musician and producer T Bone Burnett. Hopefully you are creating your own art and enjoying the efforts of others. We see the benefits for all ages in our arts community. You can check out local arts groups on our website cedarcityartscouncil.org under Arts Resources where we have a database of over 30 local arts groups. Under the Education tab there are children's arts programs. We are currently updating these resources so let us know about corrections at cedarcityartscouncil@gmail.com.



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Young Champions Shine at Manuele Law's Ultimate Field Day

by *Sharla Manuele*

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

On Wednesday, May 21st, the Canyon View High School Track thrummed with anticipation as third, fourth, and fifth graders from Enoch, Fiddlers, Three Peaks, and North Elementary schools competed in the inaugural Ultimate Field Day, hosted by Manuele Law. The air crackled with cheers as these young athletes, handpicked from their school field days, dashed, threw, and battled for medals and cash prizes for their schools in a day bursting with heart and hustle.

The 100-meter dash kicked things off, transforming the stadium into a cauldron of noise. Classmates and teachers roared from the stands as runners blurred down the track, each heat a pulse-pounding showdown. Pace Manuele, a third grader from

North Elementary, set the standard with a blistering 14.93 seconds, the day's fastest time. Top finishers across the age groups were:

- **Third Grade Girls:**
 1. Winrey Sauls (Three Peaks)
 2. Parker Gallego (Enoch)
 3. Alice Abrams (North)
- **Third Grade Boys:**
 1. Pace Manuele (North)
 2. Lincoln Wilckens (Enoch)
 3. Jordi Gomez (North)
- **Fourth Grade Girls:**
 1. Josephine Whittaker (Enoch)
 2. Hayden Ellis (Enoch)
 3. Lydia Shetell (Fiddlers)
- **Fourth Grade Boys:**
 1. Jase Gallego (Enoch)
 2. Will Clift (Enoch)
 3. Hudson Hyde (Three Peaks)
- **Fifth Grade Girls:**

1. Kinlee Manuele (North)
2. Athina Bongolian (Three Peaks)
3. Penelope Guzman (Fiddlers)

- **Fifth Grade Boys:**
 1. Ruger Pacheco (Enoch)
 2. Tyler Stubbs (Three Peaks)
 3. James Harris (Enoch)

The 400-meter dash pushed the athletes to their limits, with the crowd urging them around every turn. Kiersten Rice from Three Peaks Elementary scorched the fifth-grade girls' race in 1:11.49, the meet's fastest time. The top three finishers in each division were:

- **Third Grade Girls:**
 1. Seleea Grimshaw (Fiddlers)
 2. Parker Gallego (Enoch)
 3. Piper Leavitt (North)
- **Third Grade Boys:**

1. Pace Manuele (North)
2. Joseph Haycock (Fiddlers)
3. Drexel Ashworth (Fiddlers)

- **Fourth Grade Girls:**
 1. Josephine Whittaker (Enoch)
 2. Paisley Duncan (Enoch)
 3. Skye Lozano (North)
- **Fourth Grade Boys:**
 1. Kyson Judd (Enoch)
 2. Hutch Prisbrey (Three Peaks)
 3. Rycher Harris (Enoch)
- **Fifth Grade Girls:**
 1. Kiersten Rice (Three Peaks)
 2. Kinlee Manuele (North)
 3. Eliana Rodriguez (Enoch)
- **Fifth Grade Boys:**
 1. Ben Christian (Enoch)
 2. James Harris (Enoch)

see **YOUNG CHAMPIONS** » 15

schools



YOUNG CHAMPIONS

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

3. Remington Sauls (Three Peaks)

In the softball throw, athletes strutted to the field, ready to launch. Kempson Humphreys, a fifth grader from Three Peaks Elementary, stole the spotlight with a mammoth 165-foot, 8-inch toss. The top performers were:

- **Third Grade Girls:**
 1. Swayzie Styler (Three Peaks)
 2. Kamryn Gibbs (Enoch)
 3. Harper Westwood (North)

- **Third Grade Boys:**
 1. Porter Larsen (Enoch)
 2. Keagan Johnson (Three Peaks)
 3. Jaxon Wilburn (Three Peaks)

- **Fourth Grade Girls:**
 1. Korlee Wood (Three Peaks)
 2. Tahj Cuthers (Fiddlers)
 3. Melinda Coston (Fiddlers)

- **Fourth Grade Boys:**
 1. Kyson Judd (Enoch)
 2. Connor Evans (Fiddlers)
 3. Jase Gallego (Enoch)

- **Fifth Grade Girls:**
 1. Aaliyah Attig (Enoch)

2. Kiyah Teeples (North)
3. Harper Hooper (Enoch)

- **Fifth Grade Boys:**
 1. Kempson Humphreys (Three Peaks)
 2. Bentley Coates (Fiddlers)
 3. Quade Robinson (Enoch)

The meet closed with a crowd-pleasing 200-meter faculty race, where teachers from each school challenged Shain Manuele, owner of Manuele Law, for extra prize money. Payton Dolan from Three Peaks sprinted to victory, securing an additional \$100 for their school. Enoch Elementary topped the team

standings, taking home \$400, followed by Three Peaks with \$300, Fiddlers with \$200, and North with \$100—all donated by Manuele Law.

“This was more than a track meet; it was a day for kids to shine, schools to come together, and our community to celebrate,” said Shain Manuele. “Seeing these young athletes give their all, and the crowd cheering them on—it’s what makes events like this unforgettable.”

Manuele Law’s Ultimate Field Day wasn’t just a competition; it was a celebration of young talent and community pride. As the athletes clutched their medals and the stands emptied, one thing was clear: this is a tradition worth running back.



SUP Ancestor Essay Winner, Ida Wainwright

SUP Ancestor Essay Contest Winners for 2025

by Howard Thorley

CEDAR CITY CHAPTER OF THE SONS OF UTAH PIONEERS

As the school year comes to an end, it is time for the local Cedar City chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers to present the awards for its annual ancestor essay contest. Each year the local SUP sponsors an ancestor essay contest for the fourth graders in the Cedar City area, Enoch and Escalante Valley elementary schools. The essay must be in the fourth grader’s own words about an ancestor who lived at

least two generations back from the student.

In research done by Emory University, researchers found the more children knew about their families, the stronger their sense of control over their lives. They also had higher esteem and believed their families functioned more successfully. They show higher levels of emotional well-being. One of the mission statements of the Sons of Utah Pioneers is to “Teach (pioneer) values to the youth who will

be tomorrow’s pioneers.” One of the goals of these essays is to provide an opportunity to a fourth grade student to get to know one of their ancestors.

This year we received essays from eight of the public schools in Cedar City and Enoch as well as Escalante Valley Elementary and Gateway Preparatory Academy. There were 166 entries total. Schools were awarded first, second and third place awards.

First place winners in each school include Greer Chesnut from Enoch

see SUP » 16

schools

SUP

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

Elementary, Asher Johnson from Fiddlers Elementary, Miles Bergstrom from Iron Springs Elementary, Ethan Gwin from North Elementary, Gracie Rasmussen for South Elementary, Madilyn Headlee from Three Peaks Elementary, Lynzee Marinovic from Escalante Valley Elementary, and Halle Leavitt from Gateway Preparatory Academy.

The overall winner this year is Ida Wainwright from Iron Springs Elementary. She won \$50 and she will be reading her winning essay in a town meeting at the Rock Church in Cedar City on the morning of July 24th at 10:00.

Ida wrote about her great grandmother Ida Nelson, because she died while her mother was pregnant with Ida. That is how our essay winner got her name.

Ida, the great grandmother, was born in Thatcher, Arizona. Because of her mother's poor health, Ida was given many responsibilities of taking care of her siblings. The Great Depression started when she was ten years old.

She and her husband Mack were married in Phoenix, Arizona, but eventually ended up living in Page, Arizona during the time when the Glen Canyon Dam was being built. She was well known for her generosity, inviting many people into her home in times of need.

Her husband died of cancer in 1998 and she lived alone until she passed away at age 95 in 2014. The author applauded her great grandmother as "strong and independent."

Congratulations to Ida and all those who submitted essays. They were all winners as they learned about their ancestors. Thanks also to the judges.



Toby Tebbs

McKinlee Mitchell

Mallorie Thelin

Elorah Dobrinski

Violet Yorgason

Adelaide Yorgason

SUCCESS ACADEMY STUDENTS SHINE IN NATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

by Gavin Hawley

SUCCESS ACADEMY

SUCCESS Academy is thrilled to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our students, who truly embody our motto, "Diligence in the pursuit of excellence." As an early college high school, we are dedicated to preparing students for higher education and lifelong success, and these students are prime examples of that commitment.

We are incredibly proud to announce that Elorah Dobrinski, Adelaide Yorgason, Toby Tebbs, Violet Yorgason, McKinlee Mitchell, and Mallorie Thelin have all been accepted into the **Teen Catalyst Leadership Program**, a highly esteemed national leadership program for exceptional students. Their selection is a testament to their dedication through the School Honor Society, where they organized and led monthly **Teen Science Cafés**.

These Cafés are monthly gatherings where students enjoy a meal, hear from experts in various scientific fields, and participate in engaging hands-on activities. Thanks to the remarkable efforts of our students, these events regularly attract 40-50 Iron County students, fostering a love for STEM

in our community.

Elorah Dobrinski shared her insights, stating, "Being a part of the leadership has helped me understand the importance of all the details and inner workings that have to happen during each Café. I feel that being a part of this program has also helped me develop leadership and execution skills."

As they prepare for this summer's Teen Catalyst Leadership Program, our students are eager to contribute their talents. Dobrinski looks forward to guiding participants toward careers in STEM. Violet Yorgason is excited to contribute to leadership efforts, while McKinlee Mitchell is keen to broaden her leadership skills and share the Teen Science Café experience with others. They are already brainstorming ideas for workshops and activities for the upcoming year, showcasing their continued initiative.

SUCCESS Academy is immensely proud of the contributions and accomplishments of all these students. Their hard work and dedication to excellence are taking them to greater heights and truly make our school a dynamic place to learn and grow.

calendar

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

GOVERNMENT

Brian Head Council

2nd & 4th Tues, 1 pm • Brian Head Town Hall, 56 N. Hwy 143

Cedar City Council

Wed (except 5th), 5:30 pm • City Hall, 10 N. Main St (435) 586-2950

Central Iron County Water Conservancy District Board Meetings

3rd Thurs., 6:30pm. 710 S. Westview Drive

Enoch City Council

1st & 3rd Wed, 6 pm • City Hall, 900 E Midvalley Rd • (435) 586-1119

Enoch Planning Commission

2nd & 4th Tues, 5:30 pm • City Hall, 900 E Midvalley Rd • (435) 586-1119

Iron County Commission

2nd & 4th Mon, 9 am • Commission Chambers, 68 S 100 E, Parowan

Iron County Democrats

3rd Sat, 10 am-11:30 am • Cedar City Library, 303 N 100 E

Iron County Republican Women

3rd Wed, 11:30 am. Tickets \$20, <https://www.ironcountyrepublicanwomen.com>

Parowan City Council

2nd & 4th Thurs, 6 pm • City Hall, 35 E 100 N • (435) 477-3331

SERVICE GROUPS

American Legion Post 74

2nd Mon, 6pm, Cedar Library, 303 N 100 E. Learn about Veteran benefits, opportunities, fellowship. Honor Guard provides military honors at Veterans funerals. Post Commander Tris Colman (805) 268-4287.

Bikers Against Child Abuse

2nd Thurs 7 pm • Courtyard Marriott, 1294 S Interstate Dr (Cedar Breaks Conference Rm)

DAR – Bald Eagle Chapter

3rd Tues, 11:30 AM @ the Cedar City Brian Head Visitors Center.

Elks Lodge #1556

111 E Freedom Blvd. Cedar City, (435) 586-8332

Lion's Club

Tues, 12 pm • Call Pres. Michelle Wilson for mtg. info. Everyone welcome! (802) 359-2183

Marine Corps League

Detachment 1315, 2nd Wed, 6:30 pm Elks Lodge (303 N 100 E)

Rotary Club

Tues, 12:15 • Southwest Tech, 757 W 800 S, Cedar City • (435) 233-0244

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

1st Tues, 6PM, Post 10846 meets @ Elks Lodge, 111 E 200 N. Email: VFWinCedarCity@gmail.com

SUPPORT GROUPS

AA—Alcoholics Anonymous

(435) 635-3603 • www.utahaa.org. Helpline: John (702) 802-1332, Kara (702) 232-6829
KKCB Club (203 E. Cobblecreek Dr, Cedar City) unless otherwise listed

Speaking From The Heart • M – Sa, Noon

Steps and Traditions • M – Su, 7 am

Red Road to Sobriety • Mon, 6 pm Paiute Tribe, 440 N Paiute (435) 586-1112 Ext. 307

Misfits • M – F, 6 pm

Cedar Group • Tues, 8 pm

The Great Fact • T, F, Noon. True Life Center 2111 N. Main. (702) 802-1332 or (702) 533-7856

Red Creek Group • Wed, 7 pm • 685 N 300 E, Parowan • (435) 477-8925

Uncommon Sense • Sat, 10:00 am

My Story • Sat, 8 pm

Thank God Sunday Spiritual • Sun, 11 am

What a Way to Start the Day • Su, W, F 7-8 am • All are welcome

Al-Anon

KKCB Club (203 E. Cobblecreek Dr, Cedar City) unless otherwise listed

Easy Does It • Tues, 6-7 pm • (435) 559-3333

Hope for Today (Family Groups)

Thurs, 6 pm • (435) 559-3333

Key to Harmony (Online/Email Meeting) Sun & Tues 435-704-4979 • <https://keytoharmony.org/>

Alzheimer's/Dementia

Last Tues, 5:30-6:30 pm • Cedar Library (303 N 100 E). Learn, access resources, connect. Virtual option available. Raven Albertson, 385.831.7124, utahprograms@alz.org.

ARP—Addiction Recovery

1st Wed, 7 pm • Parowan Seminary building, Main & 300 N, Parowan
Sun 7:30 pm • 85 N 600 W, Cedar, Rm. 102 – LDS bldg. Back entrance. 435-218-9578

Caregivers

3rd Thurs, 5:45-7 pm • Zion's Way Home Health, 369 N 100 W #1, Cedar. All levels of the caregiver's journey from pre-caringiving to bereavement and rebuilding welcome. INFO: Kat at 702-292-9911.

Embrace Grace

Unmarried, pregnant? You don't have to walk alone! Safe, judgment-free zone. Free baby stuff at a baby shower for you. Text or call 407-719-8595. Info under Resources tab @ Threshingfloor.life.

Grief Support Group

2nd Tues, 5 pm • Southern Utah Mortuary (190 N 300 W, Cedar). Safe, supportive for those who have lost loved ones. You are not alone. Free. INFO: 435-586-4040

Grief Support - Child Loss

1st Tues, 7 pm • Cedar Library (303 N 100 E). FREE for bereaved parent, sibling or grandparent. Includes any child loss (pre-birth, young, teen, adult). INFO: 435-327-1856

Helproom

Fri, 2-3 pm • Free online support group for survivors of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault. Safe to communicate, share perspectives on healing, recovery. Join: affiliate.rainn.org/helproom/canyoncreekservices.

Multiple Sclerosis

3rd Thurs, 6-8 pm • Cedar Visitor's Center, 581 N Main. Caregivers and those with MS

Narcotics Anonymous

www.nasouthernutah.org • (435) 635-9603
KKCB Club (203 E. Cobblecreek Dr, Cedar City) unless otherwise listed

Basic Text Study • Mon, 8 pm

Just for Today • Wed, 8 pm

It Works - How and Why • Thurs, 7:30-8:30 pm

Live and Let Live • Fri, 8 pm

Candle Light Mtg • Sat, 9:30 pm (5m rm)

Women Only • Sun, 11 am

Dopeless Hope Fiends • Sun, 8 pm • Mtg Hall, 1067 S Main, Cedar (877) 865-5890

Nicotine Anon (12-Step)

Fri 5 pm • KKCB 203 Cobble Creek Dr. Ste. 201 (North Room), Cedar • (435) 559-0394

Porn Addiction Recovery

Men Only • Thurs, 7:30pm • Canyon View seminary building (54 W 1925 N). North entrance.

Pregnancy, Infant Loss

1st Thurs, 7:30 pm • Share Families of So. Utah • 565 N Main Street, Ste. 6, Cedar • www.southernutahshare.com

Reel Mental Health

1st Tues, 6PM • The Rambouillet Barn 197 W. 200 S, Parowan, Utah 84761 • A fun interactive support group focused on your mental health and well-being.

Senior Blind/Visually Impaired

3rd Thurs, 1:30 pm • Cedar City Library

Southern Utah Veterans Assoc.

1st Thurs, 7 pm • Westview Christian Center, 2624 W Hwy 56, Cedar. INFO: Chuck Waddell 907-252-1365.

Southwest Parkinson's Alliance

2nd Tues, 1:30-2:30 pm • Cedar City Senior Center, 489 E 200 S • Kristy 435-559-9681.

Widows Ministry

2nd Sat, 11-1 pm • New Journey-Widow's Ministry @ Sunrise Christian Church (6843 W 1800 N, Cedar). INFO: 435-586-3640, info@sunrisechurch.net, sunrisechurch.net.

CLASSES, CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Adult Barre/Modern Dance

Wed, 11 am-noon, Spirit Wellness Club, 1615 N Main, Cedar City • All levels, Free to members, or \$8 drop-in fee.

Arthritis Foundations Exercise

Time TBA, Cedar Senior Center, 489 E 200 S • 435-586-0832. FREE. Trained instructors. Range-of-motion exercises, endurance-building activities, relaxation techniques, and health education topics.

Arts for Adults w/ Disabilities

Every other Tues, 1-2pm, starts Nov. 28. • Johnson Arts Center (59 N 100 W Cedar). Fun, engaging activities. Drum/Flute circles, group juggling, fine arts projects, more! All levels/abilities! 702-917-2151.

Bingo & Lunch

Fri. lunch @ Noon, Bingo @3 pm. Free for Seniors @ Our House Assisted Living (995 S Regency Rd, Cedar). INFO: 435-867-0055.

Book Club

2nd Thurs, 6 pm • Cedar Library 303 N 100 E.

Boy Scout Troop 1848

5th-17 yrs • Thurs 6:30 pm • Old School Library, upstairs, west door. Text Sheila 805-208-4545

Cars & Custard

2nd Mon, 6-8 PM at Culver's 1065 Main St., Cedar City. Classic Cars & Trucks, Customs, Your pride and joy. A free small Custard for each car entry, provided by Culver's! Contact Mike @ 909-717-1232 or ekimjacobs@gmail.com for more info.

Cedar Breaks Model A/Vintage Car Club

1st Thurs, 6pm • Get to know other vintage vehicle enthusiasts, great camaraderie, have fun, win awards at car shows, parades, etc. INFO: Mel @ 435-919-4183 or email cedarmodela@gmail.com.

Cedar Chest Quilters' Guild

Thurs, 10 am • Cedar Senior Center, 489 E 200 S. Projects for all abilities. Block of the Month. Make friends, improve skills & have fun. Visitors welcome. Info: Ms. Ronnie Badgett. 435-477-2243. cedarchestquiltersguild.org

Cedar City ESL

Wed, 6:30 - 7:30 pm • Free ESL lessons offered at Cedar Library, Rare Book Room (303 N 100 E). No pre-registration required.

Cedar City Toastmasters

Thurs, 7 am • Cedar City Visitor Center, 581 North

Main. Find your voice, shape your future. Be the leader & speaker you want to be. (603) 731-0116

Cedar City Unitarian Universalists

2nd Sun, 11:00am @ 1280 E Midvalley Rd. Leave a message at 435 590-0596 if interested.

Cedar Professionals

Tues, 7:30 am • Springhill Suites, 1477 S Highway 91, Cedar City. Organization of business people. Stimulate business through exchange of ideas, information, referrals. visit www.cedarprofessionals.org

Cedar Radio Control Club

4th Thurs, 7 pm • Cedar City Library, 303 N 100 E.

Cedar City Community Band

We offer a wealth of opportunities for individuals of all ages and skill levels to get involved and experience the joy of ensemble music-making. Contact us at www.cedarcitycommunityband.org or by calling 435-590-2513.

Cub Scout Pack 1848

K-5th • Thurs, 5 pm • Old School Library, upstairs, west side door, next to Enoch City Business office. Text LaRee Kurtz 435-559-211.

Explorer Bible Club

Wed, 6:30-8 pm • 4yrs. to 6th grade, Valley Bible Church (4780 N Hwy 91, Enoch). 435-586-0253

International Folk Dancing

Fri, 1-2 pm • Cedar Senior Center (489 E 200 S) FREE; No Partner Needed; teaching! INFO: 626-808-6129

Iron County Moms For America

4th Thurs, 7pm at 2321 W Cove View Dr, Cedar City. Join a growing number of women throughout the nation to strengthen and preserve liberty. INFO: Kami Merrill 435-592-4152 or email: ironcountymoms4america@gmail.com

Iron County Democrats

Come meet with an exciting and welcoming group committed to improving our world. Monthly meetings and annual convention. For more information find us at Facebook- Iron County Utah Democrats, or call Mike Keil at (435)840-4712.

Friends of Festival Country K9s

offers Dog Training classes and therapy dogs for libraries, schools, and more. We also have events like animal adoptions and microchip clinics. Call Gail Workman at 435-592-5487 for info.

Community Dance: Live music, Classic Country, Oldies Rock & Roll.

3rd Friday of every month, 7-9 pm. Cedar Senior Center, 489 E 200 S. No cover. Call the Senior Center for more information at 435-586-0832.

parkrun

Sat, 8 am • Canyon Park West 133 S 400 E Cedar City. A free, fun, and friendly weekly 5k community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate - it's up to you! www.parkrun.us

Parowan Pickleball

Mon, 6-8 pm • Tues-Thurs, 9-12 pm • Iron County Exhibit Building. Range of skill levels, 3 indoor courts, beginners welcome. INFO, fees and sign up: Parowan Visitors Center 435-477-8190.

PB&J Therapy Groups

These two groups teach skills for different areas of life by utilizing recreational activities and engaging in other forms of expressing emotions. INFO: 435-267-4212.

College: forms.gle/SmGytgCfvQ1tS2pB7

Adolescent: forms.gle/BZiepPW63pR6Zd8k9

Rock Club

1st Thurs, 6 pm • Gateway Academy, 201 W Thoroughbred Way, Enoch. Learn about geology, find gems, fossils and minerals. Learn to cut and polish and make jewelry.

southernutahrockclub.org

Sagebrush Fiber Artisans Guild

Wed, 9:30-11:30 am • Grind Coffee House (19 N Main, Cedar City). Knit, crochet, weave, spin, etc. Come learn a craft, work on a project, or just socialize. Beginners welcome! Questions: Jane 435-233-8366.

Senior Yoga Classes

Mon, 10-11 am & Wed, 1-2 pm • Cedar City Senior Center (489 E 200 S). Easy to do. Please bring own mat. (435) 586-0832

Sewing Group

Wed 9-2:30 pm • Cedar Senior Center (489 E 200 S). Bring machine, cord, projects, supplies. No fees. All abilities welcome. Annie Anzalone (702) 232-0063.

Southern Utah Woodturners

2nd Sat, 9 am, Cedar High School wood shop, 703 W 600 S.

StrongBoard Classes

M-W-Fri, 9 am • IFS Studio, 2390 UT-56 #9, Cedar City. Improve core strength, balance, stability. All fitness levels welcome. Class size limited to 8. Call (661) 436-0259 to register/reserve your spot.

Tai Chi For Health

Wed & Fri, 9:30-10:30 am • Cedar Senior Center, 489 E 200 S. FREE low-impact, health for Seniors. Helps coordination, balance, flexibility. Maria Bailey, 435-673-3548 x103. Pre-registration not required. Space limited.

TOPS—Take Off Pounds Sensibly

Wed • Weigh-in 9 am, mtg 9:30 am. Cedar City Library, 303 N 100 E. Lose weight affordably • 586-3233 (am mtg)

Water Aerobics Class

Tues, Thurs, 9 am • SUU pool, 2-56 N 600 W., Fun, up-tempo workout to music. Intensive cardio, full body muscle toning. Any fitness level. All ages. \$3/class, including pool admission. (435) 327-2091 (no text)

Wellness Place

583 S Main Suite #5, Cedar City. (435) 592-5308. Classes: thewellnessplacecc.com/ upcoming-classes

Wellness Wednesdays

Wed Noon-1 pm • Create Better Health. ZOOM Mtg ID: 841 6308 8990, PW: health, Info: Kristi Sharp (435) 986-2564, ksharp@swuhealth.org

Youth Group

Wed, 6:30-8 pm • Ages 12-18. Meal, games & Bible Study. @ Sunrise Christian Church (6843 W 1800 N, Cedar). INFO: 435-586-3640, info@sunrisechurch.net, sunrisechurch.net.

calendar

THURS, JUNE 5

INDOOR FARMERS MARKET

(NEW Expanded Hours – Open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 10AM to 6 PM) 909 S Main St., Cedar City - (Between IFA and Liberty Tax) Regional vendors are bringing their best artisan goods including fresh bakery items, Local eggs, pickles, jams & butters, freeze dried treats, candles, soaps, tallow and beauty products! One-of-a-kind crafts and secondhand treasures, live and artificial plants, herbs and cedar planter boxes! Something special waiting to be discovered!

COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE (7PM) ONCE a month at 7pm at Main Street Park. Join Cedar City drum circle on Facebook or text 435-319-9518.

FRI, JUNE 6

COLOR COUNTRY EQUESTRIAN CLUB

Hunter Jumper Dressage and Western All Breed Horse Show happening Friday and Saturday at the Iron County Fairgrounds in Parowan as part of the Utah Summer Games! We offer Dressage, Jumping,

English & Western Flat Classes, Ranch Riding, and Ranch Trail and more. Come compete or spectate! Visit colorcountryequestrianclub.net for more info!

SAT, JUNE 7

SOUTHERN UTAH ROCK CLUB

(10AM-2PM) Southern Utah Rock Club Lapidary Shop Open House. SURC Lapidary Shop, 495 N 100 W, Cedar City. The shop will be open to the public will show off the lapidary equipment available to members to cut, shape, & polish rocks. Attendees will hear about the lapidary process and learn how to use the equipment safely & efficiently.

You can learn about the silversmithing & lost wax casting processes in our jewelry workshop area. For more information email shop_foreman@southernutahrockclub.org

INDOOR FARMERS MARKET (9AM-2PM)

909 S Main St., Cedar City - (Between IFA and Liberty Tax) Regional vendors are bringing their best artisan goods including fresh bakery items, Local eggs, pickles, jams & butters, freeze dried treats, candles, soaps and facial products! One-of-a-kind crafts and secondhand treasures, live plants, herbs, spices and seasonings, and cedar planter boxes! Something special waits to be discovered! We will be closed for expansion as of June 16th, reopening for our grand opening on July 4th.

CEDAR CITY FARMERS MARKET

(9AM-2PM) @ the IFA parking lot (905 S Main St, Cedar City), admission is FREE. Come for the farmers, food, and artisans as well as drawings, bingo, and more! For information visit them on Facebook, Cedar Saturday Market, or call Nancy (435) 463-3735.

FESTIVAL CITY FARMERS MARKET

(10AM-1PM) at 100 West Center Street (Cedar City), admission is FREE. Shop locally produced and grown fruit, vegetables, cheese, jam, bread, eggs, honey, farm products, handcrafted items, and more. For information email festivalcityfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

ANNUAL TEDDY BEAR PICNIC

(11AM-2PM) at Main Street Park, 200 North Main St. The Family Support Center of Southwestern Utah is happy to be partnering with the newly formed Kiwanis Club of Iron County to host their third annual Teddy Bear Picnic. Bring your family, favorite stuffy & a picnic lunch.

Cupcakes, games & activities provided.

MON, JUNE 9

CRUISE IN AND CAR SHOW (6-8PM) @

Les Schwab Tires, 1403 Providence Center Drive, Cedar City, UT. The second Monday of every month (weather permitting). FREE to participants and the public. Contact person: Mike Jacobs (909) 717-1232 call or text or email ekimjacobs@gmail.com, Cedar Saturday Market, or call Nancy (435) 463-3735.

TUES, JUNE 10

LIVE JAZZ! (7PM) - THE JAZZ ALLIANCE

OF CEDAR CITY presents it's monthly JAZZCast at Off The Cuff (913 S Main St). This month our season finale features local trumpeter David Torres and guitarist McKay Tebbs! Be part of our live studio audience and experience the energy, creativity, and fun of live jazz like never before! Free Admission! Free Desserts.

WED, JUNE 11

INDOOR FARMERS MARKET (NEW)

Expanded Hours – Open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 10AM to 6 PM) 909 S Main St., Cedar City - (Between IFA and Liberty Tax) Regional vendors are bringing their best artisan goods including fresh bakery items, Local eggs, pickles, jams & butters, freeze dried treats, candles, soaps, tallow and beauty products! One-of-a-kind crafts and secondhand treasures, live and artificial plants, herbs and cedar planter boxes! Something special waiting to be discovered!

Want your event on our calendar?

There is no charge for calendar items. Your submissions can be made online at ironcountytoday.com, or emailed to news@ironcountytoday.com or brought to 479 N 100 W, #1, Cedar City, Utah 84721. The deadline is Friday at noon. The calendar is not to be used for advertising. Items will be printed at our discretion.



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history

JOHNSON'S FORT

- A NEW BEGINNING

by May Hunter

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

Johnson's Fort, now known as Enoch, is located six miles north-east of Cedar City and twelve miles southwest of Parowan.

Joel H. Johnson came to Parowan in 1861. Some of his party continued on to Cedar City in November of that same year. In the spring of 1851, Joel went to the Enoch meadows and settled on the bench of the upper meadow.

They dug cellars just west of where the Gibson home now stands. Here they lived for about three years, and the area became known as Johnson's Springs. These springs were found along the bench for a distance of a mile or more, running north to south. By December of 1852, seven families were living at Johnson's Springs. Today, these springs have dried up.

Labon D. Merrill and his wife, Perneila, of Vermont, Massachusetts, crossed the plains with an ox team during the summer of 1852. They first settled in Springville and were later called to Iron County. Around 1854, Labon D. Morrill went east to bring more emigrants to Salt Lake City. Among them were Williams Dalley and his wife, Mandana Hillman Dalley; James Dalley and his wife, Emma Wright Dalley; and Labon Morrill and his wife, Permellua Drury Morrill.

This "Johnson's Fort" marker refers to the Fort established by Joel H. Johnson in the 1850's. It provided shelter and protection for the early settlers in the area. Remains of the fort are still visible nearby. Log in the photo is from an original tree in the fort.



Having traveled across the plains in 1852, they had become good friends.

They all came to Johnson's Springs to help care for and protect livestock owned by people in Iron County and to help build a fort for protection. The fort measured ten rods square, and the walls were made of mud. The base of the wall was two and a half feet thick, tapering to eighteen inches at the top and standing nine feet high. Five adobe rooms were built in a row on the west side of the fort, and a well was dug in the center for drinking

water.

Cottonwood trees were planted on the south, east, and west sides of the fort. Several homes were actually located inside the fort. Ice was brought from nearby ponds and stored in an icehouse. Several Dalley children were born at the fort between 1854 and 1857. The Dalleys moved from Johnson's Fort to Summit, Utah, in 1859 to help build that settlement. Joseph B. Dalley was born there in 1859 in a dugout and was the first white child born in Summit.

For several years, only the Johnson and Merrill families remained at the fort. They made their living

through farming, raising livestock, and dairying.

While living at Johnson's Fort, Joel H. Johnson composed the hymn "High on the Mountain Top."

The Cedar City Co-op and Livestock Company acquired or purchased pasture land and meadow north and east of the fort. The company ran cattle

there until 1883, when the land was sold to David Bulloch.

In 1869, John P. Jones and his sons moved from Cedar City to Johnson's Springs. He was an iron worker who built a blast furnace and coke oven, melting iron and molding fire grates and machinery for a molasses mill serving the Dixie area. His sons—John Lee Jones, Sylvester F. Jones, and Hyrum Jones—assisted him and made their homes at Johnson's Springs.

In 1879, Joseph Jones, brother of John P. Jones, bought a one-half interest in Johnson's Fort. Joseph

see **JOHNSON'S FORT** » 20

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faith

Community Presbyterian Church Invites Children to True North Bible Day-camp/VBS

from Pastor Robyn Eddy

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cedar City, UT. A free summer kids' event called True North will be hosted at Community Presbyterian Church from June 16-20, 9:00am-12:00 noon. At True North, kids discover what it means to trust Jesus in a wild world! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of Jesus' love, and test out sciency-fun experiments they'll never forget. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with a Compass Closing that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned. Family members and friends are encouraged to join in daily for this special time at 11:40.

Kids at True North will join a missions effort to raise funds for our local Family Support Center of Southwestern Utah.

True North is for kids from Preschool (age 3) to finishing 5th grade and will run from 9:00am to 12:00 noon each day. For more information, call 435-586-8891 or online at cedarpres.org or <http://vbspro.events/p/b008b1> to register.

history

JOHNSON'S FORT

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

Armstrong purchased the other half. After Joseph Jones's death, his wife sold her share to Joseph H. Armstrong in exchange for some sheep, a span of horses, and the remainder in cash.

Around 1905, William H. Grimshaw began developing land in the valley southwest of Enoch, where he had claimed a homestead. He was from Beaver and had married Mary Mae Hunter of Cedar City. The Matheson brothers also moved into the valley, as did the Esplins, Heatons, and Stevens.

In 1879-1880, the railroad changed its route from Marysvale to Milford. Johnnie Armstrong drove the mail route from Beaver to Cedar City. Horses and drivers were changed at the station, where drivers and passengers were also given room and board. Joseph H. Armstrong delivered mail from Johnson's Fort to Paragonah by pony.

The first school was held at the Co-op ranch after the Armstrongs moved there. Katherine Bell and Lucy Jones were the first teachers, serving from 1877 to 1879. In 1878, there were six families living at Johnson's Fort.

When the people of Johnson's Fort applied to the U.S. government for a post office, they were informed that they would need to choose a different name due to duplication elsewhere in Utah. The name was changed to Enoch. However, the ranch where Armstrong lived continued to be called Johnson's Fort. The post office was established in 1890, with John P. Jones as the first postmaster.

Many celebrations were held at the fort beneath the

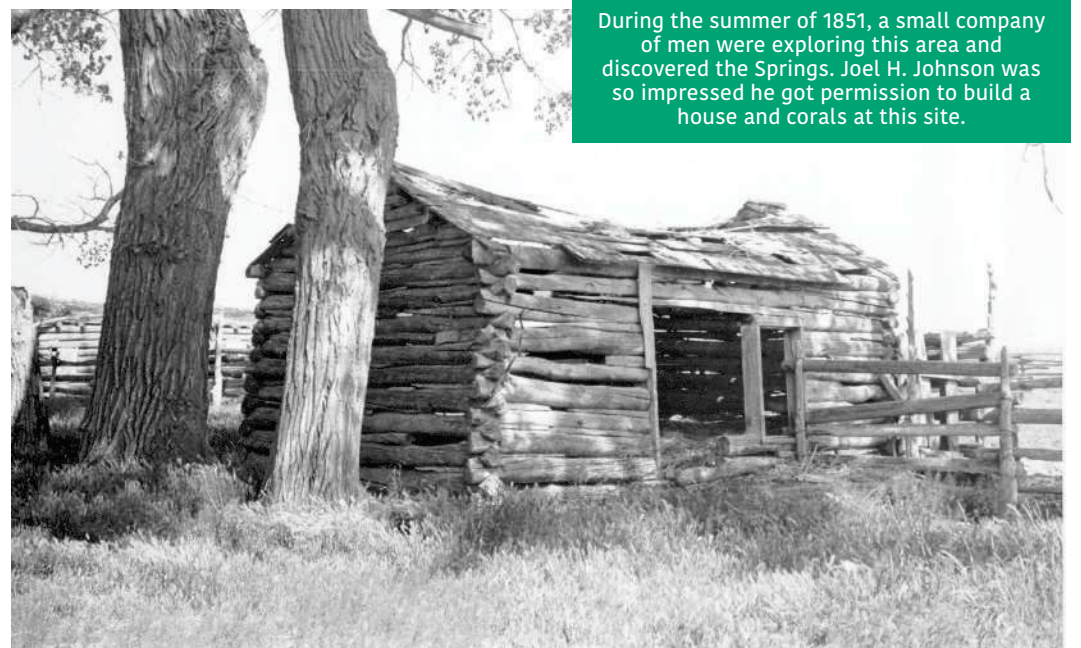
shade of the cottonwood trees. People came from surrounding settlements to enjoy May Day, the Fourth of July, and the Twenty-Fourth of July. Every holiday was celebrated in a joyful and meaningful way.

Although the settlement of Johnson's Fort—now Enoch—nearly faded in its early days, others came to its aid. Today, it is a thriving, small community in Iron County and a wonderful place to live. Nestled against the breathtaking backdrop of Utah's Cedar Valley, the charming, quaint city of Enoch has a rich culture and history.

Enoch values its small size. From its humble beginnings as a pioneer settlement to its growth into a vibrant, unique community, the real history of Enoch, Utah, is a testament to the enduring spirit of its pioneers, the strength of its community, and its dedication to preserving history and heritage. The town remains deeply connected to its roots, surrounded by mountains and filled with outdoor recreation opportunities for all ages. Enoch is truly a softer slice of life.



Johnson's Fort was constructed at this site in 1851. Corals were made to keep the early settlers livestock safe.



During the summer of 1851, a small company of men were exploring this area and discovered the Springs. Joel H. Johnson was so impressed he got permission to build a house and corals at this site.

The Leavitt Group and Utah Food Bank Awarded \$10,000 through Liberty Mutual and Safeco Insurance

2025 Make More Happen Awards Community Support Helped Double Donation by Voting Online

from Jackie Rodriguez

TILSON PR

Cedar City, Utah (June 2, 2025) – Thanks to overwhelming community support, the Leavitt Group has officially awarded a \$10,000 donation to Utah Food Bank, a nonprofit organization dedicated to fighting hunger statewide through food distribution, education and community empowerment. The funding will make a significant impact on Utah Food Bank's Mobile School Pantry program, a cost-effective food distribution point for children and their families which serves thousands of children and their families. The \$10,000 donation will expand the reach to more schools and improve access to fresh produce and healthier food options that are

Utah Food Bank was awarded a \$10,000 donation from Leavitt Group through the Liberty Mutual® and Safeco Insurance® 2025 Make More Happen™ Awards program.



essential for growing children.

Initially, the Leavitt Group received a \$5,000 donation through the Liberty Mutual® and Safeco Insurance® 2025 Make More Happen™ Awards program. After their story was featured on the Make More Happen microsite at <https://www.agentgiving.com/leavitt-group>, the community rallied with over 500 votes and

comments—triggering a matching donation and bringing the total to \$10,000.

Leavitt Group has been a long-time supporter of Utah Food Bank, providing a \$15,000 annual donation towards the Mobile School Pantry Program at Three Peaks Elementary and East Elementary. Additionally, the Leavitt Group team regularly volunteers at local elementary

schools, handing out bags of food to students in need as part of the program.

“Recognizing independent agents’ dedication to their communities and non-profit partners is what the Make More Happen Awards are all about,” said Tracy Connole, Liberty Mutual Senior Territory Manager. “Leavitt Group is an outstanding example of how

agencies can make a real difference, and we hope sharing their story inspires others to give back as well.”

Throughout 2025, Liberty Mutual and Safeco Insurance will recognize up to 36 independent agencies nationwide, donating up to \$360,000 to nonprofit organizations they support.

For more information, visit www.agentgiving.com.

obituaries

David Mortensen Orton



David Mortensen Orton passed away May 26, 2025, peacefully in his home surrounded by loved ones.

David was born April 24, 1936, to Claude T. Orton and Ruby Mortensen Orton. He graduated from Parowan High School in 1954. He attended one year of college at Utah State University. He then transferred to College of Southern Utah (now known as SUU) where he played on the basketball team.

David met the love of his life, Mary Etta Stubbs, in high school. They were married on June 8, 1956, in the St. George Temple. They have four children, David S. (Linda), Kerry S. (Jill), Pamela (Mark), Neil S. (Leslie).

David worked for the Coca-Cola Bottling Company for 10 years delivering Coke products to many locations in Southern Utah. He then went on to manage two gas stations and opened the South Main Chevron in Cedar City. In his retirement years he went to work as a custodian at Parowan High School where he made many life time friends with the teachers and students.

David enjoyed all sports, horse races, fishing at Lake Powell, deer hunting and spending time with his family. He loved riding in the mountains, listening to music and he took great pride in making sure his lawn was green in the summer.

David was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and held several callings throughout his life. He served in two Bishoprics, was a member of the high council and an ordinance worker in the St. George Temple.

David is survived by his loving wife, his children, 11 grandchildren: Jason, Dean, Karley, Kyle, Nicole, Brandon, Lindsey, Paisley, Taylor, Bradi, Raigen and 15 great-children. He is also survived by in-laws Clarence and DeAnn Stubbs, Linda Mecham, Elna Stubbs, Becky Stubbs and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his son Kerry, his parents, in-law parents, his brothers and sisters-in-law Eugene and Joy Orton, Chad and Beth Orton, Errol and Brenda Orton, his sister and brother-in-law Beverly and Verl Taylor, and in-laws Homer and Donna Stubbs, Howard Stubbs, Betty and Bud Perkins Larry Stubbs and Ron Mecham.

David was a wonderful husband, father and grandfather and he will be sorely missed.

A viewing will be held on Sunday, June 1, 2025, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Parowan Third Ward Relief Society Room (90 S. Main Street, Parowan, UT). A grave side service will be held on Monday, June 2, 2025, at 11:00 am at the Parowan City Cemetery under the direction of Southern Utah Mortuary. To share online condolences please visit www.mortuary.org.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Missionary Fund or Humanitarian Fund.

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2025 SOUT Opening Ceremony

Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games and SUU join with Special Olympics Utah to host 2025 Special Olympics Utah Summer Games Opening Ceremony

 by *Kale Nelson*

SUU ATHLETICS

CEDAR CITY, Utah (May 29, 2025)

- Southern Utah

University's Eccles Coliseum filled quickly with excited athletes and fans as Special Olympics Utah and Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games joined forces to kick off the 'Special Olympics Utah Summer Games' with an opening ceremony.

The event began with an athlete parade recognizing all participants in Olympic fashion and the lighting of

the torch. Law enforcement carried the 'Flame of Hope' around the Southern Utah University campus and Cedar City before SUU Chief of Police Carlos Medina and Carson Garrett lit the Olympic cauldron in inspiring fashion.

Also highlighting the festivities, Garret led all athletes in the 'Athlete Oath,' and the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah Youth Group put on a special performance.

With the Opening Ceremony drawing to a close, Governor Spencer

Cox and First Lady Abby Cox declared the Games officially opened, beginning a weekend of excitement that includes the sports of swimming, track, soccer, basketball and pickleball.

"Everyone deserves love, belonging and inclusion," Utah First Lady Cox shared. "That's what the Special Olympics is all about. That's what we're about here in Utah, and we're so excited to have you."

In addition to the upcoming competitive experience, SUU President Mindy Benson welcomed all athletes

to the Thunderbird family, meaning they will get the full T-Bird treatment. This includes residing in the dorms on campus, eating at the Sharwan Smith Student Center Cafeteria and watching a Utah Shakespeare Festival Performance at the SUU Auditorium.

"Utah is a special place and the Olympics are part of our history, heritage and future," Governor Cox stated. Addressing the participants, he added, "We're so proud of you. Thanks for inspiring all of us and thank you for making our state a better place."



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Women's Golf: 2024-25 Season Recap

by Parker Haynie

SUU ATHLETICS

A 50-year-old Iron County man was

sentenced CEDAR CITY, UTAH -- The SUU Women's Golf team wrapped up its first season under Head Coach Caylyn Ponich, and she is very excited for the future of the Thunderbirds Women's Golf team.

The 2024-25 season marked a significant chapter in the evolution of the Southern Utah University Women's Golf program under first-year head coach **Caylyn Ponich**. While the season was filled with both learning curves and competitive milestones, the overarching theme was growth, both as individual athletes and as a unified team.

"What stood out most to me about this team's growth and performance from start to finish was their resilience, commitment, and how they learned to truly fight for themselves and each other," Coach Ponich shared. "At the beginning of the semester, we really struggled on self-belief... But as the season went on, I saw a positive shift."

That shift was evident on the course, where the Lady Thunderbirds grew stronger with each tournament. Their improved self-belief translated into improved play, and their emphasis on the team score over individual results reflected a newfound cohesion. This wasn't just a team learning to play better golf — it was a team learning to play together.

Among the season's highlights was **Siriporn (Orchid) Luangnam**, who had an outstanding freshman campaign. She placed **4th at the WAC Conference Championships** in April — a remarkable achievement for a first-year player. "Orchid is the kind of player who rises to the challenge," Ponich noted. "That kind of experience is huge, and I am excited for her to bring that level of competition and confidence into her sophomore season."

Luangnam led the team with a 75.4 season stroke average through 23 competitive rounds played. Her low round of the season came in the final round of the WAC Championship, where she fired a three-under-par



69. That was one of her five rounds of even par or better on the year. In a season defined by highs and lows, the Lady Thunderbirds remained grounded in a shared sense of purpose. "My favorite part about last season was seeing how close the team became and how that bond pushed them to work harder and fight through the tough moments together," said Ponich. "Watching them support each other, lift each other after a tough round, and celebrate each other's successes made it really special."

The 2024-25 campaign was also a period of personal and professional growth for Coach Ponich, who was in her first year at the helm. "One of the biggest things I learned was how important it is to build a strong culture and create an environment where players feel supported, pushed, challenged, and motivated. Every decision, every conversation, and every round played a big part in shaping who I am becoming as a coach and

who we are becoming as a team." Looking ahead, the future is bright for the SUU Women's Golf program. With a core of motivated returners and a wave of new talent set to arrive in Cedar City, momentum is building. "To build on this momentum heading into next season, the biggest thing is keeping the energy and belief we finished with and taking it even further," Ponich said. "That excitement is powerful, and we are going to use it to push forward."

There's no denying that the Lady Thunderbirds are trending upward. As the offseason begins, the focus is

on preparation — in the weight room, on the course, and in mindset. "We have built a great foundation this season, and now it's about keeping that momentum going," said Ponich. "Everyone on the team shares the same goal, which is to get better and perform at a higher level." And perhaps most telling of what's to come is Coach Ponich's firm belief in the untapped potential of this group: "One thing I really want people to know about this team is that we have yet to show our best. There is so much talent here and so much potential that is just starting to come through."



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Larry H. Miller

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Scene from *As You Like It*, 2017.

Don't mess with a sports TV legend

RANDOM thoughts

Tom Zulewski

IRON COUNTY TODAY



As this opening sentence is being written, the insanely popular studio show “Inside the NBA” was about to have at least one more broadcast on TNT as the New York Knicks faced the Indiana Pacers in Game 6 of the Eastern Conference Finals. When the Knicks beat the Pacers, in Game 5, it left me with a good feeling, and not just for the game drama that was about to come.

That feeling comes from four guys – three NBA legends and one bow-tie clad moderator/captain of the best basketball party ship on TV – just being themselves and showing us all why these games are worth watching. For 36 years, Inside the NBA was a smart, sharp and often insanely funny look at the league and its happenings on and off the court.

While Inside has been around for 36 years, since 2011, Shaquille O’Neal, Charles Barkley, Kenny Smith and Ernie Johnson have been the fearless foursome that not only gave us the highlights and reactions to our NBA games, but made a lot of us laugh out loud along the way.

While Johnson has been the host since 1990, Smith signed on in 1998, Barkley joined the table in 2000 and Shaq came on board in 2011. They all knew when to be funny and when to balance it with serious discussion

about social issues of the day.

At first, the news was sad when TNT lost its portion of the NBA broadcasting rights to ESPN and NBC. It felt like a bit of a gut punch, mainly because going to a new network wouldn’t feel nearly the same as what we’ve been spoiled with all these years.

But when it was announced by Front Office Sports that Shaq signed a contract extension worth more than \$15 million a year, it was the last piece of the puzzle that will keep the band together as they head over to ESPN starting next season. The network may be changing, but the good news from all of this is Inside the NBA will not.

The FOS piece said all four members of the table will be TNT employees and that the network will maintain full editorial control while the show is carried on ESPN.

He didn’t give exact clarity, but O’Neal delivered a not-so-subtle message prior to Game 5 of the Knicks-Pacers series about what the future will hold. A video of the moment is available on the Awful Announcing Facebook page.

“Whatever network we go to, we’re bringing the pain. Just letting you know, right now. I know every-

TOM'S SPORTS TRIVIA

And now, we have liftoff on another dozen sporting trivia questions for your guessing enjoyment. This week's collection is a grab bag of challenging stuff that won't break your brain – at least that's the intended goal here. Have fun, embrace the chaos, and please remember... no wagering!

1. With Memorial Day in the rear-view mirror, May 26 was a dream day for auto racing fans – Grand Prix of Monaco, the Indy 500 and Coca-Cola 600 were run throughout the day. Name any of the drivers who won these races. Small hint: All three won their respective races for the first time.
2. True or False: N.Y. Yankees outfielder Aaron Judge is still hitting over .400 as of May 28.
3. Who are the defending men's and women's singles champions at the French Open, which is under way in Paris? The women's champ has won three straight and four of the last five titles, and the men's champ already has four Grand Slam titles at just 22 years old.
4. Natalie Nakase is the head coach of the Golden State Valkyries – the newest WNBA franchise – but prior to landing that job, she was an assistant coach for what NBA Pacific Division team?
5. Seven months after suffering a broken tibia and fibula that ended his 2024 season, what Detroit Lions defensive end was fully cleared to return to football activities last week?
6. The Lions lost both its offensive and defensive coordinators – Aaron Glenn and Ben Johnson – who took head coaching jobs in the offseason. Where did Johnson and Glenn land? Hint: Johnson stayed within the NFC North and Glenn went to the team that drafted him with the 12th overall pick in the 1994 NFL Draft.
7. At age 40, what Edmonton Oiler scored the winning goal in Game 4 of the Western Conference Final against the Dallas Stars on May 27?
8. What Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback legend called the team's pursuit of Aaron Rodgers “a joke” in a recent radio interview?
9. What horse who won the Kentucky Derby

and skipped the Preakness was scheduled to return for the Belmont Stakes that ran June 7?

10. Stephon Diggs was signed to a 3-year, \$69 million contract by the New England Patriots in hopes of bolstering its receiving corps. Who was the last Patriots receiver to have a 1,000-yard season (2019)?
11. What former Denver Broncos wide receiver who died in 2021 at age 33 will be inducted into the team's Ring of Fame in October?
12. What Milwaukee Brewers outfielder hit a grand slam for his first career walk-off home run in the team's 5-1 win over the Boston Red Sox on May 27?

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

1. Aaron Boone is the manager of the Yankees and Bret Boone was recently hired by the Rangers as the team's hitting coach.
2. Edmonton Oilers. The Oilers took a 3-1 series lead after a 4-1 home win over the Stars on May 27.
3. Flag football.
4. Five.
5. Bryson DeChambeau. DeChambeau beat Masters champ Rory McIlroy by one stroke.
6. True. As of May 27, the Rockies are 9-46 on the season.
7. Walker Buehler.
8. The Maple Leafs last reached the Eastern Conference Finals in 2002, losing to the Carolina Hurricanes in six games.
9. Brandon Hyde.
10. Indiana Pacers. In 2000, the Pacers beat the Knicks in six games. In 2025, the Pacers have a 3-1 series lead after a 130-121 win May 27.
11. Boston Bruins.
12. True. The Wolves made 15 3-pointers in the loss to the Thunder's 11.

RANDOM THOUGHTS

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

body's sad. Aw, it's not going to be the show,” O’Neal said. “The show is still here, baby. You can never kill the four horsemen.”

In closing, Shaq laid Thor's hammer down on those who may try to sully the show's stellar reputation.

“We coming to take names, and we're doing it our way,” he said.

All NBA fans have seen memorable moments on Inside, most recently when O’Neal literally got up and walked off the set to...wait for it...use the restroom. Of course, it was the No. 1 nominee for his “Shaqtin’ a Fool”

segment. No further explanation was necessary, for obvious reasons.

There were many other moments that caught our attention through the years, but let's make one thing clear. Inside the NBA may be changing networks, but the show itself will not change.

Laughter matters, and we can still get that in abundance with a full dose of NBA highlights. I can most certainly live with that news.

Contact Tom Zulewski at tominator19@yahoo.com.






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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Project: SR-56; Iron Springs High T Intersection PIN #21590

OPPORTUNITY FOR A PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Utah Department of Transportation is conducting an environmental study (Categorical Exclusion) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the widening of SR-56 near the intersection with Iron Springs Road west of Cedar City, Utah. The improvements would convert the existing intersection to an unsignalized High-T intersection with the following changes:

- Reduce the number of through lanes on SR-56 from two lanes each direction to a single lane each direction with painted buffers between through lanes and turn lanes.
- Restrict movements onto SR-56 from the south leg (5300 West) to right-in / right-out only.
- Provide full length deceleration lanes and turn pockets for eastbound left turns and westbound right turns onto Iron Springs Road.
- Provide full length acceleration lanes for southbound left turns onto SR-56.

The project will include pavement widening on SR-56 and Iron Springs Road, updates to signing and striping, and drainage improvements.

UDOT encourages area residents and businesses to attend a Public Hearing to be held in an open house-type format for the proposed roadway improvements on Thursday, June 12, 2025 from 5 - 6:30 p.m. in the Iron Springs Elementary School, 235 N 4050 W, Cedar City, UT. The Public Hearing will be attended by project team members to discuss the project design and answer questions. Also provided will be informational display boards, project information handouts, and provisions to accommodate oral and written comments. The meeting room meets accessibility requirements outlined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you have any language, audio, visual, or other ADA needs, please contact Lisa Beck by phone at 435-531-1358 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Comments must be received or postmarked by June 26, 2025.

Submit comments via phone: 435-531-1358, e-mail: lisa@harmonypublicinvolvement.com, or mail: Harmony Public Involvement, Attn: SR-56; Iron Springs High T Intersection, 1453 S Dixie Drive, Ste 150, St. George UT 84770.

The comment period will begin on Thursday, May 22, 2025, and end on Thursday, June 19, 2025. The documents can be viewed at the UDOT Cedar District Office, 1470 N Airport Rd, Cedar City, UT

Published on May 22 & June 5, 2025

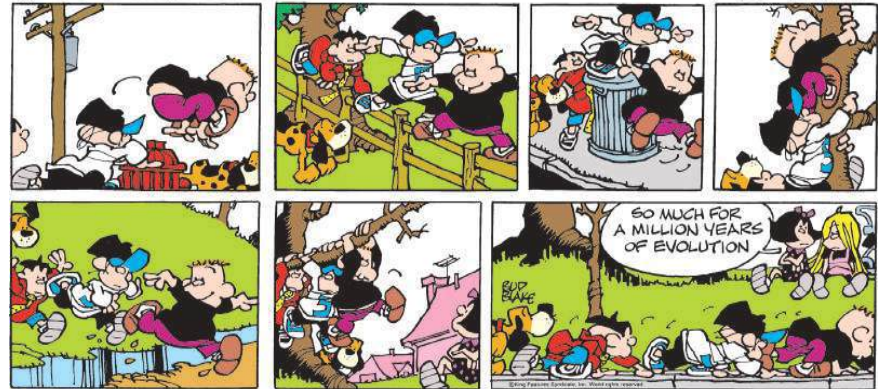
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Weekly SUDOKU

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

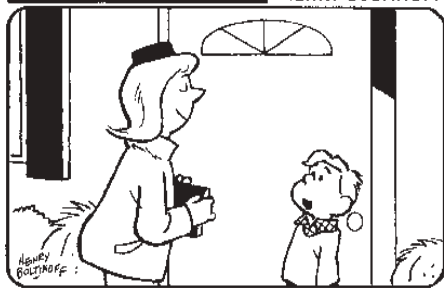
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

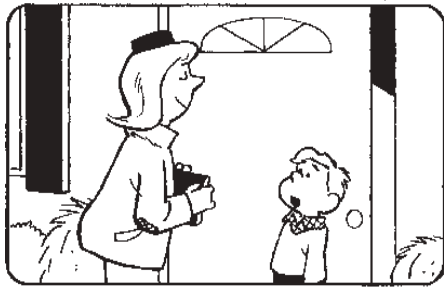
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Boy is moved. 2. Sweater is shorter. 3. Window is lower. 4. Woman is taller. 5. Pillow patch is added. 6. Bush is not as tall.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Science room
- 4 Novelist Waugh
- 8 Baby carriage
- 12 Mode lead-in
- 13 "Break My Heart" singer Dua
- 14 Deserve
- 15 Most spiteful
- 17 Erte's style
- 18 Naval rank
- 19 Director DuVernay
- 21 Hosp. workers
- 22 Frasier's ex-wife
- 26 Hay bundles
- 29 Transcript no.
- 30 Dr. of hip-hop
- 31 Spanish cheers
- 32 Espionage org.
- 33 Close
- 34 "Diamonds" singer
- 35 Kilmer of "Top Gun"
- 36 Paper packs
- 37 Severe
- 39 "Great Expectations" lad
- 40 Hosp. areas
- 41 Dodges
- 45 Fresh
- 48 California island

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- 50 March Madness gp.
- 51 Skater's leap
- 52 Dijon denial
- 53 Undecided
- 54 Legendary loch
- 55 Donkey
- 6 Mini-albums, for short
- 7 Tree with pods
- 8 Bicycle part
- 9 "Norma —"
- 10 Lob's path
- 11 L-P link
- 16 Corvette quartet
- 20 By means of
- 23 Notion
- 24 Streetcar
- 25 Towel word
- 26 Employer
- 27 Landed
- 28 Jet type
- 29 Baseball's Hodges
- 32 MRI's kin
- 33 Neighbor of Tibet
- 35 TiVo precursor
- 36 Foes
- 38 Hawkeye
- 39 "For — sake!"
- 42 Actress Merrill
- 43 Eve's grandson
- 44 Without
- 45 Busy insect
- 46 Sgt., for one
- 47 Corn spike
- 49 Chopper

DOWN

- 1 Lingerie trim
- 2 Cumming or Bates
- 3 Cave creatures
- 4 Sets straight
- 5 Property claims

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What are male bees called?
2. TELEVISION: Which TV streaming network plans to host a new series based on the "Harry Potter" books?
3. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How many months have 31 days?
4. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first president to appear on television?
5. MATH: What is the Roman numeral MMXXV in Arabic numbers?
6. MOVIES: What is the name of the spaceship in the movie "Alien"?
7. LITERATURE: "Nicholas Nickleby" is a novel written by which author?
8. AD SLOGANS: Which airline uses the slogan "Fly the Friendly Skies"?
9. ACRONYMS: What phrase does the real estate acronym DTI stand for?
10. FOOD & DRINK: What are the seeds of a pomegranate called?

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4	2	3	9	8	6	1	7	5
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7	9	8	5	2	1	3	6	4
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3	7	6	2	1	5	4	9	8
6	5	7	4	9	8	2	3	1
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Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

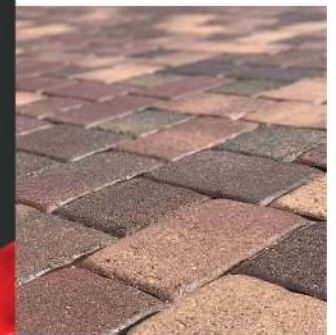
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N	C	A	V	A	X	A	F	L				
S	S											

Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Trivia Test Answers
1. Drones; 2. HBO Max; 3. Seven; January, March, May, July, August, October and December; 4. Franklin D. Roosevelt; 5. 2025; 6. Nostromo; 7. Charles Dickens; 8. United Airlines; 9. Debt-to-income ratio; 10. Artis



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