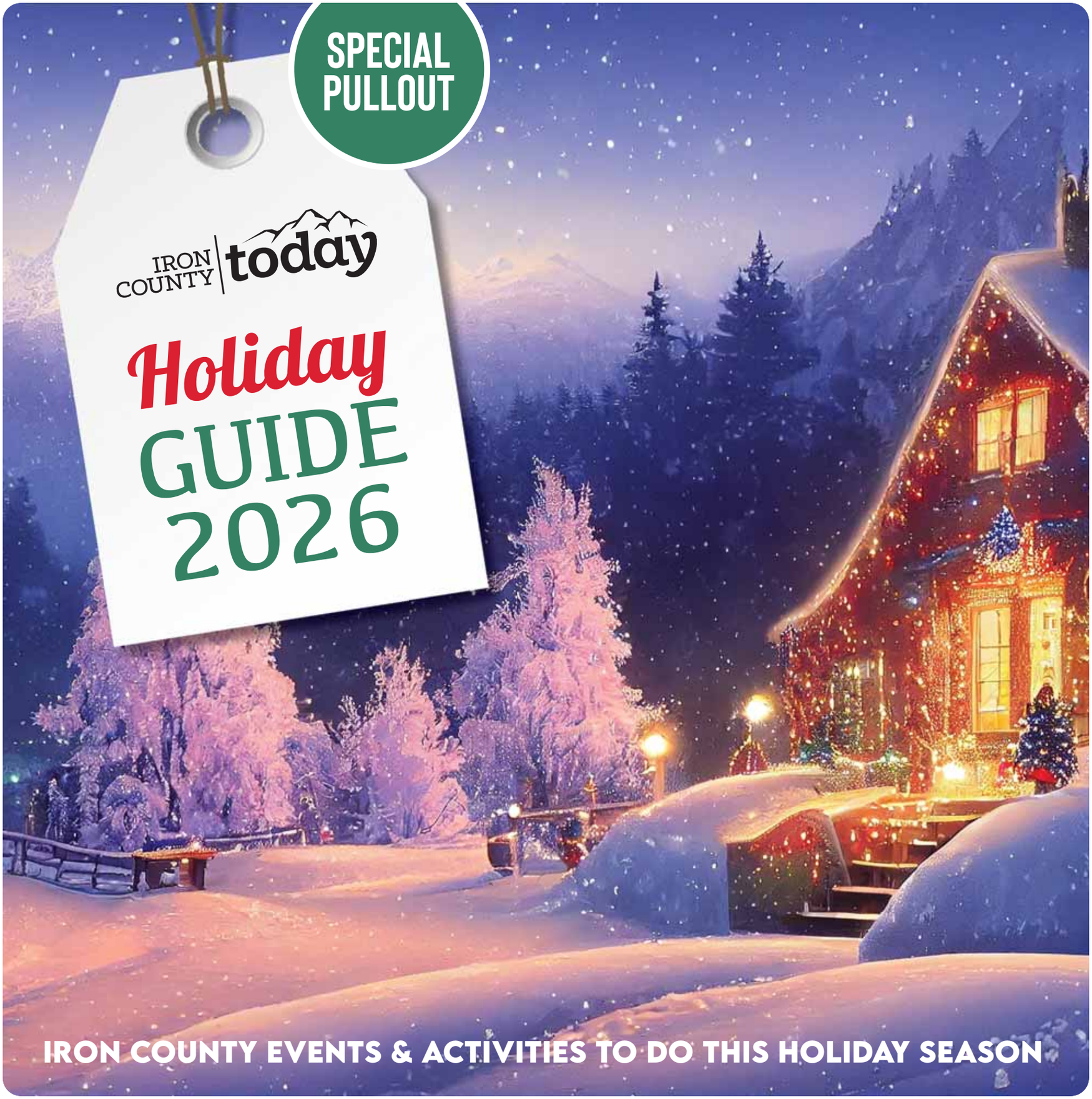

SPECIAL PULLOUT
IRON COUNTY today
Holiday
GUIDE
2026
IRON COUNTY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES TO DO THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

# Once again, this year: Christmas Trees for $10!

**By John Turner , For Iron County Today**

I frecently heard on the news that the average price of a 6- or 7-foot Christmas tree may top $100 in some parts of the country this year. Prices around Iron County may not be quite that steep, but it reminded me once again of a much cheaper, and far more memorable alternative. Yes, you read that right: For just $10, you can cut your own fresh Christmas tree up to 10 feet tall. The only thing missing will be someone in an orange or blue vest loading it onto your vehicle.

There is one catch. You have to gather family, a few friends, or some willing neighbors and head into the mountains to find a tree for yourself. Pack a picnic lunch, some hot chocolate, perhaps a hot toddy for the adults, and make a day of it.

Here in southern Utah, we're fortunate to live just minutes away from what may be the world's largest tree farm. The Forest Service provides affordable permits that allow us to cut our own Christmas trees in designated areas. For the past several years, it's become one of our favorite holiday traditions.



PHOTO BY JOHN TURNER

My advice is to go before winter really settles in. Even if you cut your tree before Thanksgiving, it can easily last four to six weeks if kept in a bucket of water. We usually bring ours home in late November and leave it standing in a pail of water until we're ready to decorate. By Christmas, it still smells like the forest, and very few needles have fallen.

It's also worth remembering that most of the trees sold on retail lots were cut many weeks earlier and have lost much of their freshness.

If you've never tried cutting your own tree, give it a whirl. You'll enjoy some fresh mountain air, spend quality time together, and almost certainly come home with a family photo you'll treasure. A snowy forest backdrop beats having a parking lot full of shopping carts and log splitters in your photo.

Best of all, a $10 tree versus a $100 tree is hard to beat!

Permits are available through recreation.gov by searching for "Dixie National Forest Christmas tree cutting." Be sure to review the Forest Service guidelines, which are designed to keep the forest healthy and ensure everyone has a safe experience.

»*Continued on Page 3*



# Once again, this year: Christmas Trees for $10!

»*From Page 2*

**A few suggestions from our past family adventures:**

- Bring a tarp or pieces of cardboard to kneel on while cutting your tree.
- A chainsaw makes the job easier than a hand saw or an ax.
- Pack enough rope or twine to secure the tree safely to your vehicle.
- Four-wheel or all-wheel drive are not required everywhere, but it certainly expands your options.
- Bring extra gloves and dry socks.
- Most importantly, don't forget to take that photo celebrating your lumberjack accomplishment.

Whichever way you choose to get your Christmas tree this year, here's wishing everyone in Iron County a very Merry Christma



PHOTO BY JOHN TURNER



PHOTO BY JOHN TURNER



# A Holiday Message from Those Who Stand Ready to Serve

**By F. B. Waldo**

As the holiday season approaches, communities throughout Southern Utah take on a special feeling. Homes are decorated, lights brighten neighborhoods, families gather, and friends celebrate traditions that make this time of year meaningful. It is a season of gratitude, generosity, reflection, and spending time with those who matter most.

For those of us who serve as first responders, the holidays also remind us that while our communities celebrate, there are men and women standing ready to help when someone needs us.

Having spent many years in the fire service as both a full-time and volunteer firefighter, plus a fire officer, I have come to appreciate the commitment this profession requires. It extends well beyond a job description, uniform, or scheduled shift. It is a promise to serve others, often during some of the most difficult and unexpected moments of their lives.

Across Southern Utah, firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency medical personnel, dispatchers, and other first responders share that commitment. We represent different agencies and perform different duties, but we have one thing in common: We are here for you.

First responders enjoy the same holiday traditions as everyone else. We have families waiting for us, children looking forward to seeing us, and spouses who understand that plans can change in an instant. The reality, however, is that emergencies do not follow a holiday calendar.

Fires do not wait for Christmas dinner to end. Medical emergencies do not pause on Thanksgiving morning, and traffic collisions do not wait until families reach their destinations. When the call comes, we respond.

Sometimes that means stepping away from the dinner table, leaving a family gathering, or missing a special moment with loved ones. It may mean spending Christmas Eve or New Year's Day at the station while our own families celebrate without us.

Yet, from experience, I can tell you that this is something we accept with pride. We understand the responsibility and recognize the privilege of being trusted by our communities to answer that call.

There is something special about the fire and emergency services. Over the years, I have witnessed extraordinary courage, compassion, teamwork, and generosity. I have watched first responders put the needs of complete strangers ahead of their own comfort and convenience. They arrive at difficult scenes and immediately go to work, not because they know the people involved, but simply because someone needs help.
That is what service is all about.

It is equally important to recognize the families behind every first responder. Spouses, children, parents, and friends share in this commitment, often without ever wearing a uniform. They understand the interrupted meals, missed celebrations, late-night calls, and unexpected departures. Their patience and support make our service possible, and they deserve our heartfelt appreciation.

As you celebrate this holiday season, I hope your days are filled with happiness, laughter, meaningful conversations, and time with family and friends. Appreciate those around you, make memories, and look out for your neighbors. Be patient on the roads, practice fire safety, use good judgment, and take care of one another.

Most importantly, know that your first responders are never far away.

If you experience a fire, medical emergency, accident, or another unexpected crisis, the men and women who respond will give you their very best. We may be meeting you for the first time, but you will never be treated like a stranger.

We will treat you like family.

That promise reaches across departments, agencies, communities, and generations of people who have chosen to serve. It is rooted in compassion, professionalism, and the belief that every person deserves help when they need it most.

On behalf of those who have dedicated their lives to serving others, I wish you and your families a safe, peaceful, and joyful holiday season. May your homes be filled with warmth, your celebrations with laughter, and your time together with memories you will always treasure.
And from those of us who may spend part of the holidays away from our own families, please know that it is our honor to be there for yours.

***Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season.***



# A Very SUMA Holiday

November 28 - December 5, 2026
at Southern Utah Museum of Art



## Join us for our annual holiday sale!

Every shopper receives a Mystery Discount worth 10–25% off their total purchase. Friends of SUMA Members receive a guaranteed 30% off!

**Shop our selection of unique gifts for everyone on your list!**

# The Holiday Tree Jubilee Returns for Ninth Year of Holiday Magic and Community Giving

**By Carol Huff, For Iron County Today**

The Holiday Tree Jubilee is back for its ninth year, bringing more than 60 beautifully decorated Christmas trees, holiday festivities, and plenty of opportunities to give back to the Cedar City community. The popular annual event returns to the Heritage Theater November 28, 30 and December 1, with creative tree displays, prize drawings, and a chance to support local families and organizations in need.

What began as an idea from founder Laura Albrecht has grown into one of Cedar City's favorite holiday events. Inspired by similar celebrations in other communities, Albrecht envisioned an event that would capture the excitement of Christmas while raising money for those in need right here in Iron County.

"When I first started the Jubilee, I hoped it would become something that brought our community together while helping those who needed it most," Albrecht said. "Seeing how much it has grown over the years and the generosity of everyone involved has been more rewarding than I ever imagined."



Each year, hundreds of volunteers, businesses, and sponsors help turn that vision into reality. The Heritage Theater is transformed into a festive holiday destination, complete with twinkling lights, the smell of hot cocoa, handmade quilts, gift baskets, and more than 60 uniquely decorated Christmas trees.

Visitors can expect plenty of creativity among this year's trees, with themes ranging from Nightmare Before Christmas, Mario, Squishmallows, and Where's Waldo to traditional holiday favorites featuring gingerbread men, nutcrackers, and nostalgic Christmas decorations.

The Jubilee also partners with Cedar City's Downtown Lighting event, adding to the holiday festivities that bring thousands of visitors to Main Street.

One of the things that sets the Holiday Tree Jubilee apart is the opportunity for anyone to take home a beautifully decorated tree. Rather than auctioning off every tree to the highest bidder, the Jubilee uses a ticket drawing system. Visitors purchase tickets and enter them for the trees they hope to win, giving everyone an opportunity to participate, regardless of budget.

"One of the best parts of the Jubilee is that anyone can walk away with an amazing Christmas tree, even with just one ticket," said Alayna Marriott, a member of the Holiday Tree Jubilee Board. "It makes the event exciting and gives everyone a chance to be part of the fun."

For those who have their hearts set on a particular tree, a handful of the event's most elaborate creations will be offered through a special auction.

Behind every tree is a local family, business, or organization that has donated its time, creativity, and resources. Many participants return year after year, making decorating a tree a holiday tradition of their own.

"We participate in the Holiday Tree Jubilee each year because we believe being part of a community means giving back. It's a fun, creative way to spread joy while supporting important causes like helping local teens experiencing homelessness and Shop with a Cop. We're grateful to be part of an event that brings people together and makes a difference," said Juliann Wilson, who has decorated a tree on behalf of Wilson Orthodontics for many years.

While the trees and decorations are certainly the stars of the event, the real purpose of the Jubilee is what happens after the lights are turned off and the trees find their new homes.

Every dollar raised benefits local organizations and individuals in need, including Shop With a Cop, Iron County Care and Share, Holding Out Help, and homeless or disadvantaged students in the Iron County School District. Last year's Jubilee raised tens of thousands of dollars, thanks to the generosity of the Cedar City community.

For organizers, the event is about much more than Christmas decorations. It's a reminder of what can happen when a community comes together with a shared purpose. Whether sponsoring a tree, volunteering, purchasing tickets, or simply enjoying the festivities, everyone who participates helps make the holiday season a little brighter for someone else.

This year's Holiday Tree Jubilee will be held November 28 from 3-8 p.m. and November 30 and December 1 from 5-8 p.m. at the Heritage Theater, located at 105 N. 100 E. in Cedar City.

The drawing for the trees will take place December 1 at 8 p.m. at the Theater. The public is welcome to attend, and winners do not need to be present to win.



# Cedar City Annual Downtown Lighting Ceremony on November 28

By Mary Nelson, for Iron County Today

CEDAR CITY, UT – Cedar City is thrilled to announce the annual Downtown Lighting Ceremony on November 28, 2026. The community is invited to celebrate with a day full holiday entertainment, activities, and Christmas cheer for the whole family.

Festivities begin at 11 A.M with the Christmas Market, featuring local vendors, unique gifts, and plenty of holiday shopping. At 3:00 P.M, our Christmas activities get underway, including inflatables, kids rides and crafts, a silent disco, and live reindeer sponsored by ERA Realty Center. The Holiday Tree Jubilee will also be open in the Heritage Center Theater, showcasing beautifully decorated trees and open for donations to kids and teens in need.

The Main Stage show starts at 4:00 P.M. New this year, a second stage will feature performances throughout the day, bringing Christmas spirit with live music, dances, and even an ugly sweater competition.

As the evening winds down, a very special guest will join the celebration to welcome in the Christmas season, followed by fireworks and the highlight of the celebration: the lighting of Historic Downtown Main Street. Following the fireworks and Santa's arrival, visit our Live Nativity in front of the old Rock Church.

From local shopping to live entertainment, Santa Claus, hayrides, and cherished holiday traditions, come and experience the magic of Christmas in Cedar City at the Downtown Lighting Ceremony on November 28.

Learn more about the Downtown Lighting Ceremony at https://www.cedarcity.org/downtownlighting and stay tuned on our Cedar City Events social media for event details.

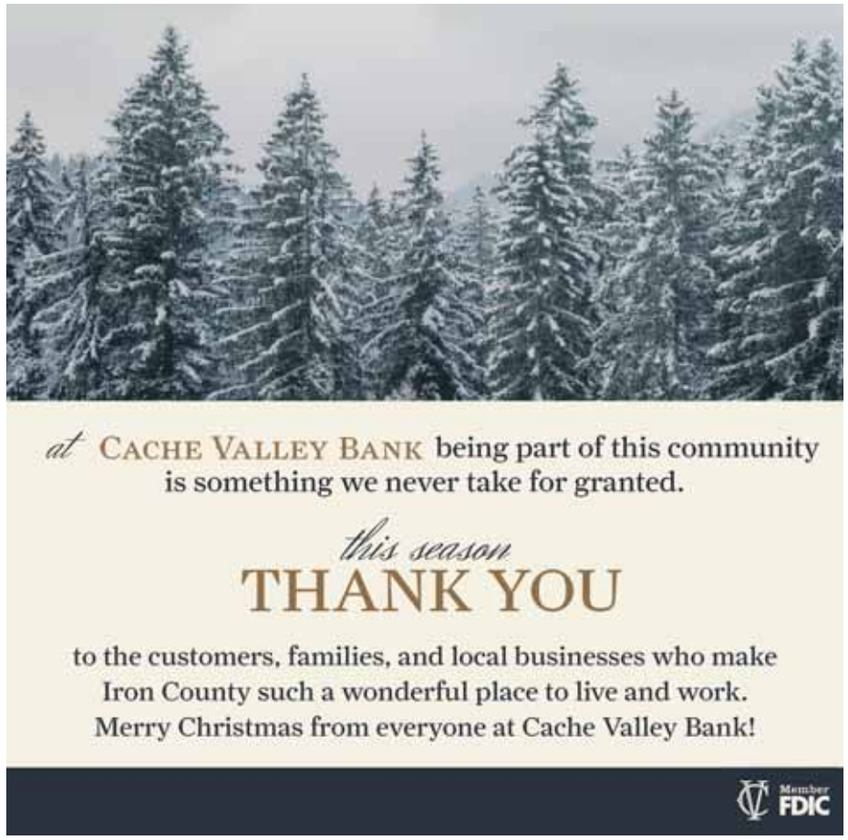
## *Schedule of Events*

| | |
|---|---|
| 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM ..... | Christmas Market open |
| 11:30 - 9:00 PM ..... | Second Stage live entertainment on 100 W. |
| 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM ..... | Holiday Tree Jubilee at Heritage Center Theater |
| 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM ..... | Christmas Activities on Main Street |
| 4:00 PM ..... | Main Stage pre-show starts |
| 5:00 PM ..... | Main Stage main show starts |
| 6:00 PM ..... | Santa's arrival, fireworks, lighting of Downtown Main Street |
| Directly after fireworks .... | Live Nativity at The Old Rock Church |







# Holiday Schedule of Events 2026

VISIT Cedar City BRIAN HEAD

Scan here for additional events

## November 20, 2026

**Spiritual Art Show**

November 20 & 21, 2026 | 4–7 p.m. At Marchant Home, 2390 W. Nature View Dr., Cedar City. Come enjoy a special Spiritual Art Show featuring beautiful, faith-inspired artwork. Guest artists include Tiffany Marchant, Brad Holt, Erin Shakespear, Julie Rogers and Dell Parsons.

**Canyon View High School - Talon Craft Fair**

| 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm and Saturday, | 9:00 am - 5:00 pm at Canyon View High School (166 W 1925 N, Cedar City), admission is $2 per person. Enjoy a day with food, craft vendors, live entertainment, and more. Don't forget to visit Santa! For information call visit cvtalons.wixsite.com/talons/craft-fair.

## November 25, 2026

**Brian Head Town Holiday Lighting Ceremony**

| 4:30–6:30 p.m. at Bristlecone Park in the Brian Head Pavilion (535 S Vasels Rd, Bristlecone Pond, Brian Head). Everyone is invited to meet at the Brian Head Pavilion for Santa, S'mores, Hot Cocoa, Cookies, holiday decorations, picture opportunities, and more.

## Thanksgiving

**Thanksgiving Dinner for Veterans & Everyone**

| 12:00–5:00 p.m. At first Baptist church, 324 W. 200 N. Cedar City. Free Thanksgiving dinner for veterans and anyone that wants a friendly meal. Sign up, to help, or donate food, questions contact Celeste: 208-949-6670 or Scotty 435-590-3072.

**Parkrun - Turkey Trot 5K**

| 9:00 a.m. at West Canyon Park (151 S 400 E, Cedar City). Look for the parkrun flag in Canyon Park West. Everyone is invited to to come walk, jog, run, volunteer, or spectate. To register and for information, visit parkrun.us/register/.

## November 27, 2026

**Parowan: Christmas in the Country Holiday Bazaar**

| 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. At Iron County Fair Building (50 S 600 E Clinic Way, Parowan)

**Christmas Lane Opening Night**

| 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Christmas Lane (400 E 1250 N, Cedar City). Everyone is invited to come walk through the winter wonderland and enjoy the festivities, live carolers, Santa, and Hot chocolate and cookies for as long as they last. After opening night (Friday), vehicles are welcome to drive down the Lane every night through New Year's Eve.

**Christmas at Nature Hills Farm**

| 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Nature Hills Farm (4326 N 2100 E, Cedar City). Tickets are available online. Nature Hills invites everyone to gather at the Farm as it is transformed into a magical Winter Wonderland with lights and Christmas displays, Santa, and an old-fashioned Christmas centered around the beauty of farm living.

## November 28, 2026

Cedar City Historic Downtown Lighting Ceremony Where the Magic Begins

| 12:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in the Historic Downtown Main Street (10 N Main St, Cedar City). **Christmas Market from** |12:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Activities (carriage rides, crafts, reindeer pen, bounce houses) from | 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. **Program pre-show** starts | 4:30 p.m. **Program** starts at | 5:00 p.m. **Holiday Tree Jubilee** begins at |3:00 p.m. **Lighting & Fireworks** at 6:00 p.m. **Meet Santa** begins about | 6:30 p.m. **Live Nativity** beginning at | 6:30 p.m. For a full schedule of events visit cedarcityut.gov

Parowan: Christmas in the Country **Santa's Parade** | 10:00 a.m. At Parowan Main Street. Santa will be at the Fairgrounds after the Parade. **Holiday Bazaar** | 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. At Iron County Fair Building (50 S 600 E Clinic Way, Parowan). **Candlelight Walking Parade** | 6:00 p.m. on Parowan Main Street (line up at 500 North Main) | *The public is invited to bring their own light/candle and join the parade* **Town Lighting Ceremony** | 6:15 p.m. At Parowan Town Square/ **Christmas Variety Show** | 7:00 p.m. At Aladdin Theater (27 N Main St, Parowan) | FREE - donations accepted

Annual Holiday Tree Jubilee

| 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday and | 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday in the Heritage Center Theater (105 N 100 E, Cedar City), Donation. Come see Santa and an amazing display of decorated Christmas trees to help kick off the holiday season! All proceeds go to our local kids and teens in need. Along with Santa and the Holiday Trees, everyone can enjoy professional Christmas photographs, hot chocolate, dozens of Christmas trees to view and WIN, auction items, and much more! For information visit them on Facebook: /holidaytreejubliee or call (435) 531-9138.

A Very SUMA Holiday

| 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. November 28th through December 5th. Join us for our annual holiday sale event and receive a Mystery Discount in the SUMA shop worth 10-25% off your total purchase! Friends of SUMA members (including Sidekicks) will receive a guaranteed 30% discount. SUU Faculty/ Staff will receive a guaranteed 25% discount. New merchandise will be available for the first time!

Parowan Hometown Holiday Market

| 10:00 am to 4:00 pm in Parowan shopping areas throughout the community filled with local artisans, small businesses & amazing food. Shop small, shop local, and shop with Parowan this holiday season for unique & meaningful gifts for your loved ones. If you would like to be a vendor or for information, contact Dayla (435) 531-6461 or sweetpeafarmandorchard@gmail.com.

## November 30, 2026

In Jubilo Women's Chorale Christmas Concert

| 7:00 p.m. Harmony of Christmas held at the True Life Center (2111 N Main St, Cedar City). Admission is FREE. In Jubilo Women's Chorale invites you to step into the warmth of the season. This festive concert invites you to pause, reflect, and celebrate the moments that make Christmas time meaningful.

## December 2, 2026

Community Presbyterian Church Silent Nights Contemplative Service

Dates December 2, 9, 16, & 23. | 7:00 p.m. At 2279 N. Wedgewood Lane, Cedar City. A simple, quiet, ecumenical Chirstian prayer service with Taize music.

Trinity Lutheran Church Advent Vespers

Dates December 2, 9, & 16. | 4:00 p.m. At 410 E 1935 N Cedar City. For more information contact 435-586-7103.

## December 4, 2026

**Christmas In Kanarraville**

| 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Christmas in Kanarraville is held on Friday and Saturday at Frisby Farms (South of Kanarraville off Hwy 91). Admission is $10 per person and will include pictures with Santa, a hot cocoa bar, and an indoor Nightmare Before Christmas themed walk-through. There will also be food, snacks, and sweets available for purchase.

**Junior Ballet - The Nutcracker**

| 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Dates December 4 & 5. At the Heritage Center Theater (105 N 100 E, Cedar City). General admission is $15, available at the Heritage Center Box Office (435) 865-2882 or online. Children 4 years and older are welcome to attend. For information call (435) 867-4719 or visit www.cedarcityjuniorballet.org.

## December 5, 2026

**Cedar Bowling Center Standard Clause is Here!**

| 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. At 421 E Hwy. 91 Cedar City. Come meet Santa Claus and the Grinch and Cindy Lou Who too! Free bowling Game and bag of traits of each child! Have your Christmas Party with us!

**Red Acre Christmas**

| 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The 13th Annual Red Acre Christmas will be held at Red Acre Farm (2322 W 4375 N, Cedar City). Sip complimentary hot cider while you walk a real working farm, warm your hands by the fire, and roast marshmallows. Don't forget to take time to shop The Farm Stand and enjoy all the available winter activities.

**Enoch Christkindl Market**

| 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 2355 E Village Green Dr (Enoch). This is an outdoor market, so be sure to dress for the weather. Everyone is invited to join and embrace new traditions in southern Utah. Enjoy handmade goods, truffles,

# Holiday Schedule of Events 2026

nutcrackers, evergreen wreaths, and FREE hot chocolate!

**P & BH Night: Winter Wonderland**
Dates December 5, 12, & 19. | 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Parowan & Brian Head Chamber Night: Winter Wonderland is held from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the Parowan Main Street Park (S Main Street, Parowan). Admission is FREE. The Parowan City Park is turned into an enticing wonderland of Christmas lights, incredible displays, Christmas Characters, Santa, and hot chocolate. Remember to paint a free ornament to hang in the tunnel while you are there. The lights will be turned on every night from dusk until 10 pm, and special events and characters join on Saturdays while supplies last. Bring the whole family for a winter wonderland of holiday lights.

## December 6, 2026

**Community Presbyterian Church Christmas Pageant**
| 10:00 a.m. At 2279 N. Wedgewood Lane, Cedar City. All children and youth invited to participate

**Community Presbyterian Church Advent Bible Study**
Dates December 6, 13,& 20. | 11:15 a.m. At 2279 N. Wedgewood Lane, Cedar City. Following worship, join us for a special advent themed Bible study.

## December 7, 2026

**Frontier Homestead: Holidays at the Homestead**
| 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Frontier Homestead State Park (635 N Main St, Cedar City), the cost is $4 per person or $20 per family (up to 8 people). Enjoy holiday-themed activities, crafts, and entertainment. Santa Claus will be making a special stop here at the museum to listen to Christmas wishes during the event. For information, call (435) 586-9290.

## December 8, 2026

**Pink Christmas**
| 6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. at Heritage Center Theater (105 N 100 E, Cedar City). presented by the Brave Ribbon Foundation has been a local holiday favorite for the past thirteen years. 2026 will be the 14th Annual event held to help local families in their fight against cancer. Each year we are supported by the donations of local businesses and community members. The event is complete with a silent auction, bake sale, talent provided by local dance companies, and Santa!

## December 9, 2026

**The Wonder of Christmas**
| 7:30 p.m. At Cedar High Auditorium. Cedar City Community Band Concert is proud to present The Wonder of Christmas! Free admission.

## December 10, 2026

**Sawyer Brown Holiday & Hits**
| 7:30 p.m. At American First Event Center, 351 W Center St, Cedar City. Country music enthusiasts in Utah have a great opportunity to see a live performance by Sawyer Brown when the band takes the stage. Known for high-energy shows and a dedicated following, this upcoming concert delivers an entertaining evening filled with classic hits and engaging stage presence. Tickets available at tbirdtickets.com.

**Stanta's Coming to Town!**
Dates December 10th | 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. At Parowan 93 N Main St. December 11th | 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. At Cedar Main 377 N Main St. December 13th | 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. At Cedar Couth 1322 S Interstate Dr. Bring your kiddos to meet Stanta!

## December 12, 2026

**Holiday Hoopla A Christmas Celebration**
| 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Cross Hollows Event Center (11 S Cross Hollows Dr, Cedar City). Limited tickets are available for Breakfast with Santa & Community Celebration. Tickets are $10 for Adults, $8 for Kids, $32 for a family of 4, and 2 yrs and under are free. And don't worry, it will be indoors, so everyone can all stay warm. For reservations call (435) 531-9368 or (435) 233-5862.

**Spirit of Christmas Festival**
| 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Stratum Real Estate Group: 11th Annual Spirit of Christmas Festival at Stratum Real Estate (365 S Main St, Cedar City), admission is FREE. Come enjoy holiday treats, crafts, and a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Elementary School students can earn money for their school just by attending. For information call (435) 586-4874.

## December 13, 2026

**86th Messiah Performance**
Dates December 13th & 14th | 7:30 p.m. Orchestra of Southern Utah. Unparalleled Majesty in the Heritage Center Theater (105 N 100 E, Cedar City), admission is FREE, however, tickets are required and will be available online at www.myosu.org. Children over 6 with adult supervision. No small children or babies please as the concert is recorded.

**Community Presbyterian Church Cookies & Casseroles Fundraiser**
| 11:15 a.m. At 2279 N. Wedgewood Lane, Cedar City. Following 10:00 a.m. worship service. Youth Bake Sale / Fundraiser.

## December 18, 2026

**Christmas Dance Production - Yuletide!**
December 18, 19, 21 & 22. | 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. John Mead Dance Company's upcoming performance of "Yuletide!" is an original Christmas-themed, family-friendly dance production, choreographed by Mr Mead. Performances are at the Heritage Theater (105 N 100 E, Cedar City). Bring your whole family for some Christmas cheer in the arts! Admission is $25 standard, $15 for Seniors and Students, $10 early-bird special for Seniors and Students if purchased on or before December 11th.

## December 19, 2026

**Wreaths Across America**
| 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. National Wreaths Across America Day is held at several locations throughout Iron County. Join the ceremonial wreath-laying events at 2:00 pm at the Summit Cemetery (188 W 300 N, Summit), the Cedar City Cemetery (685 N Main St, Cedar City), and the Enoch Cemetery (Cemetery Rd, Enoch) at 12 pm.. For information visit wreathsacrossamerica.org.

## December 20, 2026

**Lights at the Homestead**
| 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Frontier Homestead State Park (635 N Main St, Cedar City), donations are encouraged. Come stroll through the park grounds and enjoy the holiday lights. Hot beverages (hot cocoa, tea, coffee) will be available for purchase, so don't forget to grab a warm drink and enjoy the beauty of the holiday! For information, call (435) 586-9290

## Christmas Eve

**Calvary Chapel Christmas Eve Celebration**
| 3:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. At 101 E. Nichols Canyon Rd Cedar City. For our community & your family. Enjoy the timeless Christmas story, inspiring worship, and a life-changing message of hope. For more information visit calvarycedar.org or 435-867-8188.

**Christ The King Catholic Church Christmas Eve**
| 4:30 p.m. At 690 S. Cove Dr Cedar City. Christmas Vigil Mass (English)

**Community Presbyterian Church Christmas Eve**
| 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service At 2279 N. Wedgewood Lane, Cedar City. All are Welcome!

**The Episcopal Church of Utah Christmas Eve**
| 7:00 p.m. At St. Jude's Episcopal Church, 70 N. 200 W. Cedar City. Please join our celebration of Christ's birth during our Christmas services on Christmas Eve. All are welcome and affirmed. We hope to see you there!

**Sonrise Church Christmas Eve**
| 5:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. At 6843 W 1800 N Cedar City. Christmas Eve services. Celebrate the joy and hope of Christmas with us!

**Trinity Lutheran Church Christmas Eve**
| 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service at 410 E 1935 N Cedar City. The Eve of the Nativity of our Lord Divine Service | 11p.m.

## Christmas Day

**Christ The King Catholic Church Christmas Day**
| 12:00 a.m. At 690 S. Cove Dr Cedar City. Midnight Mass (English). | 10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass (Bilingual).

**Trinity Lutheran Church Christmas Day**
| 10:00 a.m.The Nativity of Our Lord Divine Service at 410 E 1935 N Cedar City.

## December 27, 2026

**Community Presbyterian Church PJ's & Carles Family Style Worship**
| 10:00 a.m. At 2279 N. Wedgewood Lane, Cedar City. Come worship in your pajamas! This will be a casual, family-style service with some small breakfast items and Christmas carols.

SUU SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY | 99.9 KONY COUNTRY PRESENT:

SAWYER BROWN



Holiday and HITS

DEC. 10

America First EVENT CENTER

7:30 PM

TBIRDTICKETS.COM

SCAN FOR TICKETS

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN CEDAR CITY

HOLIDAY

Lighting Ceremony

WHERE THE Magic BEGINS



- Christmas Market
- Hay Rides
- Santa's Arrival
- Fireworks
- Holiday Tree Jubilee
- Live Nativity

Schedule of Events

SATURDAY

NOVEMBER 28 • 2026

Christmas Market opens at 11am and activities begin at 3pm

ERA STATE BANK HOLIDAY TREE Jubilee SUU CEDAR CITY

# Meal Boxes, Wildlife and Shakespeare: 5 Cedar City Groups to Support This Holiday Season

**From John DiDomenico,** The Hype Hero

Cedar City is known for red rock views, a world class theater festival and a community that rallies when neighbors need help. As the holidays approach, these five Iron County nonprofits are inviting residents to give, volunteer and get involved. Every detail below comes from the organizations' own websites.

## Iron County Care and Share

Iron County Care and Share describes its work as "exits from crisis, pathways to sustainability," offering a food pantry, emergency shelter and case management for individuals and families in need. Its goal is to provide compassionate assistance that builds stability and self-sufficiency.

This season, its Holiday Meal Box Program helps neighbors in need with the ingredients for a warm holiday meal. Residents can donate to the program online, and families who need help can request a meal box.

## True Life Center Food Pantry

The True Life Center food pantry, at 2111 N. Main St., is open every Wednesday from 2 to 6 p.m. and does not require income or household verification. With support from local grocers and the Utah Food Bank, it provides nourishment for an average of 7,000 people each month, and that number keeps growing.

The pantry relies on more than 250 volunteer hours every week, from grocery pickups on Monday to unloading the food bank delivery on Tuesday and distribution day on Wednesday. Volunteers of all kinds are needed.

## Canyon Creek Services

Canyon Creek Services supports survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and works to prevent violence by teaching children about healthy relationships, boundaries and consent. It was named the 2025 Gold Winner for Best Nonprofit Organization in the Best of Iron County awards and has earned four Nonprofit Credential Badges from the Utah Nonprofits Association.

The organization posts its current needs online and welcomes donors, volunteers and interns. As one supporter put it, recurring monthly donations "seem small" but make a big difference.

## Southwest Wildlife Foundation of Utah

Founded in 1997 in Cedar City, the Southwest Wildlife Foundation of Utah is a 501(c)(3) dedicated to wildlife rescue, rehabilitation and education. It cares for more than 100 sick, injured and orphaned native animals each year, with the goal of returning them to the wild.

The foundation also presents more than 100 educational programs a year, reaching over 30,000 people, often with help from wildlife ambassadors such as Scout the Golden Eagle. Donations, store purchases and volunteering all support the work.

## Utah Shakespeare Festival

The Utah Shakespeare Festival is one of Cedar City's best known treasures, and it welcomes donations and subscriptions year round. Its 2027 season includes Henry V, The Crucible, The Merry Wives of Windsor, The Drowsy Chaperone and Arsenic and Old Lace. A season subscription makes a thoughtful holiday gift for theater lovers, and a donation helps keep the festival thriving.



## A Few Tips

- Sponsor a Holiday Meal Box through Care and Share.
- Spend a Wednesday afternoon volunteering at the True Life Center pantry.
- Gift a 2027 Utah Shakespeare Festival subscription.

*Sources: careandshare-ut.org, truelife.center, canyoncreekservices.org, gowildlife.org, bard.org*
*Provided by The Hype Hero, a top-rated marketing agency, https://thehypehero.com*



# First Christmas a Long Way from Home

by John Byron Turner, for Iron County Today

One of the most memorable Christmases of my life came in 1970 while I was serving in the US Air Force in Southeast Asia.

That December, I was granted leave to fly home and marry my high school sweetheart. With so many servicemen requesting Christmas leave, however, I had to agree to return to my base by Christmas Day. It meant a whirlwind trip halfway around the world and back again in just a matter of days.

The journey home went smoothly enough, but getting back proved much more challenging. After several anxious days trying to find transportation, I finally secured a spot on a C-141 cargo plane leaving Travis Air Force Base in California. Passenger comfort was definitely not a priority on that aircraft.

What filled the plane instead were hundreds of freshly cut Christmas trees bound for military installations throughout Thailand. The cargo bay smelled like a Christmas forest. About ten of us military travelers found places to stretch out among the bundled trees and slept as the huge aircraft crossed the Pacific.

By the time we landed in Bangkok, it was Christmas morning, and I was still nearly 300 miles from my base. The rest of Christmas Day was spent riding a public bus through the Thai countryside, in uniform, wearing a new wedding ring, carrying my duffel bag and standing out like a sore thumb alongside some local farmers carrying chickens, rice, and other goods to market.

Exhausted from days of travel, I watched the countryside roll past and hoped I would make it back to base in time. Late that evening, weary but relieved, I finally arrived and checked in before the day was over.

More than fifty years later, I still remember that Christmas among the trees, the cargo plane, and the crowded bus. It was not the holiday I had imagined, but it is one I have never forgotten.




UTAH SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL
Give the Gift of Live Theatre
Crown-Worthy Drama
Exclusive Cyber Savings for Locals
Two Days Only: Get 8 tickets for just $200 with the Iron County Pass! November 30-December 1. Some restrictions apply.
Visit bard.org/cyber for more details.
Ali Ewoldt as Amalia Balash in *She Loves Me*, 2026. Photo by Karl Hugh.

# Christmas - More Than December

By May Hunter, For Iron County Today

Christmas isn't just a day; it's a frame of mind. It is truly Christmas in the heart that puts Christmas in the air.

Celebrating Christmas and America's Heritage
As we gather to celebrate this Christmas season, we have two remarkable occasions to reflect upon: the timeless warmth and wonder of Christmas and the historic milestone of America's 250th anniversary of independence.

On July 4, 2026, America celebrated 250 years since the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. As this historic anniversary year draws to a close, Christmas offers a meaningful opportunity to reflect on the blessings of freedom, faith, family, and the enduring spirit that has carried our nation through two and a half centuries.

Throughout those 250 years, America has been shaped by the ideals of freedom, resilience, and the belief in a brighter tomorrow. Our nation's story has been written by generations of hardworking families who embraced opportunity, cared for their neighbors, and held tightly to hope, even through life's most difficult seasons.

And isn't that the very heart of Christmas, too?

Christmas invites us to slow down, gather with those we love, and remember what truly matters. It encourages us to bring a little more light into the world through simple acts of kindness, generosity, and compassion. It reminds us that peace on earth and goodwill toward others are more than beautiful sentiments. They are values we can carry into our homes, our neighborhoods, and our communities every day.

As we reflect on America's remarkable 250-year journey, we are reminded that our nation's greatest strength has never been measured solely by its achievements or milestones, but by the character and spirit of its people. It is found in the generosity of a neighbor, the gratitude of a family gathered around the table, the faith that carries us through uncertain times, and the helping hands extended to those in need.




President Ronald Reagan once expressed his optimism for our nation's future with the words, "America's best days are yet to come, and our proudest moments are yet to be."

What a wonderful thought to carry with us as we celebrate both the Christmas season and this extraordinary chapter in American history. While we honor the generations who came before us, we also look ahead with hope, knowing that the values we cherish today will help shape the America we leave for generations to come.

As another Christmas approaches, may we remember that life's greatest treasures cannot be measured in years, wrapped in ribbons, or placed beneath a Christmas tree. They are found in the freedoms we cherish, the faith that sustains us, the families

» *Continued on Page 16*

Happy Holidays from
CEDAR CITY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

JOIN US FOR A MAGICAL VISIT WITH SANTA

# SANTA'S COMING TO TOWN!

**Thur, December 10th**
**4-5pm**
Parowan
93 N Main St

**Fri, December 11th**
**3-4pm**
Cedar Main
377 N Main St

**Sat, December 13th**
**11am-12pm**
Cedar South
1322 S Interstate Dr



STATE BANK
OF SOUTHERN UTAH

Member FDIC

» *Christmas - More Than December - From Page 14*

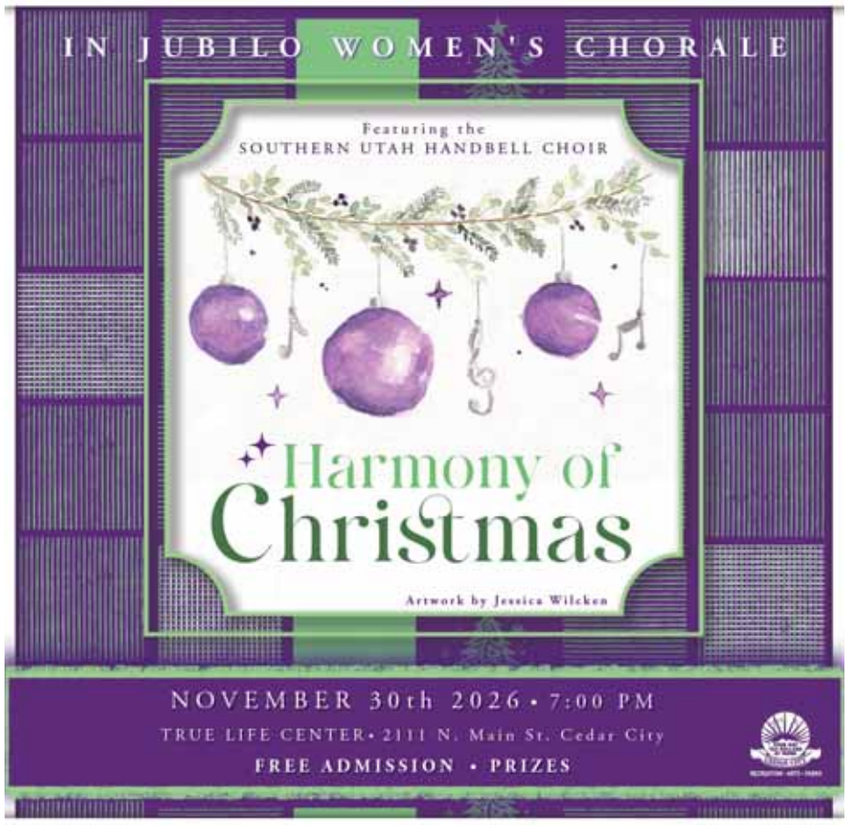
and friends who enrich our lives, and the kindness we extend to one another.

The true spirit of Christmas shines through grateful hearts, helping hands, cherished traditions, and the love we share long after the decorations have been put away.

And perhaps that is the greatest gift we can give one another this Christmas: a renewed commitment to live with gratitude, lead with kindness, and carry the spirit of goodwill into every season of the year.

As we turn the page on America's 250th anniversary and welcome the promise of a new year, may we continue to honor the past, treasure the present, and embrace the future with faith and hope.

Christmas was never meant to be confined to a single day or even a single season. Its greatest beauty is found in the love we give, the lives we touch, and the goodness we leave behind. When we carry that spirit in our hearts throughout the year, Christmas becomes more than a celebration, more than a tradition, and so much more than December.






» HAPPY HOILDAYS FROM
IRON COUNTY today


The Nutcracker
December 4-5, 2026 | Heritage Theater | 7:30 pm
THANK YOU CEDAR CITY
for your continued support. As a heartfelt thank you
CCJB CEDAR CITY JUNIOR BALLET
AND OUR SPONSORS,
CEDAR CITY RAP TAX, TELL MY STORY, AND JACKSON'S PLUMBING
are offering FREE TICKETS to our upcoming performance.
TICKETS: www.cedarcityjuniorballet.org
RESERVE TICKETS


BLACK FRIDAY WEEKEND
NOV 27TH & NOV 28TH – OPEN AT 9:30
FIREARMS MARKED DOWN
25% OFF
* Electronics
* ALL Tools
* Turquoise Jewelry
* Sporting Goods
SILVER ROUNDS AT SPOT
50% OFF
* Archery
* Native Art
* Bikes
* Knives
* Musical Instruments
Cedar Post EST. 1976 Pawn Shop
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
SOME EXCLUSIONS APPLY
221 N. 100 W.
CEDAR CITY, UT 84721
OTHER DEALS IN STORE
20% OFF GOLD JEWELRY
ASK ABOUT OUR DRAWINGS

# Heritage Ornaments

By Cindy Jenkins, for Iron County Today

**Supplies:**

- Mint tin
- 2”x3” photo
- 1 sheet scrapbook paper (cut 4 pcs size of tin for front, back and inside)
- Pipe cleaners or ribbon for hanging
- Washi tape (optional)
- Craft paint (optional)

Embellishment options: wreaths, trees, wrapped gifts, pictures or scrapbook stickers, etc.

Get the kids involved in some holiday creativity and make this as intricate or simple as you like. Include photos of past generations as well as current photos! Wouldn’t it be a great tradition to make one every year of a favorite family vacation or add an ancestor photo on the tree and include their mementos inside?

- If you paint the tin, only paint where the paper doesn’t cover.
- Decorate inside first so you won’t damage the outside. Glue inside sides with a strip of paper or washi tape. Glue the washi tape! Add the background paper.
- Hot glue the larger pieces. Have fun decorating!





Holiday WORSHIP SERVICES

The Episcopal Church of Utah

**The Episcopal Church is a welcoming and affirming church!**

Please join our celebration of Christ's birth during our Christmas service on Christmas Eve at 7:00 p.m.

**All are welcome and affirmed. We hope to see you there!**



**St Jude's Episcopal Church**
**70 N 200 W • Cedar City • 435-586-3623**

CALVARY CHAPEL
CEDAR CITY

**CHRISTMAS EVE**
**CELEBRATION**

***For Our Community & Your Family***

*Enjoy the timeless Christmas story, inspiring worship, and a life-changing message of hope.*

**THURSDAY | 12.24**
**3:30PM & 5:00PM**



**101 East Nichols Canyon Road**
**Cedar City, 84721**

**calvarycedar.org | 435-867-8188**

**Trinity Lutheran Church**

**Advent Vespers | 4pm**
Wednesdays: December 2, 9, 16

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service | 7pm**
The Eve of the Nativity of our Lord
Divine Service | 11pm

**Christmas Day**
The Nativity of Our Lord Divine Service | 10am



**410 E 1935 N • Cedar City • 435-586-7103**

*Christmas 2026*
COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*For unto you is born this day a savior who is Christ the Lord.* LUKE 2:11

**Advent Bible Study**
**Sundays: 12/6, 12/13, 12/20 11:15 am**
Following worship, join us for a special advent themed Bible study

**Silent Nights Contemplative Service**
**Wednesdays: 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23 • 7:00 pm**
A simple, quiet, ecumenical Christian prayer service with Taize music.

| | |
|---|---|
| **SUN 12/6** | **Christmas Pageant** 10:00 am All children and youth invited to participate |
| **SUN 12/13** | **Cookies and Casseroles Fundraiser** 11:15 (following 10:00 am worship service) Youth Bake Sale / Fundraiser |
| **THUR 12/24** | **Christmas Eve** Candlelight Service at 7:00 pm All Are Welcome! |
| **SUN 12/27** | **PJs & Carols Family Style Worship** 10:00 am Come to worship in your pajamas! Family-style service with light breakfast and Christmas carols. |

**2279 N. Wedgewood Lane • Cedar City, Utah**
**435-586-8891 • cedarpres.org**

SONRISE CHURCH

***Christmas Eve***
**SERVICES**

**Thursday, December 24, 2026**

**5:00 PM & 7:00 PM**



**6843 W 1800 N**
**Cedar City**
**435-586-3640**

*Celebrate the joy and hope of Christmas with us!*

**Christ The King Catholic Church**
690 South Cove Dr • 435-586-8298

***Christmas Mass Schedule:***

Thursday, December 24th: 4:30pm
Christmas Vigil Mass (English)

Friday, Dec 25th: 12:00am Midnight Mass (English)

Friday December 25th: 10:00am
Christmas Day Mass (Bilingual)



# 2026 Lights and Displays

## Cedar City, Enoch, Brian Head, Parowan, Paragonah

Here are just a few of the places to see holiday light displays in Cedar City, Enoch, Parowan, Brian Head and Paragonah. Use #cedarcitylights and tag @visitcedarcity to share the magic of the season! Check visitcedarcity.com for updates. Most light displays run the first weekend of December through New Year's.

**1. Make-A-Wish House** 26 N 1150 W | Ben Hohman and Marielle Boneau share their love of decorating with the community by covering their house with lights and decorations. Remember to bundle up and, if you can, don't forget to make a donation to the Make-A-Wish foundation. Donations can be made on site or at benhprops6.wixsite.com/holidaylights. **OPENING DECEMBER 2ND.**

**2. Lights at the Beverley Center for the Arts** 195 W Center St | Stroll the grounds of the Beverley Center for the Arts and walk among the decorated trees, paths, and sculpture gardens. **OPENING NOVEMBER 29TH**

**3. Downtown (Main and Center Streets)** Center Street to 200 North | Downtown Cedar City is always a winter wonderland during the holiday season, even without snow! Bundle up and stroll downtown to view wondrous window displays. Start at Main Street Park (200 N Main St) and go south to Center Street and then turn west to see the lights at the Beverley Center for the Arts. **OPENING NOVEMBER 29TH**

**4. Frontier Homestead State Park Museum** 635 N Main St | Frontier Homestead will open the gates to their amazing displays on the museum grounds. Bundle up to walk the property. Donations are encouraged. OPEN DECEMBER 18TH - 21ST FROM 6 PM TO 8 PM **HOLIDAYS AT THE HOMESTEAD: DECEMBER 10TH - 12TH & 15TH**

**5. Christmas Lane** 400 E 1250 N | (Cedar Ridge Golf Course) All the homes on this loop participate in telling the classic poem "Twas The Night Before Christmas." **OPENING NOVEMBER 28TH.**

**6. The Story: A Neighborhood Nativity** 3900 W 425 N, Cedar City | The Monte Vista neighborhood came together to tell the story of Christ's birth with hand- painted panels placed through the neighborhood. **OPENING DECEMBER 1ST.**

**7. Neil Mattson** 2149 N Hawthorne Ln | Nestled between Fiddlers and Nichols Canyons, this classic display of over 15,000 lights set to music is not to be missed! **OPENING NOVEBMER 27TH**

**8. Nathan Miller** 3631 N 250 E, Enoch | The Miller's go all out with the lights and synchronized Christmas music, and all for a good cause! Donations for Toys for Tots accepted Santa will be here Dec 1st 6-8 pm. **OPENING DECEMBER 23RD.**

**9. The Howe Family** 4652 Wagon Wheel Dr, Enoch | Tune your radio to 90.5 fm and watch as the lights dance along to the music on your radio. Every evening from 6-9 pm and 6-10 pm Fri to Sun. **OPENING DECEMBER 6TH**

**10. Hillcrest Circle** 5182 N Hillcrest Cir, Enoch | This Hillcrest cul-de-sac invites everyone to enjoy a festive Nativity display. OPENING DECEMBER 2ND

**11. Orton's Walk Through Winter Wonderland** 300 E 551 N, Parowan | Walk through a wonderland of lights, music, inflatables, and more milk jugs than you have ever seen! **OPENING NOVEMBER 29TH. .**

**12. Winter Wonderland** 16 S Main St, Parowan | Presented by the Parowan & Brian Head Chamber of Commerce, the Winter Wonderland is a delightful display of lights. FREE hot chocolate available on Saturday's while supplies last. **OPENING NOVEMBER 29TH**

**13. Tanner's Garden and Gifts** 92 N 200 E, Paragonah | Enjoy the beauty of the holidays and don't forget to come back Friday & Saturday from 12 pm to 4 pm to find a gift and decor for your own collection. GIFT SHOP OPEN NOW - MID-DECEMBER. **LIGHTS ON NOVEMBER 30TH - JANUARY 1ST**

**14. Bess Residence** 193 E 335 N, Paragonah | Just like sledding and hot chocolate, the lights and music at the Bess's are a spectacular treat. **OPENING DECEMBER 1ST.**

**15. Brian Head Town** 249 S Village Way, Brian Head Bring your family and friends and enjoy a charming snow covered ski village. OPENING THANKSGIVING WEEKEND. Join the town to turn on the lights at Christmas in the Park at the Brian Head Pavilion. **NOVEMBER 26TH FROM 5 PM TO 6 PM**




**Holiday cheer starts with kindness!**

Please be a good neighbor, stay off private property (unless invited) be careful not to block driveways, sidewalks, or entrances. Keep voices merry but low, and turn off headlights while you enjoy the glow. **Thank you!**

VISIT Cedar City BRIAN HEAD TOURISM BUREAU