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SERVICE PROJECT 00



CITIZEN SPOTLIGHT 13



WARRIORS HOOPS 19

QUOTABLE COMMUNITY:



2014 Food Pantry volunteers.
Holiday Food Drive Still Underway: Page 4

It might be to carry on a family tradition, or to remember a loved one, or simply to help someone in need. It might be to solicit the smile of a child, or to repay someone's kindness from the past. Whatever the reason, this is the season for giving.

For Taylorsville residents, there are myriad opportunities this holiday season to do just that.

FESTIVAL OF TREES

It was 31 years ago that Christine Katsilas, who teaches interior design classes at Taylorsville High School, decided her class needed a service project. So she chose to contribute an entry into

GIFT OF GIVING CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

"No one has done more to advance the cause of character education in schools than Kristie Fink."

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GIFT OF GIVING CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the Festival of Trees, which raises donations for Primary Children's Hospital in Salt Lake City. She's had entries every year since.

"That first year, they allowed real trees, so I had a student's father cut down a fresh tree and we started with that," Katsilas recalled. "We decorated it in part with some homemade gingerbread cookies. It was very humble compared to the trees that we see today, but it sold the first night, so we were excited about that."

Since then, Katsilas' tree "assignment" to her students has become as much a passion as a tradition. Her advanced interior design students have embraced the Festival of Trees, helping her select ornaments and organize themes for their trees. And her preparation for the next festival begins as soon as the current festival ends.

"Through the years, I've learned to stockpile ornaments. One year, we did a Hallmark tree with ornaments I bought after the holidays, when they were marked down. We've also done trees with cookie cutter ornaments."

She said planning ahead was something her mother, who died in the winter of 1999, was great at doing.

"She always came to the festival, and in those days, they didn't assign you spots as they do now. So she'd come early and pick a good spot for us to put up our tree," Katsilas said.

This year, she and her students will have two trees at the festival (locations L-19 and L-21). "Elegance" will feature colors of maroon, gold and orange, with sugared fruit. "I found some of the ornaments at Sears a few years ago and put them in storage," she said. "I just buy the ornaments myself for the class to use, because I know my students are worth it."

Her second tree, "Santa's Circus," has a lot of ornaments that she also purchased on closeout from J.C. Penney's. "I went to every Penney's I could find along the Wasatch

Front," she said with a smile.

The most expensive tree she's seen sold in her 31 years went for over \$5,000. Most are sold in the \$1,500-2,000 range, and she says it's always exciting when the trees sell the first night, when bidders come in for a private ceremony.

"As long as the trees can earn at least \$500 more than what they cost, we're happy," she said.

This is the third year that Heidi Blair and two of her friends have an entry in the festival. The first was 20 years ago, when



Blair and three longtime friends created a tree. In 2011, one of those friends, Sherri Winder, was killed in a car accident, so Blair and friends Shauna Westberg and Ginger Anderton created a tree in Sherri's honor.

"We used to call ourselves the 'Four Musketeers,'" Blair said. "Now, we call ourselves the 'Three Musketeers,' but we always think of Sherri when we're creating a tree."

This year's entry is "Believe in the Magic" (space H-19), a tribute to their late parents.

"It's kind of a whimsical, fun tree,

really, with no specific story behind it," she said. "It's all done in bright green, red and white, with ribbons, lights, elves, moose and more."

For all Festival of Trees participants, the trees are assembled at the South Towne Expo Center in Sandy on Dec. 1, and a closed auction/sale is conducted on Dec. 2. Most of the trees are sold that night. The public then can enjoy the festival Dec. 3-6. All proceeds go to Primary's. Each year, this event raises hundreds of thousands of dollars for the hospital.

And there's a lot of other ways to give back to the community:

THE ROAD HOME

There are hundreds of families without a place to call their own each day, and at the holidays, The Road Home (210 South Rio Grange St., Salt Lake City) provides food and shelter. Volunteers can help assemble boxes that include grocery store cards (for turkeys, hams or pies), plus a disposable roasting pan, canned veggies, stuffing, instant potatoes and gravy mix. There's also a Candy Cane Corner for families. The shelter also accepts

unwrapped gifts for children, and gift bags with hygiene items and warm accessories for residents. More info at theroadhome.org.

FORGOTTEN PATIENT PROJECT

For many years, the Utah State Hospital has coordinated this program for individuals who cannot be with families for Christmas. This year, about 300 patients will be remembered through gift donations for adult and teen patients. The public can sponsor a patient by calling Shawna Peterson at 801-344-4254.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

There are three FSCs in the Salt Lake Valley, the closest one to Taylorsville being at 3663 South 3600 West. The center's administrative office is located at 1760 West 4805 South here in Taylorsville, where donations can be dropped off. The centers support parents who need temporary "time outs" for work or health reasons, and they work with single-parent and dual-parent families.

Last year, the centers offered help to more than 2,200 children through a number of programs. During the holidays, particular needs include donations of infant formula and diapers (something the centers can use all year long).

AND...

Sub for Santa programs are run through many civic organizations and the United Way.

The Salvation Army offers food to the needy, social services and addiction rehabilitation, and has its Red Kettle Campaign manning doors at many supermarkets. Members of the Taylorsville Exchange Club will be assisting with the kettles of the Salvation Army in front of the Taylorsville Harmon's grocery store on Dec. 20.

Coupled with many church groups and businesses, finding ways to give back to the community this holiday season is not only easy, but joyful. ✦

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Bryan Scott: bryanscott@myutahjournals.com

EDITOR

Tom Haraldsen: tom@valleyjournals.com

STAFF WRITERS:

Tom Haraldsen

AD SALES: 801-264-6649

CIRCULATION COORDINATOR:

Vitaly Kouten: Circulation@valleyjournals.com

AD DESIGN: Paula Rushton: Paula@valleyjournals.com

EDITORIAL DESIGN:

Ty Gorton: Design@myutahjournals.com

TAYLORSVILLE CITY JOURNAL

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Taylorsville Native Receives National Award

By Tom Haraldsen

Kristin Danielson Fink, a faculty member at Utah State University in Logan, was chosen to receive the 2014 Sanford N. McDonnell award for Lifetime Achievement in Character Education. The announcement was made by the Character Education Partnership organization.

Fink received the award, along with Sandra Day O'Connor, in a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

"No one has done more to advance the cause of character education in schools than Kristie Fink," said Dr. Ann Higgins-D'Alessandro of Fordham University, who nominated her. "Widely admired for her dedication, leadership and caring heart, she also embodies the ideas of Sanford N. McDonnell, for whom this national lifetime achievement award is named."

"No one has done more to advance the cause of character education in schools than Kristie Fink."

She described Fink as "an influential advocate of quality character education, a tireless and effective contributor to both practice and policy, and a mentor to thousands who have become character education teachers, leaders, researchers and policymakers."

Kristie Fink, who has been a teacher, librarian and

secondary language arts/literacy specialist, implemented and led student character development strategies at every school assigned.

"She has had major impact helping educators across the country integrate character education into their daily practice," said Becky Sipos, interim president and CEO of CEP. "Even if it was not a subject Kristie had ever taught, she either personally developed or found resources to show how character education strategies could be connected. She is an effective national voice in gaining support for character education and is a respected source by elected officials and their staffs who seek guidance."

Fink has held state leadership positions with the Utah Coalition for Civic, Character and Service Learning, and was Character Education Specialist for the Utah State Office of Education. Nationally, she served as executive director of Community of Caring in Washington, D.C., a program of the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation. She has led professional development workshops in more than 30 states and in Canada.

She received her award at the 2014 National Forum on Character Education in October, an event attended by education and community leaders from 45 states and 20 countries. As a member of the USU faculty, she now teaches and integrates character education into the curriculum for graduate and undergraduate courses, as well as teaching a graduate course on character and values education. †

Holiday Food Drive Still Underway

The Taylorsville Food Pantry is still in need of help to fill the shelves for the holiday season. Items most needed are soups, chili, tuna, and 12-14 pound turkeys.

Through Dec. 19, items can be dropped off at the Food Pantry, located at 4775 South Plymouth View Drive behind the Taylorsville Senior Center. Hours of operation are Mondays 1-3 p.m., Wednesdays 4-6 p.m., and Saturdays 10 a.m.-noon.



Items can also be dropped off at Taylorsville City Hall, 2600 West Taylorsville Blvd., on weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. City Hall will be closed Nov. 27 and 28. Please help out if you can. †

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



The holiday season is here – my favorite time of year! The holidays offer an opportunity to gather with family and friends, to enjoy traditions that have been passed from generation to generation.

It can be easy to get caught up in the rush of this holiday season where it feels



like every activity is going on at once, from churches to the schools to the stores to the ball fields that will soon be covered in snow. I encourage everyone to slow down long enough to enjoy the moments of opportunity to be present with our family, friends, coworkers, and community.

This season, let us all reach out a little further to those around us. Let us look for those who might need that helping hand. Let us thank the Veterans for their sacrifice and service, the police officers and fire fighters who work diligently to protect and keep our communities safe, the elderly for their wisdom and examples, the young children for their hope and optimism, and friends for just being friends. Reach out to a stranger, participate in random acts of kindness, take a child or grandchild on a one-on-one date, ask for their thoughts, and then really listen to what they have to say; start a new family tradition, or maybe, forgive that one person you told yourself you would never forgive. In a world where time is so very precious – these small gestures can mean a lot.

I wish each and every one of you a happy and safe holiday season. It is a great privilege to serve this community alongside the City Council and dedicated city employees to ensure that Taylorsville is prosperous and beautiful. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2015! ✦

SAVE *the* DATE

Wednesday – January 28th, 2015
Taylorsville City Hall in Council Chambers

6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The Mayor's



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Looking for the Good

It's the most wonderful time of the year! As we approach this festive season our hearts are turned to family, friends and the spirit of thankfulness and giving. It is a time when we reflect on the good things in life and share with others. As we button up our coats against the cold of winter, let's not forget to open up our hearts to good feelings and warm wishes to our neighbors and friends.

This is the perfect time to lend a hand, check on our neighbors, smile and extend a warm greeting. Let's pause for a moment and look for the good. We will find it in the neighbor who rolls our garbage can to the

street, the hard working teen who bags our groceries or the school crossing guard who faithfully and carefully keeps our children safe. It may be the volunteer at the food pantry, the unseen protection of a patrol car, or a newspaper delivered right to our door. Perhaps we will find the good as we shovel a neighbor's snowy driveway, send a note of thanks, or give our undivided time and attention to our families.

May we each take a moment to look for the good, find the good and be the good. Indeed, it's the most wonderful time of the year! ✦

City of Taylorsville Meeting Schedule

Location: Taylorsville City Hall

Meeting Schedule	Date	Time
Planning Commission	Dec. 9th	7:00 p.m.
City Council Meeting	Dec. 10th	6:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting	Jan. 7th	6:30 p.m.
Planning Commission	Jan. 13th	7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Meeting	Jan. 28th	6:00 p.m.



Chair
Kristie Overson – District #2



Vice-Chair
Ernest Burgess – District #1



Council Member
Dan Armstrong – District #5



Council Member
Dama Barbour – District #4



Council Member
Brad Christopherson – District #3

YOUTH COUNCIL CORNER

Service Project Spotlight

The Taylorsville Youth Ambassador program is a rewarding and oftentimes challenging program for the youth of today. Janet Tran, who is a 2014-2015 Youth Ambassador, completed her service project over the past few weeks. Below is her experience and how it has benefitted the City of Taylorsville as well as the environment we live in. Kudos to you Janet for a job well done!

On October 25th, the Taylorsville High School Environmental Club partnered up with Janet Tran, a Taylorsville City Youth Ambassador, to leave a positive impact on the local environment. The students took the

initiative to raise awareness for their environmental cause by starting small - they organized a can collection event.

Why a can collection? Remi Prince, president of the Environmental Club, states, "We wanted to organize a service project that could assist us in our future endeavors. By collecting cans, we can reduce the environmental waste and also collect funds that will go towards our bigger projects. One of the projects that we plan to execute will involve the planting of trees. By collecting cans, we have started small in order to accomplish our big goals." When asked why she partnered up with the club, Janet Tran stated, "I

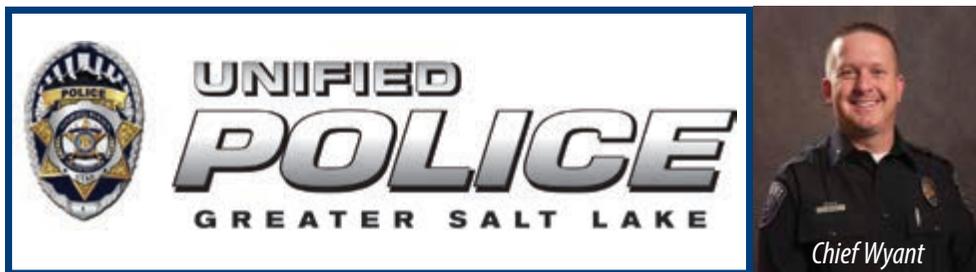
have a passion to give back to my community and when I became aware of this service opportunity, I really wanted to help. Remi and I collaborated with each other in order to raise awareness for the event. After participating in this service project, I am excited to see what other projects that the club will organize."

On Wednesday, October 22nd, the club members posted flyers on houses surrounding Taylorsville High School. Roughly 300 houses received flyers requesting neighbors to leave their aluminum cans out on their porches or by their



mailboxes and on the morning of October 25th, the club collected approximately 70 pounds of aluminum cans that were brought to the Redwood Recycling Center located on 6325 South Redwood Road. In total, the environmental club raised nearly \$70 that will fund their future service opportunities. Small service projects as simple as collecting cans can positively impact the environment and are rewarding experiences! ✦





With the Holidays Here, Please Minimize Your Risk Of Theft!

BURGLARY PREVENTION

Stop Home & Business Burglaries -- Don't Tempt a Thief!

Lock all outside doors and windows before you leave the house or go to bed. Even if it is for a short period of time, lock your doors and windows.

REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES TO UPD @ (801) 743-7000

Leave lights on when you go out. If you are going to be away for a length of time, connect some lamps with automatic timers to turn on in the evening and off during the day. Also you can notify the Unified Police Department / Taylorsville Precinct to request a property check while you are away. (385-468-9435)

Keep your garage door closed and locked at all times!

Do not leave lawn mowers or other easily stolen yard items in plain view.

Secure vacant rental or foreclosure properties from air conditioning and copper thefts by using a padlock and chain security device or by caging in the unit so thieves cannot reach the valuable metal.

Do not allow daily deliveries of mail, newspapers, or flyers build up while you are away. Arrange with the United States Postal Service to hold your mail or arrange for a friend or neighbor to pick them up regularly. (<https://holdmail.usps.com>)

Arrange for your lawn to be mowed or your snow to be removed by a trusted individual while you are gone for an extended period of time.

Check your locks on doors and windows and replace them if necessary.

Push button locks on doorknobs to exterior doors are easy for burglars to open. Replace them with deadbolt locks.

Sliding glass doors are vulnerable. Special locks are available for better security. Check with your local home improvement store for assistance.

AUTO THEFT & BURGLARY PREVENTION

Stop Auto Theft and Burglaries -- Don't Tempt a Thief!

FACT: A car is stolen approximately every 25 seconds somewhere in the U.S.

FACT: Most of these crimes are preventable!

Some criminals can take your car in less than 2 minutes. You can use an anti-theft device to make your car less appealing to a thief. Most of those devices cost less than the insurance deductible paid out if their car is stolen and there are discounts offered for using them. Late Model Hondas and Saturns are some of the most stolen cars in Utah!

Vehicle Theft & Burglary Prevention Tips

- Park in well-lighted areas.
- REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES TO UPD!
- Close all windows, lock all doors, and take the vehicle keys with you. 25% of stolen vehicles had the keys in the ignition, most with the engine running!
- Do not leave anything of value in plain view. IF IT CAN BE SEEN IT CAN BE STOLEN!
- Never hide a second set of keys anywhere on or near your car.
- Never leave your car running. Even if you'll only be gone for a minute.
- Don't become complacent because you drive an older model car. Older cars are often stripped for parts that are sold for two or three times the value of the vehicle. ✦

Officer Grant Richardson

While conducting pro-active patrol in the area of 4200 South Redwood Road in the early hours of August 17th, 2014, Officer Richardson observed a motor home parked behind adjacent businesses.

Concerned what the occupants of the motor home were doing at this hour and location, Officer Richardson made contact.

Incident to contact, Officer Richardson questioned and later arrested a wanted felon, who had significant criminal history. In addition to the arrest, Officer Richardson seized narcotics, drug paraphernalia and a weapon.

Through Officer Richardson's pro-active and diligent efforts, a more significant crime to one of our residents very well may have been averted.

Officer Richardson is to be commended for his work ethic and resolve. ✦



Officer Richardson

The employees of the Salt Lake County Sherriff's Office, Sherriff Winder, and Mayor Johnson delivered pumpkins to each child at Hartvigsen School in Taylorsville.



City of Taylorsville GRAFFITI BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM

If a residence is attacked by graffiti, the homeowner can contact the City of Taylorsville by calling 801-963-5400. The homeowner will then receive a case number and a voucher that is good for up to one gallon of free paint matching the color of the surface where the graffiti was



left. The voucher is redeemable at Kwal Paint located at 5640 South Redwood Rd. Taylorsville, Utah. We appreciate our partnership with Kwal Paint in this beautification program.

REPORT GRAFFITI



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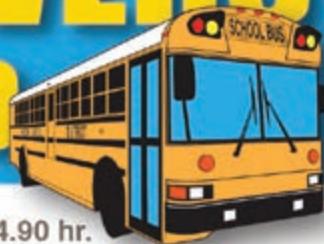
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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Erickson Living

Mr. Rogers used to sing, “Won’t you be my neighbor?” Taylorsville residents will soon be answering “yes” to many new neighbors in the area north of 6200 South between 3200 West and Bangerter Highway. Baltimore-based Erickson Enterprises Inc. is purchasing this former gravel pit parcel from the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and plans to build a new kind of active senior retirement community.

Make no mistake: this is not your grandma’s nursing home! Erickson has an exciting, proven concept for retirement communities that are vastly different from any others in this part of the country. John Erickson, Founder of Erickson Living, has built 18 beautiful retirement communities operating in 10 different states: Colorado, Florida, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Virginia. Taylorsville will be home to their first community in Utah, and his first community west of the Rockies.

Imagine living in a gated community where you can have your own car with you or use their conveniently-scheduled transportation, where you can eat chef-prepared meals at in-house restaurants that will accommodate special dietary needs, where your grandchildren can visit and your

small pet can live with you, where 24-hour medical and emergency services are provided on site, where a hair salon and barber shop, a fitness center, an all-season pool, a convenience store, a computer lab, a hobby shop, game rooms, dance and aerobics, and other amenities are provided on-site and as part of the monthly fee! One- and two- bedroom units are offered in a total service environment.

Owner John Erickson stated: “I have been searching the entire US for our next location and found an ideal location in Taylorsville. Our community meets the needs of the aging Utah population and we are excited to offer our product and program to the residents of Utah. No longer will children and grandchildren need to drive for hours for an infrequent visit with Grandpa and Grandma in southern Utah. Now they can frequently visit parents and grandparents within a few minute drive.”

Erickson Enterprises Inc. has started its due diligence and application process with Taylorsville City. The first outreach meeting was on November 6 when Erickson hosted an open house for residents and businesses in this area to explain their concept and answer questions from their new neighbors. Over 500 notices and invites were mailed out. Attendees received information, met with owners and left impressed with the plan. Future public meetings will be held as the land use, rezone, and site plan applications go through city approval hearings.

The community is projected to have about 1,800 independent living units, 3 major clubhouse facilities, on-



site medical clinic with full time doctors and specialists; their own security, personnel trained as first responders, 300 health care beds ranging from traditional assisted living, physical rehab., memory care, and hospice. Wayne Harper, Taylorsville’s economic development director stated: “I am impressed with the quality of the Erickson Communities. They are meeting an important and increasing need for residents of Taylorsville and Salt Lake County as we age. Not only will the needs of our seniors be met, but Erickson will bring a significant number of quality full time and part time jobs to the area and will increase the property tax base for the city and school district.”

You can find more information about this quality builder and John Erickson’s 30 years of working with seniors at www.ericksonliving.com or by calling John Erickson at his Baltimore office at (410) 402-2222. They will be happy to tell you more about their high-quality retirement communities and their plans for Taylorsville. ✦

Winter Parking Reminder

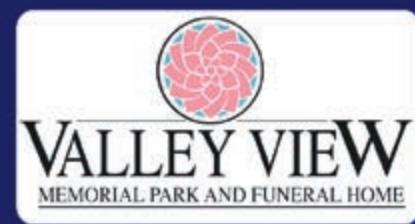
As the Winter Season approaches please keep in mind the following city ordinance regarding parking.



CITY OF TAYLORSVILLE CODE: 11.20.080: PARKING PROHIBITED WHEN:

It is unlawful for any person who owns or has possession, custody or control of any vehicle to park any vehicle on any street or highway:

- A. After any snow and/or ice accumulation, until after the street or highway is cleared of snow and/or ice; or
- B. For a period longer than twenty four (24) hours; or
- C. For any period longer than the allowed by appropriate signs, markings or parking meters giving notice of such parking time limitation. (Ord. 14-03, 2-19-2014)



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www.valleyviewfuneral.com

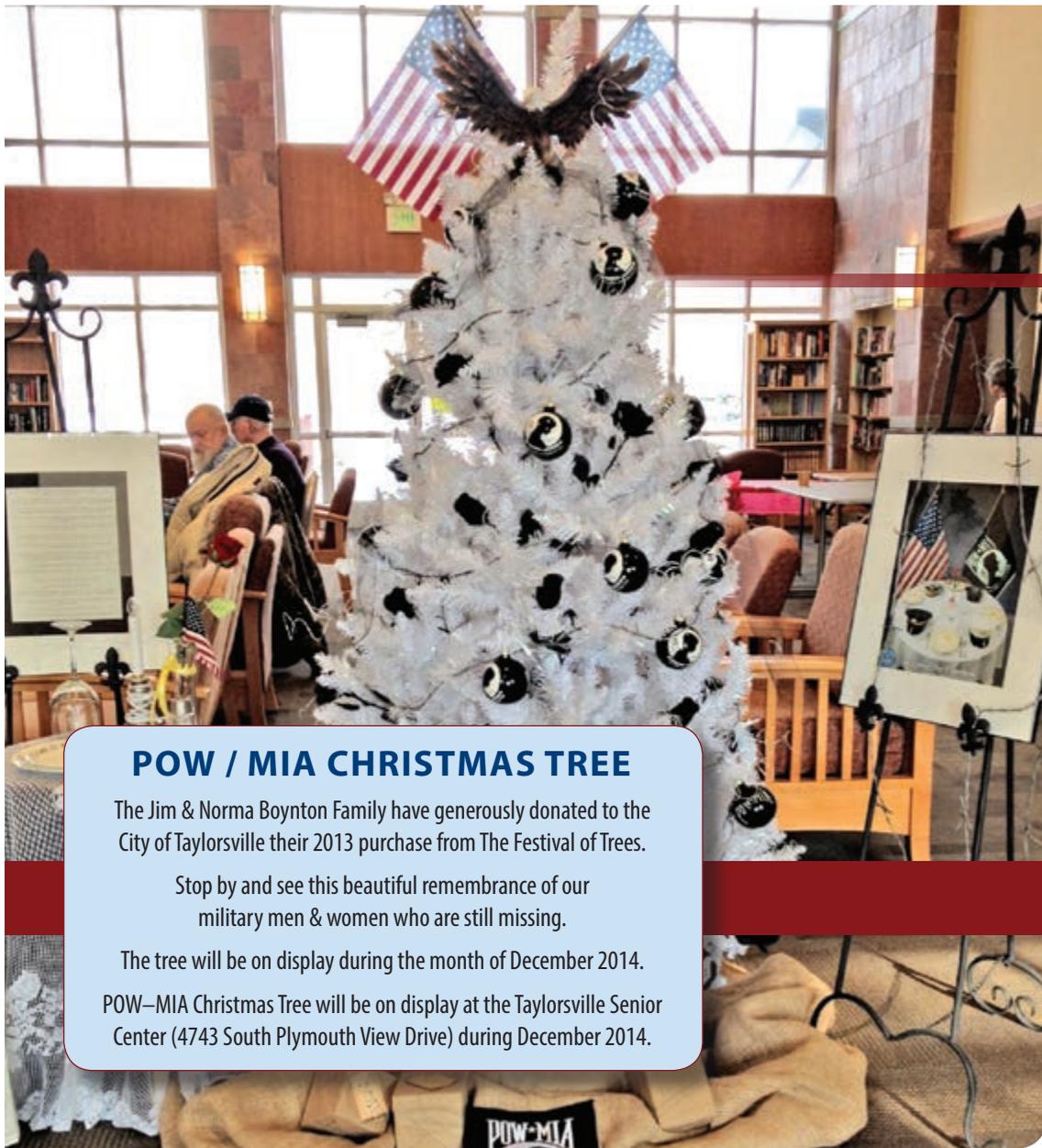
Presents 2014 Christmas Luminary

Join us on **Saturday, December 20th, 2014** from **5-8 pm** for our annual event to honor those who have passed away with a display of 5,000 luminaries throughout the Memorial Park.

Afterwards come inside our funeral home and enjoy some festive refreshments. Our Christmas Memory Tree will be displayed. We are also proud to be a partner for The Christmas Box International’s Project ELF to help less fortunate children.

For further information or if you are interested in volunteering, please contact **Addison Sharp** at **(801) 969-1081** or send an email to addison.sharp@dignitymemorial.com





POW / MIA CHRISTMAS TREE

The Jim & Norma Boynton Family have generously donated to the City of Taylorsville their 2013 purchase from The Festival of Trees.

Stop by and see this beautiful remembrance of our military men & women who are still missing.

The tree will be on display during the month of December 2014.

POW—MIA Christmas Tree will be on display at the Taylorsville Senior Center (4743 South Plymouth View Drive) during December 2014.

**Taylorsville Senior Center
DECEMBER 2014**

4743 South Plymouth View Drive
Taylorsville, Utah 84123

UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

December 1-12 - Christmas Boutique

December 1 - “Healthy Relationships”

11:00-12:00 Discussion by USU Extension Office

December 2 - Birthday Tuesday Celebration. Entertainment by “Mixed Nuts” from 11:30-12:30.

December 9 - Special Entertainment by the “Taylorsville High Madrigals” at 11:45.

December 12 - White Elephant Party- everyone bring a gift to exchange.

11:15-12:00. Donuts and Hot Chocolate sponsored by Chateau Brickyard.

December 16 - Special Holiday Meal at 12:00. Entertainment by “The New Fiddlers” from 11:30-12:30.

December 24 - Senior Center closing at 12:30.

December 25 - Senior Center Closed.

December 31 - “Noon Years Countdown” from 11:45-12:00.

***Looking for 15 seniors to start a pen pal group with the local YMCA kids. We will start writing letters in January 2015. See April for more details.*

2014 Holiday Outdoor Decorating Contest

City of Taylorsville LARP Committee

Taylorsville city limits.

The LARP Committee’s 2014 Outdoor Holiday Decorating Contest is a festive way to demonstrate your community pride and light up the holiday season. It is also a perfect project for families to enjoy. So pull out your Santas, sleds, reindeer, wreaths, and lights. The contest is open to any home within City of

To enter the contest: Please take a picture of your home and email it to the City of Taylorsville at larp@taylorsvilleut.gov. The entries will be forwarded to the LARP Committee to select a 1st and 2nd place winner. All entries must be received by January 2, 2015. The 1st and 2nd place winners will receive a \$30.00 gift card and have their home featured in the Taylorsville Journal.



LARP Beautification & Halloween Décor Awards for 2014

Home Beautification Award Winner

(May to October 2014)

Richard & Inger Russell

4940 South Bitter Root Drive

Taylorsville, Utah

Halloween Outside Home Décor Winners

(October 2014)

Beetlejuice Home

Scott Childs

4816 South 3040 West

Taylorsville, Utah

Tombstone Home

Claude & Nada Murray

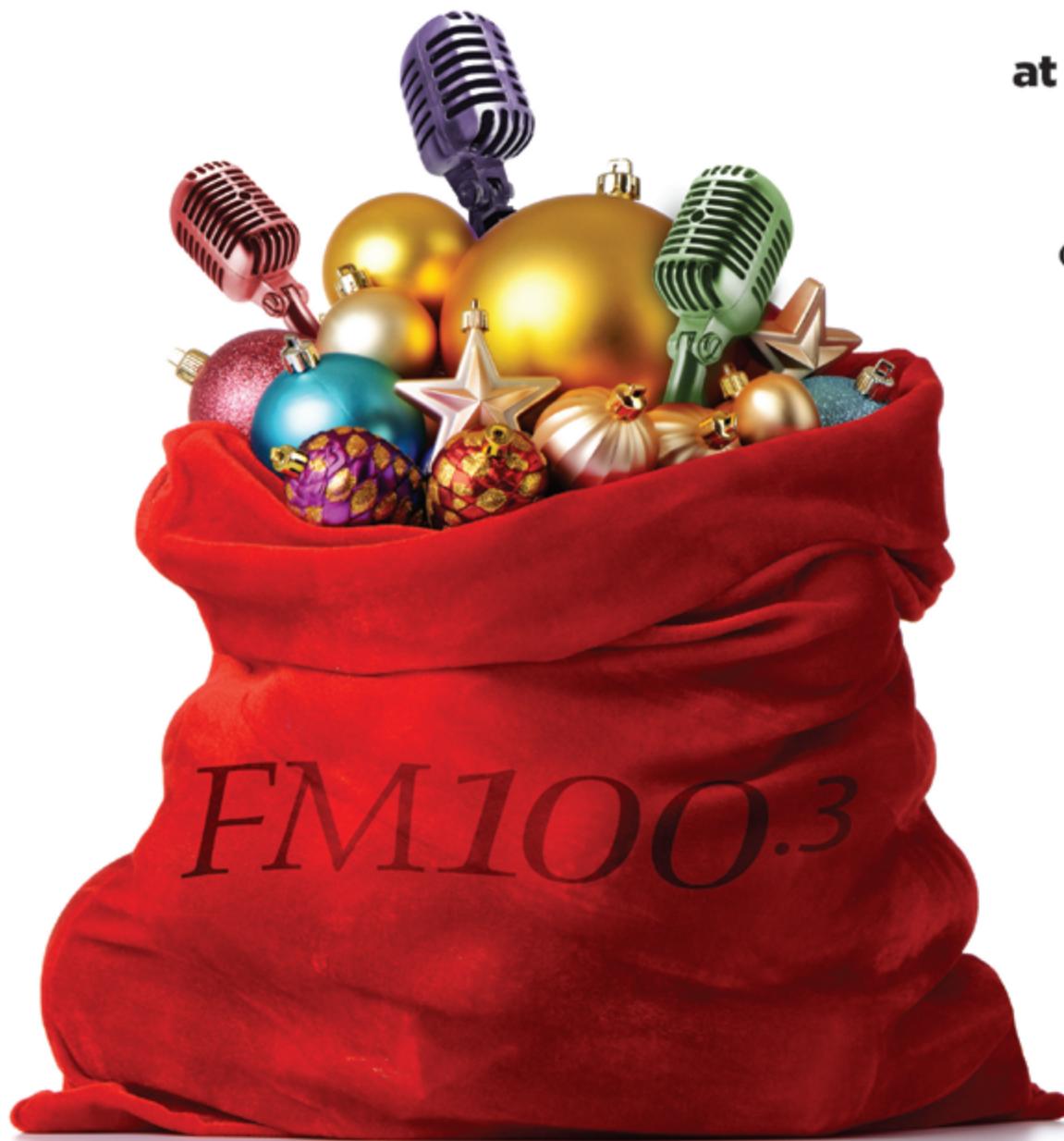
1307 West 4800 South

Taylorsville, Utah



FM100.3

Christmas Concerts



**Join FM100.3
at the Southtowne Center
from Noon - 1:00**

Friday, November 28
Kurt Bestor &
One Voice Children's Choir

Tuesday, December 2
David Tolk &
Peter Breinholt

Thursday, December 4
Ryan Shupe &
Eclipse 6

Tuesday, December 9
Joshua Creek &
Abe Kaelin

Thursday, December 11
Caleb Chapman Music

Tuesday, December 16
Voice Male &
Cherie Call

Thursday, December 18
Adam Reader and the
Terks & Beyond 5

Sponsored by



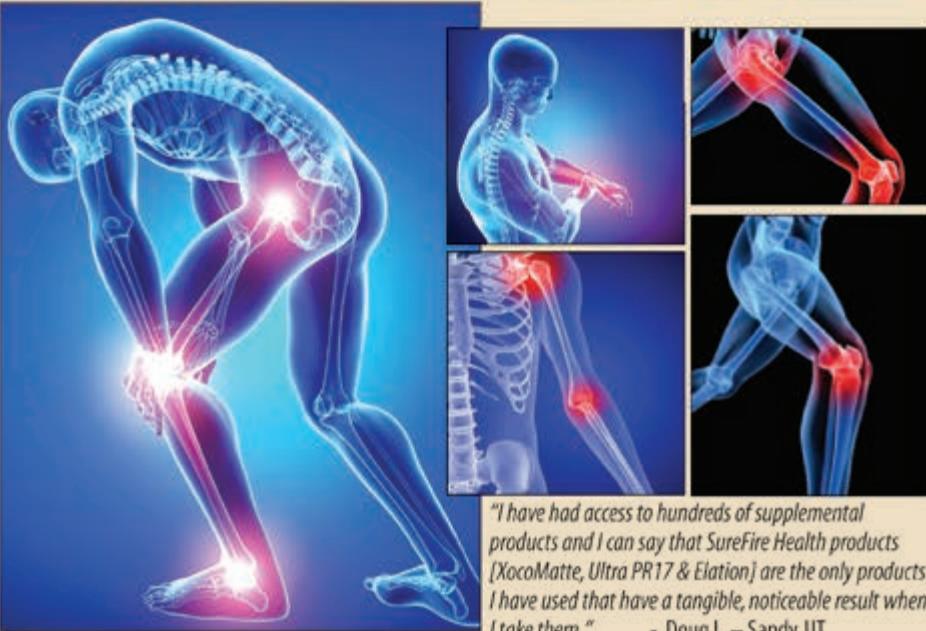
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CHOCOLATES & ICE CREAM



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Simply stated, Elation™ Pain Relief Crème contains some of the strongest, most effective, all-natural pain killers, anti-inflammatory agents, and healing properties of any pain reliever on the market.

By providing deep penetration of the epidermis, Elation™ is able to help with the swelling, aches, and pains caused by overwork, athletic events, sprains, strains, bumps, and bruises.

Good to use for Migraine headaches, any joint discomfort, diabetic pain, sunburns, stove burns, bulging discs in the back, neck or back pain or any other joint type pain.

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For the month of Nov. & Dec. 2014.

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Ultra PR17: If you have any type of arthritis, joint discomfort, fibromyalgia, or any other discomfort related to back or joints, Ultra PR17 feeds the body what it needs to heal itself. Ultra PR17 has 17 synergistic ingredients that combine together to react better than any other product on the market to help with discomforting joint issues. It takes 1 to 3 weeks to find relief from your aching issues but it is not an aspirin. Once you start to feel relief it only gets better. If you are taking any heavy narcotics for relief or some type of joint issues you need to give Ultra PR17 a try. Give it 3 weeks and see how you feel. If you are allergic to Shell Fish you should not take this product. This product is better than what you will find off the shelves at your local drug and pharmacy stores. We have been producing Ultra PR17 for 10 years now without one complaint that it did not work for any of the people who have been taking it. If you have had back operations that did not turn out good and need relief. If you have fibromyalgia and are on pain medication, you need to give this a try. Allow the body to have what it needs nutritional wise to help start feeling better.

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Order now and begin enjoying the benefits of being pain free!
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for the Fire Department

Job's Daughters International has a request of the community:



To collect as many stuffed animals as possible for the Taylorsville Fire Department to be given to children involved in accidents.



Donate today!

We will be collecting from
November 1 through December 31, 2014.

DONATIONS CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE

Taylorsville Senior Center • 4743 Plymouth View Dr. • Taylorsville, UT 84123

Taylorsville City Hall • 2600 West Taylorsville Blvd. • Taylorsville, UT 84123

OR

4366 S. Beechwood Rd. (1485 W) Taylorsville, UT 84123

CITIZEN SPOTLIGHT - Jake Barbour

Jake Barbour was born and spent most of his younger years on farms around Lafayette, Indiana. This part of the country is known for growing corn & soybeans, also raising hogs and cattle. Jake had regular farm chores caring for the animals, planting crops, and driving tractors. Following in the footsteps of his two older brothers, he enlisted in the Army on his 17th birthday, serving 16 months in Korea.



Jake has been a resident of Taylorsville since 1977. He worked in the auto-body trade for 38 years, retiring from Larry H. Miller. Jake has restored many old cars and trucks over the years and had always had the desire to restore a tractor. He found a much neglected rusted Farmall tractor sitting in a field in the Riverton/Herriman area. Farmall was a model name for tractors manufactured by the American company, International Harvester. The Farmall line of all-purpose tractors was a leading brand. Its bright red color was a distinctive badge. He bought it, brought it home, tore it apart completely, and worked for an entire year replacing and restoring it to its original

annually in the Taylorsville Dayzz parade. We are so fortunate and honored to have someone with such a great skill to restore such a beautiful piece of equipment and then generously donate it so it can be enjoyed by so many.

Jake loves the mountains and has always played as hard as he works. He enjoys horseback riding, bear and cougar hunting with his redbone hounds, camping, four wheeling, snowmobiling in the winter, boating in the summer, and especially loves Flaming Gorge and Lake Powell.



beauty. After he completed this restoration, he was not sure what he should do with it. He decided to donate it to the Taylorsville Bennion Heritage Center Museum. Over 1500 Granite School District elementary students visit the museum annually on field trips and get to see this beautiful Farmall C1950 restored tractor. In addition, it is used

Jake and his wife Dama have been married for 58 years, have six children (one deceased), 17 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

If you would like to nominate someone for Citizen Spotlight, please contact Tiffany Janzen at 801-835-3330 or email at tjanzen@taylorsvilleut.gov

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20
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1995 2014

Mon. - December 1 - 7 PM
MAVERIK MONDAY
Buy one ticket, get one free
with Maverik Adventure
Club Card

Wed. - December 10 - 7 PM
WILD WEDNESDAY
\$2 Hot Dogs • \$2 Soft Drinks
\$2 Beers
TEDDY BEAR TOSS
Bring a stuffed animal to throw
onto the ice after
Utah's first goal for
children in need

Wed. - December 17 - 7 PM
WILD WEDNESDAY
HIP HOP NIGHT
\$2 Soft Drinks • \$2 Beers

\$5 OFF

PRESENT THIS COUPON FOR \$5 OFF YOUR
GAME TICKETS AT MAVERIK CENTER BOX OFFICE
COURTESY OF CITY JOURNALS

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
OR BUY TICKETS NOW AT
UTAHGRIZZLIES.COM

TAYLORSVILLE/BENNION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Off To Someplace Warm?

Plumbing is especially susceptible to cold weather and freezing. Burst pipes from freezing can cause some of the most expensive repairs in the home. So let's go over some of the basics to make sure you have them covered.

INSULATE EXPOSED PIPING

If you have any exposed water or drain piping in uninsulated spaces such as in a crawlspace, attic, outside walls, etc., make sure to insulate them. Ideally you should



wrap them with electrical heating tape first, and then insulate them.

Wrap water heaters and hot water pipes in insulation to improve efficiency. This is especially important in locations where hot water components are exposed to cold temperatures.

EXTERIOR FAUCETS

Also known as hose bibs. You may want to consider an insulated cover for the exterior faucet. And remember to disconnect your garden hoses from the outside faucets and drain the hose to prevent damage if stored outside.

Reminder: If you are shutting down a property for several months you should always shut off the water supply from inside the home. If a leak were to occur without occupancy, the damage could be catastrophic. ✦

Taylorsville's Got Talent

The City of Taylorsville and the Taylorsville Arts Council hosted the 4th Annual Taylorsville's Got Talent on Saturday, October 25th, 2014. The event was kicked off with a special performance by Taylorsville City Mayor and City Council. Attendees had the opportunity to enjoy performances from many talented participants. There were four winners as determined by the panel of judges which included: Adam Larson, Dave Newton, and George Tintura. We would like to congratulate the winners who as part of their prize are invited to

perform at the 2015 Taylorsville Dayzz. Thank you to all the participants, volunteers, and attendees.

2014 WINNERS

- Youth** — Dallin Woodruff
- Junior** — Holly Henderson
- Young Adult** — Emily Dahl
- Adult** — Debbie Murdock



The Taylorsville Club, which is a part of the National Exchange Club, exists primarily to give back to Taylorsville. The Mission Statement is "Exchange, America's Premier Service Club, working to make our communities better places to live."

There are three core values—Family, Community, Country—we are targeting the community and in particular, Community Service, which is one of the service programs. The other three service programs encompass Americanism (they have installed several Freedom Shrines in public schools, the senior center, and city hall since it was first organized in November, 1996), Youth Recognition (they have awarded many scholarships to Taylorsville High School seniors over the years), and the national project: Prevention of Child Abuse. They partner with the Family Support Center whose administrative offices are in the city.

In the last quarter of 2014, the Taylorsville Club has been busy giving back by doing the following: Meet the candidates October 9 and the Blood Drive on October 25. A goal was set to attract 14 donors; we received twenty-one! This donated blood will benefit 63 people. A few of our other projects have been Food Bank donations



collected on November 12 and our "Youth of the Semester" honored on November 19 from Taylorsville High School, Kearns High School and Cyprus High School.

December will be an exciting month, as we assist with the copper kettles of the Salvation Army in front of the Taylorsville Harmon's grocery store. We will be ringing bells all day Saturday, December 20. If you wish to assist on that day, or find out more about this service club, contact taylorsvilleexchange@gmail.com.

Regular club meetings are the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30 AM in the City Council Chambers of Taylorsville City Hall. Free light breakfast. Visitors welcome.

Richard C Russell
lderlore@xmission.com

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Our FALL LEAF COLLECTION Is In Full Swing!

Residents can pick up leaf bags at no additional charge (1 bundle of 10 per household) at Taylorsville City Hall. After the bags have been filled, residents can drop them off at South Ridge Park, the Valley Ball Complex or Vista Park until November 30th. See www.wasatchfrontwaste.org for other address locations.

Year to Date Statistics:

Curbside Green Waste Subscribers: 226
District-Wide: 1,579

Tonnages in Taylorsville:

Green Waste: 469 tons (\$7,028 in savings)
Recycling Collected: 2,707 tons (\$83,911 in savings)
Glass Collected: 54 tons (\$1,683 in savings)

The diversion rate for Taylorsville YTD is 18% compared to a district-wide diversion rate of 18%, contributing to a district wide savings of \$554,521.



No Garbage Collection Monthly Fee Increase for 2015

The Administrative Control Board of the Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling District has rescinded the earlier anticipated monthly fee increase for 2015. This is due to the efforts of district staff improving efficiencies through residential routing to reduce miles and making adjustments to the fleet replacement. Efforts towards recycling by our customers have also assisted in keeping

garbage dumping costs manageable.

Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling District will be conducting our 2014 customer survey Monday, November 24th through Wednesday, December 14, 2014. Please visit our website at wasatchfrontwaste.org and complete a survey to help the district better monitor and improve our services.

Saturday
WITH SANTA

Saturday - December 13th, 2014
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Taylorsville Bennion Heritage Center
1488 West 4800 South • Taylorsville, Utah

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YMCA Upcoming Events

We have many exciting upcoming events in the coming month that we would love for you to share with the community. Please see the list and attachments below. All activities will take place at our YMCA Community Center located at 4223 South Atherton Dr. If anyone would like more information to register they can stop by or call (801) 839-3388.

December Calendar Events Open to Everyone!

Saturday – December 13, 2014

KIDS & PARENTS NIGHT OUT

On Saturday, December 13th from 6pm-11pm, we are holding a Kids Night Out for any youth ages 5-12. Parents can have a night out while kids can too. Our theme for the night is Halloween in December with costume parade, spooky stories, dinner, including tasty treats and fun games. Must pre-register \$20 for first kid and \$15 for any siblings.

Tuesday – December 16, 2014

FESTIVAL OF KINDNESS

On December 16th we will be hosting our Festival of Kindness, a free community event and open house from 6-8pm with food and activities for all. Each year YMCA

friends and family sets a goal to accomplish 1,000 kind acts before the new year. All are welcome to celebrate their kindness at our event. There will be free Holiday Crafts, a Hot Cocoa Bar with healthy snacks, and YMCA Program Information available.



December 29-30 & January 2

SCHOOL RECESS DAY CAMP

Ages 4-12 can join us for days schools are closed. We offer fun and enriching activities from 9:00am-4:00pm with extended care from 6:30am-6:30pm with caring staff, field trips, fun games and activities. Pre-registration required. For more information call (801) 839-3388 or stop by at the Taylorsville YMCA Community Center located at 4223 South Atherton Drive in Taylorsville, Utah.

2015-2016 Preschool Enrollment

Well, It is that time again for our 2015-2016 Preschool enrollment! We offer half-day and full-day options for 3-4 and 4-5 years. Preschool is very important for the future of your child's academic, social and emotional,

and gross motor skill development. Research demonstrates that high-quality pre-k increases a child's chances of succeeding in school and in life. Children who attend high-quality programs are less likely to be held back a grade, less likely to need special education, and more likely to graduate from high school. Our partnership with the Granite School District (whose preschool services were nominated for the national innovation award) helps to prepare your child for their future schooling success. ✦

Is Your Vehicle Ready For Winter?

Utah winters have earned us the reputation of having the 'greatest snow on earth.' Our winters bring great recreational, outdoor activities such as skiing, snowboarding, sledding and others. We also celebrate holidays and enjoy being with family and friends.

Utah winter storms can range from a moderate snow over a few hours to a blizzard with blinding, wind-driven snow that lasts for several days. Many winter storms are accompanied by dangerously low temperatures and sometimes by strong winds, icing, sleet and freezing rain.

As you travel to your destinations this winter, you can avoid many dangerous weather problems

by planning ahead...

Prepare your vehicle by:

- Keeping your gas tank full
- Having a trusted mechanic properly maintain fluids in your vehicle (oil, antifreeze, etc.) as well as perform other, regular maintenance
- Installing good winter tires

Also, carry a proper winter emergency car kit in your vehicle. **Consider adding these items:**

- Windshield scraper with a small broom
- Collapsible shovel
- Road salt, sand or kitty litter for traction

- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Battery powered radio • Water
- Snack food including energy bars
- Extra hats, socks and mittens • Blankets
- Car cell phone charger
- First aid kit with pocket knife
- Tow chain or rope • Jumper cables
- Emergency flares or reflectors
- Fluorescent distress flag to attract attention

If you have any questions about how to prepare for winter or other emergencies, contact our Emergency Response Coordinator, Ben Gustafson, at 801-963-5400.

Healthy Taylorsville

MAINTAIN, DON'T GAIN

Set that pumpkin pie, or that Christmas cookie, down for a minute? Thanks, let's talk. The average American gains 1-5 pounds over the holidays. Not a problem, you say. Some gain quite a bit more, and all of us tend to keep those pounds on into the New Year. That adds up year after year, and surprise, you are part of the 2/3rds of Americans who are overweight or obese. Let's take a step back and do an ounce of prevention before it requires several pounds of cure.

Instead of gaining weight this holiday season, look at the causes. Every holiday party seems to have tables overflowing with sweets, baked goods, or any number of high calorie foods/drinks. We build our social gatherings around food. We give food as gifts. In fact, taking food out of the holidays would make it considerably less festive. But, even with all of the food available,



you don't have to dive in head first. Consider the impact on that second slice of pie. Focus on maintaining your weight over the holidays so you aren't pressured to make unrealistic New Year's Resolutions to take it off. This year, maintain, don't gain over the holidays. Spend your time with family and friends, but as for the extra serving, just say, "No, thanks."

Are you interested in helping make Taylorsville a healthy place to live? Join the Healthy Taylorsville Committee as a volunteer. You don't need a health background, just a desire to help make healthy choices available to all of our residents. Contact us at HealthyTaylorsville@gmail.com for more details. ✦

A childless married YOUNG couple, both 31, seek to adopt. Will be a full-time mom and devoted dad. Financial security. Expenses paid. Danielle & David. 1-855-912-3678
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How The Grinch STOLE CHRISTMAS!
He's a Mean, Green Holiday Machine!

Ceder's Loft Daycare
Hi, my name is Alysia Humphreys and I am the proud owner/operator of Ceder's Loft Daycare for the past 5-1/2 years.
I have 4 immediate openings for all ages that could be full time, part time and/or before and after school.
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• Pre-k program including indoor/outdoor plan, story time, crafts, educational activities, circle time/centers, art music, field trips, etc.
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I love my job and believe if children have to go to daycare, it should be a wonderful experience for children and parents alike.
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Veterans Day Celebration



The Veterans Day Celebration began on Tuesday, November 11, at 11:00 a.m., with our fifth Veterans Day Parade. The route traveled south from 4900 South on 2700 West, ending at Taylorsville City Hall. More than 40 entries participated in the parade, with Valentina Paddock, USMC, and Jill Atwood, US Army, as Grand Marshals. There were many patriotic entries. The theme of the parade was "Honoring Women of the Military."

The Veterans Day Program began at 12:15 p.m., with Orrin Hatch as the Key-

Lawrence Johnson presented the Grand Marshals with a shadow box containing a flag. Recognition of veterans of all branches of the military stood to be honored. Visitors were invited to view WWII military photos and memorabilia on display inside City Hall. Refreshments were available – voluntary donations were accepted, with proceeds to go to military families.

Thank you to the Veterans Day Committee, Taylorsville Exchange Club, Redwood Memorial Estates for setting up the "Flags of Honor", Brian Mullahy, Colonial



Note Speaker. Taylorsville High Jr. ROTC performed the flag ceremony. The Invocation was given by Alan Rindlisbacher. The "Star Spangled Banner" was sung by soloist Sara McDonald, and soloist Natasha Mae Gallegos sang "America the Beautiful." LeeRoy Arellano played a Native American flute medley, and the winner of the Essay Contest, Bridgett Raymundo, read her essay. Mayor

Flag, Don Hudson, Kearns Historical Society, Ken Garff Dodge Auto, Senator Orrin Hatch, Taylorsville High School Jr. ROTC, Taylorsville Youth Council, Unified Police Department, Unified Fire Authority, WWII ERA Preservation Society. And most importantly, we would like to thank all the Veterans for their patriotism, bravery, love, and willingness to serve. ✦



27 Quick and Easy Fix Ups to Sell Your Home Fast and for Top Dollar

Taylorsville - Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is one of the most important decisions you are likely to make. Once you have made that decision, you will want to sell your home for the highest price and in the shortest time possible. An industry report has been released, that will assist you in making your home competitive in today's tough, aggressive marketplace.

Through these 27 tips you will discover how to protect and capitalize on your most important investment, reduce stress, be in control of your situation, and make the best profit possible.

In this report you'll discover how to avoid financial disappointment or worse, a financial disaster when selling your home. Using a common-sense approach, you will get the straight facts about what can make or break the sale of your home.

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City of Taylorsville Holiday FOOD DRIVE

Through December 19

Please assist in filling the shelves of the
Taylorsville Food Pantry for the holiday season.

DONATION DROP-OFF
LOCATIONS & HOURS:

Taylorsville Food Bank

4775 South Plymouth View Drive
(behind Senior Center)

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday 1 - 3 p.m.
Wednesday 4 - 6 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. to 12 - Noon

Taylorsville City Hall

2600 West Taylorsville Blvd.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday – Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR GENEROSITY!



MAKING HOLIDAY MEMORIES: NINE CREATIVE AND FRUGAL TRADITIONS

By Joani Taylor



I recently met a gal who told me a story about how they use their cowboy boots for Christmas stockings. This came about because, during a move to a new home, the box with their holiday decorations got lost. Instead of buying new stockings they hung their cowboy boots on the mantle and have kept the tradition ever since.

When you think of Christmas traditions you might think of driving around and seeing the lights, watching a favorite holiday movie, enjoying special recipes or opening up PJ's on Christmas Eve. Holiday traditions invoke wonderful and playful memories of childhood and help bond us to those we love.

We asked our readers at *Coupons4Utah.com* what their favorite holiday traditions are and we got a lot of great responses. Here are a few favorites that are out of the norm and easy on the wallet.

Stop a Cop: Wrap up goodies, then on Christmas Eve find a police officer or stop by a firehouse and deliver your treats, with an offer of thanks and gratitude for keeping you safe on the holiday.



Toy Clean Up: Two or three days before Christmas gather the kids and go through their toys. Place those they no longer play with in a special bag and put it under the tree. On Christmas Eve, St. Nick will take the bag and replace it with their newly wrapped toys. The toys get donated to a local shelter or care center.

Table Talk: Use butcher paper instead of a tablecloth and breakout the crayons. Everyone, adults and children, writes or illustrates something on the table. It can be words of gratitude, a big announcement or sharing a goal they hope to achieve. When it's time for dinner each person shares what they wrote.

Go Camping: Camp out around your Christmas tree the night you decorate it. Tell stories by candlelight. In the morning have the same breakfast menu from year to year, like funny face pancakes or a special muffin or bread that you only make on that particular morning.

Discover Your Inner Actor: Put on a holiday performance. Act out the nativity and

read the story of Christ's birth from the bible. Then, have a gift exchange game where the gifts cannot cost more than \$5.

Newlyweds Forever: Make a yearly decoration for the tree out of things you can find around the house that represents where you are in that stage of life. Your ornaments will tell a story of time as you grow your family.

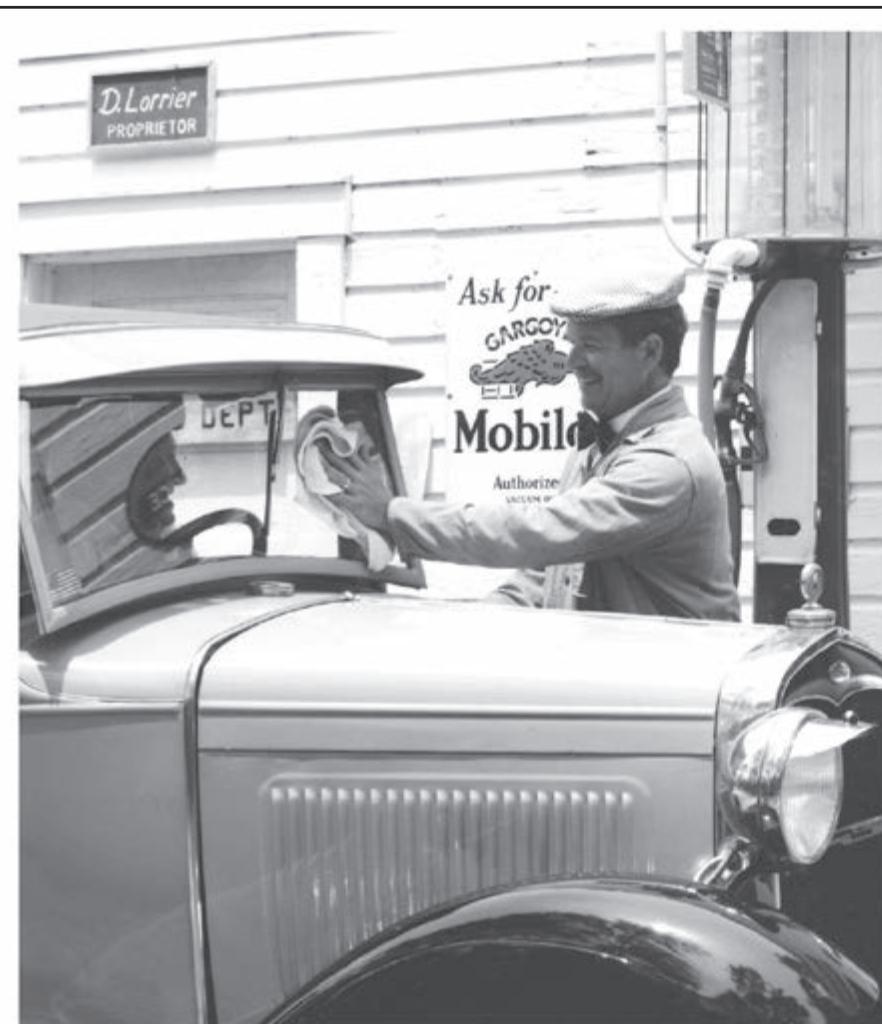
Winter Wonderland: Make a paper snowflake each day during December and have your child write something they are thankful for on it. Then hang the snowflakes in the window or around the house.

Ants in Your Pants: Go sledding or ice skating on Christmas day after opening the gifts. This is a great way to channel the Christmas excitement into a healthy family activity.

Hide and Seek: Santa's mischievous elves hide one present for Christmas Eve. They leave treasure hunt style clues all over the house leading the way to the gift.

What's your holiday tradition? For more ideas our readers submitted visit: coupons4utah.com/traditions

Happy Holidays!



Remember When People Tried Harder?

Having served families for many years, we have never forgotten the way service used to be...when people gave that extra effort and caring went far beyond the expected.

We are committed to continuing that same philosophy of service — because some things should never change.



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New Warrior Coach Thrilled To Be Here

By Tom Haraldsen

For Garrett Wilson, this coming prep basketball season is a dream come true. The new Taylorsville High head coach begins his first year as leader of the Warriors, and he's optimistic and upbeat about his young, but talented, team.

"We've got a good group, not a ton of experience, but the team chemistry is great," he said. "They play well together, and I think that's going to help as we gain experience in a tough Region 2."

It will be challenging for the Warriors, who were region champs last year with a 10-0 record, finished 16-7 overall but were eliminated in the 5A state tournament. Taylorsville lost a lot of key players to graduation.

"We'll be competitive, and we do have a good nucleus to build around," he said.

It starts with Remi Prince, 6-0 senior forward, a solid returning player and an SBO leader at Taylorsville. "He brings both experience and leadership to us," Wilson said. Other starters should include:

Thomas Mackay, 6-5 senior center, who got decent playing time a year ago and who Wilson expects to be a major contributor.

Jameson Tonge, 6-1 senior guard, whom Wilson predicts "will have a breakout season."

"There's an expectation of success at this school, and any coach hopes for that and loves that."

Aaron Canepari, 5-10 junior guard. Again, Wilson expects a big season from him.

Prior to coming to the Warriors, the coach was an assistant at West Jordan, and before that, an assistant at his alma mater, Bingham, for nine years. "Both were great opportunities that prepared me for this. When (former Taylorsville coach) Jim Boyce took the job at Highland, I was anxious to come here."

Since taking over in May, he's worked with his players in many practices and some summer tournaments. And he's anxious to get the Warriors on the court for real. They opened with Lehi on Nov. 25 and return to action by hosting Olympus on Dec. 2 at 7 p.m.

"I felt like this season was never going to start," he said with a laugh. "It's nice to



The Warriors varsity basketball team with new head coach Garrett Wilson (far right).

be together with these guys every day, and I know they're anxious to get going as well. Coaching them is really a lot of fun."

Coaching is in the family. His father Mark was a coach at Cyprus High for 16 years, and brother Skyler is coach at Riverton. In fact, the two brothers' teams will face off against each other on Jan. 2 (4 p.m., at Riverton).

"This has been a bit surreal for me," he said. "Taylorsville is the perfect school for me—great kids and a great community. I love the students and the classroom, the faculty and great administration. And the close-knit feel of the community and its support for the Warriors is great. There's an expectation of success at this school, and any coach hopes for that and loves that." †

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Life & Laughter

Rockin' Around the Real Christmas Tree

By Peri Kinder

Now that we're empty nesters, my husband has tentatively suggested that we destroy Christmas. We'll be cuddling in front of the TV when he whispers, "Do you think it's time we invested in a fake tree?"

"No."

"But a real tree stresses you out each year."

"That's not stress, it's the Christmas spirit," I reply.

"I didn't know the Christmas spirit was so grouchy."

A real Christmas tree has always been the center of my holiday decorating. Growing up, we'd hang stockings, put out Advent calendars and display nativity scenes, but the season didn't officially start until the tree was plunked into a bucket of boiling Mountain Dew. (We had the only caffeine-addicted tree on the street.)

After dad strung the lights and went to hide in his bedroom, we'd attack the tree like a whirling tornado, fighting over who got to hang favorite ornaments. Once we were in bed, mom and dad would redecorate and hang tinsel, one silvery strand at a time, on every branch.

I've carried on that tradition (minus the tinsel that would cling to our clothes) to create our own perfect Christmas tree.

Our holiday tree has never been a symbol of opulence. We've never had a Winter Wonderland tree with white fluffy reindeer frolicking through snowy silk ribbons, dangling with sparkly Swarovski crystals and silver-sequined snowflakes.

Instead, our tree's branches are weighed down by homemade angels with ratted-out hair and lopsided halos, clothespin reindeer tangled around hand-beaded wreaths, and South Park characters rubbing shoulders with the baby Jesus.

Decades of school photo ornaments hang amid the evergreen boughs, detailing years of missing teeth, questionable hairstyles and teenage angst. And loved ones who have passed away are remembered with ornaments ranging from dancing shoes to teardrop prisms.

Put together, it's an explosion of bad taste that would make Martha Stewart cry. But it's not just a Christmas tree—it's a family tree representing years of holiday memories.

The finished product is only half of the story. Finding the perfect Christmas tree is a tradition/catastrophe I anticipate/loathe every December. Hence my husband's misguided "fake tree" suggestion. He just doesn't understand that a plastic tree is a soulless imitation of holiday beauty, and the first step to anarchy.

Each year, I schedule a day to pick out a tree, and, without fail, it's the coldest, snowiest, iciest weekend of



the month. My youngest daughter tags along to make sure I get it right and to help hold the tree on top of the car once the loosely-tied knots start to unravel—much like my mind.

We scour tree lots, looking for an evergreen that is devoid of bare spots, more alive than dead and not full of spiders. (Don't ask. It's a horrible holiday memory.) We also try to avoid tree lots managed by the town drunk. (That's another Christmas/horror saga involving a leering, inebriated tree salesperson with a chain saw.)

Once the tree arrives safely home, we discover the 10-foot tree won't fit into our 8-foot living room. We attack it with dull handsaws and scissors until it fits, and then, in a flurry of Christmas chaos, we adorn it with lights and ornaments, and top it with a rickety angel, balanced precariously on the highest branch.

When the dust settles, we'll cuddle by the decorated tree, watching Christmas lights twinkle while the snow softly falls. It's the epitome of holiday perfection. Until my husband whispers, "What do you think about having Christmas dinner at Village Inn?"

Could be a long, cold winter in our home. ✦

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