

The Richmond Record

A Newsletter for the Citizens of Richmond, Utah

May 1, 2009

Black & White Days: May is not only the month of celebrating Spring, it is also the host month of our celebrating the local dairy heritage. Black & White Days will be May 12th thru the 16th. The dairy portion, which features one of the last gatherings to judge the cream of the crop (no pun intended) of the “black & white” dairy cows, will be Tuesday through Friday. Saturday is Richmond’s day to honor the horses with different events scheduled throughout the day culminating in the “horse pulls.” This event is also one of the last remaining sites of what was a tradition found throughout the farming communities. Saturday will also start out with a breakfast prepared and served by the Mayor and City Council members. The parade will kick off at 5 p.m., giving everyone a pleasant and exciting break just prior to the beginning of the horse pulls. Plan on spending the week enjoying the events, and don’t hesitate to invite friends and relatives to come and enjoy with you!

Temporary Removal of Roll-On, Roll Off

Bins: Due to the Black & White Days activities, including the preparation and clean-up, the “green” and “trash” roll-on, roll-off bins will not be available between May 5 and May 19. The last day they will be available is Saturday, May 2nd and service should resume again on Wednesday, May 20th. Remember the hours are 3 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Wednesday, 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. on Saturday or until full.

Utility Bill Charges: Just the annual reminder that the water portion of your utility bill may be higher than normal for this month. We are unable to read the meters when they are buried under the snow. This year we weren’t able to get to all of them until the end of April. As a result your bill may show an accumulated overage for the months of November 1st through April 30th.

Richmond Website: The Richmond City website, www.richmond-utah.com, features a page called “Links.” It provides links to a number of websites that may be of interest to citizens. One section is dedicated to businesses here in Richmond. If your business has a website and you would like us to provide a link to it, please contact Terrie at 258-3777, or terrie@richmond-utah.com with the information.

Lowered Flag: Periodically you might notice that the flag at the Veteran’s Memorial next to the City Office is lowered halfway. This action is to honor a veteran who has passed away and whose burial is taking place that day in the Richmond Cemetery. Normally a flag is taken from “half-staff” to “full-staff” at noon, but we leave ours down until the late afternoon or early evening to be certain that the honor is being rendered when the funeral procession goes by to the Cemetery.

On a side note: The Veteran’s Memorial turns seven years old this month. In many ways it seems to have been there much longer. A beautiful book with the story of how the memorial came to be, including pictures of most of the veterans named at the site, can be purchased for \$10 at the City Office. All proceeds go to the Richmond Veteran’s Memorial Fund.

Farmers’ Market: Richmond City will expand and move its farmers’ market to Rockhill Creamery this summer. The Harvest Market at Rockhill will give residents the opportunity to sell—and buy—fresh produce, homemade crafts and prepared food items each Saturday at the historic Rockhill farm, 563 South State. Details and application forms will be available soon on the Richmond City website, [www.richmond-](http://www.richmond-utah.com)

utah.com. But in the meantime, if you've begun planting your tomato and pepper seeds, why not plant a few extra and come share the bounty this summer. The weekly market will be held from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. each Saturday from May 23rd to October 17th. Vendor applications are due by April 27th. For more information, call Terrie Wierenga (258-3777) or Pete Schropp (258-1278).

May is National Foster Care Month: With over 2,600 children in foster care in Utah, there is an increasing need for foster/adoptive parents. You have the power to change a child's world for the better, and offer love and support that will stay with them for their entire lives. When you become a foster/adoptive parent you can give children a safe home while mothers and fathers are given time to work things out. Professional trainers offer free preparation classes and support groups for prospective foster/adoptive families. *Strengthen a Family. Become a Foster/Adoptive Parent.* For more information, please contact a foster/adoptive family recruiter at 1-877-392-1114, by e-mail at dan.webster@utahfostercare.org, or visit at www.utahfostercare.org.

Friends of the Canyon: Bear River Watershed Council will launch a new program this season called Friends of the Canyon. It will be comprised of citizens concerned about the welfare of our local canyons. All members of the community are invited to make a difference by simply keeping their eyes and ears open to questionable activities that could impact wildlife habitat, public lands, and our community's open space. BRWC (www.brwcouncil.org) will create a small group for each local canyon and enlist a designated contact person that will coordinate communication and disperse information between the Logan Ranger District, volunteers, and others. BRWC has recently formed Friends of High Creek Canyon. If you have questions about Friends of High Creek Canyon please

contact Grant Stewart or Leslie Erickson at highcreekvolunteers@gmail.com. For more information about our Friends program or if you would like to help organize a local group, please contact Meg Hawks at meghawks@gmail.com.

Don't Do It!: We have one verified instance of a citizen's dog being shot while in a neighborhood setting, and "wonderings" on other instances of weapons being discharged within the City limits. The bullet entered and then exited the dog's body. Richmond does not have a specific ordinance relative to guns, but Utah Code Annotated in 76-10-508 does prohibit the discharge of weapons within 600 feet of a "house, dwelling, or any other building; or any structure in which a domestic animal is kept or fed, including a barn, poultry yard, corral, feeding pen, or stockyard." unless the owner/occupier has given written permission. [A Richmond block is 660 feet long.] The writer of this article is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and has seen first hand the effect of bullets on human flesh. It is absolutely mind boggling that anyone would be foolish enough to discharge a weapon in a residential area!!! Once a bullet has been launched, it is completely out of control. For instance, it can hit a rock just beneath the surface of the ground and go in any direction from there. Some weapons have a power that would carry the bullet practically from one end of the City to the other. Our houses are not built to withstand bullets, as witness the drive-by shootings we read about happening elsewhere. If you pull a trigger on a weapon within the City limits, and you are identified, you'll be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. All Richmond citizens have the right to be able to sit in their yards and homes without fear, and we ask everyone's assistance in bringing this potential, extremely dangerous problem to an immediate halt.

Our History: *Richmond: A History in Black & White* was published in 2007. Author Marlin Stum takes the reader on a historical tour through the story of Richmond. Using a wide variety of sources Stum covers the famous, and not so famous, events in the history of this northern Utah community. This straight forward “black and white” history captures the story of Richmond’s past, while pointing to its bright and colorful future. Book signings will be held Friday evening before the movie, Saturday morning at the Chuckwagon Breakfast, and before the movie on Saturday. Book cost \$20.

Community Emergency Response Team: The Richmond CERT team will meet at the City Office on Thursday, May 21st, at 7 p.m. for their monthly training. All CERT members are encouraged to attend. Those interested in joining the CERT team are welcome. If interested or have questions, please call Kenlee Brown at 258-0425.

City Elections: The office of Mayor and two City Council positions come open this year. All of these offices are elected four-year positions and provide citizens an opportunity to participate in determining the future course of our City. If interested, you must declare between July 1 and July 15, 2009. More information and details will be in the June issue of *The Richmond Record*.

Library News and Views: “The library is where I connect.” - **Jamie Lee Curtis**

Thanks to Suzanne Christensen from Anderson Seed and Feed for the excellent gardening presentation given at the library last month. Great tips were presented for gardening, pruning, and new products to help create a very productive garden. It was a very interesting and helpful library lecture.

National Library Week was a fun week for all. Our contest winners: Katrina Copley and Sondra Thornley tied for the candy jar count - both at 159 (actual count 160), Savannah Roylance guessed the closest on how many

people visited our library during National Library Week - 310 (actual count was 311), and Quinton LaMunyon guessed the closest count on how many visits to our website during the month of March - 621 (actual count was 622). Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who participated in the fun.

Black and White Days is coming! The library is sponsoring a Poster Contest and all ages are invited to participate. Create an advertisement for this unique occasion, put your name, phone #, and age on the back, and bring entries to the library by May 9th. Last year’s art contest was an outstanding success, and we encourage you to have as much fun with this year’s contest.

The library will be closed Saturday, May 16th, for Black & White Days. Join us at the booth area for fun “Be Creative” activities, puppet shows, and stories from 10 AM - 4 PM.

The library will also be closed Monday, May 25th, for Memorial Day.

Preschool Story Hour:

May 7 Chickens

May 14 Cows

May 21 Moose

May 28 Zoo

The Summer Reading Program will begin June 11th and continue each Thursday at 10:00 AM through July 30th. The theme for the young children’s program is “Be Creative @ Your Library” and the theme for the teen’s program is “Express Yourself @ Your Library”. Please pre-register at the library as soon as possible so that the presenters will be prepared for the right number of participants.

New Children Books:

Urchin of the Riding Stars by M.I. McAllister

One False Note by Gordon Korman

Fancy Nancy, Explorer Extraordinaire by Jane O’Connor

What Do Wheels Do All Day? by April Jones Prince

New Teens Books:

Biographies: *John Adams, Jimmy Carter, Franklin Delano Roosevelt*

Bloody Jack Adventures book #4 by Louis A. Meyer

Princess of the Midnight Ball by Jessica Day George

Dragon Flight by Jessica Day George

New Adult Titles:

Finding Faith and Having Hope by Terri Ferran

My Not-So-Fairy-Tale Life by Julie Wright

Torn Apart by Diony George

Shoot / Don't Shoot by J.A. Jance

Simple Genius by David Baldacci

Fragrance of Lilacs: A Love Story by Alene Roberts

A Second “Don’t Do It”: It appears that a number of our citizens are unaware of the fact that the pumping of water from sump pumps or other non-wastewater sources into the sewer system is prohibited. It is very easy in the confines of your basement to run a pipe or hose from a sump pump into the floor drain leading to the sewer. After all, who will know? The answer is, you and a lot of your neighbors may find out in a most unpleasant manner. Our sewer lines are not large, certainly not the size that you’d find in cities the size of Logan, Ogden, or Salt Lake City. Most of our mains were installed in 1972, when the City was much smaller. As Richmond has grown, so has the amount of sewage being put into our system. Water is powerful and unforgiving. Put enough of it into too small of a space, and it will force its way through the point of least resistance - like coming up your basement drain. It isn’t clean, pure, spring water either!!!

We know that sumps are connected but rather than spend your money searching for these connections (sewer cameras being placed in the mains at manholes during run-off periods to find the consistent, mostly clear water flow coming from residences), we are asking you to disconnect from the sewer drain and pump it outside. We have a meter on the main sewer just before the sewage goes into the sewer lagoon. Normally we average 175 to 200 gallons per minute per day. The rain we had the 15th and

16th of April produced an average of 490 gallons per minute. That is close to our capacity. Please save your neighbors, and yourself, the opportunity to clean sewage out of basements, and disconnect those sump pumps.

A Happy Sewer Thought: We are about two months away from our new sewer treatment plant “coming on line.” It has been interesting talking with citizens that come into the office, wondering what is happening, what it will do, etc. It is also interesting the number of people who have driven right past it, and not known what it is. Instead of the typical concrete structure with a lot of tanks and smells, your plant looks like a farm building. When operating, the sewage comes in, goes through a process ending with the liquid going through membranes with such minute holes that even bacteria are screened out. When the water comes out of the plant, it is actually “drinkable” (although the USEPA prohibits that use) in quality. Our plan, once we have the funds, is to bring that water back into the City for irrigation use. Literally, this water is so pure that we could have sprinklers going on the park, with children playing in the water, and it will be perfectly safe. Think of the wonderful reuse possibilities of what is becoming a precious resource.

While no one can out-guess what the USEPA will mandate next, we have very reasonable expectations that this MBR plant should keep Richmond in compliance with the law for the next decade, perhaps the next generation. We have a capacity of one-half million gallons per day, and it will be relatively easy to add on additional “modules” should we need to expand the capacity in the future as the City grows. In the June issue of *The Richmond Record* we will give you the details of a planned “open house” so citizens have the opportunity to come into the plant and actually observe the process. Smelly visit? Only if you object to a smell similar to being in a laundry room. Hope to see you there.