

The Richmond Record

A Newsletter for the Citizens of Richmond, Utah

July 1, 2010

Summer and Water: After a dry April and a wet May and first half of June, making any predictions about water availability is something of an adventure. But there are a few things that remain constant. First, please conserve your culinary water. Use what you really need, but always remember that we are a semi-arid area on the edge of a desert. The idea is for the desert to bloom like a rose, not be turned into a swamp! Second, please do not use culinary water for irrigation purposes between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Literally, more of the water (which you are buying, remember?) will evaporate than will get into your lawn or garden root system during that time period. There have been all kinds of studies out of Utah State University – water lab and agricultural college – that consistently show you need only twenty minutes of water at each location, three times a week, in our valley. Anything more than that is wasteful and spending your money foolishly. Lastly, be extremely careful to prevent any possibility of irrigation water (whether from the irrigation company or culinary water already put on the ground) from getting back into the culinary water system. Recessed sprinkler heads can literally suck contaminated water into the same pipeline that you are going to drink and cook out of – giardia, anyone? And a final note: when the demand for culinary water exceeds what the springs can provide, the well will be turned on. You will get a “mineral taste” in your water, and white dots will appear on your clean glasses as the rinse water evaporates. It is good water, just a higher mineral content that we get from the springs. The

longer we conserve, the longer we can avoid using the well.

Road Closures: As we noted in last month’s issue, in an effort to direct runoff water more effectively into the storm sewer in the Hill Haven sub-division, two north-south running streets will be closed for about two weeks. We will be cutting through the pavement and installing a concrete “California gutter” along 470 South. As this goes to print, we will be working on either 50, 90, 120 or 160 West but the contractor and City have not yet determined which TWO of the streets will be affected. Residents of the two streets selected will have to access their residence via 410 South. On Friday, all residents of those two streets will please place your trash and recycling cans on either 470 South or 410 South, whichever is closer. The concrete will require over a week to fully cure (due to the weight being applied once traffic resumes), so please cooperate. As this goes to press we don’t have a specific begin date but it will be after the 4th of July.

Are You A Thief? If you are putting trash into “dumpster bins” that you do not rent, you are stealing, pure and simple. Should you be caught (and you’d be amazed at how many are!), the owner of the bin can press charges. Felony theft conviction for putting your old carpet in that dumpster hidden from street view! Please be considerate of the property of others.

Cemetery Kudos: We appreciate the hard work and effort that goes into maintaining the Richmond Cemetery. The cemetery is

overseen by Kip Panter, Denise Allen, Albert Purser, Chris Purser and Justin Lewis. They form the Richmond Cemetery District Board. The City now works with them in the maintenance of the cemetery area under a formal agreement. The cemetery looked wonderful for Memorial Day due to these individuals manning lawn mowers the Friday night before and giving the cemetery a good face lift. Due to the wet May, and that week before Memorial Day being filled with storms, it really added to the time crunch of trying to get the cemetery ready for its big day. Once again a big Thank You to those involved in making sure it was looking tip top. **Mayor Mike Hall**

Safety Assist: For the past six to eight months, we have had a real problem with youngsters skate-boarding down Main Street – primarily in the center of the street and even after dark, wearing dark-color clothes. A few close calls have been reported. We cannot legislate stupidity, but we sure do ask for parents support in bringing this to a halt before someone is killed or injured!

Artifacts Roadshow: Have any Native American artifacts? Curious about Utah's prehistory? Utah State University has begun a research project centered on northeastern Utah which is the focal point of three important regions in the West: the Great Basin, the Rocky Mountains, and the Northwest. The unique geographical and environmental conditions make this area a melting pot of past cultures. USU will be hosting an artifact road show at the City Park on 100 South and 200 West in Richmond on Friday August 6th, 2010. Two archaeologists, Ben Fowler and Alex Hildreth, will be present to identify artifacts and give a short presentation on Utah's prehistory. We encourage community members to come and bring their private collections for identification. The event will be from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the south

pavilion. Please contact Alex Hildreth at hildreth@iastate.edu or (708) 476-9128 for any questions or information.

Utility Bill Increase: Effective July 1st your water and your sewer bill will increase by \$1.00 per month each. This annual increase is to help off-set the still rising costs of plastic pipe, metal fittings and other associated system maintenance items. The \$2.00 total increase will show on your August bill since we charge for services rendered, not in advance.

Monthly Safety Tip: The amount of rain that we receive this spring is great for our water supply. However it does have a little down side to it. Because of all the extra rain, we will have taller vegetation in our area than normal. As this vegetation dries out, it will become a fire hazard. To help mitigate this hazard, we need everyone to do their part by keeping this vegetation (grasses, and weeds) cut down. Keep it trimmed around homes and other building. This will help keep the fire hazard lower, and it will also slow the spread of any fires. We appreciate your help in keeping Richmond a safe place to live. **Richmond City Fire Dept.**

A Question of Courtesy: We haven't put this into any type of an ordinance, but it would certainly be courteous of "dog walkers" to carry along a bag to retrieve any fecal droppings of your pet(s). A very simple, inexpensive way to handle this is to carry along some quart-size "zip-lock" type plastic bags. Invert them (inside out) while holding, i.e., your hand is protected. You can then literally grab the mess, slip the bag up so it is "right-side-out" and zip closed the contents. Dispose in a garbage container and earn genuine points with your neighbors!

Scholarship Opportunity: We just recently became aware of a scholarship available through Stevens-Henager College, Logan campus. Known as the Mayors Scholarship Initiative, recipients can receive \$10,000 for a Bachelor of Science degree, \$5,000 for an Associate degree. Stevens-Henager College is for students who want a specialized career in Medical Specialties, Computer Science, Business Administration, Accounting, Graphic Arts or Healthcare Administration. Over the past five years they have awarded over \$250,000 in scholarships to participating communities.

The time frame is for announcement (such as you are reading now) by the City through July 31st. The list of candidates must be submitted by Mayor Hall on July 31st, so we recommend that interested people contact the City Office as soon as possible. We can provide you with the necessary application forms. Scholarships will be awarded by Stevens-Henager College via the Mayor. Students must begin at the Logan campus on September 27th or October 25th, 2010. If you have questions, you may come by the City Office and read what material we have on hand, or you can call Mr. Brad Sorensen (435-792-6970) at Stevens-Henager.

City Fiscal Year 2011 Budget: At the June 15th City Council meeting, the budget for the period July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 was passed. It is significant that we were able to “hold the line” financially and did not seek any type of property tax increase. Funds are very tight (the State has decreased certain funds that we receive from that source) but prudent expenditures and very careful monitoring on our part – with outstanding cooperation from the Maintenance, Library, Fire, and EMT departments – has enabled us to accomplish the task. The Council offers special thanks to City Recorder Justin Lewis for his careful analysis and evaluation.

Library News and Views: “You can cover a great deal of country in books.” --- Andrew Lang

OverDrive – a free, easy-to-use service, available 24/7. You can browse, check out, and download audiobooks and other media. Enjoy best-selling and classic audiobooks on your own PC or Mac, transfer titles to your iPod and other MP3 players, and burn to CD to listen in the car. Ask a librarian.

Wednesday, July 7th at 10:30 a.m. there will be a health awareness class for adults at the Richmond Library. Robyn Buttars, RN/Alpine Home Care and Hospice will present Health Highlights, a community education program about maintaining good health. For additional information contact robyn-buttars@alpinehomecare.com.

The Library expresses a BIG thanks to Tim Jeppsen for reading “Jack the Duck” to the children at our Summer Reading Program on June 10th, and for the donation of that book to the library. It was written by his brother Jeff and illustrated by Tim, himself. Come in and check out a fun book, you’ll love it.

Remember the summer reading programs on Thursdays at 10:30 AM at the library. There are 5 weeks in July with the last one a big “Splashing” event. Don’t forget to read and fill in your reading contracts.

“Make A Splash” Children’s Topics:

July 1	An Octopus’s Garden
July 8	Stormy Weather
July 15	Catch of the Day
July 22	Come Sail Away
July 29	“Make A Splash” Party (last day)

“Make Waves @ Your Library” Teen’s Topics:

July 1	Water Your Imagination
July 8	Liquid Literature
July 15	Pirate Treasure Hunt
July 22	Water Under the Bridge

July 29 “Make Waves @ Your Library” Party (last day)

New Children Books:

April Adventure (Calendar Mystery) by Ron Roy
Ragweed by Avi
Escape from Jabar-Loo and Crown of Wizards by Tony Abbott
Choke by Obert Skye

New Teen Books:

Witch and Wizard by James Patterson & Gabrielle Charbonnet
Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer by John Grisham
The Short Second Life of Bree Tanner by Stephenie Meyer
Soldier X by Don Wulffson

New Adult Books:

Wrong Number by Rachelle Christensen
Between the Lines by Erin Klingler
Impatient With Desire by Gabrielle Burton
Deadline by Clair M. Poulson
Faith Among Shadows by Malcolm Leal

The library will be closed Monday, July 5, for Independence Day & Saturday, July 24, for Pioneer Day. Our annual closed week, to clean and work on projects, will be August 9-14 - so please be aware and plan ahead.

Richmond Harvest Market at Rockhill:

Don't forget to visit the Harvest Market at Rockhill (563 South State Street)! A variety of vendors offer fresh produce, farm eggs, bedding and garden plants, hand-crafted items, and home-produced foods. Live entertainment is offered most Saturdays, too. Performers who've appeared include The Dry Lake Band, Juniper Day, The Gypsies, and Dylan Taylor. Upcoming artists include Robert Linton (June 26), Los Rasquitis (July 10), Sam & Ann Schropp

(July 24), and Todd Milovich & Friends (July 31).

The market (and the Farmstead Cheese Store) is open each Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm. Come enjoy the only farmer's market held on a farm, learn how cheese is made, and stock up on delicious, locally grown produce and products.

A Renewed Plea: If you are landscaping your yard, especially the front yard, please keep in mind a few regulations. First, you may landscape your property as you please (unless you belong to a home-owners association) as long as it does not create a public hazard. Second, this applies only to land within your property lines AND your property line IS NOT the edge of the street. Land between your property line and the street is City right-of-way and while we appreciate very much (and encourage) our citizens maintaining the r-of-r, we cannot allow rocks, trees, railroad ties, etc. to be placed in that area. If you want to plant a tree, check with the City Office for the clearances and obtaining permission. Third, you may not landscape in such a manner that your water meter is below the grass level as that sets up a possible contamination hazard of water “back-filling” into the meter barrel with the danger of it getting into the culinary water line. Nor may you raise the meter lid without City permission and inspection – the top of the meter CANNOT be more than 24 inches below the lid. Any damage to the leads for reading the meter will be charged to the property owner – in excess of \$100 to replace the lid unit.

Mayor: Michael E. Hall

Council: Paul Erickson Brad Jensen
Allen Lundgreen Terrie Wierenga
Jeff Young

Need to Contact the City?

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