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ATTENTION ENOCH & PAROWAN RESIDENTS

MAILBOX DELIVERY OF IRON COUNTY TODAY TO ENOCH AND PAROWAN WILL BE DISCONTINUED BEGINNING JAN. 1, 2024

To our valued readers in Enoch and Parowan,

As the editor of this newspaper, it is my responsibility to be bearer of both good and bad news. Thankfully, it's more often good news. Today's news may be disconcerting to those of you who have been receiving *Iron County Today* in your mailbox. It has been determined by both the market and management to discontinue delivery through the Post Office to our Enoch and Parowan readers.

Since *Iron County Today* went out of business earlier this year, and was then reborn from the inky ashes, we have been doing our best to become more sustainable and also more available to you. Nevertheless, it has been a worthy and worthwhile challenge to discern and decide how best to continue to create and distribute this much-loved publication to you, our valued readers.

While our desires and aim were true in immediately increasing distribution to the majority of Iron County, the process has proved fiscally challenging. And because I believe you and I both agree that losing this newspaper is still something that needs to be avoided, these changes—for now—must be made to secure the future of our newspaper.



Corey Baumgartner

Corey Baumgartner
Managing Editor

Questions? Give us a call at 435-701-9981

This has been a difficult decision and may have repercussions—which we will face and overcome together—but this doesn't mean that *Iron County Today* will not be available in your city! We will continue to have racks available where you can find a copy each week. And we are still providing the opportunity for you to become a subscriber to the newspaper, which includes direct delivery to your address.

Please let us know if you have any questions, ideas, concerns, or even complaints. Because as I said, we're in this together and we'll resolve it together. We also encourage anyone who wants to volunteer to help us deliver the newspaper to these communities—we welcome and invite such initiative.

Know that this is not the end, it's just a different decision and direction with the potential to get your community newspaper to a better and more sustainable place.

As always, it is an honor to continue to serve you.

HOW CAN I CONTINUE TO RECEIVE IRON COUNTY TODAY?



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Grab a copy from any of the following locations:

ENOCH

- » **Enoch City Office** | 900 E Midvalley Rd
- » **Family Dollar** | 521 E Midvalley Rd
- » **Fosters Market** | 4617 N Minersville Hwy

PAROWAN

- » **Parowan Cafe** | 33 N Main St
- » **Chevron Club** | 200 S Main St
- » **Parowan Library** | 16 S Main St

CEDAR

- » **Iron County Today** | 479 N 100 W, Ste. 1
- » **Walmart** | 1330 S Providence Center Dr
- » **Cedar City Library** | 303 N 100 E
- » **Cal Ranch** | 750 S Main St



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life

Cedar High counselor helps students find purpose, passion



IRON COUNTY

today



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STORY IN SHOWCASE

Cedar City expresses gratitude for outgoing councilmembers Terri Hartley and Craig Isom

by Gabrielle Costello

CEDAR CITY PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Cedar City staff and community members would like to express deep appreciation for outgoing council members Terri Hartley and Craig Isom and their eight years of dedication serving on the city council and various board appointments. They were recognized for their service at the December 13th city council meeting with thoughtful words and memories shared by many.

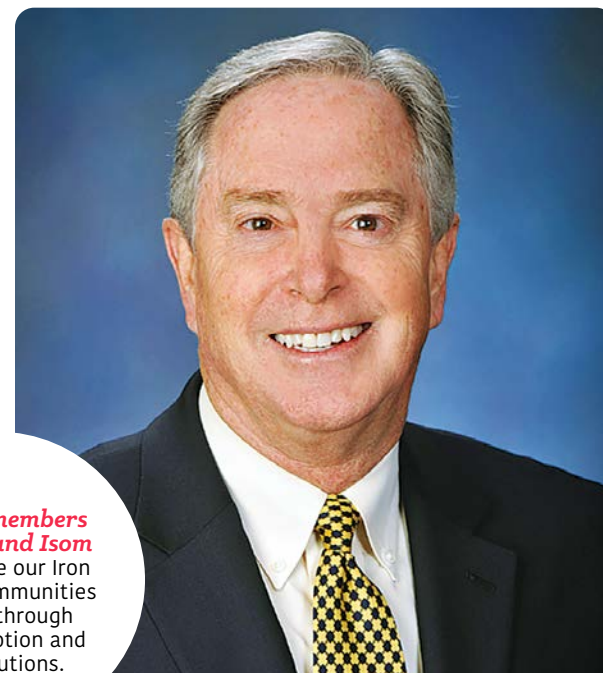
"I am very appreciative of this opportunity to serve," said Councilmember Hartley. "The biggest lesson I've learned is what goes on behind the scenes that we take for granted. Thank you so much for this opportunity."

Hartley and Isom both expressed their gratitude for the city staff and all that goes into making a city run smoothly.

"I've worked with some wonderful people," said Councilmember Isom. "We have incredible staff in this community, and they make it run. I hope as we move forward, we can work together with each other and maintain this beautiful place to live and grow."

Having each served two terms on the Cedar City council, Hartley and Isom served on various committees and board appointments set by the Mayor. Hartley served on the Airport Board, Iron County Water Conservancy District Board, Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Board, and Iron County Economic Development Committee. Isom served on the Planning Commission, Library Board, Iron County Homebuilders Government Relations Committee, and Iron County Economic Development Committee (appointed through SUU).

Fellow city council members expressed their appreciation for the outgoing council members and shared their feelings about the value they both had in caring for the community. After December,



Councilmembers Hartley and Isom have made our Iron County communities greater through their devotion and contributions.

COURTESY PHOTOS

"The biggest lesson I've learned is what goes on behind the scenes that we take for granted. Thank you so much for this opportunity."

Councilmember Terri Hartley

they will continue to spend time in our community enjoying their grandchildren and hobbies.

The two newly elected city councilmembers,

"I hope as we move forward, we can work together with each other and maintain this beautiful place to live and grow."

Councilmember Craig Isom

Robert Cox and Carter Wilkey, as well as incumbent Tyler Melling will be sworn into office on Tuesday, January 2nd at noon in the council chambers.

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Gov. Cox names Donna Law as new Head of Department of Cultural and Community Engagement

from Emma Williams

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SALT LAKE CITY — Utah Gov. Spencer J. Cox has appointed Donna Law as the interim executive director of the Department of Cultural and Community Engagement. This appointment requires approval by the Utah State Senate.

Law will replace Jill Remington Love, who announced her departure in September after serving seven years in the position.

“Donna brings a wealth of experience in the arts, administration, government relations and communications – a full package of skills that will serve the state’s cultural and community engagement needs well,” Gov. Cox said. “I appreciate Jill’s successful tenure and look forward to working with Donna as we support the rich past, present and future of our great state.”

Law has spent the past 14 years at Southern Utah University, currently serving as associate vice president of community and government relations after stints as executive director of development and government relations and director of development. Prior to SUU, she worked



COURTESY DONNA LAW

Donna Law will continue making a difference for the better in Iron County and will also have an influential impact across Utah as well.

as managing director of the Orlando Shakespeare Company, director of development of the Idaho Shakespeare Festival and as director of communications and marketing for the Utah Shakespeare Festival. Her civic involvement includes serving on the Utah Transportation Commission, chair and board member of the Office of Museum Services, chair of the Iron County Tourism Advisory Board, and vice president of the Shakespeare Theatre Association.

“Having worked with the department and many of its divisions for more than 25 years, furthering the mission of CCE to enrich the lives of all Utahns is a dream come true,” Law said. “With the opportunity to lead this department, I will do everything I can to elevate Utah’s culture, history, heritage, and art in all its forms, colors, and sounds across our great state.”

Law has a master’s degree in arts administration from Southern Utah University, a bachelor’s degree in business management from Western Governors University, and a public relations certificate from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas.



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opinion

FROM THE EDITOR

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Is it just me, or did 2023 go by in a blur, or blink? Either way, it went way too fast. Now, the New Year brings celebration of past accomplishments and motivation to make new memories to celebrate. And as I get older (hopefully also wiser) I realize that it's not about the calendar, but the adventure, that makes life enjoyable.



COREY BAUMGARTNER
MANAGING EDITOR

I'm also learning that a new year isn't exciting because its 365 new days of potential, but because I'm learning to how make one day just as exciting and important as the other 364. I also know that some of us have had a 2023 we don't want to celebrate. Don't let your motivation for a

better future (or the present) be drowned by despair. We'll get through this together.

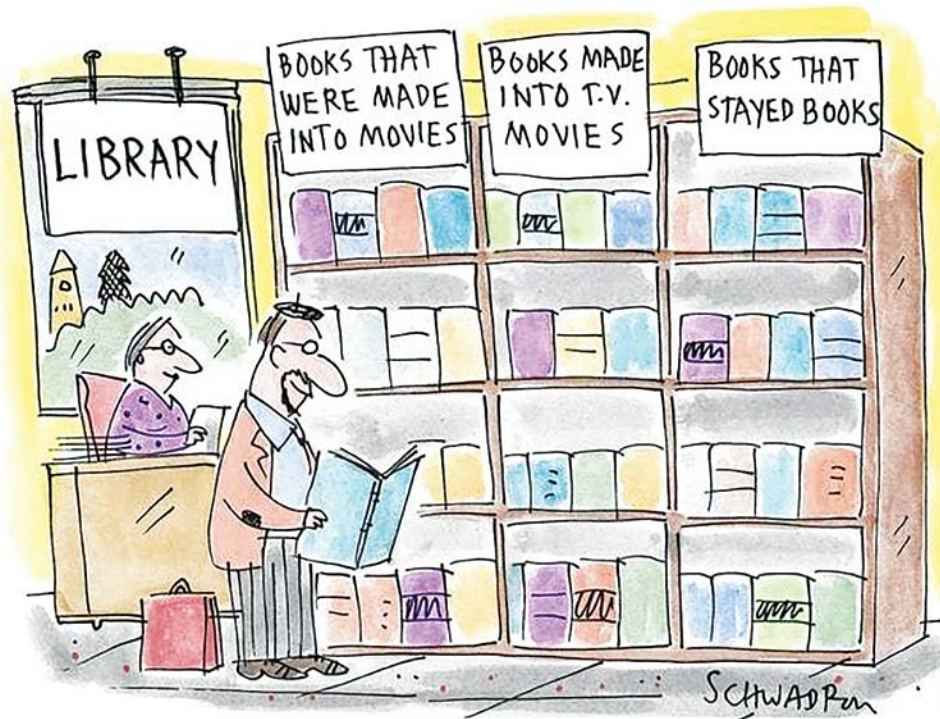
True, no matter your 2023, there are still oceans to swim, deserts to cross and mountains to climb in 2024. That is why me and our Iron County Today team will continue to do all we can to provide the good news to not only inform you about what's going on in our community, but to strengthen and inspire you as an important member of our community and family to help you keep swimming, crossing and climbing, no matter what.

WORD OF THE WEEK

QUALTAGH

The first person to enter your house on New Year's Day. They were believed to have a bearing on the luck that the household would see for the coming year. If somebody suspected that they'd be the Qualtagh, they would take a gift of whiskey or coal with them to bring goodwill.

May each person who enters your home on New Year's Day and every day in 2024 be a good person and may your home inspire their hearts that they leave better than when they arrived.



Does our community have a poverty mindset?

There is an African proverb that says, "If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

Most experts agree there are several potential pathways a community or business can take to embark on a successful transformation. Rarely is a difficult journey a one-size fits all event. Each traveler will have their own set of unique obstacles to overcome and their own mountains to climb. They must identify those issues and mountains, tackling them in such a way that fits their unique abilities and expertise.

One of the largest mountains to climb for many communities and businesses is a term I refer to as a 'poverty-minded' attitude. Many communities and businesses need to overcome the economic issues of social or demographic poverty, but that is not the 'poverty-minded' that I am referring to in this context.

The poverty-mindset I am referring

to is the mindset of those who are in the position to make transformation happen, but don't. Despite being in this position, they are stuck with a poverty-minded attitude due to their long-term battle and association with the poverty experienced through community decay. While they dream of it, it is difficult for them to see beyond the poverty engrained in their minds and into a future full of hope and progress.

I have consulted with businesses that wouldn't accept credit cards because it costs a few percentage points on each transaction. When convinced to change, they were thrilled as their business

increased nearly 30%. Trying to save a few pennies cost them hundreds or even thousands in potential business. These same problems and mindsets exist on an even greater and more devastating



JOHN A. NEWBY
COLUMNIST

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go."

T.S. Eliot

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Iron County Today is distributed free of charge, thanks to our advertisers and contributors. It is mailed to over 22,000 households, with copies also available at several rack locations throughout Iron County.

For questions or concerns regarding your newspaper delivery, please contact the Cedar City Post Office.

see **MINDSET** » 7

opinion

Small towns need community newspapers—please be a part

by May Hunter

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

Having a weekly newspaper available is a great way for readers to become more active in our community and actually build a stronger community. If you think about it, newspapers provide information and general knowledge. They provide news about our economic situation, sports, events, entertainment, trade, commerce and what's going on. It's a way we can connect and stay connected and feel a part and a belonging.

Our local newspaper, the Iron County Today, serves as a reliable source of information about everything happening in the town, including local news, events, sports and issues that are relevant to the community. This being said, it helps all of us be more engaged in and connected to our community. Most people find local news to be more trustworthy than national news.

We, at the Iron County Today are a newspaper that defines itself as committed to serving a particular community—our community. A newspaper is quite a powerful tool that circulates information to people. It is one of the greatest means of communication between people and the world. Reading newspapers can be a healthy habit, as they expands our knowledge and widen

our outlook and understanding of the world.

A regular reader of newspapers can get a lot of knowledge about public affairs. Newspapers not only guide and instruct the public, but they also help in educating the community. They keep us in tune with all of our surroundings. They also brings to us the views of great thinkers and they definitely reflect public opinion.

When people have a positive view of their local newspaper, advertisers can benefit from that relationship as their business will also appear credible and trustworthy, allowing them to attract more customers. Advertising also helps keep our newspaper in business, and it keeps jobs local. Another reason to advertise locally is that local newspapers have a relatively captive audience.

A popular train of thought is that advertising in newspapers is an investment that can be a little costly. True, but when you consider the coverage, audience and impact from print advertising, it can benefit any business. And because the Iron County Today newspaper is a free newspaper it is sustained greatly through the money made through advertising.

They offer businesses the opportunity to reach a targeted local audience through print ads. Local businesses can place ads in the newspaper to promote their products or services

to potential customers in the community. Print advertising is cost effective, puts your message in front of engaged audience, carries trust, builds relationships, and aren't skipped over and can be focused as much as needed.

Find out how you can be a part of supporting the Iron County Today. Stop by the office at 479 N. 100 W. Cedar City, Utah. Call 435-701-9981. Go to ironcountytoday.com click on top right-hand side of the menu, make a donation or join the Insider's Club. If we have your support just by joining the club, it will help us stay in business. Thank you for all your support.

OP/
ED

TO THE EDITOR

Thank you ICSD for adding High School lacrosse

We applaud the Iron County School District for adding lacrosse to the athletic activities at CVHS and CHS. It is an enduring sport with a compelling history and is fun to play. Did you know that Lacrosse has its origins in a tribal game played by eastern Woodlands Native Americans and by some Plains Indian tribes? Modern day lacrosse descends from and resembles games played by various Native American communities. These include games call dehontsigwaehs in Ojibwe ("they bump hips"), Tewaaraton in Mohawk language ("little brother of war"), baaga 'adowe in Ojibwe ("bump hips") and Ishtaboli or kapucha toli ("little brother of war") in Choctaw. The oldest Lacrosse club is the Mohawks in Troy, New York.

During the ICSD discussions and the vote to

initiate or eliminate lacrosse, the school board members indicated that Indian heritage would be taught and embraced by the school district. Concerning this additional curriculum, the following questions and thoughts have arisen that may be helpful in the progress of this proposal. How much about Native American history is understood and how will it be taught more thoroughly? Will there be a greater focus on and attendance at Native American celebrations and events? Will Native American culture and images be embraced and celebrated?

The validity of these questions is connected to lacrosse because to make it an authorized activity, but not reinstate the Redmen legacy could be seen as hypocrisy. As this next step goes forward, may we celebrate and honor our Native American history and imagery in reclaiming our name as we more fully support Indian culture, customs, and sports activities.

Sincerely,

Lacrosse Fans




IRON COUNTY

A MIX OF SUN AND CLOUDS FOR IRON COUNTY INTO THE WEEKEND WITH DAYTIME HIGHS MAINLY IN THE 40'S. A SLIGHT CHANCE OF MOISTURE ARRIVES OVER THE WEEKEND WITH DRIER AIR RETURNING NEXT WEEK.

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



THURSDAY	Partly Cloudy 48°/25° PRECIP: 5% WINDS: SW 5-10
FRIDAY	Mostly Sunny 47°/24° PRECIP: 5% WINDS: NW 5-10
SATURDAY	Mostly Cloudy 45°/23° PRECIP: 20% WINDS: SW 5-10
SUNDAY	Partly Cloudy 44°/24° PRECIP: 5% WINDS: SW 5-10
MONDAY	Mostly Sunny 41°/30° PRECIP: 5% WINDS: SW 5-10
TUESDAY	Mostly Sunny 45°/30° PRECIP: 0% WINDS: S 5-10
WEDNESDAY	Mostly Cloudy 46°/32° PRECIP: 15% WINDS: SW 5-10

public & health

Iron County Tax Watch Group Meeting

by Iron County Tax Watch Group

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

The Iron County Tax Watch Group would like to invite the public to attend a meeting on Wednesday, January 3, 2024 6:00 p.m. at the Cedar City Library to discuss opportunities that may be afforded to Iron County to fund the jail. During the numerous public meetings held by the County, it was evident that the taxpayers of Iron County are not opposed to the construction of a new jail, we just can't afford the construction of such a facility by property owner funding in the form of increased property taxes.

Also, during those discussions, we were impressed by the number of talented individuals we have living amongst us. We encourage anyone who has grant writing, financial or governmental funding experience to attend the meeting and provide the public with the valued information that could assist us in funding a new jail facility. Additionally, we encourage the residents of Iron County to attend to express ideas or comments that could aid us in this endeavor. Please come and get involved so we can all work together for the betterment of Iron County and its residents.

Thank you,
The Iron County Tax Watch Group

Safely dispose of Christmas trees in Cedar City from Dec. 27 to Jan. 15

by Gabrielle Costello

CEDAR CITY PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

CEDAR CITY — Firefighters encourage safely disposing of live Christmas trees by placing them in designated collection bins around



Cedar City to help prevent home fires. With the help of the city's public works department and solid waste collection, collection bins will be placed at the following locations to collect trees from December 27 through January 15:

- » Wedgewood Lane & East Canyon Center Drive
- » Coal Creek Road & Main Street
- » 100 East & Center Street
- » Aquatic Center (Near baseball fields)

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Christmas tree fires typically occur in December and January with dry trees, and oftentimes due to improper electrical distribution or a nearby heating source.

Remember to continue watering your tree and dispose of it as soon as possible after the holiday to prevent a devastating fire in your home.

High Desert Counseling in Cedar to begin evening intensive outpatient services

from High Desert Counseling

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

After a successful grand-opening of their new office in Cedar City (195 W 820 S, Ste. 2, Cedar) High Desert Counseling—a community-based outpatient substance abuse treatment facility—is adding to their repertoire of providing

hope and help. Currently they offer multiple services, including Day Treatment (PHP), Morning and now, beginning on January 15th, evening Intensive Outpatient Services (IOP). If you or anyone you know is looking for substance use treatment or need help finding resources, please contact them. INFO: info@highdesert.help, [@highdesertcounseling](https://www.facebook.com/highdesertcounseling) on Facebook, or call 435-673-2899, 435-669-7325.

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MINDSET

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

scale in city governments and with civic leaders who control the future and financial destiny of the community and downtown.

The poverty mindset is an easy mind-set to have. As one watches the decay within their community or business accelerate, it is easy to be lured into believing decay is normal and to be expected. With the numerous examples of decay all around them, why would they think differently? After all, it is happening in hundreds or even thousands of towns across the country.

How does a community, downtown, or business overcome a poverty-mindset? What is the common ingredient successful communities and businesses have adopted that flows through all their transformation efforts? That common ingredient is something we are drawn towards, that is a positive “can-do” attitude.

The first step in any transformation of a community or business is a strong vision coupled with a very healthy dose of optimism. When you couple a strong vision with genuine optimism, many community and business obstacles can be overcome. Everyone wants to be associated with a winner; few want to claim to be a member of the losing team.

To assure success, the vision must be achievable, and your optimism tempered with a solid and realistic vision. Far too many communities or businesses fail to understand how much ability they already possess. Never underestimate the ability of the residents and business owners in a community to accomplish what was previously thought unthinkable. Many communities and businesses are wallowing in self-pity while others are busy undergoing incredible and sustainable transformation.

Oftentimes, the biggest obstacles are our own citizens and those in positions to enact the greatest change. The greatest task is converting them to the vision and the dream. Of course, you have a lot to lose. The unwillingness to change simply just means continued erosion and decay, adding to the continued demise of your community.

As you might have surmised, this column is short on specifics, and long on mindsets and attitudes. That is by design. It is the vision, mindset and positive attitude that determines your success. I have seen few if any communities or businesses succeed without having this strong will to win and succeed. Now is the time to travel together as leaders and as a community. By doing so, you can travel far. The time for change is now. If a community or business refuses to change, you will be rendered inadequate in the world that is transforming around you.

John Newby, Pineville, MO. is a nationally recognized Publisher and the founder of Truly-Local, dedicated to assisting communities, their businesses and media to build synergies that create more vibrant communities. He can be reached at: info@Truly-Localllc.com.

Leavitt Group named a Utah Business Best Company to Work For in 2023

from Heather Pierce

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

Leavitt Group was again named a “Best Company to Work For” by Utah Business Magazine in the extra-large (2,500+ employees) category. Positive survey submissions by many of Leavitt Group’s employees played a key factor in determining this year’s honorees.

Eric Leavitt, CEO of Leavitt Group Enterprises stated, “We are thrilled and humbled to again be acknowledged as one of the Best Companies to Work For in Utah. We strive to create a work environment that is safe, enriching, meaningful, inclusive, and that provides our team with opportunities to grow and progress to reach their full potential. We are so blessed to have amazing teammates that not only produce great results but make our work joyful.”

The top reasons Leavitt Group is one of the best companies to work for in Utah include:

- » Flexibility
- » Culture
- » Benefits package
- » Company mission and quality of service
- » Opportunities to grow and advance

Leavitt Group’s survey results showed that 91.55% of respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with the benefits and compensation they receive from Leavitt Group. Culture was noted as a major differentiator with many respondents citing the company’s foundation of integrity. Hear what Leavitt Group employees are saying about their work in this video which was highlighted at the awards ceremony: <https://youtu.be/CZj6NXQj5VE>. For the complete list of award recipients, <https://www.utahbusiness.com/2023-best-companies-to-work-for/>.

For questions about Leavitt Group, please contact Heather Pierce at 602-421-1899 or heather-pierce@leavitt.com.



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IRON COUNTY GOVERNMENT RECAPS

Cedar City Planning Commission Meeting

by Iron County Today Staff

IRON COUNTY TODAY

The Cedar City commission meeting began with approvals of minutes and other routine business matters, as well as reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. A special recognition was then presented to the retiring Mr. Craig Isom for his 8 years of service on the Planning Commission, marked by applause and

well-wishes as he departs for retirement in Hawaii.

Later, a discussion arose about the rights of citizens to speak during commission meetings that are not considered public hearings. Tom Jett advocated for allowing citizens to voice their opinions during these non-public hearings, emphasizing the importance of public input in governance. Some legal considerations around this issue were briefly raised. It was suggested that the matter be explored further with Adam Hahn in a future meeting. No formal vote was taken.

The meeting concluded with the passage of a motion to adjourn, punctuated by several commissioners offering festive Christmas wishes.

Attorney General announces \$700M settlement with Google over Play Store misconduct

from Richard Piatt

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

SALT LAKE CITY — Utah Attorney General Sean D. Reyes and a bipartisan group of 52 other attorneys general announced a \$700 million agreement with Google in their lawsuit concerning Google's anti-competitive conduct with the Google Play Store.

"The States are fiercely fighting

"The States are fiercely fighting the greed and abuses of certain Big Tech on multiple fronts. Utah has been a leader and driving force in holding Google accountable for the past ten years."

**Utah Attorney General
Sean D. Reyes**

the greed and abuses of certain Big Tech on multiple fronts," said Attorney General Reyes. "Utah has been a leader and driving force in holding Google accountable for the past ten years. This was evident again on this case as our fantastic AG antitrust team was one of the first and loudest advocates for investigating and litigating payments on Google Play.

"When many experts and other states were hesitant or even opposed, Utah pushed to start the case and has helped navigate it towards resolution in spite of the risks and Google's massive defense. We are most pleased the settlement includes many of the injunctive remedies we sought that will change Google's behavior. The dollar amounts are an added bonus to provide relief to Utahns who use Android apps."

Google will pay \$630 million in restitution, minus costs and fees, to consumers who made purchases on the Google Play Store between August 2016 and September 2023 and were harmed by Google's anticom-

see **SETTLEMENT** » 10



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SUU Community Newsletter



Southern Utah University

Women in Business hosts first-ever Red Riveter competition

from Mary Amateis

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

Southern Utah University's Dixie Leavitt School of Business was thrilled to host the first-ever Red Riveter business competition, sponsored by SUU and the Clark and Christine Ivory Foundation. The competition for the Women in Business allowed students to test their business skills in three competitions: a business simulation, case study and 90-second elevator pitch, spread over two weeks in November. Sign-up information was released near the end of October and students were able to create teams and register for competitions. This event allowed students to experience actual business challenges in the format of a competition and the chance to network with fellow students.

"This competition was an amazing experience where I got to grow my business knowledge and further my communication and leadership skills!" said Gabrielle Mahoe, president of the Women in Business Club. Mahoe, along with Kennedy Nielsen who is vice president of events for the Women in Business Club, took charge of the event by planning and collaborating to put it together.

Business Simulation

The business simulation consisted of four elimination-style rounds, spread across two weeks. In each round, students submitted a business strategy to a computer simulation software. Students submitted business decisions concerning target audiences, market research, hiring employees, optimizing pricing, accounting and finance. The student or student team that sold the most products by the end of the two weeks was named the winner. The prizes for this round were awarded as follows:

- » **1st, \$200**—Lydia Nelson, Tayler Brown, Madison Rowley, Ada Broadbent
- » **2nd, \$100**—Franka Smit, Tiffany Thacker, Kaitlyn Brian,
- » **3rd, \$50**—Bodell Nielson, Jerika Torgerson

Case Study

For the case study round, students conducted a comprehensive business analysis for the Friends of Children Instagram account. Friends of Children provides long-term mentoring to children who face a high level of adversity. The task was to identify strengths and weaknesses of the Instagram account and provide recommendations to boost the company's Instagram marketing efforts to raise donations. Students performed a complete evaluation of the company's Instagram—including content analysis, audience

The Red River competition provided students with business experience challenges through competition and networking with fellow students.



COURTESY SUU

engagement, content calendar, metrics analytics, etc. Recommendations were submitted to the NGO who judged the cases and awarded the following prizes:

- » **1st place, \$200**—Tayler Brown, Lydia Nelson, Madison Rowley, Sinead Abbott, Ada Broadbent
- » **2nd place, \$100**—Heather Durfee
- » **3rd place, \$50**—Kaitlyn Brian, Tiffany Thacker, Franka Smit, Sophia Grzywacz

Elevator Pitch

The elevator pitch was the third competition where students created a pitch for a potential job at Ivory Homes. Students were provided a list of job positions for Ivory Homes—Marketing Associate, Accounting Associate, Finance Associate, and Sales Associate—along with their descriptions and responsibilities. Participants were free to choose which position they would pitch themselves for, but the goal was to “close the deal”—get hired within 90 seconds, including their personal information and two or three selling points. The round was awarded as follows:

- » **1st, \$125**—Emily Keele
- » **2nd, \$75**—Tayler Brown

» 3rd, \$50—Kaitlyne Ibay

“Planning and executing the first-ever Red Riveters competition was a very rewarding experience,” said Kennedy Nielsen, vice president of Events and Competitions for the Women in Business Club. “It was a great way for us to get creative and work together as a team. I am grateful to all our participants, the Dixie L. Leavitt School of Business, the Women in Business Club and the Clark and Christine Ivory Foundation for making this incredible opportunity a reality for us.”

The Clark and Christine Ivory Foundation provides opportunities for students to grow into their true potential by focusing on the individual and improving access to education. The Women in Business club at SUU shares in that goal; providing its members with opportunities to grow professionally and personally in ways that will help them succeed even after graduation. For more information about next year's Red Riveter competition, or to learn more about the Women in Business Club, reach out to Dr. Paige Gardiner, faculty director of Ivory Scholars and assistant professor of Marketing at paigegardiner@suu.edu.

Southern Utah University

SUU Biology Club holiday food drive delivers HOPE to those in need

from Becki Bronson

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

Southern Utah University's Biology Club just collected almost a half-ton of food (1,000 pounds) for their club's holiday food drive, nearly doubling the SUU student food pantry's current stock.

SUU Biology Club advisor Whitney Hoff said the success rate of this food drive was nothing short of remarkable. "Biology faculty and students, club members or not, donated to help others during this holiday season," said Hoff. "I'm proud to be a part of such a giving department."

The SUU student food pantry, called the HOPE Pantry (Helping Our People Eat) provides essential food and toiletries to students of SUU and Southwest Tech. It also provides education on food budgeting, meal prep and cooking skills, and encourages student engagement to work toward solving food insecurity and waste in their communities.

The SUU Hope Pantry opened in 2002 as the first on-campus pantry in the nation to help support students experiencing food insecurity. Since the fall of 2019, the HOPE Pantry has seen over a 1,000 percent increase in use; for the 2022-23 school year alone, the pantry had a 77 percent increase in usage.



Kameron Monson, senior biology major at SUU and president of biology club, shows off the generous donations.

COURTESY SUU BIOLOGY CLUB

"Biology faculty and students, club members or not, donated to help others during this holiday season. I'm proud to be a part of such a giving department."

Whitney Hoff, SUU Biology Club advisor

Currently, up to 250 students stop by weekly, where each receive up to \$50 worth of food and toiletries.

Students can access the HOPE Pantry on weekdays between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. in Room 120 of the Sharwan Smith Student Center. Learn more about the HOPE Pantry at suu.edu/hope-pantry.

SETTLEMENT

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

petitive practices. Google will pay an additional \$70 million directly to the States. People eligible for restitution do not have to submit a claim – they will receive automatic payments through PayPal or Venmo, or they can elect to receive a check or ACH transfer. More details about that process will be forthcoming. The agreement also requires Google to make their business practices more pro-competitive in several important ways.

Utah is expected to receive a total of approximately \$15 million between payments that will go

to consumers and payments directly to the State.

The attorneys general sued Google in 2021, alleging that Google unlawfully monopolized Android app distribution and in-app payment processing. Specifically, the States claimed that Google signed anticompetitive contracts to prevent other app stores from being preloaded on Android devices, bought off key app developers who might have launched rival app stores, and created technological barriers to deter consumers from directly downloading apps to their devices. The States announced a settlement in principle on September 5, 2023, and today released the finalized terms of that deal.

The settlement requires Google to reform its

business practices including give all developers the ability to allow users to pay through in-app billing systems other than Google Play Billing for at least five years and allow developers to offer cheaper prices for their apps and in-app products for consumers who use alternative, non-Google billing systems for at least five years.

A jury unanimously found that Google's anticompetitive conduct violated federal antitrust laws early last week. This lawsuit was led by the attorneys general from Utah, North Carolina, Tennessee, New York, and California, and joined by the attorneys general of all remaining states, the District of Columbia, and the territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Maestro Kent Myers

A MELODIOUS JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME

by May Hunter

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

In the heart of Cedar City, Utah, a harmonious legacy has been woven by the Master Singers. At the epicenter of this musical journey stands the beloved founder, Kent Myers. Embarking on a musical odyssey that began in the 1970's, Myers is now bidding farewell to the stage at the age of 92, leaving behind a rich tapestry of memories, melodies, and enduring friendships.

Kent Myers' love affair with music started long before he ever dreamt of founding the Master Singers. Born with a natural affinity for melodies, Myers found solace and joy in the harmonies that surrounded him. As a young man, he honed his musical skills, exploring the vast landscapes of classical and contemporary tunes. Little did he know that this passion would one day manifest into a community treasure, the Master Singers.

The birth of the Master Singers in the culturally vibrant community of Cedar City was an opportunity Myers saw to bring people together through the universal language of music. In the early 1970's he gathered together other singers

who shared his ardor for singing—forming what would later become the renowned Master Singers. With Myers at the helm, this group flourished, captivating audiences with their enchanting performances and fostering a deep sense of camaraderie among its members.

Under Myers' leadership, The Master Singers evolved into a musical powerhouse, showcasing a repertoire that spanned genres and eras. From

classical masterpieces to contemporary ballads, the group's versatility mirrored Myers' own diverse musical palette. Their performances became synonymous with excellence, drawing audiences from far and wide to experience the magic of live choral music in the heart of Utah.

As the years rolled on, Myers defied the conventional notion of retirement and his unwavering passion for music propelled him to continue leading the Master Singer's well into his 90's. His dedication and energy inspired not only the members of the group but also the entire community. Myers' commitment to his craft became a testament to the enduring power of

"Music is not just about what you sing, it's about what you feel."

Kent Myers

Kent and Cherie Myers have been instrumental in building the legacy of the Master Singers.



see **MASTER SINGERS** » 12

COURTESY CORALEE MYERS

The best peanut brittle around. No contest!

by Mary Anne Andersen

CEDAR CITY ARTS COUNCIL

In the first place, I'm not even the person who makes the peanut brittle. You know that iconic image of a handsome dude, wearing an apron, and waving around a spoon coated with the best spaghetti sauce ever made? That is not LeGrand. He does not cook—he is handsome, though—but he does make this one thing that is the world's best in its category: peanut brittle. Just ask our friends and neighbors. And it is not an all-day project. We took some to the staff of a medical clinic that have been very nice to me. One nurse asked how long it took, envisioning candy thermometers, timers, etc. When I told her it was a 20-minute job, she was aghast. She said she wasn't going to tell the others; they all thought it was the creation of a master candy maker who slaved away over a hot stove, etc., etc.

It is our tradition to take bags of brittle on Christmas morning to

those whom we haven't seen yet this season. One year it was clear that one neighbor had a houseful of family, for whom the quart bag was woefully inadequate. I told her to hide it until everybody left, at which point she could enjoy it herself. The following November she found it in the back of a cupboard she was cleaning! I asked her if she had tried it. She said no, but was just patiently waiting for a new bag to show up. Would peanut brittle go bad in 11 months, do you think?

Maybe a little stale is all.



Another year we got down to the house on the corner, having made several successful stops along the way, to find a sign on their front door that said, "Please don't ring this doorbell on Christmas morning unless you are the Andersens." We

took it as a huge compliment until we realized that they probably just didn't want to miss out on the peanut brittle. Another year the lady of the house stepped out onto the front porch and, speaking rather softly, said, "Now, I don't mean to offend, but you need to make sure that someone knows how to make this brittle. You know...just in case something happens." My husband is no spring chicken.

We have trekked in all kinds of weather—snow up over our ankles, threatening clouds, beautiful sun. But perhaps our most memorable year was the first Christmas that Covid was a threat. LeGrand rigged a clothespin onto the end of a fishing line and we set out with the pole and bags of brittle. I would ring a doorbell, step back away from the door, and when it was answered, we would sing "We wish you a merry Christmas..." and extend the pole with a little bag of brittle hanging off the end. People unhooked the bag and sometimes even applauded! That year stands out in our memories! I'm sure we have a few bags of brittle left over, but you would have to come and get it. I tell you, it's worth the trip.

"One year it was clear that one neighbor had a houseful of family, for whom the quart bag was woefully inadequate. I told her to hide it until everybody left, at which point she could enjoy it herself."

MASTER SINGERS

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

music and its ability to transcend age.

Now, at the age of 92, Kent Myers has decided that it's time for him to say farewell and to step back and savor the melodies from a different vantage point. His decision to retire from the Master Singers marks the end of an era, but the legacy he leaves behind is etched in the hearts of those who have been touched by his music. He leaves the Master Singers in the capable hands of a new generation, ensuring that the tradition of musical excellence will endure.

"Music is not just about what you sing, it's about what you feel," shared Myers.

As he steps away from the limelight and transitions into this new chapter of life, it's time for this musical maestro to listen to the echoes of the melodies and memories he crafted, and the memories shared with fellow singers, and to the resounding applause of a grateful community.

The Master Singers will continue to resonate with the sweet strains of Kent Myers' legacy, ensuring that the notes he played will forever linger in the air of Cedar City, a testament to a life dedicated to the pursuit of musical brilliance.



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What is good news music?

HOLIDAY MUSIC, PART 4

by Edy Meredith

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

The word “gospel” literally means “good news” and occurs 93 times in the Bible, exclusively in the New Testament. In Greek, it is the word euaggelion, from which we get our English words evangelist, evangel, and evangelical. In the larger sense, the gospel is contained in both the Old and New Testaments when understood as God’s message to mankind. Why is it good news and how does gospel music reflect that?

Gospel music can vary and is composed for many purposes—aesthetic, religious, ceremonial, entertainment, and as a teaching. Black and Southern gospel music is largely responsible for gospel’s continued presence as a predominant feature of music’s popularity and continued demand today with John Legend, Chris Brown, and Khalid as leading male singers, and Doja Cat, Mega Thee Stallion, and Solana Imani Rowe (known as SZA) among leading female singers.

At Christmas time, the oldies are the goodies when the following music leads in popularity according to the website called PraiseCharts.com and on Christianity.com: Amazing Grace, It Is Well with My Soul, Jesus Paid It All, How Great Thou Art, O Little Town of Bethlehem, ad infinitum. The long list of Christmas music shows the popularity of such songs and hymns with widespread approval and demand by audiences, which spread the good

news brought by the Nativity in which God’s Son descended to earth born as a babe to a young woman in Bethlehem of Judea in Israel more than 2,000 years ago announced by the heralding angels as good news from the God of all Comfort.

So, remembering the popularity of these songs that speak to our hearts, let’s ring in “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” written in 1849 by a Unitarian pastor who had just suffered a nervous breakdown. Writing this song brought clarity and calm to Reverend Edmund Sears as he looked around at the state of the U.S. and found disaster, despair, weariness, and a nation about to go to war. He

wrote about a “midnight clear” and the person who brings peace on earth and goodwill to humans. While the world around the author brought war and danger including the publication in 1848 of the “Communist Manifesto”, Reverend Sears found peace as he wrote about the birth of the Prince of Peace. He found something that profoundly brought calm and hope.

While “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, Glory to the Newborn King” was written by Charles Wesley in 1739 more than 100 years before the U.S. Civil War, it is still sung to this day as a celebration of what the angels declared to shepherds while Mary gave birth to her unusual child with Joseph, her espoused husband, assisting. The Angels from

Heaven announced the birth to the shepherds taking care of their sheep nearby. The hymn of joyful celebration is based on the words of Luke 2:13-14. Let us sing now with all our hearts and voices echoing the message of the angels during this divisive time in our own U.S. and world history.



SHUTTERSTOCK



CONTEST WINNERS

Cedar Music Store & Studio

AGES 0-5
Rosy Tebbs

AGES 6-9
Kinsey Johnson

AGES 10-15
Desna White

AGES 16+
Megan Zufelt

GRAND PRIZE
Avi Jessop

Eggen Dental

AGES 2-9
Jane

AGES 10-16
Joanne

AGES 19-90
Jennie Jessop

Jones Paint & Glass

AGES 0-4
Aayla Peacock

AGES 5-9
Kinsey Johnson

AGES 10-13
Chandra Johnson

AGES 14-18
Joanne

AGES 19+
Megan Zufelt

TDS

AGES 0-6
Claire Langford, 5

AGES 7-11
Maddie Johnson, 11

AGES 12-18
Alexa De La Pena
Hdz, 12

Webster Orthodontics

GRAND PRIZE
Jenn

AGES 2-9
Treysen Hoovan

AGES 10-16
Autumn

AGES 17-90
Nicki Jones

Spring into Creativity

with SUU Community Education classes

from Melynda Thorpe

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

This spring, Southern Utah University's (SUU) Community Education program is full of hands-on classes designed to inspire your creativity and enhance your skills. Choose from many offerings to take up a new hobby, such as letterpress printing, hosting and event planning or watercolor painting. Prepare for your summer garden with two returning classes covering planning, planting and preserving what you grow.

"As spring breathes life into the world around us, engaging in creative learning fosters self-discovery, growth and development," said Melynda Thorpe, executive director of SUU Community & Workforce Development. "Our spring classes are designed to get you out with friends and loved ones to learn something new and bloom along with the season."

If your artistic inclinations lean towards the tactile, explore the world of letterpress printing in our new "The Art of Letterpress Printing" four-week course starting on Jan. 23. Immerse yourself in the fundamentals of operating a press, typesetting, and linoleum carving. Blend typography with hand-carved linoleum imagery as you design and print your own unique work. It's time to bring your ideas to life and leave your mark in print.

If you're planning a spring wedding, consider taking our new "How to Host the Perfect Dinner Party" class, where you'll discover the art of hosting impeccable dinner parties and intimate gatherings. Led by a seasoned executive chef in a professional kitchen, this interactive four-week course starts on Feb. 6 and will guide you through the secrets of crafting crowd-pleasing dishes, creating stylish table settings, and designing impressive plating.

For gardeners looking to improve the quality of their soil and find out what vegetable varieties grow well in Cedar City's climate, some returning favorite classes are back with instructors Neal and Valerie Pack. The Gardening from the Ground Up class starts on Feb. 7 and will help you prepare your yard. Preserving the Harvest starts March 7 and



Blend typography with hand-carved linoleum imagery as you design and print your own unique work, bringing your ideas to life and leaving your mark in print.

schools

ICSD NEWS NUGGETS

from Braylie Tullis

IRON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Enoch Elementary

Each grade at Enoch Elementary celebrated the holidays with activities, crafts, singing, performances, and more. Students made Christmas Cards for the assisted living homes too. Thank you to the PTA for providing a faculty lunch and giving each student a pair of mittens as a present. School resumes on January 3rd. Merry Christmas from our Enoch family to yours!



Fiddlers Canyon Elementary

We had a fun school song last Friday. Thank you to Mrs. Callister for all her hard work teaching each grade a special song! Mark your calendars for school to start on January 3. We also have our next Feed Your Family fundraiser at McDonald's on Monday, January 8. Watch homework folders for more information. Don't forget about our PTA meeting on January 11 at 1 pm at the school. Follow Fiddlers Canyon Elementary PTA on Facebook for the latest updates, highlights, and reminders.



Cedar High counselor helps students find purpose, passion

by Tsadakah Wilberg

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

Everywhere you go you can find people with stories to tell. As a school, Cedar High is no different. Teachers, students, and faculty, all walk through the halls with a story. The counseling center also has many amazing people who work with students and many amazing stories to share. Mrs. Jennifer Denhalter, a counselor at CHS, tells a story about helping others find theirs.

Mrs. Denhalter got her associate degree in Interior Design and a bachelor's degree in Family and Consumer Sciences. Then she did her graduate work to be a social worker at the University of Utah. There, she had many experiences as an intern that led her to her career today.

She was able to work in a Residential Treatment Center for teenage girls and, in her second year, she had the opportunity to work as an intern social worker at East High School in Salt Lake. She decided then that she loved working with teenagers and helping them was what she wanted to do with her life.

"For students—teenagers—most of their time is spent at home but their second most place where they spend time is at school. So if there was something I could do to make a difference in their lives at school—that was an idea that was really intriguing to me," said Mrs. Denhalter.

Her work is not quite the same as it started. When she lived and



COURTESY PHOTO

Jennifer Denhalter, M.S.W.

worked in Salt Lake, she was a school social worker and focused mostly on the mental health of students. She worked there for seven years and then moved to Cedar where she became a school counselor, a job focused more on helping students with their futures.

Mrs. Denhalter provides both for her students. She has had many close relationships with her students because they know she is a safe person to turn to. She says, "Probably the most important thing is that we help the students find their passion."

Knowing a student's passion helps a counselor guide them and give them a direction. Whether that

NEWS FROM THE DEN

"For students—teenagers—most of their time is spent at home but their second most place where they spend time is at school. So if there was something I could do to make a difference in their lives at school—that was an idea that was really intriguing to me"

Mrs. Denhalter

is a four year college path or a trade school path, counselors work to recommend and find opportunities for the student. They recommend classes that help students find their passion and what they love to do.

Mrs. Denhalter loves her job and her work. The most rewarding part is making a change in a student's life and the overwhelming gratitude that they express at finding a good path and future. Her goal is giving that to her students, finding and guiding them to a future that they will love and will make them happy.

WWW.IRONCOUNTYTODAY.COM

The end of the movie

LEADERSHIP 101.45

Take a moment and think of your favorite movie leader. What made them a great leader? Even if their character (imaginary) is fictitious, it's their character (integrity) that sets them apart. It's the challenges they've endured and overcome to become the leader they needed to be.

Great leaders are found from any time and any place. From Moses to Maximus, from Monte Cristo to Martin Luther King, Jr., and from the Black Panther to the Lion King, there are leaders for every genre and generation. Even in the movies we can find

personal inspiration and motivation from how they used their time, talents and treasures to change the world.

Life and leadership can be like a movie. In many beginnings we see the main character trapped in difficult circumstances. They've barely survived birth and have been living in poverty, perhaps even a life of crime until one miraculous moment where they are rescued and reborn as they discover their true purpose in life. Or, the character begins in a very wealthy situation, but must go through fiery trials to be humbled so they learn how to lead, and to love those they lead.

In both scenarios they begin blind to their true worth, work and destinies, but before the movie ends (usually), they've not only saved the world, but won our hearts and we can't wait for the sequel to see what they do next with their newfound confidence, courage and capabilities.

What's the point of this movie metaphor? It's that we can talk all day about what a great leader is. We can discuss all the dos, don'ts, should and shouldn't have. And whether that leader is someone you work for or yourself, it's easy to misunderstand, misinterpret and misjudge,

because you are only seeing them (or yourself) for who they are at the beginning of their movie.

If there's one thing I've learned from the movies about leaders, especially the good and great ones, is that they don't become so on their own, nor did they become great leaders without having to go through serious trials and tribulations. The odds were not in their favor, but they kept fighting and trying, against the odds, the naysayers and nullifiers and still seized the day.

the rut LESS TRAVELED

Corey Baumgartner

news@ironcountytoday.com



We can also misjudge leaders who are at the end of their movie. We see their success and happiness and think they're lucky (or lazy) and disregard or discredit their happily ever after. But we cannot see the villains, Vaders, Hydras, hyenas, demons and dragons they faced and fought to get there. While these leaders are most often misunderstood, they are needed the most! Because they've been there, fought that and overcome that.

Today, what kind of leader do you want to be? What kind of leader do you want to follow? One who has overcome hardships and can fight to the finish? Today, become (or find) such a leader and you will change the world.

"If there's one thing I've learned from the movies about leaders, especially the good and great ones, is that they don't become so on their own..."

calendar

THURS, DEC 28

CALL A FRIEND DAY

PAROWAN WINTER WONDERLAND (6-10PM) daily thru Jan 1st @ Parowan Main Street Park. Admission FREE. The Parowan City Park turned into an enticing wonderland of Christmas lights, incredible displays, Christmas Characters, Santa, and hot chocolate. Paint a free ornament to hang in the tunnel. Lights turned on every night from dusk until 10 pm.

FRI, DEC 29

CELLO DAY

CEDAR BREAK SNOWSHOE HIKE (10-3PM, Dec 29 – March 31, Fri, Sat, Sun) @ Cedar Breaks National Monument. \$10 per person. Ranger guided snowshoe hikes. Beginner-friendly. Snowshoes, poles provided. Reservations required. 1 mile roundtrip through snowy terrain, learning about the park from rangers as they stop along the way. No cost. Dress Warm. CedarBreaksInfo@nps.gov or call 435-986-7120. Requests for reservations will be confirmed by the Friday prior to the scheduled walk.

SAT, DEC 30

BACON DAY

CEDAR CITY FARMERS MARKET (10am-1pm) @ IFA (905 S Main St, Cedar). FREE. Farmers, food, artisans. Drawings, bingo, more! INFO: Facebook, Cedar Saturday Market, or Nancy 435-463-3735.

FESTIVAL CITY MARKET (10AM-1PM) @ (Center St. & 100 W) By Bristlecone Coffee. FREE. Handmade treasures and a bounty of local farmers, backyard gardeners, fresh fruits, veggies, with local artisans for jewelry, art, wood, pottery.

MIDVALLEY FARMERS MARKET & ARTISAN FAIRE (5-8pm) @ (780 Midvalley Rd. Enoch). Live music, jump house, face painting, and more. Beautiful, unique items. Have dinner, listen to music, let the kids play in the jump house. INFO: Text: 435-704-6916.

LABYRINTH WALK (NOON-2PM, 40-MIN sessions) @ St. Jude's Episcopal Church (70 N 200 W, Cedar City). Gentle contemplation within a sacred space. The largest indoor labyrinth in Utah. This meditative and prayerful practice has been used for centuries. Join us regardless of faith, or experience. No Charge. Facilitators present. Open rain or shine. INFO/Reservations please call Anne 702-539-3400.

SUN, DEC 31

WORLD PEACE DAY

BRIAN HEAD NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS (7-8pm) @ Giant Steps Lodge (329 S Hwy 143). One of the biggest celebrations of the season. Live Music featuring Muddy Boots (8-1am) @ Last Grill & Brews. No cover charge. Everyone invited! INFO: brianhead.com/events.

MON, JAN 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

"THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS GETTING somewhere is to decide you're not going to stay where you are." – J.P. Morgan

TUES, JAN 2

SCIENCE FICTION DAY

COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS GRIEF GROUP (7-8:30pm, 1st Tues) @ Cedar City Library (303 N 100 E). Everyone 18+ who are a bereaved parent, grandparent, sibling, and/or professional person (those from funeral homes, chaplains, pastors, doctors, nurses, mental health workers, police, etc.) who are sensitive to the needs of the bereaved are encouraged to attend.

WED, JAN 3

JRR TOLKIEN DAY

YOUTH SERVICE LEAGUE (YSL) MEETING (1ST Wed, 3:30-4:30pm) @ Cedar Visitors Center Conference Room (581 N Main). Opportunity for youth (Ages 11-18) to volunteer in making a positive difference in our community. Come see how we are helping Iron County! Parents are welcome to join!

WONDER WEDNESDAY – (4-6PM) @ S.U.M.A. (13 S 300 W, Cedar). FREE for all students K-5. Children, accompanied by an adult, can join for adventure and fun make-and-take activities self-guided programming. INFO: (435) 586-5432.

CHARACTER SKETCHES (WEDS, 6:30-8:30PM) @ Cedar City Library (303 N 100 E). Weekly drawing/painting sessions using live models as characters from art, literature, books, movies, TV, video games. INFO: 435-586-6661.

THURS, JAN 4

TRIVIA DAY

TOAST TRIBUTE BAND (7PM) @ HERITAGE Center Theater (105 N 100 E, Cedar). Tickets \$29 to \$42. Available online at cedarcity.org. With a surprising fidelity rarely heard from a live tribute band, their sound is often described as "spot on" to the original recordings.

calendar

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

In light of the Christmas Holiday, be sure to check with each group or event on whether or not it will be taking place.

GOVERNMENT

Brian Head Council

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

Cedar City Council

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

Enoch City Council

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

Enoch Planning Commission

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

Iron County Commission

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

Iron County Democrats

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

Iron County Republican Women

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

Parowan City Council

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

SERVICE GROUPS

American Legion Post 74

2nd Mon, 6pm, Cedar Library, 303 N 100 E. Learn about Veteran benefits, opportunities, fellowship. Honor Guard provides military honors at Veterans funerals. Post Commander Darrin Duncan (435) 704-1466.

Bikers Against Child Abuse

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

DAR – Bald Eagle Chapter

2nd Sat, 10 am • Cedar Library, 303 N 100 E

Elks Lodge #1556

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

Lion's Club

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

Marine Corps League

Detachment 1315, 2nd Wed, 6:30 pm Cedar City Library (303 N 100 E)

Rotary Club

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

So. Utah Veterans Assoc.

1st Thurs, 7pm • Westview Christian Center (2624 West Hwy 56, Cedar). Veterans, First Responders, Anyone interested welcomed, encouraged to attend.

SUPPORT GROUPS

AA—Alcoholics Anonymous

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

Speaking From The Heart • M – Sa, Noon
Steps and Traditions • M – Su, 7 am

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

Misfits • M – F, 6 pm

Cedar Group • Tues, 8 pm

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

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

Women's Meeting • Sat, 10:30 am

My Story • Sat, 8 pm

Thank God Sunday Spiritual • Sun, 11 am

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

Al-Anon

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

Al-Anon • 1st, 3rd Tues, 7-8 pm • 435-704-8984

Easy Does It • Tues, 7-8 pm • (435) 559-3333

Hope for Today (Family Groups)

Thurs, 6 pm • (435) 559-3333

Alzheimer's/Dementia

Tues, 5:30-6:30 pm • Cedar Library (303 N 100 E). Learn about/access resources, connect with others for support. Raven Albertson, 385.831.7124, utahprograms@alz.org

ARP—Addiction Recovery

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

Caregivers

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

Celebrate Recovery

Fri, 6:30 pm, starting July 7, 2023 • Sunrise Christian Church (6843 W 1800 N, Cedar). INFO: 435-586-3640, info@sonrisechurch.net, sonrisechurch.net.

Embrace Grace

Tues, 5:30pm • Unmarried, pregnant? Don't be alone. Safe, non-judgmental. Free baby stuff at baby shower for you! Childcare available with heads up. 407-719-8595 or Thrashing-FloorLife>Resources>Embrace Grace.

Grief Support Group

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

Grief Support - Child Loss

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

Helproom

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

Multiple Sclerosis

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

Narcotics Anonymous

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

Basic Text Study • Mon, 8 pm

Just for Today • Wed, 8 pm

Hope Without Dope • Thurs, 8 pm

Live and Let Live • Fri, 8 pm

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

Women Only • Sun, 11 am

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

Nicotine Anon (12-Step)

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

Porn Addiction Recovery

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

Pregnancy, Infant Loss

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

Senior Blind/Visually Impaired

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

Southern Utah Veterans Assoc.

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

Southwest Parkinson's Alliance

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

Widows Ministry

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

CLASSES, CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Adult Barre/Modern Dance

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

Arthritis Foundations Exercise

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

Arts for Adults w/ Disabilities

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

Bingo & Lunch

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

Book Club

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

Boy Scout Troop 1848

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

Cedar Breaks Model A/ Vintage Car Club

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

Cedar Chest Quilters' Guild

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

Cedar City ESL

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

Cedar City Toastmasters

Thurs, 7 am • Cedar City Visitor Center, 581 North Main. Find your voice, shape your future. Be the leader & speaker you want to be. (603) 731-0116

Cedar Professionals

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

Cedar Radio Control Club

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

Color Country Winds

Wed • Come brush up on your band skills to share with the community. Call Debbie at (435) 559-9609 for time and location.

Cub Scout Pack 1848

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

Explorer Bible Club

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

International Folk Dancing

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

Iron County Moms For America

1st Wed, 7pm • Cedar City Library. Keep liberty alive in your hearts, homes with liberty minded book discussions. INFO: Kami Merrill 435-592-4152 or email: ironcountymoms4america@gmail.com

O.A.R.S. Young Adult Group

Returning Jan. 9, 6-8 pm • Cedar Library (303 N 100 E). Open, Authentic, Relevant, and Spiritual. Dinner group, ages 18-30. Talk about spirituality, mutual support, curiosity, community service. Text 541-579-1554, pastorschuyler@gmail.com

Parowan Pickleball

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

PB&J Therapy Groups

These two groups teach skills for different areas of life by utilizing recreational activities and engaging in other forms of expressing emotions. INFO: 435-267-4212. College: forms.gle/SmCytgCfvQ1tS2pB7 Adolescent: forms.gle/BZiepPW63pR6Zd8k9

Rock Club

1st Thurs, 6 pm • Gateway Academy, 201 W Thoroughbred Way, Enoch. Learn about

geology, find gems, fossils and minerals. Learn to cut and polish and make jewelry. southernutahrockclub.org

Sagebrush Fiber Artisans Guild

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

Senior Yoga Classes

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

Sewing Group

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

Southern Utah Woodturners

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

StrongBoard Classes

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

Tae Kwon Do Class

Wed, 7-8:30 pm • Cedar City Aquatic Center, 2090 W Royal Hunte Dr. \$25/mo., ages 5+, any experience level (435) 865-9223. Helps benefit Canyon Creek Crisis Center.

Tai Chi For Health

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

Take Action for Freedom

Wed, 7 pm • Stahl West 600 N. Airport Road, Cedar • Preserve Constitution, Republic, voting laws, medical freedom, education, rights, ed. on CRT & boarder illegal immigration, Legislature

Top Bar Hive Bee Keeping

1st Tues, 7 pm • Cedar City Library 303 N 100 E. (435) 586-6661

TOPS—Take Off Pounds Sensibly

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

Water Aerobics Class

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

Wellness Place

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

Wellness Wednesdays

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

Youth Group

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

family

Change of plans

My husband and I were recently faced with a dilemma. We had arranged for relatives to babysit our four kids so that we could attend a couples only Christmas party. In the days leading up to the party not one, but all four of our kids came down with a cold! They were coughing and sniffing and we found ourselves wondering if we should cancel. (If you have four young kids you know how hard it is to find childcare, and you know how badly an occasional date night is needed!)

In a desperate moment I asked my husband if we should just keep the arrangement and not say anything, for fear that our sitters might decide to cancel when faced with a cold virus the week before Christmas. We talked it over and came to a mutual decision. It would be irresponsible, rude and thoughtless to allow anyone to enter our home without knowing they run the risk of getting sneezed on by a wild pack of sick toddlers.

So, in the name of honest transparency, we informed our sitters and prepared for bad news. But it never came. They were true warriors and decided to proceed with the babysitting arrangement! They came to our house and wiped runny noses for two hours while my husband and I enjoyed an evening out.

While I will be eternally grateful for this experience, I also would not have held it against them if our sitters had decided to cancel. From a mother's perspective it's easy to understand both sides of the argument.

On one hand, when you have as many kids as we do, it can feel as though at least one of them is sick at any given time. Therefore we have to get out and the public can deal with possible contamination for the sake of my own sanity.

On the other hand, the times that we do have an entirely healthy

household, I will be the first to glare at the irresponsible parent who dares take their sick kid to the same gathering as my healthy offspring!

After years of fighting this battle I have come to a solid conclusion. Honesty truly is the best policy!

If you're planning to take your sick kids to a public gathering, or plan to host guests in your own home, everyone involved should be

consulted beforehand. That way they have the opportunity to ask you to keep your distance until the illness has passed, or they can opt out of entering your home. Along with this honesty comes the willingness to cancel plans and stay home without resentment.

"After years of fighting this battle I have come to a solid conclusion. Honesty truly is the best policy!"

Life happens, and kids create a lot of unexpected circumstances. People will understand if you cancel arrangements to take care of sick kids. Sometimes this can lead to disappointment if it involves a much anticipated event, but in my experience, any time spent hunkered down to binge watch kid movies, or read aloud, is time well spent and often creates a stronger bond within the home.

mom's
CORNER(ED)

by **Weslie Stratton**
CONTRIBUTOR



finances

Are spousal benefits always a factor?

ASK RUSTY: SOCIAL SECURITY

Dear Rusty: Both my wife and I have worked our entire lives. When we retire, will we both be entitled to full benefit amount each, or will there always be a spousal factor in there? Also, how are those benefits calculated - based on your highest salaries throughout your career, or your ending salaries when you retire? Signed: Looking Ahead

Dear Looking: Prior to retiring from work is a smart time to investigate how Social Security will fit into your golden years. To answer your second question first, each person's personal SS retirement benefit is based on the highest earning 35 years over their entire lifetime, with earlier years adjusted for inflation. The person's Average Indexed Monthly Earnings (AIME) - essentially the person's lifetime average inflation-adjusted monthly earnings amount - is first determined. Using AIME, the person's Primary Insurance Amount (PIA) is calculated using a special benefit formula which will yield a PIA of about 40% or less of the person's AIME. The PIA is the amount received if benefits start in the month full retirement age or "FRA" is attained (as you can see, Social Security likes acronyms).

Since you and your wife were both born after 1959, FRA for both of you is 67. The age when you claim benefits, relative to your FRA, determines how much you'll get. Claim before FRA and your benefit is reduced; claim after your FRA and your SS retirement benefit will be more (up to age 70 when maximum is reached); claim at your FRA and your benefit will equal your

PIA - the full (100%) amount you've earned from a lifetime of working.

Spouse benefits only come into play if the PIA for one of you is less than 50% of the other's PIA. In that case, the spouse with the lower PIA gets a "spousal boost" to their own SS retirement benefit when claimed. The amount of the "spousal boost" will be the difference between the lower PIA and half of the higher PIA, but the amount of the "spousal boost" (as well as the person's own SS retirement amount) will be reduced if benefits are claimed before full retirement age. Any time SS benefits are claimed before full retirement age, those benefits are permanently reduced.

If one spouse is entitled to a "spousal boost" from the other, the spousal amount will reach maximum at the recipient's full retirement age. Thus, if the lower earning partner's highest benefit will be as a spouse, then that spouse should not wait beyond their FRA to claim. If, instead, the lower earning partner's own SS benefit at age 70 is more than their spousal amount, waiting longer than FRA to claim could be prudent, depending on life expectancy.

So, as you can see, deciding when to claim Social Security benefits should consider many things, including financial need, work status if claiming before FRA, marital status, and life expectancy. But it is your lifetime earnings which determines your SS retirement benefit amount, and it is how your FRA entitlements compare to each other that determines whether spousal benefits will be paid.



RUSSELL GLOOR
SOCIAL SECURITY
ADVISOR

COMMUNITY ED

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

will help you make the most of your produce and continue to enjoy it year-round. Learn many preservation techniques, including freezing, canning and dehydration.

“Our local growing conditions can be a challenge for home gardeners who want to produce at least some of their own food,” said Valerie Pack. “Learning and applying specific best practices before the start of the growing season makes it possible to have a highly productive garden. Understanding safe food preservation methods allows you to take advantage of grocery sales, farmer’s markets and even your own garden to build your home pantry.”

Learn the basics of watercolor painting with returning instructor and local artist Larry Lawoski on Jan. 18. From transparency and color theory to composition and style, this class will teach you how to turn your vision into an art piece you’ll be proud to display. Lawoski will also teach the Intermediate American Sign Language class for those ready to build on existing language skills on Jan. 15.

Pick up a Pickleball class starting on April 29 and get moving with this growing, popular sport. Learn techniques for serving the ball, basic grip, forehand and backhand hitting and the basic rules of the

game with instructor Jeremy Waite.

Take the opportunity to spring into creativity with community classes. Enroll today and cultivate your skills in a fun and engaging way. For more information, or to register for a class, visit suu.edu/wise or call (435) 865-8259.



ASL (American Sign language) is a crucial skill to have in today's diverse world of communication.

PHOTOS COURTESY SUU COMMUNITY & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

faith

No Turning Back

While each day matters and is an opportunity to begin again and make better choices in your life, the New Year is nothing to yawn at. The New Year is a moment to celebrate, but more so to contemplate—your past, present and future. And no matter how many U-Turns, flat tires, accidents and breakdowns you’ve had in 2023 and in your life, God has not and will not turn back from loving you and leading you back home with His light and love.

As the New Year arrives, make the time to review your Past, Present and Future. Take a stroll down memory lane to learn the lessons of the past. Take an inventory of your present assets and blessings. Give new breath to your hopes for the future.

When you think of the past, do you only see pain, losses, sacrifices, sins and sorrows? What needs to be reinstated? Repaired? Restored? Repented of? What has been broken, stolen, injured? As you review the Past, it’s not to detail every derail, but to help you (and your posterity) live a better present and future. Don’t dwell on your past, but don’t disregard the lessons learned, either. Let it remind, not reprimand you so as to help predict, avoid repeating past predicaments.

The past isn’t about casually putting casualties behind you as much as it is putting Christ in front of you. He will comfort you, help you (Psalm 147:3) and use all things to bring you closer to Him so He truly can heal you (Romans 8:28). Whatever bonds, beauty and bridges need to be restored and rebuilt, remember that Jesus is the Master Carpenter and that He can use every broken piece to rebuild your peace and give you beauty for ashes (Isaiah 61:1-3).

Speaking of the Present, what needs to be reinforced? What would help you live, love better? Be more successful, find more joy? How are you

spending, investing your time, talents and treasures? How are you taking care of yourself physically, emotionally, spiritually?

Speaking of the Future, the devil will tell you that you can’t have a future because you’ve screwed up your Past and Present too badly, for too long. Fear not, for there is no asterisk on God’s love (Romans 8:35-39), or His ability to rescue, restore you (Jeremiah 29:11). The next time the devil tries

GOD'S
garage

Corey Baumgartner

news@ironcountytoday.com



with lies to discourage you from new beginnings, remember this, “When the devil reminds you of your past, remind Him of his future” (Matthew 25:41).

Today, no matter who and where you are, even before the clock strikes midnight, know that you can begin again. There’s no turning back the clock, but there is turning back to God. He needs you to begin again. He needs your voice and vocation in the New Year. There are gifts and talents He has entrusted to you and you alone. He will show you how to use them to make a difference in this world in 2024.

VERSE OF THE WEEK

PHILIPPIANS 3:13-14

“Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

Don’t be afraid of the future. Glean the lessons from your past and lean on the Lord in your present and for your future.

sports

S + RECAPS FROM IRON COUNTY COMPETITION

Cedar girls survive Hurricane, win region opener

BOYS OPEN REGION WITH WIN OVER TIGERS



Cedar Girls

49



Hurricane

48

Cedar 12 7 16 14 - 49
Hurricane 12 12 11 13 - 48

Cedar - Orton 2, Gomez 10, Bird 6, Shimada 13, Bishoff 9, Bromley 3, Hansen 6. Totals 18 10-19 49. 3-pointers - Shimada 1, Bishoff 2.

Hurricane - Larsen 11, Stout 5, Dominguez 1, Myers 9, Esplin 6, Crandall 12, Johnson 4. Totals 16 10-20 48. 3-pointers - Larsen 3, Stout 1, Esplin 2



Cedar Boys

65



Hurricane

56

Hurricane 18 8 15 15 - 56
Cedar 13 19 12 21 - 65

Scoring leaders: Hurricane - Jackman 24, Hurst 11, Hughes 10. Cedar - Kreitzer 16, Stubbs 15, Albrecht 12.

Totals: Hurricane - 19 14-20 56. 3-pointers - Hurst 2, Hughes 2.

Cedar - 23 12-17 65. 3-pointers - Kreitzer 3, Stubbs 2, Albrecht 1, Visser 1.

by Tom Zulewski

IRON COUNTY TODAY

There were times when the Cedar Reds girls basketball team struggled to gain traction against the Hurricane Tigers in the Region 9 opener for both teams played Dec. 19.

Head coach Corry Nielsen expected nothing less, and the end result proved his point as his team came through with another victory.

Annalyse Shimada scored a game-high 13 points, including a 3-pointer that beat the halftime buzzer, as the Reds held on down the stretch for a 49-48 win over Hurricane to improve to 8-2 on the season. The Tigers fell to 6-4.

"Did you expect anything else? It was a Region 9 game," Nielsen said. "Hurricane's good. They start five seniors and have experience."

The Reds led Hurricane 12-9 late in the first quarter after Mya Bishoff hit a 3-pointer, but the host Tigers countered with an 11-0 run that carried over into the second quarter and gave them a 20-12 lead. After Addison Crandall made three free throws at the line late in the period, Shimada banked in a 35-foot 3-pointer that beat the halftime buzzer and trimmed the Hurricane lead to 24-19 at the break. It would light a spark in the Reds.

"These are the kind of games that we play. They're in the mud and they're not pretty," Nielsen said. "We beat a good team on the road."

The Reds chipped away and were able to take the lead late in the third quarter as Kenzie Bird scored baskets on consecutive possessions, including a steal and layup, but



Cedar's Taylor Davis shoots over his Hurricane defender during the Reds' victorious battle with H-Town.

COREY BAUMGARTNER

see CEDAR HOOPS » 22

CV's Dabb follows siblings, signs with UVU track

by Tom Zulewski

IRON COUNTY TODAY

While her older siblings were a pretty big influence, Canyon View track athlete Gabrielle Dabb got to experience what the environment on the team and the campus is like for herself. On Dec. 18, Dabb signed her name to a letter of intent and joined the track team at Utah Valley. The sprinting senior signed her letter at the CV library in front of teammates, friends, family and coaches.

"I loved how the coaches are. They treat you as one individual person and do it really well," Dabb said. "There were a couple of other offers, but UVU was definitely the best fit for me."

SUU, Utah Tech, BYU and Utah were among the

"There were a couple of other offers, but UVU was definitely the best fit for me."

Gabrielle Dabb

schools that were interested in Dabb, but she had her mind made up with the help of her siblings – older brother Seth and sister Larissa.

"I always had my opinion on where I wanted to go,"



Canyon View's Gabrielle Dabb signs her letter and poses with siblings and former track athletes Larissa (left) and Seth Dabb on Dec. 18.



PHOTOS BY TOM ZULEWSKI

Dabb said. "My siblings had an impact with their words because they had so much fun."

Dabb finished fourth in the 100 and 200 meters, third in the 400 and second in the 4x100 relay at the

Utah state meet in her junior year. She will maintain her work as she heads to college.

"I'm going to focus more on my short sprints and the 400," Dabb said. "I might try an 800 if the coaches make me and won't make it

complicated."

Dabb is planning on majoring in nursing when she heads to Orem, but will head to her senior season to help the Falcons build on a third-place team finish from the 2023 3A state meet.

Falcon boys pull away, beat Hawks

by Tom Zulewski

IRON COUNTY TODAY

It's not all that common of a statistic, but the Canyon View Falcons didn't make a free throw in its Dec. 20 matchup with the North Sanpete Hawks. When the final score was registered, the offense was in high gear from the start and rolled to another win.

Felps Sanders led all scorers with a game-high 20 points, and CV led from start to finish for a 56-39 win over the Hawks to improve to 2-0 in Region 12 and 4-3 overall. After holding on to beat Richfield in its previous outing, the Falcons raced out to a 15-5 lead after the opening quarter and didn't look back.

"Coming off of Friday, my concern was what kind of

effort we would get from our guys," Canyon View head coach Kim Blackner said. "I loved their energy out of the gate. It took us a while to settle in, but once we did, we were able to get to our spots and get some momentum."

Sanders scored eight points in the opening quarter and drained a 3-pointer to start the second as the Falcons led by as many as 18 in the first half before taking a 32-16 advantage to the break. They would stretch the margin to as much as 22 in the third quarter and Blackner was able to clear his bench in the fourth.

"We're 2-0 in region and I really like where we're at. It's about progressing and getting better," Blackner said.

Sanders credited his success to trusting his teammates. "I've been trusting team-

mates to get me the ball," Sanders said. "If I miss any shots, just keep going. If we keep moving and sharing the ball, there's no way teams can guard all five of us on the floor."

Connor Miles backed up Sanders with 12 points in the CV win. They opened play at the Steve Hodson Cancer Classic on Wednesday against Hurricane, a game that was too late for press deadline. They will host Grantsville on Thursday, then finish with Panguitch on Friday night.

The Canyon View girls team won its only game of the week before the holiday break, a 47-43 road victory over the Manti Templars on Dec. 19. Maylee Spencer scored 14 points and Maya Nichols added 10 as the Falcons moved to 2-1 in Region 12 play and 4-5 overall.



CV Boys

56



North Sanpete

39

N. Sanpete	5	11	13	10	-	39
Canyon View	15	17	12	12	-	56

North Sanpete – Cook 10, Swapp 1, Huntington 9, P. Hendry 2, R. Hendry 7, Bailey 2, Schlappi 8, Totals 14 8-12 39. 3-pointers – Huntington 1, Schlappi 2.

Canyon View – Farrow 6, Attig 6, Camba 2, Sanders 20, Miles 12, Hallows 2, Irons 8. Totals 25 0-2 56. 3-pointers – Farrow 2, Sanders 2, Miles 2.



CV Girls

47



Manti

43

Canyon View	12	4	19	12	-	47
Manti	10	9	12	12	-	43

Canyon View – Sorenson 3, Spencer 14, Nichols 10, Brush 2, Farrow 1, Potter 8, Miles 3, Davie 2, Vargas 4. Totals 17 7-15 47. 3-pointers – Sorenson 1, Spencer 2, Nichols 2, Potter 1.

Manti – B. Olsen 6, Alder 3, Bollar 3, Thompson 12, Stevens 3, Denton 2, J. Olsen 14. Totals 16 6-7 43. 3-pointers – Bollar 1, Thompson 2, Stevens 1, J. Olsen 1.

CV trailed 19-16 at the half, but outscored Manti 19-12 in the third quarter and held off all challenges in the fourth to secure the win. June Olsen led the Templars (0-3, 4-5) with 14 points and Carlie Thompson added 12.

The Falcons opened play

at the Steve Hodson Classic on Wednesday against the Stansbury Stallions, a game that was too late for press deadline. They will face South Sevier tonight starting at 5 p.m. and close against Region 9 foe Dixie on Friday.

Canyon View senior Qwentyn Petty shines in Arizona

from Lee Petty

FOR IRON COUNTY TODAY

Canyon View High School Senior Qwentyn Petty competed in the Kohl's Professional Kicking Camp at Western Winter Showcase in Queen Creek, AZ. As well as the Ben Franklin High School Rise and Shine Winter All Comers track meet at Mesa Community College in Mesa, AZ.



COURTESY PHOTO

Qwentyn Petty

“He has the leg speed and coordination to be a college level prospect”

Kohl's Professional Kicking Evaluation

Kohl's evaluations are the national standard for college coaches across the nation for specialists, (kickers and snappers). Qwentyn, kicking in his first ranking camp with Kohl's, performed

extremely well. His ranking came out on the 19th of December, and he was rated a 4-star kicker and punter (out of 5) in the nation by Kohl's (kohlskicking.com).

During the competition Qwentyn was able to average 63 yards on his kickoffs which is a touchback during games. He also kicked a 43-yard punt with a 4.29 hang time. For the field goal competition, Qwentyn was able to kick a 51-yard field goal off the ground like he will be doing in college next season. This ranks Qwentyn behind only three kickers in Utah.

Brody Laga from Mountain Ridge (Herriman, UT) ranked as a 5-star kicker and 4-star punter. Kicker Fisher Brown from Wasatch, Heber City, UT who is ranked as a 4.5-star kicker and no punting. The other kicker is Christian Millar from Salem Hills, Salem, UT; he was rated as a 4.5 star in kicking and 3.5 star in punting.

Kohl's evaluation says: “Petty recently competed at the 2023 Kohl's AZ December Showcase Camp. He had a strong overall performance for his first ranking event, and he competed in all three disciplines at camp. He scored 7 points in the field goal charting, connected with a big ball on kickoffs of 63 yards with 3.80 seconds of hang time and scored a 100.80 on the kickoff charting. He flashed upside in his punting at camp and connected with a big ball of 43 yards with 4.39 seconds of hang time. He has the leg speed and coordination to be a college level prospect”.

One-week later Qwentyn competed in the Rise and Shine Winter All Comers track meet at Mesa Community College in Mesa, AZ. He competed in the open category at this meet which was with 22-year-olds and under. Qwentyn won the 200-meter dash and placed 6th in the 60-meter dash with a new personal record of 7.20 by .18. During the long jump he placed 4th with a 6.40-meter jump, 21ft even, just missing a 6.63 jump which the officials measured because it was a very close foul.

CEDAR HOOPS

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

Crandall would hit two free throws to pull the Tigers into a 35-35 tie heading to the fourth.

When Bishoff hit her second 3-pointer of the night early in the period, Cedar took the lead for good at 38-37, but had to overcome several obstacles along the way, the biggest coming when Bird missed two free throws with 12.8 seconds remaining.

With two fouls to give before the Tigers could get to the free-throw



Hayden Kee (L) outmaneuvers a Tiger defender, while Landon Kreitzer lead the Reds with 16 points and three 3-pointers.



PHOTOS BY COREY BAUMGARTNER

points and three 3-pointers.

Cedar trailed 18-13 after the first quarter, but outscored Hurricane (0-1, 4-5) 19-8 in the second to lead 32-26 at the break. The Reds secured the win with 21 points in the fourth quarter after seeing the Tigers cut the deficit to three at 44-41 heading to the final eight minutes. Cayleb Jackman led all scorers for Hurricane with 24 points in the loss.

The Reds will return to play after the holiday Friday with a home game against Layton Christian scheduled for a 3 p.m. tipoff.

line, it would help carry Cedar to the win. After the second foul forced a Hurricane timeout with 3.3 seconds left, a last shot by the Tigers at the buzzer fell well short.

Balanced scoring performance leads SUU to big win over Middle Tennessee

HOME VICTORY SNAPS T-BIRDS' TWO-GAME LOSING STREAK

by Parker Haynie

ASST. DIRECTOR, SUU ATHLETIC COMM.

CEDAR CITY — The Thunderbirds snapped a two-game losing skid with a big win over Middle Tennessee State in the WAC - C-USA alliance by a score of 69-63, in the America First Event Center. The Thunderbirds led for just 21% of the game and were down as many as 11 early in the first half, but continued to battle and ultimately came away with a six-point victory.

The Thunderbirds took their largest lead of the game with 1:33 left to play with a score of 66-59, but a quick 4-0 run by the Blue Raiders and it seemed that more of the same struggles were coming for SUU, but a big three-point make by Zion Young with just 23 seconds left pushed the Thunderbird lead back to six and that would be the game.

"It is just a testament to this team's mentality, coming off two hard losses and starting the game slow, we still battled back and came out with a big win at home," said Head Coach Rob Jeter.

SUU struggled outside of the paint all night, shooting just 26% from three, but could get downhill and finish at the rim and draw fouls.

"It is just a testament to this team's mentality, coming off two hard losses and starting the game slow, we still battled back and came out with a big win at home"

Head Coach Rob Jeter

The Thunderbirds shot 16 more free throws than the Blue Raiders and made 10 more.

Perhaps the largest discrepancy of the night was SUU winning the

Thunderbirds.

SUU was led in scoring by Parsa Fallah who was 8-14 from the field and snagged a team-high nine rebounds. Young added 16 points of

his 16 minutes, with two points, three rebounds, two blocks and a steal. The Blue Raiders were led by Jestin Porter who had a game-high 26 points and five rebounds.

"A really good team performance, we held them to 26 points in the second half which is where we have struggled and I am proud of our

Parsa Fallah and the Thunderbirds snapped their losing skid with a mentally strong victory at home.



SUU ATHLETICS

turnover battle 16-3, and scoring 21 points off of said turnovers. And increased effort and intensity on defense, particularly in the second half, led to MTSU only scoring 26 points in the second half and a much-needed victory for the

his own, Braden Housley once again had a do-it-all performance, scoring 11 points including 3-6 from three, pulling down four rebounds, dishing three assists, snatching three steals and tacked on two blocks. True freshman Brock Felder was key in

guys for bouncing back and getting a win before the Christmas break," said, Jeter.

The Thunderbirds have one final preseason game against Antelope Valley on Dec 30 at 6:10 p.m. in the America First Event Center.

Thunderbirds come up short against Lumberjacks

by Tyler Francis

SUU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Four players scored in double-figures as the Southern Utah University women's basketball team fell to Northern Arizona 81-70 on Thursday, Dec. 21

continue to work on."

Southern Utah won the rebounding battle, corralling 39 boards compared to just 36 for Northern Arizona. The Thunderbirds connected on 42.9 percent of their attempts from behind the arc, while holding the Lumberjacks to

game this season. Ava Uhrich had another impressive outing for the Thunderbirds, recording her second double-double of the season with 12 points and 12 boards. Daylani Ballena added to the Thunderbirds' attack, chipping in 13 points and four assists. Freshman Charli Kay was the fourth T-Bird to record double digit scoring, registering 12 points on 5-9 shooting from the field. Samantha Johnston played an impressive all-around game, recording seven points, seven rebounds, four assists, one block, and one steal.

The Thunderbirds took a 4-0 lead to start the game, with Daylani Ballena and Megan Smith each knocking down a field goal. The Lumberjacks responded with an 11-2 stretch to jump in front 11-6 midway through the first quarter. Charli Kay and Ava Uhrich combined for nine points to spark a 15-7 run that gave SUU a 21-18 lead at the end of the first period.

The second quarter was a back-and-forth affair. After the Lumberjacks knotted things up at 23-23, Kay canned a triple to push the Thunderbirds in front 26-23. NAU fought back to briefly retake the lead, 28-26, but it didn't last long. Smith scored the next six points for Southern Utah to give the T-Birds a 32-30 advantage with 5:17 remaining in the first half. The Lumberjacks closed the half with a 13-8 run as the Thunderbirds trailed 43-40 at the break.

Smith stayed hot for Southern Utah, chipping in five points as the T-Birds outscored the Lumberjacks 10-5 to go up by two, 50-48, midway through the period. However, Northern

Arizona battled back with a 12-6 spurt to take a 60-56 advantage heading into the final period of play. Smith and Uhrich each scored layups to tie the game at 60-60 early in the fourth quarter, but that was as close as the Thunderbirds would get, as the Lumberjacks would go on to claim a 81-70 victory.

The Thunderbirds will

wrap up non-conference play on the road against the University of Texas at El Paso on Saturday, Dec. 30. The game is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. MT. For all the latest on Southern Utah women's basketball, follow @SUUWBasketball on Twitter and Instagram and like the Southern Utah Women's Basketball Facebook page.



SUU ATHLETICS

Ava Uhrich fought hard to help the Thunderbirds in their attempt to chop down the Lumberjacks.

at the America First Event Center. The Thunderbirds move to 3-7 overall, while the Lumberjacks improve to 8-3 on the season.

Head Coach Tracy Mason said, "I think that we definitely had our opportunities today and we didn't take care of business. There's a lot of things that we need to

only 36.8 percent shooting from downtown. Seven total players registered a field goal for the Thunderbirds.

Megan Smith scored a team-high 21 points on an efficient 10-17 shooting from the field to go along with nine rebounds. This marks the third time Smith has eclipsed over 20 points in a

PREP SCOREBOARD

SCORES

Region 9 Boys Basketball

12/20 Cedar 65, Hurricane 56
Pine View 73, Desert Hills 56
Dixie 75, Crimson Cliffs 59

Region 12 Boys Basketball

12/18 Carbon 77, Am. Leadership 47
12/19 Juab 74, Payson 71, OT
12/20 Cyn. View 56, N. Sanpete 39
Juab 77, Carbon 61
Richfield 60, Manti 58
Emery 62, Delta 39

Region 18 Boys Basketball

12/19 Page (AZ) 70, Kanab 66
12/20 Enterprise 74, Parowan 29
S. Sevier 86, Water Canyon 36
Beaver 52, Millard 30

Region 9 Girls Basketball

12/18 Desert Hills 44,
Castle View (CO) 36
12/19 Cedar 49, Hurricane 48
Dixie 52, Crimson Cliffs 32
Desert Hills 37, Mtnside (OR) 27
12/20 Birmingham (CA) 64,
Desert Hills 41

Region 12 Girls Basketball

12/19 Canyon View 47, Manti 43
Richfield 58, Emery 53
Carbon 67, Delta 24
Juab 51, North Sanpete 26

Region 18 Girls Basketball

12/19 Enterprise 49, Parowan 35
Beaver 61, Millard 29
S. Sevier 86, Water Canyon 26

STANDINGS

RPI RANKINGS IN PARENTHESES

Region 9 Boys Basketball

	REGION	OVERALL
Dixie (2)	1-0	7-1
Pine View (8)	1-0	7-3
Cedar (22)	1-0	3-8
Snow Canyon (16)	0-0	3-3
Desert Hills (13)	0-1	5-5
Crimson Cliffs (14)	0-1	5-6
Hurricane (17)	0-1	4-5

Region 12 Boys Basketball

	REGION	OVERALL
Emery (2)	2-0	8-1
Canyon View (5)	2-0	4-3
Juab (3)	1-1	7-2
Richfield (8)	1-1	4-4
North Sanpete (12)	1-1	4-4
Manti (6)	0-1	7-3
Delta (17)	0-1	2-7
Carbon (10)	0-2	4-5

Region 18 Boys Basketball

	REGION	OVERALL
Enterprise (3)	2-0	6-2
South Sevier (4)	2-0	7-4
Beaver (8)	1-0	4-3
Parowan (14)	1-1	3-7
Kanab (5)	0-1	5-4
Water Canyon (6)	0-2	2-4
Millard (25)	0-2	0-10

Region 9 Girls Basketball

	REGION	OVERALL
Cedar (3)	1-0	8-2
Dixie (5)	1-0	5-4
Desert Hills (11)	1-0	5-4
Snow Canyon (1)	0-0	8-1
Hurricane (8)	0-1	6-4
Crimson Cliffs (12)	0-1	3-7
Pine View (17)	0-1	2-8

Region 12 Girls Basketball

	REGION	OVERALL
Richfield (2)	3-0	9-3
Juab (3)	2-0	7-3
Carbon (4)	2-0	7-4
Canyon View (6)	2-1	4-5
Emery (8)	1-2	6-5
Delta (12)	1-2	5-5
Manti (13)	0-3	4-5
North Sanpete (11)	0-3	5-7

Region 18 Girls Basketball

	REGION	OVERALL
Enterprise (10)	2-0	5-5
Kanab (1)	1-0	9-1
Beaver (4)	1-0	8-2
South Sevier (3)	1-1	7-1
Millard (13)	1-1	3-8
Water Canyon (16)	0-2	2-6
Parowan (23)	0-2	1-9

Best team bar none: a look at the Flippin' Birds bars team

by **Regan Hunsaker**

ASSISTANT AD, SUU SPORTS INFORMATION

The Flippin' Birds season opener is less than a month away, and the team is getting prepped for some tough competition this year. Southern Utah lost a lot of talented gymnasts to graduation following last season's success but has brought in some fresh faces looking to crack the lineup in 2024. Let's take a look at the team members who will potentially fill out the bars squad.

highlight her versatility and strength across the board. She will look to match and beat her career-best 9.875 on the bars this season. Schwartz will be helped in her pursuit by a new bar dismount that raises her potential score. As a past MRGC All-Conference athlete, her leadership will be invaluable.

Isabella Neff, the junior dynamo from Salt Lake City, showcased her prowess with a career-high 9.850 on Bars last season. She will look for an increased role in the lineup as the

to shine brightly this season.

The infusion of next generation gymnasts into the Southern Utah Gymnastics bars team includes Brinlee Christensen, Niya Randolph, Kendall McGuire, Rylee Miller, Brinley Kitchen, and Alex Routsis promises an exciting competition for spots in the lineup.

Routsis clinched the Region 3 uneven bar championship with an impressive score of 9.925 and secured a remarkable fourth position at the Level 10 National

dismount to elevate her already impressive routine. Once she solidifies her new dismount, Brinley Kitchen could emerge as one of the team's most formidable bar workers, adding substantial strength to the squad's lineup. Each newcomer brings a unique set of skills and achievements. Their arrival augments the team's skillset and ignites a sincere drive to push the returning stars and elevate the Flippin' Birds' bars routines to newfound heights.

The Thunderbirds will open the

Trista Goodman made her collegiate debut with a stellar 9.900 on Bars at the Super 16 and earned recognition as the Bar Specialist of the week.



SUU ATHLETICS

Coach Scotty Bauman said, "We have some tremendous talent that is ready to make an impact on the bars team. These athletes have been working hard all year and are excited to compete come January. Our bars rotation can compete with anyone we will see this season."

SUU has some returning stars on the bars including Aubri Schwartz, the senior sensation hailing from Ames, Iowa. She brings a wealth of experience and a string of impressive accomplishments. Her consistently high scores in multiple events

season progresses. Her experience from competing in Level 10 Nationals speaks volumes about her skill and potential for high scores.

Trista Goodman, the sophomore powerhouse from Las Vegas, made an impactful collegiate debut with a stellar 9.900 on Bars at the Super 16 and earned recognition as the Bar Specialist of the Week in the MRGC week one last season. Goodman finished her freshman season by becoming the MRGC bars Champion. Her prior successes at state and national levels underscore her ability

Championships with a score of 9.85. Christensen was not far behind, clinching fifth place on bars at the same championships, boasting a solid score of 9.775. Niya brings a fresh bar dismount combination and impeccable form that's poised to make waves for the Flippin' Birds this season.

Miller's versatility offers a wealth of routines, positioning her as a potential standout bar performer. She was the Canadian Nationals runner-up on the bars last year. McGuire is introducing a brand-new

season on the road on January 6, 2024, at the Super 16 in Las Vegas. The First home meet for Southern Utah will be on January 19, when the Flippin' Birds will host a tri-meet with Arizona State and Utah State.

Help us pack the America First Event Center by buying your season tickets today! Visit tbirdtickets.com to reserve your seats! For all the latest on Southern Utah gymnastics, follow @SUUGym on Twitter, @SUUGymnastics on Instagram, and like the Southern Utah Gymnastics Facebook page.

Jazz push Pistons to precipice of history

For this final column of 2023, I promised more highlights from the sports year that was, but something pretty amazing barreled its way into our collective consciousness. The story of this NBA season isn't the debut of the in-season tournament for the NBA Cup, but something else that only confounds basketball brainiacs everywhere.

On Dec. 21, the Utah Jazz faced the Detroit Pistons, who were losers of 24 straight games coming in. Utah had lost to the Cleveland Cavaliers the night before and played without FOUR of its top seven scorers when they arrived at Little Caesars Arena. Lauri Markkanen, Keyonte George, Talon Horton-Tucker and Jordan Clarkson were all dealing with injuries of varying degree and sat out.

This led the talking heads in the national media to spout off and say the Pistons had its best chance to end the nightmare by beating the Jazz. The bookmakers in Las Vegas took note and installed Detroit as a 2.5-point favorite.

“The story of this NBA season isn't the debut of the in-season tournament for the NBA Cup, but something else that only confounds basketball brainiacs everywhere.”

All of the vibes ended up as false hope. The Pistons never led and lost for the 25th straight time, falling 119-111 to Utah. Former Piston Kelly Olynyk came through with 27 points in a starting role, including a key 3-pointer in the fourth quarter that pushed the Jazz into the win column.

What blows my mind in all of this is I was at LCA and saw Detroit beat the Chicago Bulls, 118-102 on Oct. 28, almost two full months ago now. None of us ever expected we'd get to this point, the Pistons sitting one game short of matching the record for the longest single-season losing

streak in NBA history.

In a text conversation I had with my best friend after the game, he couldn't believe the Pistons are actually this bad. Knowing what I know as this streak has unfolded, I can see how bad this streak really is.

The Pistons have held a lead at halftime four times during this streak.

The last one was at home vs. Memphis on Dec. 6, 56-52. They kept the lead at 84-82 after three, but were outscored by the Grizzlies 34-18 in the fourth and suffered its 18th straight loss, 116-102.



Other than the Memphis game, Detroit has led

after three quarters twice. They outscored the Milwaukee Bucks 43-28 in the third and took a 95-90 lead. It would grow to 111-101 with 6:21 left, but the Bucks went on a 19-7 run the rest of the way to hand the Pistons a sixth straight defeat, 120-118 on Nov. 8.

Detroit also led the New York Knicks, 87-85 after three at Madison Square Garden on Nov. 30, but completed a winless month with a 118-112 defeat.

By the time these words reach your hands and eyes next week, we could easily be seeing the worst team in NBA history. The Pistons had a home-and-home with the Brooklyn Nets on Dec. 23 and 26, which would set a new standard for single-season awfulness at 27 in a row. If the Pistons finish the month with losses at Boston on the 28th and at home for Toronto on Dec. 30, they will stand alone as the losingest team ever with 29 straight defeats.

The all-time standard for losing over a full season happened 51 years ago when the Philadelphia 76ers went 9-73 in 1972-73. Detroit is going to make a serious run at this record, and all the stats that have been produced from this nightmare would make Wes Craven reassess his career choices.

Even with that weirdness, there will be better things to come with plenty of room on other bandwagons. Happy 2024 to one and all, and may it be everything your sports-loving mind could ask for.

Tom Zulewski wishes everyone a Happy 2024. You can follow him on X – the artist formerly known as Twitter – @TommyZee81 or email tominator19@yahoo.com.

TOM'S SPORTS TRIVIA

The calendar is about to turn to 2024 – it may have by the time you read this – so this week's dozen is devoted to some of our favorite highlights from the year that was. Have fun, embrace the chaos, and please remember...no wagering!

1. The Georgia Bulldogs didn't qualify for this year's College Football Playoff, but won the second of its two national titles to start 2023 by beating what Big 12 school in the final?
2. Super Bowl LVII had a lot of offense as the Kansas City Chiefs beat the Philadelphia Eagles, 38-35, but it only ranks as the third highest-scoring game of all-time. The Eagles' Super Bowl LII win over New England was No. 2 (41-33), but name either of the teams involved in the Super Bowl game that had the most offense – a combined 75 points (49-26).
3. What team won its first NCAA men's basketball title since 2011 when it beat San Diego State in the championship game played at NRG Stadium in Houston?
4. Who were the teams – both first-timers – who played for the NCAA women's basketball national title in 2023?
5. Who won the 2023 Masters Tournament for the first time in April, then announced he signed a deal to join the LIV Tour in 2024 on Dec. 7?
6. The Vegas Golden Knights won the Stanley Cup for the first time in its sixth year as a franchise. Who did the team beat in the Finals in five games?

7. What LIV Tour player won his third PGA Championship in May?

8. The National League had a breakthrough when it won the 2023 MLB All-Star Game in July, breaking a nine-game American League winning streak. Where was the game played?

9. Who won his 24th men's singles Grand Slam title at the U.S. Open on Sept. 10?

10. What MLB team had its moment when it won its first World Series title? Who is the manager who became the third to win a World Series in both leagues?

11. Both the Ryder Cup and Solheim Cup were captured by Europe in 2023. Which of the trophies is given to the women's competition winner?

12. For the 2023 College Football Playoff, which team was excluded despite finishing the regular season with a perfect 13-0 record?

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

1. Boston Celtics and Los Angeles Lakers.
2. Golden State Warriors.
3. Philadelphia 76ers,
4. Toronto Raptors.
5. Golden State beat the Grizzlies in the second round and went on to beat the Boston Celtics to win the 2022 NBA title.
6. Charlotte Hornets.
7. 2011.
8. Phoenix Suns. The Nuggets won 128-125 in overtime.
9. Twice. The Timberwolves lost to the Oklahoma City Thunder in 2016 and beat the Lakers the following year.
10. Chicago Bulls.
11. Sacramento Kings.
12. Dallas Mavericks. The Jazz are 6-2 in Christmas Day games.

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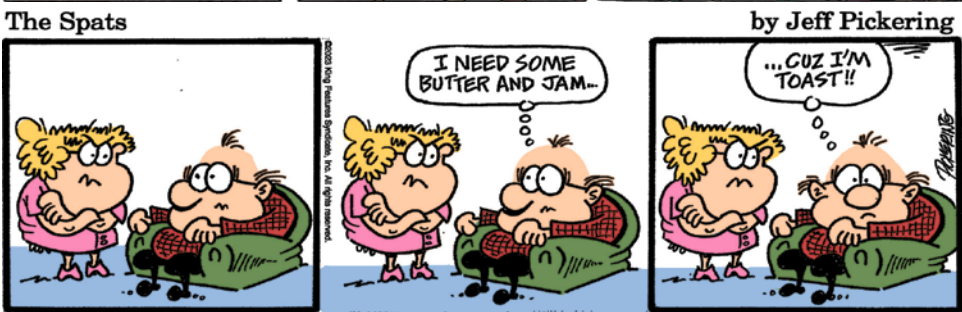
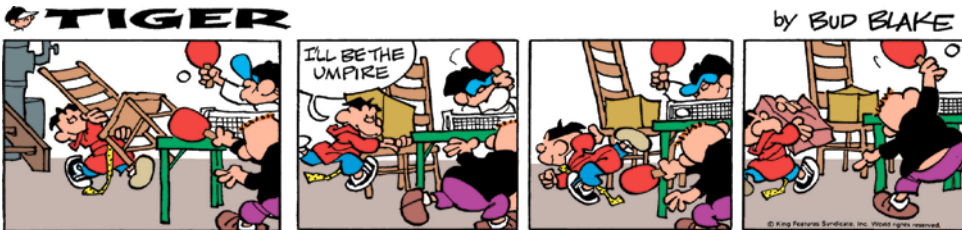
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by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

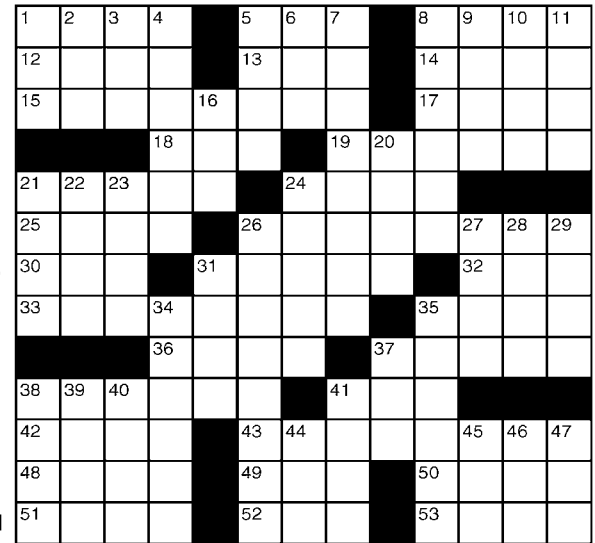
Differences: 1. Picture is missing. 2. Toothbrush is missing. 3. Body is slimmer. 4. Hat is smaller. 5. Cossage is missing. 6. Suitcase is missing.

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Jog
- 5 Cry
- 8 Goblet feature
- 12 Stead
- 13 Spanish aunt
- 14 Tortoise's opponent
- 15 Ride-sharing arrangements
- 17 Work units
- 18 Sixth sense
- 19 Forbidden acts
- 21 Stylish wrap
- 24 Flintstones' pet
- 25 Comic strip possum
- 26 "Yellow" band
- 30 Where Lux. is
- 31 Primitive
- 32 Brit. record label
- 33 Slapstick missile
- 35 Perched on lawn
- 36 Evergreens
- 37 Icky
- 38 Where Gauguin painted
- 41 Pen name
- 42 Out of the storm
- 43 Temporary lodging
- 48 Furnace fuel



- 49 Snaky fish
- 50 Jazzy Fitzgerald
- 51 Maintained
- 52 Lay down the law
- 53 Deli loaves
- 7 Historic French prison
- 8 Cyndi Lauper hit
- 9 Poi base
- 10 Thus
- 11 Disarray
- 16 Sugary suffix
- 20 Tennis champ
- 21 Pampering, for short
- 22 Estuary
- 3 Not 'neath
- 4 Elvis' birthplace
- 5 Halt
- 6 Texas tea
- 28 Book after Joel
- 29 Shriek barks
- 31 Send forth
- 34 Off course
- 35 Sagittarius
- 37 USO audience
- 38 Dash gauge
- 39 Skin soother
- 40 Make well
- 41 Hardly hirsute
- 44 Old Olds
- 45 Layer
- 46 Pub order
- 47 "— Kapital"

DOWN

- 1 Pampering, for short
- 2 Estuary
- 3 Not 'neath
- 4 Elvis' birthplace
- 5 Halt
- 6 Texas tea

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: In which city is the Brandenburg Gate located?
2. TELEVISION: Which 1990s TV show catapulted actor George Clooney to fame?
3. MOVIES: Which department store is featured in the 1947 holiday film, "Miracle on 34th Street"?
4. LEGAL: What kind of legislative body is bicameral?
5. FOOD & DRINK: What is the main ingredient in guacamole?
6. LITERATURE: In "The Night Before Christmas" poem, how many reindeer does Santa Claus have?
7. CHEMISTRY: Which chemical element's symbol is C?
8. HISTORY: Who is the first female chancellor of Germany?
9. MUSIC: Which female French singer had a hit song with "La Vie en Rose"?
10. SCIENCE: When did the Krakatoa volcano have its last major eruption?

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

S	E	A	R	O	S	H	E	L	D	H	E	L	D	H	E	L	D
E	L	E	L	E	L	E	L	E	L	E	L	E	L	E	L	E	L
O	A	L	E	C	R	A	S	V	A	S	A	V	A	S	A	V	A
S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O
C	H	R	A	P	I	E	A	T	O	P	C	H	R	A	P	I	E
E	A	R	L	E	M	I	E	A	R	L	E	M	I	E	A	R	L
P	O	L	D	F	L	A	V	P	O	L	D	F	L	A	V	P	O
S	T	O	L	D	I	N	G	S	T	O	L	D	I	N	G	S	T
S	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
C	A	R	P	O	L	S	E	R	G	S	C	A	R	P	O	L	S
L	I	E	U	T	I	V	A	L	I	E	U	T	I	V	A	L	I
T	R	O	T	S	O	B	S	O	B	S	O	B	S	O	B	S	O

Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

1. Berlin, Germany; 2. "ER"; 3. Macy's; 4. A legislative body with two chambers, like House and Senate; 5. Avocado; 6. Eight; 7. Carbone; 8. Angela Merkel; 9. Edith Piaf; 10. 1883.

Trivia Test Answerst

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