

# Town of Springdale News

November – December 2013

## Thanks to a GREAT Community!

We all saw it coming. We hoped it wouldn't happen. Then it did. The Federal Government started closing down its facilities, including our neighboring Zion. Government offices were closed, our neighbors furloughed. Some visitors still arrived, but many changed their plans, cancelled their reservations, and went elsewhere.

The shutdown of the government affected every business in our community. During the 11 days of the closure, we heard that many businesses had lost 50-70 percent of their normal October business.

The Town wishes to express its sincere thanks to all those who worked very hard during this very difficult and frustrating time. The front desks of our hotels encouraged visitors to keep their reservations, come to Springdale, and explore alternative recreation options. Others worked hard to make the experiences of those that were arriving in our community and region as good as they could be.

Information on activities outside of Zion was gathered and a method of distributing that information to our visitors was implemented. The message that Springdale was still open and able to meet the needs of our guests was heavily promoted by our businesses, talked about around town, and shared on social media sites. And it worked! We received many expressions of "thank you" like this:

*"To all the great people of Springdale,*

*Last week's stay in Springdale was not marred by the closing of the park's canyon. We enjoyed your town, and its people and places, very much and added several rides along highway 9 to see all the great beauty of Zion. We enjoyed one of the many tours your area offers to Grafton and the top of Smith Mesa at Sunset. We took a very special ride to Cedar City, enjoyed the Pioneer Museum, saw the colors of Highway 14, the Coral Pink Sands Dunes, and returned via highway 9 for another wonderful evening in Springdale.*

*Continued on Page 2*

118 Lion Boulevard  
PO Box 187  
Springdale, UT 84767-0187



TOWN OF SPRINGDALE  
1862-2012

## Hurricane Food Bank Helping Families in Need

In their last meeting, the Springdale Town Council discussed their concern for the members of our community, particularly employees, who have been financially impacted by the Park shutdown. They are aware that, for many families in the area, the loss or reduction of a paycheck can make the difference between 'having enough' and 'going hungry.'

Happily, the Park is back open, but some damage has been done. There are also those in the community that might need some extra help during the holiday season.. This information may help those with immediate needs, so please share this info with anyone who might need it.

There is a food bank in Hurricane that is happy to help meet the needs of residents in the surrounding communities:

### Hurricane Food Bank

450 East 800 North Unit 8  
Hurricane Utah  
(435) 635-0995

### Hours Open:

Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Mondays from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. (not this coming Monday because it is a holiday).

### What they will need:

Be prepared to provide an ID, birthdate, and proof of address (for example a utility bill).

Declare a need (for example "I work in Springdale and my income has been cut in half because of the park closure.")

Several people are willing to help with rides for those in need. Contact Councilmember Kathy LaFave is willing to help coordinate rides. Call her at (435) 668-5771 if you need help getting to the food bank.

435-772-3434  
Fax 435-772-3952  
www.SpringdaleTown.com

## Fourth Annual Zion Canyon Joy to the World Festival

Join us as we celebrate the winter season in Zion with activities and events that are sure to warm your hearts. There is already excitement in the air as people plan their light parade entries! Many people have already signed up to participate in this years' light parade and even more are expected as this event to continues to grow annually.

The Joy Festival committee is still working out details of new events this year, including an **Angel Tree**, a **5k Elf Fun Run** and more!

Your favorites are back:

- **Outdoor lighting contest:** After November 15, start stringing those outdoor lights! Get your lights and holiday decorations up before Thanksgiving because the judging for a variety of categories starts after the tree lighting ceremony on the 30th.
- **Z-Arts 24th Annual Arts and Crafts Fair** at the Canyon Community Center dates are November 29 and 30, 10 AM – 5 PM
- **Music at the Mart:** Soul Foods Supermarket stage will feature live music November 30th from 5:30 – 7:30 pm featuring *Dave Tate and Victoria Lagerström*; December 14th from 5:30 – 7:00pm featuring *The Sundogs*;
- **Community Tree Lighting Party:** November 30 at 7:00pm at Sol Foods Supermarket Plaza. Celebrate the season with friends and neighbors as we light our annual tree.
- **Light Parade** December 14, 2013; Lineup for parade entries starts at 6:30pm at Canyon Springs Road; Parade starts at 7:00pm and ends at the Canyon Community Center on Lion Boulevard.
- **Ice Cream Social** starts when the parade ends at the CCC. Awards for the Lighting Contest and the Parade will be announced and the traveling grand prize trophy will be awarded to the next lucky participant who will have bragging rights till next year's parade.
- **Z-Arts Annual Gala:** December 6th at the Switchback Grille Restaurant 6-10 pm. Dancing after dinner. Music performed by *Soul What?* Tickets are available through Z-Arts.

### New Event:

- **1st Annual Elf Run!** Runners will be encouraged to dress as elves. December 14th.

Keep your eye on the Zion Joy to the World Festival website [www.zionjoy.com](http://www.zionjoy.com). Springdale Town, Zion Canyon Visitors Bureau, Z-Arts, and the Rotary Club are working together to provide you a season of Joy

### Thanks to A Great Community, Cont.

*We have posted tripadvisor reviews encouraging visitors to come to Springdale and Highway 9 to see all the splendor of Zion. We are now planning a family reunion in Springdale for next September/October as it's central to our families in MN, CO, and CA."*

There were definitely problems. In a far from perfect, very chaotic situation, things often don't go as planned. But we all learned, made corrections, kept lines of communication as open as they could be, and maintained some key partnerships that will make us stronger in the future.

So thank you, our great community, for coming together to get through a rough time. It's wonderful to have so many committed to making Springdale the best place to live, work and play.

Springdale Town Council and Staff

---

## Lions Club Turkey Shoot

The Lions Club Turkey Shoot will be held on November 23<sup>rd</sup> (Saturday). The shoot will be on Lion Blvd, just past the Town Park and Water Treatment Plant from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fun and Games will be at Wildcat Willies at 7 p.m. Hope to see you all there.

---

## Art Auction for Education

**Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>  
3:00 p.m. at Springdale Elementary School**

The Rotary Club of Zion Canyon is pleased to sponsor the 2013 Art Auction for Education.

The auction provides funding for art, music and education programs for Zion Canyon students. Art and recreation items are donated by local artists, galleries and businesses.

The auction will be held on Saturday, November 9th at 3:00 p.m. on the Springdale Elementary front lawn. Everyone is welcome to attend and support art and music education programs in Zion Canyon.

Please see <http://www.springdaletown.com/rotary-club/art-auction-for-education/> for more details and a preview of items donated for the auction.

# Zion Canyon Music Festival Thank You!

Big Thanks to the Community and Town of Springdale for helping make the 5th Annual Zion Canyon Music Festival a huge success.

Attendance for this year's festival was over 4,000 people. The committee has received many positive comments about the quality of the festival including the sustainability efforts and an outstanding music line-up.

The festival has kept its family-friendly atmosphere while providing fun and entertainment for all. It is truly a community event for not only Zion Canyon but neighboring communities. The addition of the drum circle was a great success and will now be a part of this annual event, kicking off the festival on Saturday.

Sponsors have been a big part of the success of this festival and we would like to thank the following sponsors:

Wasatch/Squatters Beer for being our top sponsor, Castle Creek Winery, Brian Head Resort and Cedar Breaks Lodge, The Independent Magazine, Fun Time Inflatables, Performance Auto, Kony Country and Planet 94.1, Baja Broadband, Blue Sky Recycling, Desert Rat, EcoCommode, Hampton Inn & Suites, Southern Utah Family & Kids, Utah Public Radio, Wildcat Willies, Zion Adventure Co., Zion Park Inn, Zions First National Bank, Rocky Mountain Power, Scholzen Products, Sunrise Engineering, Zion Lodge/Xanterra Parks and Resort, ZCVB, Jeff Smith & Annina Mitchell, Mountain West Computers, Natural Grocers by Vitamin Cottage, The Grind Coffee House, Centro Pizzeria, Twin D Environmental Services, Valley Insurance, Zion Outdoor and Brad Holt for donating one of his oil paintings.

We appreciate Todd at Green Tow for providing solar power for the Vendors and Mark Florence from the Southwest Applied Technology College for demonstrating hands-on sustainable energy alternatives.

Thanks to the local motels for providing rooms for the musicians:

Bumbleberry Inn, Cable Mountain Lodge, Cliffrose Lodge, Flannigan's Inn, La Quinta Inn & Suites, Majestic View Lodge and Zion Park Inn.

*Continued next column*

Volunteers are another important part of this festival to help it to run smoothly. The committee would like to thank the following volunteers:

Mayor Cluff, Alyson & GT Thomas, Dylan Kidder, Julie Dempsey, Michael Evenson, Louise Excell, Barbara Farnsworth, Susan Sanders, Michelle Haas, Carrie Wyler, Katie Walsh, Jim Hancock, Cindy Purcell, Ron Mitchell, Amy Nichter, Sue & Mike Crawford, The Lava Heights school and Ann, Will, Emily and Lela Wixom.

Thanks to Dennis Gregz and Alex Pelton for the endless hours serving on the committee and being the MC's of the festival.

Z-Arts has been a great support providing musicians for the Z-Arts stage.

Thanks to the town staff: Shane Lowry, Zac Martin, Dawn Sanders, Jen Smith, Kurt Wright, Britt Ballard, Garen Brecke, and Jared Barker. Also thanks to the Town Council for their help and support.

Big Thanks to the festival committee members: Pat Cluff, Rick Wixom, Alex Pelton, Dennis Gregz, Julie Dempsey and Joe Pitti.

We are always looking for sponsors and volunteers to serve on the committee and to help at the festival.

----- Julie Hancock, Festival Committee Chair -----

## **RSFD Volunteers Needed**

The Rockville-Springdale Fire District fire department is looking for a few good men and women. If you're looking for a way to get involved in your community, meet new people, and really make a difference, consider joining the fire department.

There are a variety of jobs available in the department. If you don't think you are cut out for the rigors of front-line fire fighting, don't let that stop you from checking out other options. The department needs engineers, drivers and support personnel, as well as fire fighters.

Talk to Acting Chief Joe Barker about ways you can be involved. He can be reached by calling the firehouse at 435-772-3065.

If you want to meet some of your great fire volunteers and see what it's like to be part of a great team, you're welcome to stop by at one of their training sessions on Tuesday nights at 5:00 p.m. at the fire station.

## Can You Find My Candace?

By Rob Whitcomb

The following correspondence serves as the latest installment in the Welcoming You Home essay collection:

To: Springdale Town Clerk:

I am trying to find information about Candace Hudson, who was my Grandmother. Our family history is a bit scattered, with no real lineage that a typical family could refer to. Candace was my mother's mother who settled in the Salt Lake City area, where my mother met my father, and where I was born. Long story short, my father died at a very young age, and my mother moved to the Seattle area and eventually remarried. My memory of that period is pretty hazy, other than the summer I came down from Seattle via the bus to Springdale to spend part of my summer in Springdale, with my Grandmother Candace, who worked in the store/motel just outside the Zion National Park entrance, and then staying with my Aunt who lived in Kanab.

Can you help me?

Rob Whitcomb

Mamaroneck, NY

*Rob, I searched our digital records and found four references to Kandace Firm, who I am certain is your Candace Hudson. I don't have any personal knowledge of her, though I knew Howard Firm, her husband. His cemetery records indicate his first spouse was Candie Hudson. He owned the store and motel you referred to in your note. Though Howard is in our cemetery, Candace is not. Do you have any other information?*  
Fay

Thank you for getting back to me. I appreciate it so much. I believe the year was about 1961, and I must have been about 10. I remember getting off the bus and meeting Howard, who I thought at the time was my Grandmother's second husband. In a building adjoining the store/motel, Howard had an ice making plant making large blocks of ice. I believe my Grandmother had other bits of property, most likely via Howard, around the Springdale area. In particular there was a small orchard that she tended, and another piece of land towards Rockville that was an outdoor, walk-in movie theater, where the movie-goers would sit outdoors on wooden benches with speakers and watch movies.

*The 'walk-in movies' were at the Calvin Ruesch place. The projector building is still standing, as well as one of the old cabins they used to rent. Howard's 'Zionville' buildings were used for a multi-agency firefighter training burn many years ago. Firefighters had a rare opportunity to train with oxygen tanks, rescue equipment, and multiple engines. Though the buildings*

*had some historic importance, they had been allowed to deteriorate till they were unsightly and unsafe, and almost everyone took comfort in seeing them go in such a useful blaze of glory.*

Thanks so much for this information. Sometimes after a lot of time that has passed, I start to wonder if I just imagined things from my past, but know I know - not in this case. I was glad to hear there really was an actual outdoor theater and the projector building is still standing. I remember the town of Springdale as a very quiet, country town with shady mulberry trees lining the road. Traffic was light enough that my Grandmother felt confident enough to have me on her lap "driving" her car. I want to say it might have been a Studebaker with a manual shift on the steering column.

So fast forward about 50 years, and I had an opportunity to travel to Springdale, Kanab, and other canyon areas with my wife this past month. Naturally, I was curious about finding out more about that period in my life, and what might have been left from fifty years ago. Pre-dating the art scene now, I remember an itinerant painter or two coming through to paint the "Watchman" and other canyon walls. Over the years I would hear small news pieces about the arts and crafts scene in Springdale, and I was certainly not disappointed by what I rediscovered.  
Best - Rob

---

## Coming Home to Springdale An Invitation to Share your Story

*A few Coming Home stories are "in the works" and coming soon. We still hope to get more stories, too.*

*Past stories can be viewed on the Coming Home page of the town website: [www.springdaletown.com/welcoming-you-home/coming-home/](http://www.springdaletown.com/welcoming-you-home/coming-home/)*

*Springdale has been welcoming people home for over 150 years. We invite you to submit an essay about how you or someone you know found a welcome here and 'came home' to Springdale - whether for the first time, the last time, or some other time or in some other way completely. We appreciate that 'coming home' isn't strictly a physical experience.*

*You don't have to leave to have a profound "I'm home" experience. We hope you'll share your stories with us. We would love to get so many we have to find a publisher! Until then, we'll print them in the newsletter.*

*Please limit your submission to approximately 500 words. Please send via email to [springdale@infowest.com](mailto:springdale@infowest.com).*