

NEWSLETTER

July/August 2024



MOTHER TOWN OF SOUTHERN UTAH



Message from the Mayor

Summertime...And the livin' is easy...
Fish are jumpin'!...And the *alfalfa is high...
("Summertime" by George Gershwin 1934,

*his version said cotton instead of alfalfa).

Summer is here and so are all of the fun summertime events to enjoy with family and friends who live here and those who come to visit our peaceful, patriotic valley. July brings hot summer days to enjoy the Parowan Pool and live music every Friday night in Library Park. Reunions, family gatherings and Americana traditions along with the many activities offered by the Parowan Visitor's Center, Parowan is a wonderful place to be in the "dog days of summer". Highlights of what's going on around our city:

- Water recharge project to direct groundwater to the County gravel pit to recharge instead of it filling out to the Little Salt Lake where it is lost to evaporation. This is in the engineering phase and moving right along. This important project will help bring water levels up in our aquifer and help conserve our most precious resource, WATER! In the meantime, please do your part to conserve and respect watering days and times along with being aware and careful with using culinary water and conserve wherever possible.
- Parowan Bike Park & Pump Track is named, designed (shout out to Paragonah Mayor Todd Robinson for all of his help) and ready to roll! Our naming contest at Parowan Elementary resulted in some awesome ideas and logos. The winner of the contest was Tucker Johnson who named the new park, "Evil Water Bike Park". Thank you Parowan Bike Shop for donating the bike. Watch for our awesome Parowan Public Works team moving dirt and building the new bike park in the coming months!
- Road improvements around town with chip sealing and pothole will start on our most traveled roads first and then throughout Parowan as roads are assessed and improved with our new chip sealing equipment. Thank you Public Works for improving our roads!

Continued on page 5

Power Outages

Although you receive your electricity from Parowan City, it first travels through the PacifiCorp/Rocky Mountain Power transmission system.

Due to extreme weather conditions and elevated fire risk this season, Rocky Mountain Power has implemented these safety measures.

- **Enhanced Safety Settings:** These settings are used with devices that de-energize lines when a fault is detected, reducing the chance of a potential fire ignition.
- **Public Safety Power Shutoff:** The decision to implement a Public Safety Power Shutoff is based on extreme weather and area conditions, including high wind speeds, low humidity and critically dry fuels.
- **Encroachment Strategy:** When an active wildfire moves close enough to threaten burning into the area of our lines or equipment, they may complete an emergency de-energization of our power lines.

With the **Enhanced Safety Settings** in place the last few weeks, faults on Rocky Mountain Power's transmission lines have interrupted service to Parowan residents.

During a **Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)** PacifiCorp may voluntarily shut down high-voltage transmission lines in areas at high risk of wildfires. This interruption in the transmission system can stop the flow of electricity to your local utility. Customers will experience temporary power outages; the duration of the outage depends on the severity of the conditions.

Preparing for a PSPS helps you better navigate power outages. Assemble an emergency kit with essentials like non-perishable food, water and flashlights. Ensure you have backup power for any medical devices and use generators only in safe, well-ventilated areas. Stay informed by signing up for utility alerts, and making sure your contact info is up to date with Parowan City.

YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC POWER UTILITY IS DEDICATED TO DELIVERING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE, AND THE TEAM WORKS HARD TO GUARANTEE YOU HAVE RELIABLE POWER WHENEVER YOU NEED IT. HOWEVER, IT'S IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT WHILE YOUR LOCAL UTILITY STRIVES FOR UNINTERRUPTED SERVICE, THERE ARE FACTORS THAT ARE BEYOND THEIR CONTROL.

From the Police Department

The Parowan Police Department officers had the opportunity to judge a “Say No to Drugs” coloring contest at Parowan Elementary. Each grade had two winners, and there was an overall winner as well. The kids came up with a saying for their poster. Some of the sayings were:

- *If you like warm hugs.... say no to drugs!*
- *Hit drugs out of the park*
- *Let's be like the Ninga Turtles, eat pizza not drugs*
- *Donut use drugs*
- *Batman doesn't do drugs so why should you?*
- *Smash drugs out of here*
- *Say goodbye to drugs!*
- *Stand tall, stay away from drugs*
- *Drugs roast your brain, liar liar pants on fire, drugs do not tell the truth*
- *Sports make you stronger, drugs make you weaker*
- *Fly away from drugs*
- *Tackle drugs with anger*
- *Stay away from drugs*

This year's overall winner was 5th grader Naomi. Come check out her art work that is hung up at the Police Department.

After school on May 6th Officer Townsend rewarded Naomi with an ice cream of her choice from the Dairy Freeze, then treated her to a ride home in his patrol truck. What a special treat this was for Naomi for her “Say No To Drugs” art contest win. Congratulations Naomi!!



Officer Townsend has been busy all school year teaching the sixth graders the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program. On May 23rd at the sixth graders promotion, he ad-



dressed all the 6th graders and congratulated them on their D.A.R.E. graduation. The kids were asked to write an essay as part of the program. There were two kids that did an outstanding job with writing their essays. Congratulations to Brinn Tuttle & Luke Adams on a job well done! Thank you, Officer Townsend, for all your hard work in the schools.

Events and Summer Recreation Programs

July Events

4th of July Celebration

Horses, fire engines, floats and the American flag – all part of making the 4th of July a family event. This year make some memories with Parowan residents after the 10:00 am downtown Parade by enjoying lemonade and watermelon at the city park. Come on down for games and laughter with your neighbors and visitors! Then Celebrate America with sparkling fireworks at dusk at the fairgrounds.

July/August Concert Series

Parowan City presents the July Concert series. Bring your chair or blanket and enjoy the cool nights in the City Park. Concerts start at 8:00 pm. Food vendors will be available for dinner and fun snacks. Free to the public.

Featured Bands

- Center & Main* — July 5th
- Radio Player* — July 12th
- The 8eez* — July 19th
- Kenny Laursen* — July 26th

Scavenger Hunts

Not only can scavenger hunts be done about anywhere, they also boost observation skills and help children develop early learning skills in a fun, relaxing, and natural way. Every Friday in July the Parowan Visitors Center will host a weekly Scavenger Hunt. Come to

5 South Main from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm to receive your instructions. Enjoy the hunt and return to the Visitors Center to collect your prize.

July 10th Sprinklers in the Park

Sunshine and water entertainment in the City Park. Wear your swimsuits and come for plenty of water fun from 1:00-3:00 pm! Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

July 17th & 18th Calligraphy

Calligraphy is a visual art related to writing. It is the design and execution of lettering with a pen. This class is open from ages 10-99. It will be held at the Parowan Visitors Center from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Pre-register before July 15th.

July 20th Community Yard Sale

Yard sale from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at Parowan's Main Street on the Library lawn. \$10/spot. Please pre-register at the Parowan Visitors Center to reserve your space. Registration deadline is close of July 15th.

Wishing everyone a great summer, hope to see you around Town!!

PAROWAN CITY

1/2 MARATHON, 5K & YANKEE DOODLE DASH



**WINNER
WINNER
Chicken
Dinner**

AUGUST 3rd

Register at: www.parowanhalf.com
For More Information: 435-559-4504



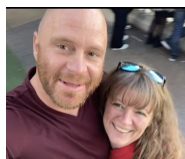
Parowan High School is excited to introduce a **Flag Retirement Box**, a project made possible through the collaborative efforts of Parowan High School and local community members. Contributions from veterans, active military members, and Parowan High School helped fund this initiative.

The Flag Retirement Box will be located at Parowan High School, outside the Commons, facing Main Street, under the awning.

We encourage everyone to use this resource for proper flag disposal to help raise awareness about the importance of respectfully retiring flags. We believe this initiative is a wonderful opportunity for our community and school to work together to honor our flag properly. Let's ensure that our community respects and properly retires our flags.

Thank you for your support!

Parowan Animal Assistance League (PAAL)



Mary Hanley has retired as chairperson of PAAL and has passed the torch on to Jennifer Vargo and Michael McGee as of June 1st. We are so grateful for her dedication and compassion in running the shelter all of these years. Luckily, she will continue to help out in a volunteer capacity.

Jennifer has worked with many different rescue groups and fostered animals for over 20 years. Michael has had a deep passion for helping out rescues for many years. He has even traveled to Serbia to volunteer at a shelter with over 1,500 dogs.

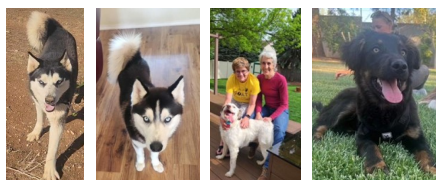
Progress is being made on creating a dog run for exercising the dogs. Some materials have been donated. Thanks to Tiffany and Jerry!

We are still looking for more cattle panels and 6' T-posts to complete the project.

We are in need of volunteers to come feed the dogs and have 3 days available for am and pm feedings. Contact us if you would be interested in volunteering for Wednesdays, Fridays, or Saturdays. Contact PAAL at **(435) 393-1137** to volunteer or donate.

Success Stories:

- *We are happy to announce that after 9 months, Iggy and Harlow have gone to a great rescue organization (Arctic Rescue) where they can get the care they need and are marketed for adoption.*
- *Sadie went to the English Setter Rescue and has since been adopted.*
- *Barney was also adopted out to a wonderful family in St. George where he has a playmate and lots of room to play.*



To the Little Salt Lake Service Club for all you do for our community!

From putting the flags out on holidays to the annual Easter Egg Hunt, your service does not go unnoticed and is greatly appreciated!

NEW Landfill Hours

1st and 3rd weeks: Wednesday thru Saturday 8 am to 6 pm

2nd and 4th weeks: Tuesday thru Friday 8 am to 6 pm

5th week: Treated as a 4th week (Tuesday - Friday)

Please refer to the Iron County website for details: www.ironcounty.net/departments/solid-waste

Join us each month at the "Third Thursday" art program.

Drawing
Painting
Ceramics

Demonstrations
6:00 p.m.

Locations vary.

Contact

Steve Decker at

steve.parowanart@gmail.com



Join us for Parowan's
Saturday, July 20

PIONEER DAY CELEBRATION!

All Are Welcome!
FREE - DINNER & ACTIVITIES

6:00 - 8:00 | MAIN STREET PARK

Sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Parowan: Remembering Good People and Interesting Tales

By Sandra Benson

In 1993, Vern Mortensen, Parowan native, was a spry 86-year-old man, good father with a large family, good husband, hard worker, and an author of a book of cowboy poetry and the novel *"The Making of a Cowboy."* On the occasion of Parowan's 142nd birthday, Vern sat down and reminisced with Bill McClure, Staff Writer for *Parowan's Birthday Edition TABLOID*. The publication was released on Jan. 11, 1993. Mr. McClure asked about Vern's boyhood, growing up in Parowan. This old man knew his roots were firmly planted in this town and in western culture. He sought, in a few words, to remind us what had been, knowing full well things had and were continuing to change. Herein is the outcome of that interview with a few changes to accommodate space. Nothing of substance is lost and I found it most enjoyable.

"I remember as a youngster running down to the fence along the west side of my dad's place to watch the cattle trail drive come through. Dad's place was near what is now the south interchange on I-15 (at the end of Holyoak Lane). The foreman or trail boss was usually on the point and he'd ride along on the fence and tell us kids to tie up the dogs behind the fence so they wouldn't get trampled or cause the cattle to stampede."

Mortensen said the herds were made up of range cattle, small and scrubby. "They'd never seen a fence and got spooked if they got near one. "They were all horned," he said.

He went on to explain the drives usually came through in June. The average herd was about 1,500 head. Each cowboy had three horses for the drive. He would ride each a half day so each horse would have every other day off.

Vern said most of the drives went through Indian Peak to Grand Junction, Colorado, but some went north toward Provo and Salt Lake City.

"When the cowboys came back through, a couple of months later after selling their cattle, they would have only one horse each, the other two having been sold with the cattle. I always thought that was interesting," he said.

"Another thing not too many people know about is Parowan was once famous for its saddles. They were made at PUMI - the Parowan United Mercantile Institution. And they were made just like Henry Ford's Model A Ford - One model, and they were all black."

Mortensen says he doesn't know the name of the saddle makers, but they used leather from the local tannery. The saddle trees were rawhide-covered Aspen wood that had been logged in the Parowan mountains. "I don't know why but they used either trees with a right twist or a left twist, he said. Usually, all the materials except the hardware came from this area."

"The only modifications to the basic design was the cinch pattern. They came in center-fire, rim-fire, or double-fire. The cowboys coming through with the herds bought the saddles. A few were taken to Nevada and sold there too."

Mortensen then said, "The most significant change in the

valley over the years was the switch from cattle to sheep raising. That happened in about 1922. Between the cattle owned by Parowan ranchers, and the trail herds that came through the valley, the mountain pastures got overgrazed. That's when the Larkspur showed up in the mountain meadow - and Larkspur will kill cattle. So that's when most of the people in the valley went to the forest service and traded their cattle grazing permits for sheep permits," he said.

Vern, throughout his life, rode horses, participated in the Red Hills Wranglers Club, and told and retold tales of by-gone days. In the original article, he's pictured with a 1st place trophy won in 1953 by him and several other local cowboys at the Utah State Fair. The interview was finished with Vern declaring his love for his wife, Metta, and his horse, Judy, long since gone. Vern passed not long after this interview, perhaps riding into the sunset on Judy and Metta close at hand.

Note: When we purchased a U.S. Road Map a number of years ago there was a listing of "must have souvenirs" for each state. Bob Ray Saddles located in Parowan, Utah was the recommended souvenir for Utah.

If you have a water or utility emergency after regular business hours, on the weekend or on a holiday, please call **Dispatch at 435-586-9445**. The Public Works and Electric Departments can be called out to help.

Continued from page 1

- New flag repository on the front side of Parowan High School to the left of the overhang. Please bring your old American Flags for proper disposal to drop off for a flag ceremony at the Veterans Memorial later this year; date to be announced. Thank you Parowan High School!
- Local Parowan City Rec Summer Softball League with games on Tuesday & Thursday evenings at the Valentine Peak Sports Complex. Come out and support your favorite teams. Thank you Parowan Parks and Recreation!
- New outdoor Pickleball Courts are planned for the Valentine Peak Sports Complex with the goal of a first AARP sponsored tournament on Labor Day weekend! A waterline has been moved and groundwork has begun. Look for lots of activity on the west side of the soccer fields as these new courts take shape in the coming months. Thank you to the Iron County TRCC Grant and the AARP Community Challenge Grant for funding and support of this exciting new

recreational amenity for all ages and abilities in Parowan! Thank you Parowan Public Works!

As you enjoy long, warm days and refreshing breezes, remember to thank your local gardeners and farmers for their hard work in producing the beautiful farm grown crops and produce that we enjoy in abundance.

Throughout the summer, Parowan's old, pioneer fruit trees and carefully tended gardens produce a huge variety of colorful and nutritious food that sustains our community for months to come. Keep in mind, with the Iron County Fair just around the corner, entries from the whole county are brought to the Fair to compete with other local growers for ribbons and prizes that will be awarded Labor Day weekend. Along with stunning quilts, photography, locally created art and a variety of artisan made items, there is an unlimited opportunity to enter and showcase talents, now is the time to prepare! For details go to www.ironcountyfair.net.

May your summer be filled with laughter, joy and lots of

watermelon, sweet corn and BBQ while you make memories with family and friends. If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please contact Parowan City Office at 435-477-3331. We are here to serve you.

Sincerely,
Mayor Mollie Halterman
mayor@parowan.org
435-238-0993

Personal Fireworks

Due to unusual extreme hazardous fire conditions, the discharge of any and all fireworks including Class C common fireworks are only allowed within fifty (50) feet around the

***Lion's Park
from 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm
on July 4th and July 24th***

Please shoot towards the park and not the homes.



Arbor Day 2024

Ryan Johnson did a presentation on tree planting for Parowan Elementary's 4th, 5th and 6th Graders.

