

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM YOUR FIRE CHIEF

This may seem over used, but wow, "that went fast!"

It seems like every year we set goals and watch them fade away. Every year we commit to not letting them fade away too. Because New Year Resolutions are personal it indicates that we care and that we want to do better. So, here are mine.

This year, I resolve to be more patient, understanding, and nicer to my employees. Hold it! That seems like too much. Maybe I'll just try to be nicer and next year I'll work on all the patience and understanding stuff. Just kidding! I do plan on continuing to build a stronger and more cohesive fire department, so that we may be better prepared to serve you regardless of your need.

As a Fire Department, we have accomplished so much this year and we look forward to an equally successful and progressive year in 2008. Our firefighters and emergency medical people are wonderful. They're good at what they do and they care. They are dedicated and are always willing provide whatever service they can.

I would like to share a story with you. It is not a fun story - it is a story of tragedy. But, it will provide a poignant base for this month's safety tip.

Many, many years ago a young mother left her home in the wee hours of the morning on her daily run. It was a cool morning and yet dark outside, so she bundled up and hit the road running. As she ran along the dark streets, somehow a car moved off the roadway just enough to strike her. This terrible accident left a young family without a wife and mother, but the emergency workers were unable to find out which family she belonged to, she was not carrying any identification. This scenario leaves us with a few difficult and ugly questions. Had the husband already left for work? Were there young children at home waiting for mom to return so they could have breakfast and be off to school? With dad already on his way to the office, did this young girl wait at home as the minutes, then hours ticked away - waiting for mom return. Did she cry with worry as she did her best to care for her younger brother through the long morning hours. When dad finally called at noon to see how the day was going for his wife, was he cut deeply with the news that mom never came home from her run and a terrified young girl had been home all morning, alone with her baby brother, doing all she could to maintain her composure amidst mounting and overwhelming fear? When dad arrived home to comfort his worried children, did he panic just a little because he had nary a clue as to the mystery that surrounded the absence of his loving companion?

This scene plays on emotions and spurs hopes that it isn't true. But, the truth is, it plays this way every day. The facts of the matter may be different and the ending may not always be so heart wrenching. But it is true! It is common that we, emergency workers, find ourselves in the position of needing additional information and the information just can't be had.

Enter "ICE". In Case of Emergency (ICE), is a program idea that encourages cell phone owners to enter contact information into the address book on the cell phone under the name ICE. Here is Wikipedia's take on ICE.

In Case of Emergency, or ICE, is a program that enables first responders, such as paramedics, firefighters, and police officers, to identify victims and contact their next of kin to obtain important medical information. The program was conceived in the mid-2000s and promoted by British paramedic Bob Brochie in May 2005.[1] It encourages people to enter emergency contacts in their cell phone address book under the name "ICE". Alternately, a person can list multiple emergency contacts as "ICE1", "ICE2", etc. The popularity of the program has spread across Europe, and has started to grow into North America.

This is a simple idea that has the potential to help you! And, it costs you nothing but a few minutes of your time.

Happy New Year and may you be successful with what ever your resolutions may be! As for the Fire Department - stand by for news, we plan to continue on our course to provide you with the best emergency services anywhere, because you deserve it! We'll keep you posted. Please be safe.

Marc Sanderson, Fire Chief

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

A prediction is a statement or claim that a particular event will occur in the future. A resolution is an expression of opinion, will, or intent. Can you predict the future? Neither can I. Can you resolve to make something happen? That makes two of us. The safest prediction or resolution is the one which is well planned and well executed. This brings me to the point about the past and the future of our City.

Pleasant Grove enjoyed tremendous success last year. Much of this success was the execution of planning that took place in 2006 and prior years. This year looks even brighter as the planning that took place in 2007 will be executed during 2008. Utah's City of Trees will be growing more in 2008 than in 2007.

Many of the investors in our city are experienced. They've lived through cycles of economic growth and downturn. Their experience has taught them how to plan for tough times and execute their plans to their (and our) advantage. Some actually line things up for the downturns.

A softer housing market tapers the general cost of construction (both labor and materials). Much of the execution planned for 2008 is in commercial and retail construction rather than housing. Hence, the development of office space, retail sales, the convention center, hotel and multi-purpose facilities will be more affordable. That is the kind of planning that the City and the investors worked on during 2007. Those buildings will be visibly coming out of the ground this year.

Are there risks? Yes, there are! Lenders will favor investors with a track record of success and healthy equity. Those without experience or without equity will have a more difficult time funding their construction. Fortunately most of our investors have both track records and equity. They are a good risk to lenders, especially during economic downturns. They are also wise about the timing to begin a project and when to slow it down.

Planning and execution as well as track records and equity are also attributable to the City of Pleasant Grove. Most of the employees in the City have many decades of experience in their professions. This is especially true of the department directors. They are wise stewards of the public's assets. They know when to say yes and when to say no. They are also willing to be unpopular when it is in the best interest of protecting the citizens.

Finally, the vast majority of our citizens (over 66%) are well-seasoned in living through economic changes. They understand how to plan, save and execute. The silent majority are patient people, creative thinkers and careful risk takers. They are not given to clamor, but move in large blocks with lots of information and facts.

Your City is in good hands for 2008. Pleasant Grove will continue its course in 2008. Careful planning, good execution and steady growth will prevail. Like a mature grove, Utah's City of Trees continues to reach up, branch out and sink its roots deep. Make it a great year!

Michael W. Daniels, Mayor

PUBLIC WORKS

Sewer backed up? Here's what to do—

If a backup occurs—

First take action to protect people and valuable property. You can call the City or special service district at 785-2941. As a service, we will check the main sewer. Any blockage found in the main lines will be promptly cleared. If the main line is not blocked, we recommend that you call a plumbing or sewer contractor to check your lateral line. Maintenance and repair of the lateral serving the home is the owner's responsibility. Regardless of the location of the blockage, clean up of the home should be done as soon as possible to minimize damage and possible negative health effects. There are qualified local businesses that specialize in this type of clean up.

Backup Prevention

Taking notice of what is flushed down toilets and sinks can prevent most backups. DO NOT flush the following materials (or similar items) down toilets/drains. These items can plug the main and cause damage to you and other property owners connected to the main.

- Large quantities of toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Feminine napkins
- Disposable diapers
- Clothing—socks, underwear....
- Plastic, metal, wood, etc.
- Large quantities of cereals or grains (they can swell with water)
- Live seeds, beans and peas (they may sprout)
- Grease, fats or oils
- Sand
- Fibrous materials (cotton balls, hair, rags, cigarette butts.....)
- Sponges, scouring pads

Section 715 of the International Plumbing Code requires installation of a back water valve on drains to plumbing fixtures that are below the next manhole upstream from the building. If you do not have such a device, have one installed.

Insurance

Many homeowners' policies exclude sewer backups, but this coverage often can be added. You should contact your insurance agent for detail.

(This article was prepared by the
Utah Local Government's Trust)

PARKING ON STREETS:
*Overnight parking is not allowed
on any city street between November 15
to April 15, for snow removal.
Vehicles can be cited or towed.*

RECREATION NEWS

Itty Bitty Ball (Ages 3 & 4) - Learn pre-sport skills such as catching, kicking, throwing and dribbling in a fun atmosphere. Each class will focus on one sampler sport which includes: football, basketball, baseball and soccer. Parents are strongly encouraged in assisting child in class sessions learning these skills.

Registration Dates: January 2 – until filled.

Choose a Time: 11:00 a.m. or 12:30 p.m.

Class Dates: Feb., 12, 14, 21 & 26.

Pleasant Grove/Lindon Resident Fee: \$18 (includes t-shirt)

Non Resident Fee: \$27 (includes t-shirt)

Little Hoopsters Clinic (Kinder-1st Grade) – This clinic is an introduction to basketball. Each week basic skills of basketball will be taught.

Registration: February 1 – 20

Clinic Dates: March 8, 15, 29 and April 5

Pleasant Grove/Lindon Resident Fee: \$20 (includes t-shirt)

Non Resident Fee: \$30 (includes t-shirt)

Toddler class –Come Join the Fun – Mom and me cooking, crafts and activities class. We have a few spots open in Monday 10:00 am & Tuesday 10:30 am class/ Classes run from Jan to April

Toddler Gym –Ages 2 to 4yrs. Mom and me Activities class – session 3 starts Jan 9 – Classes are held on Wed. from 10:30 to 11:30am

Chess club class - Register for Session 2 -Starts Back up Jan 10- Meets on Thursdays from 4 to 5pm for 6 weeks

Valentines Cooking- Sat Feb 9 from 10 to 12, Register by Feb2

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

On January 10th, 2008, the Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed Downtown 2020 Action Plan, which includes various goals and plans for the revitalization and improvement of Pleasant Grove's downtown area. Goals of the plan include the organization of an advisory committee, the development of architectural design standards, proposed zoning overlays and land uses, strategies for economic development, and plans for promoting downtown. For more information, call Community Development at 785-6057.

REMOVE GARBAGE CANS FROM STREET:

Please remove garbage cans from streets. City code requires they be removed from the street as soon as possible, after they are emptied.

LIBRARY NEWS

Winter is the perfect time to warm up to a good book, audio book or DVD from your Pleasant Grove Library. If you need suggestions for what to read next, or want to get more information about a particular title or topic then don't forget to visit our Web site at www.plgrove.org/library.

New at the library is a Terrific Tuesdays and Wonderful Wednesdays drop-in story time at 9:00 am for ages 2 -6. Mothers are needed to help to read stories.

Great Reads for Girls: A Mother Daughter Book Club. This is for girls ages eight and older with Mom or other caring adult. Join us for a lively discussion, activities, and fun. Meet the first Thursday of the Month at 7:00 pm. Sign up and pick up a "Great Reads" booklist at the front desk.

All programs will begin the week of January 7th.

Whatever you're reading, listening to or watching this season, don't forget to make the library part of your winter routine!

New Library Hours

Starting January 2, 2008

Monday -Thursday 9:00 am -9:00 pm

Friday- Saturday 10:00 am-6:00 pm

SNOW REMOVAL:

It is the responsibility for each resident to remove the snow from sidewalks in front of their homes.

HEAT PROGRAM NOW OPEN

Community Action Services is now accepting applications for the HEAT program, a program which assists low-income households in making utility payments through the winter season. A one-time payment per year will be submitted directly to utility companies for individuals who qualify. Disbursements are based on income. All Utah County residents interested in applying must call 373-8200 from now until the end of April for an appointment. Low-income households and those with disabilities are especially encouraged to apply. Applicants must meet income guidelines and provide all required documentation. Homebound individuals may request an Outreach worker to come to their home to assist in the application process. First-time applicants in Utah County must complete an energy education class as part of the process (energy class is waived for disabled or elderly applicants).

Please go to www.CommunityActionUC.org for more information or call 373-8200.

UTAH CHILDREN'S CHOIR CHRISTMAS SEASON A GREAT SUCCESS

The Utah Children's Choir recently presented their annual Christmas Concerts on Dec. 9 at the Utah State Hospital Chapel and Dec. 11 at the Alpine Art Center. These concerts were well attended and enjoyed by all. The beautiful music and the sensitive manner in which it was presented is always a thrill to hear from these children. There is nothing quite so touching as hearing fine music about the Christmas story sung by children. Former member, Dylan Glenn, was the featured flutist with the choir. A string trio also accompanied the Haydn and Bach numbers. Mary Jane Watkins and Isaac Beckett, members of the Concert Choir accompanied with percussion instruments on "English Song of Joy" and "Riu, Riu, Chiu." An excellent CD was made of the concert and is available for sale of \$12.00. If you are interested in purchasing the CD, please call Lutie at 785-7416.

Choir Director Kay Asay says that she is currently holding auditions for new members for this semester in the choirs. Those interested in singing with the UCC need to call 756-6450 and set up an appointment. You need to have a song to sing and the audition takes about ten minutes. For more information about the Utah Children's Choir go to our website at www.UtahChildrensChoir.com We have pictures and lots of information about the choir.

KIWANIS NEWS

WANTED:

Good men and woman who would be willing to serve the children of Pleasant Grove.

Must be willing to give of your spare time. Have a love and concern for our kids and some ideas of how to help build a great community for our children. Rewards are smiles and warm fuzzy feelings for helping out, along with the making some great new friends. To find out more how you can become involved with Kiwanis call Mike Gordon 785-4615, Lyle Thacker 785-3017 or Mike Chamberlin 830-5585.

STREET WIDENING STUDY

US 89 (State Street) Widening Study

UDOT is conducting a study to analyze ways to provide for travel demand, improve safety, and accommodate planned developments, including making State Street a consistent seven lane roadway from 2000 North in Orem to 100 East in American Fork. Residents are invited to learn about the project, ask questions, share concerns or to be added to the project mailing list. Residents may do so by calling the project hotline at 801-763-5280, visiting the website at www.udot.utah.gov/statestreetes or by email at statstreetes@utah.gov

FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

City Objective

One of Pleasant Grove City Public Works' main objectives is to provide a plan for the safe movement of emergency equipment, vehicle traffic and pedestrians through the City. A snow removal plan has been developed to assist with this objective in order to maintain streets in hazardous weather conditions.

Pleasant Grove uses the following priorities to establish the urgency of snow removal within the city:

1. All main arterials considered to be the minimum network which must be kept open to provide a transportation system connecting police/fire stations and rescue squad units.
2. All remaining arterials, selected collectors, bus routes and around schools.
3. All other selected collectors completing the network covering the major traffic volume streets and selected troubled areas such as intersections, and hills.
4. All remaining streets, such as residential and local streets.
5. Cul-de-sacs last. If cars are parked in a cul-de-sac, that cul-de-sac will not be plowed.

Resident Responsibilities

"Safety is everyone's responsibility."

Residents are required by ordinance to keep parked vehicles off the roads between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. each year from November 1st through March 15th.

Swerving snow plows in and out of parked cars is dangerous, and the operators cannot make adequate passes on the streets.

In addition, the City asks that there be no placing, dumping or pushing of snow into the streets or right-of-ways from the adjacent properties.

Clear your sidewalks especially after the snow plows have finished plowing to the curb.

Salt and/or sand all icy areas both on the sidewalks, driveways, steps and pathways.

Try to assist your elderly and handicapped neighbors with their snow removal. When income allows, hire help.

MOUNTAIN VIEW CORRIDOR

The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) announces the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on the Mountain View Corridor, a proposed highway and transit corridor in west Salt Lake County and northwest Utah County. The public comment period for the DEIS is Oct. 17 through January 24, 2007. This is an extension of one month for the comment period.

The DEIS is available on the project Web site, www.udot.utah.gov/mountainview, or at the Pleasant Grove City Library. Other locations are listed on the project Web site. Comments on the DEIS may be submitted via:

- The project Web site: www.udot.utah.gov/mountainview.
- E-mail: mountainview@utah.gov
- Mail: Mountain View Corridor, C/O Parsons Brinckerhoff, 488 E. Winchester St., Suite 400, Murray, Utah 84107
- Phone: (800) 596-2556

Tremendous growth is projected in west Salt Lake County and northwest Utah County over the next 30 years, including a 167 percent increase in population, a 298 percent increase in employment, and a 223 percent increase in households. This growth will cause significant delay on many of the major north-south and east-west roads in the project area. It will also create new demands for public transportation or transit service.

After nearly five years of extensive study, the project team has narrowed the list of viable transportation solutions to two roadway alternatives and two transit alternatives in Salt Lake County, three roadway alternatives in Utah County and a trail system. The Federal Highway Administration will ultimately make the final selection of a preferred alternative, which will be documented in the Record of Decision in 2008.

IT'S FLU SEASON!

The Utah County Health Department wants everyone to be aware that it is time to get their influenza vaccination. People with the flu often complain of high fever, headache, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle aches, and sometimes nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea.

So how is it spread? Mainly from person to person through coughing or sneezing.

So how can I prevent it? The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a influenza vaccination each year. Flu season doesn't typically peak until January or February, so it is still not too late to get your influenza vaccination.

Other ways to prevent the flu include:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home yourself when you are sick
- Wash your hands or use a hand sanitizer regularly

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth
- Get plenty of sleep
- Eat nutritious food
- Drink plenty of fluids.

Where can I get a flu shot? You can contact your health-care provider or the Utah County Health Department at 851-7043 for an appointment. You can also go to www.UtahCountyHealth.org and click on Influenza Vaccine (Flu Shots).

How much does it cost to get a flu shot? Most insurance companies cover the cost of a flu shot but if yours doesn't, ask your healthcare provider how much they charge. Flu shots are available at the Utah County Health Department for \$23.