



In brief

Author will tell of historian's ideas on Utah

Utah State University's Museum of Anthropology hosts guest speaker Robert C. Steensma on Saturday for a presentation titled "Thoughts in a Dry Land: Wallace Stegner and the Waters of the West."

The presentation begins at 1 p.m. in the museum, located in Old Main Room 252.

Steensma, who visits USU through the Utah Humanities Council Public Square program, is the author of five books. His latest analyzes the works of Wallace Stegner on the state of Utah and Stegner's role as an early conservationist.

In his lecture, Steensma will discuss Stegner's observations about the history and people of Utah, as well as the predictions Stegner made for the state as the population grows.

The museum is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. For Saturday activities, free parking is available in the adjacent lot, south of the building.

For more information about this event, call 797-7545 or visit anthromuseum.usu.edu.

Agendas

✓ **The Cache County Council** will meet at 5 p.m. in the Historic Courthouse, 199 N. Main St., Logan.

Agenda items include:
• Conducting a public hearing to open 2010 budget.

• Discussing proposed amendments to the Cache County Road Standards.

• Discussing surplus property along Blacksmith Fork River — approximately 37 acres of Coldwater Property.

• Considering ordinance on Mount Pisgah rezoning from Forest Recreation (FR40) to Mineral Extraction and Excavation Zone (ME).

• Discussing projects for CCCOG funding applications: 1) county portion of 3200 South between Nibley and Highway 89/91, and 2) 1700 South from Highway 165 to Highway 89/91.

• Considering resolution approving changes to the 2010 budget.

• Discussing staffing needs for JAG Grant and medical billing for jail.

✓ **The River Heights City Council** will meet at 6:30 p.m. at 520 S. 500 East. Agenda items include:

• Hearing the treasurer report, public works report and administrative report.

• Hearing public comment.

• Presenting the Personnel Policy.

• Discussing and adopting an ordinance providing for the compensation of elected and statutory officers of River Heights City.

• Adopting ordinance additions and changes on the following: Mixed Use Ordinance, Parking Ordinance, Landscaping Ordinance, Land Use Chart Changes, Miscellaneous Ordinance Changes.

• Hearing mayor and council reports.

✓ **The Providence City Council** will meet at 6 p.m. at 15 S. Main. Agenda items include:

• Hearing public comments.

• Considering a resolution authorizing a benefit payment to the employees'

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Conservationists close up shop

HUPC co-founder: 'The movement has just left me behind'

By Lance Frazier
staff writer

One of Utah's best-known conservation groups is closing its doors.

The High Uintas Preservation Council, launched 15 years ago by Hyrum residents Dick Carter and Margaret Pettis to promote wilderness designation in the Uinta mountains, will shut down at the end of the year.

In an e-mail to The Herald

Journal, Carter noted that, "I've been saying what I've been saying for years and it has simply not connected. And it won't now." The group's financial support hasn't waned, he said, but its clout with the federal government and with other environmentalists has.

"Of late, the environmental/conservation movement has just left me behind," Carter wrote in a farewell note on the nonprofit group's website.

"It is a vastly different movement with a deeply different psychology, different expectations and engaged in a very different manner than was my experience. Conversation is not expected nor sought. Little blobs of light filter through now and again but we have been unable to shed that light on a hopeful path. ... We are simply not real players."

Along with fighting for wilderness areas, HUPC also sup-

ported the protection of roadless areas, free-flowing rivers and wildlife, most notably the wolf reintroduction efforts of the 1990s. HUPC advocated restoration of native wildlife and protection of sensitive/threatened species such as wolverine, lynx, wolf and Bonneville cutthroat trout. They opposed the introduction of non-native fish and terrestrial wildlife, and

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'All but a done deal'

Logan city offers plot for dog park

By Jay Patrick
staff writer

An anticipated land deal between Logan and Cache Humane Society represents a big step toward development of the valley's first off-leash dog park.

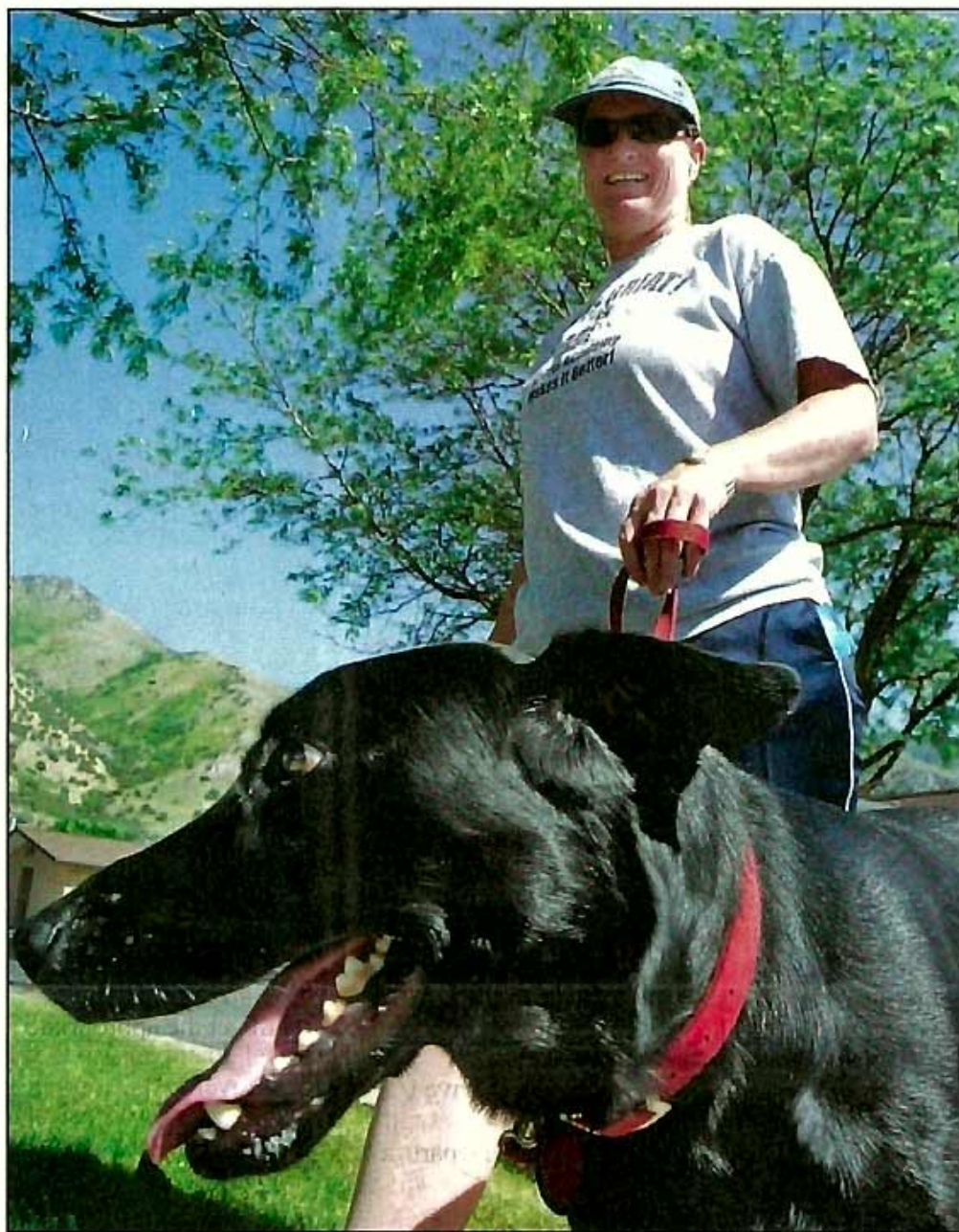
Mayor Randy Watts said Monday that he's agreed to lease to CHS five acres of city-owned land adjacent to the animal shelter at 2370 W. 200 North, just south of the city's wastewater lagoons.

Some particulars are unresolved and papers aren't yet signed, but Watts said the lease is "all but a done deal." The city wants to see development plans before signing off, said Watts.

CHS Director Michael Bishop confirmed the status of negotiations.

The city owns 10 acres of land next to the animal shelter and could someday turn all of it over to CHS, said Watts. Because groundwater is close to the surface, the land's development potential is limited, said Watts.

Bishop said CHS will need \$250,000 for a park with basic features and \$750,000 for one with the works, including lighting, restrooms and irrigation. A pond for water-loving dogs, a puppy-only area and an agility course are all



Eli Lucero/Herald Journal

Amanda Radspinner walks her dog Buddy near Lundstrom Park on Monday afternoon.

possible park features, he said.

The city likely won't help with the bill, said Watts.

"We would probably find ourselves fairly short on that end right now," he said. "We don't want to be a steward to this."

The city has operated a 1.5-acre off-leash area at Cache County Fairgrounds in southwest

Logan for about three years.

Watts said privacy concerns with the fair-ground site has something to do with his desire to see a new park — people in nearby apartments have repeatedly complained about "peeping toms" at the off-leash area, which is raised and provides a good vantage to see into windows.

Bishop said he's confident a park would get plenty of use.

"If it's done right and done well, I think we'll have people come out," he said in an earlier interview.

About 1,500 people signed an electronic petition supporting a park.

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Probation for defendant in Four Corners artifacts case

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Nicholas K. Laws has maintained he never collected ancient American Indian artifacts for sale, but when he was offered money by a federal informant, the father of three desperately needed it. "For my client, this was not a living," Laws' attorney, Randy S. Ludlow, said in federal court Monday. "He was never doing it to make a fast buck."

U.S. District Judge Ted Stewart sentenced Laws to two years of probation for the sale of a ceremonial twin effigy doll, waiving guidelines that called for six months to a year in prison.

Other judges have shown leniency, too, following a sting operation that rounded up 26 defendants last summer in Utah, New Mexico and Colorado.

Laws, 31, is the seventh defendant to be sentenced. Others received probation, except for a widow who got six months of home confinement.

Federal prosecutors didn't object to the leniency. In a plea deal, they dropped additional charges that Laws sold a pendant, a paint stick, stone knife, bowl, prayer stick and other

See CASE on A6

Food stamp changes boost pantry demand

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Food pantries are seeing a rise in demand after a rules change in Utah cut some 2,200 families with undocumented immigrants from state food stamp rolls.

A computer-based eligibility system that began July 1 has state officials now counting income from all members of a household when determining food stamp eligibility.

Lydia Herrera, who directs Hildegarde's Pantry at St. Mark's Cathedral in Salt Lake City, said families are having trouble understanding the changes.

"I'm worried about running out of food," Herrera said. "Everybody is complaining about that: 'They cut my food stamps.'"

Before the change, only part of undocumented immigrants' income was counted in the food stamp calculation. That meant a house with undocumented immigrant members might qualify for food stamps, while a house with the

same income and all U.S. citizens might not.

"We believe this is fair and equitable across the board to treat all people equally when it comes to calculating the benefits that people get when they apply for food stamps," said Curt Stewart, a spokesman for the state Department of Workforce Services.

It was not clear how many additional families will qualify for fewer food stamp dollars now that their income is being fully counted. The state originally estimated that nearly 8,000 households total could be affected by the rule changes.

State Sen. Luz Robles, D-Salt Lake City, said not providing food stamps doesn't mean families' needs will lessen.

"The cost is going to shift somewhere else, or there is going to be other social consequences of not having food for people," she said.

County still looking for executive assistant

By Charles Geraci
staff writer

It could be another few weeks before a new Cache County executive assistant is in place.

The position has been vacant since May 28, when its former occupant, Pat Parker, worked her final day on the job.

Parker had been executive assistant to the Cache County Council and the county executive for 21 years before deciding it was time to retire from her work at the county.

County Executive Lynn Lemon said Monday that the county will conduct six interviews next week in an effort to fill the position by the beginning of August.

"We are interviewing people who are both currently working for the county and people who are outside the county," Lemon said, "so it'll probably really depend on who we select as far as when we might be able to get somebody in here."

The position is an important one, as it is in many ways the face of Cache County to the public.

"If I'm out of the office and (Cache County Finance Director) Cameron (Jensen) is out of the office, they literally represent our office and they represent the County Council," Lemon said.

"And so ... we don't expect that they will make major decisions, but often-times they're required to make a number of minor decisions that affect the county or affect various offices in the county. So I think that it is really more than just a secretary position."

Currently, Lemon and Jensen have had to do the bulk of the responsibilities associated with the position, along with some assistance from the Cache County Treasurer's Office.

Duties of the position include working with valley mayors, preparing agendas, managing the county's mailroom, and arranging travel accommodations for councilmembers when necessary. The executive assistant also serves as the secretary to several boards in the county that are affiliated with county government.

Lemon noted it took some time to craft a job description and go through the advertising process.

"We're not putting it off," Lemon said. "We want to make sure that the process we go through is correct."

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