

NEWS BEAT

LDS church fire 'suspicious'

CENTERVILLE — An LDS church house in Centerville has been damaged in a fire that officials are calling suspicious.

South Davis Metro Fire Deputy Chief Jeff Bassett says someone driving past the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints building on their way home from work saw the fire early Friday.

Bassett said the person had a fire extinguisher in their car, and by the time crews arrived the blaze was out and only smoke lingered.

Bassett said the fire was limited to a glass window. He said the window and some office curtains were damaged, an estimated loss of about \$2,000.

Bassett calls the blaze suspicious and says it may have been intentionally set.

Fryer started restaurant fire

LAYTON — Authorities say a late-night fire that destroyed part of a Layton restaurant started after a fryer was left on.

A person passing by Gabor Brothers Main Street Grill, 197 N. Main St., about 11:20 p.m. Thursday called 911 and reported smoke and flames coming out of the roof.

Because of heavy smoke, responding firefighters used thermal imaging cameras when they entered the structure, said Layton City Fire Prevention Specialist Doug Bitton.

"There was lots of smoke in the rear of the restaurant where the kitchen is," Bitton said.

About 23 firefighters from Layton and Kaysville fought the blaze. Bitton said it is believed the fire started in the kitchen about 20 minutes after the last employee left. The fire spread to the wall and up to the roof. The structure was built in 1956 and had a heavily insulated roof, which fueled the blaze.

Damage is estimated at \$150,000.

Battle of Bands deadline nears

NORTH OGDEN — The city is looking for bands to fill its stages this summer for the second annual Battle of the Bands contest.

Bands will perform every Monday starting June 8. The deadline for applying is Friday at the Community Services Building, 2705 N. 550 East, or online at www.northogdenjct.com. The winning band will perform in a concert at the city's aquatic center Aug. 22 and will receive a \$400 prize. Second place will receive a \$150 prize. There is a \$25 fee to enter the contest.

Call (801) 737-0587 with questions.

City looks to make street repairs

SOUTH WEBER — Several streets in the city are falling apart and need to be resurfaced and repaired. Public Works Director Mark Larsen gave the city council a list of upcoming street projects within the city.

Streets on the list for work this year include: 1900 East from 7775 South to Cedar Bench, 2100 East from South Weber Drive to the Peachwood Road Intersection and Jensen Circle.

"The city office parking lot will also be done if we can come up with enough money," said Larsen.

DAILY PICK

● **Star Party**, turn your eyes toward galaxies and planets, 8:30 p.m., Antelope Island State Park's White Rock Bay reached via Interstate 15, Exit 332, west of Syracuse. Telescopes provided. \$9/vehicle. (801) 390-0823.

—Standard-Examiner staff and wire services

COMING SUNDAY

All that glitters — coins!

T B D



BEITH SCHLANKER/Standard-Examiner

Connor Miller, 14 (left) and Cody Dingman, 13, compete in the egg drop contest as they throw their entries from the Sky Ride during the USU Physics Day at Lagoon in Farmington on Friday.

USU boasts 20th annual Physics Day event at Lagoon

By CHRIS O'NAN
Standard-Examiner Davis Bureau
conan@standard.net

FARMINGTON — Deafening cheers arose from a group of elementary school students Friday as their Lego robots slowly maneuvered, unaided, through a small maze inside the main exhibit pavilion at the 20th annual Utah State University Physics Day event at Lagoon.

Outside, high school students guided their robots by remote control in a grudge match, throwing balls into opposing teams' trailers.

Robotics has taken on a life of its own in many fields, such as medicine, manufacturing and technology. Physics Day at Lagoon displayed how that same enthusiasm has caught on with young minds.

Robotics students Coden Terry and Marc Hebbert, both in fourth grade at Bunderson Elementary School in Brigham City, spent 10 to 15

weeks building and programming their small (approximately 9-inch tall) robot. When finished, it was equipped with light, touch and distance sensors to direct its passage through the maze.

As the robot moved down a passageway, hitting a wall caused it to turn and feel its way past the obstacle, moving through one passage after another until the finish line was traversed.

"The object of the competition was to get each robot through the maze without human interference."

"It's going to make it," Coden said as the finish line was in sight.

His mother, Neesha Terry, said her son and his teammate, Marc, were technologically minded — video

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Clearfield paves way for sidewalks

BY TANNA WOODS
Standard-Examiner correspondent

CLEARFIELD — Routes to school that some parents said were hazardous have been approved for new sidewalks to make things safer for children.

Mayor Don Wood said some parents at South Clearfield Elementary had complained that some of the children have to cross the street multiple times and deal with busy traffic in the area, not to mention portions of the route that did not have sidewalks.

"The parents wanted a safe school route," Wood said.

To make it safer, the sidewalks are being added in front of four homes along 1000 East.

On Tuesday night, the city council unanimously approved quit claim deeds for the land acquisition needed for the project.

Getting the necessary land is costing \$8,726 for all four properties. The land totals roughly 2,300 square feet, and owners will be paid \$3.72 per square foot.

The 1000 East properties at 606 South, 608 South, 620 South and 634 South

cost \$1,843; \$1,739; \$1,739; and \$3,405, respectively, for acquisition.

The project will be completed via the Utah Department of Transportation because it is being paid for with federal money. Federal money can't be given directly to the city and must be managed by UDOT.

Though the city will have input on who obtains the bid for the work, UDOT is ultimately the agency that bids out the project and brings in candidates to the city.

Council members said they were happy to see the project being done to improve safety for children, but they asked if it would be done sooner rather than later.

Because of the length of time it took to acquire the land, officials said the project will not begin until next year and will be grouped with other UDOT projects for its completion in about a year's time.

"It's too bad we can't get it sooner," said Councilwoman Marilyn Fryer.

Wood agreed but said nothing can be done to push it forward at this point.

"It's unfortunate, but that's the way it happened," he said.

Friends, family remember Roy woman killed in yard

By CARLOS MAYORGA
Standard-Examiner staff
cmayorga@standard.net

ROY — Wendy Kerbs had already made sizable plans in anticipation of her scheduled retirement from Hill Air Force base in just a few years.

Kerbs, 54, had been a civilian employee on the base for about 14 years as an electrical repair specialist.

After taking a cruise to Alaska last year, she and her husband, Marlin Kerbs, planned to do another in the coming years.

Kerbs also had stored a number of boxes of books in her Roy home and was eager to read them after calling it quits.

Those plans were cut short Wednesday, when Kerbs was struck and killed by a speeding SUV while she did yard-work with her husband in front of their home near 3100 West and 2850 South.



Kerbs

On Friday, devastated friends and neighbors were still struggling to comprehend how the tragic crash could have happened.

The Kerbs home has been flooded with supporters bringing flowers, hot food or simple words of comfort.

"We're really appreciative of the people all over the neighborhood," said Brad Kerbs, 27, of West Jordan, one of Kerbs' children.

"Many of our family members live within a five-minute drive of here," he said.

"We've had visits from a number of co-workers, supervisors and such."

Marlin and Wendy Kerbs had two children and three great-grandchildren. Steph-

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Honoring Pioneer Days with a glimpse into the past

Ogden Pioneer Days is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year, and the Standard-Examiner will be offering a peek into the past of the historic celebration.

Beginning Sunday and until July 1, we will run an historic Pioneer Days photo every Sunday on Page 2A of the Standard-Examiner. Beginning July 1, we will run an historic photo every day on 2A.

"We're calling it a Pioneer Days time capsule," said Executive Editor Andy Howell. "It's a historical snapshot of the celebration that has meant so much to Ogden over the years."

In addition to the photos in the paper, Brad Gillman, our features department print/online journalist, and videographer Kera Williams are putting together a 30-minute documentary on the history of Pioneer Days that will make its debut on standard.net in July and later will be available on DVD.



Dave Greiling

Behind the Headlines

Rob King is a grandson of Peery and the publisher through Planet Rainbow Press of a new book written by Judy Anderson, "A Grand Celebration," a history of Pioneer Days since 1934. The photos the Standard-Examiner will run in our time capsule are from Anderson's collection. She and King collaborated in choosing and providing the photos for our time capsule.

King said that, at one time during the 1930s, Ogden's Pioneer Days was the third largest rodeo celebration in North America, behind only the Calgary Stampede and Madison Square Garden.

"In its heyday, the population of Ogden doubled for Pioneer Days," King said. Hotels were sold out for four or five years in advance.

Anderson said Pioneer Days was celebrated since Mormon pioneers

arrived in 1847, but in the 20 or so years before 1934, there was no consistency on how Ogden celebrated.

There were a number of different events from year to year and outlying areas might have a rodeo, but celebrations changed.

Peery's accomplishment was in bringing the whole community together to celebrate.

"(Pioneer Days) hadn't been done on that scale," Anderson said. "He made it a big deal. It was so successful, they decided to make it an annual event."

King said Peery focused on attracting top-of-the-line rodeo performers, with specific emphasis on bronc riders, trick riders and rodeo clowns.

About half of Anderson's book is devoted to profiles and information on every Miss Rodeo Ogden, from 1934 through 2008. Anderson herself held the title in 1959.



She served as the historian for the now-defunct Rodeo Queen Association and had wanted for a long time to do something like this. She put the idea on

the back burner, but picked it up again about three years ago.

Some of her information came from old Pioneer Day programs, others through contacts and research.

"I spent a year in the library researching the Standard-Examiner for information," she said.

One interesting tidbit she discovered was that there were two queens for the 1937 celebration.

"There were two rodeos that year, three days each. One queen ruled over the first three-day rodeo, and the other queen ruled over the second one. That's something I hadn't been aware of."

Anderson's book comes out July 11. From its early beginnings in 1934, Pioneer Days has continued to grow. This year's events begin July 3 and run all the way through July 24.

We think you'll enjoy the Standard-Examiner's look back through the time capsule and hope it will help you get ready for this year's Pioneer Days.

Dave Greiling is managing editor of the Standard-Examiner. He can be reached at (801) 625-4224 or via e-mail at dgreiling@standard.net.

