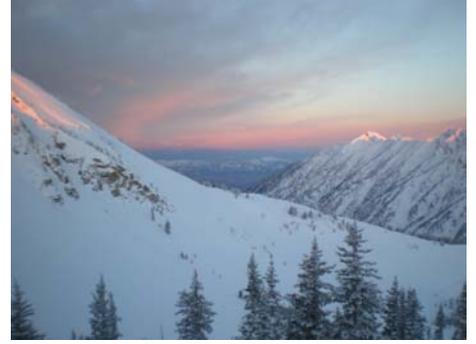


# Town of Alta Newsletter



Vol. 3 Issue 3

January-March 2011

## Municipal News

**The Town Council adopted Anti Bias Ordinances** at the January 13<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. These ordinances prohibit unlawful discrimination in housing and employment practices based on sexual orientation and gender identity. A copy of these ordinances may be found in our online codebook in the "Ordinances Pending Codification" folder. Our Town Code can be found at: [www.sterlingcodifiers.com/Alta,Ut](http://www.sterlingcodifiers.com/Alta,Ut)

**The Planning Commission held a public hearing** on a proposed Land Use Application Ordinance on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Several of the public comments received were used to help clarify and improve the proposed ordinance. The Planning Commission held another meeting March 24<sup>th</sup> and moved to forward the Land Use Application Ordinance along to the Town Council for review. As with all land use ordinances, another public hearing will be held before the Town Council.

**Following the Planning Commission public hearing on February 17<sup>th</sup>**, the Town Council joined the meeting for a work session to discuss upcoming efforts to update the Town's General Plan. Meg Ryan from the Utah League of Cities and Towns was in attendance to guide the Council and Commission through State regulations and provided tips for producing an effective and useful General Plan. As a refresher, the General Plan is not a regulatory document, but is a document that guides the planning process and

ordinance creation/revision process.

**The Town of Alta has awarded a bid to Lewis Young Robertson and Burningham for a municipal waste management study.** The goal of this study is to quantify waste and recycling volume for the community and evaluate alternatives for future waste and recycling collection programs. A survey has been sent to all home owners in the Town that are not part of a Home Owners Association. If you have not received a survey, and feel you should have, please email: [cer@townofalta.com](mailto:cer@townofalta.com)

**The Albion Basin Transportation Feasibility Study has been completed and released.** This comprehensive study outlines the baseline conditions for summer transportation in Albion Basin and evaluates four alternative transportation scenarios. A copy of the study may be found on the Town's website under the "Breaking News" link.

**Marshal Morey and Claire Runge attended the Initial Planning Conference for the Utah "Shake Out"** Full Scale Exercise to be held in April 2012. The full scale exercise will be a valley wide opportunity to enhance the capabilities of Salt Lake County and local jurisdictions to effectively respond to and recover from a catastrophic earthquake occurring along the Wasatch Front. More details on the Town's involvement in this event will be made

available as the exercise is being developed.

**Over the course of the last six months members of the Alta business community have come together** and worked tirelessly on defining a new marketing direction and the organization that will support it: the Alta Chamber and Visitors Bureau (ACVB). Part of this new direction involved the creation of a new website by BlueTent Marketing which will be launched in early June. Along with the creation of this new website, members of the business community have been working on the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws for the new ACVB and its new logo. Please join the business community members at a reception on April 13<sup>th</sup> for the launching of this new and exciting marketing direction for the Alta community (see page 5 event calendar.)

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# Marshal's Report



**This report covers activity from January 19<sup>th</sup> to March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011.**

**January 19<sup>th</sup>, 3:45 am:** The Unified Fire Authority responded to the Rustler Lodge for a medical emergency. A patient was transported to a local hospital via ambulance. At 2:20 pm, the deputy on duty assisted the Unified Police Department with a traffic accident in the lower canyon.

**January 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:21 am:** Little Cottonwood Highway was temporarily closed in the mid canyon for firing of avalanche control weapons.

**January 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:51 pm:** The deputy on duty was called to assist one of the lodges with a terminated employee who refused to vacate the premises. The person was transported down the canyon by the deputy without incident.

**January 31<sup>st</sup>, 10:30 pm:** The deputy on duty responded to a witnessed hit and run accident in the Wildcat parking area. A male was charged with leaving the scene of a reportable accident. Alcohol appears to have been a factor in the incident.

**February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:38 am:** A backcountry rescue was carried out with the assistance of the Alta Ski Patrol, South of the Devil's Castle area. The rescued party was transported to a local hospital. At 11:00 am, the deputy on duty assisted with a civil dispute at a local business. A terminated employee was escorted from the premises and was given a trespass warning. At 11:30 pm, the Marshal's and Fire departments responded to a residential fire alarm at a Bypass Road residence. The alarm was found to be false.

**February 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 am:** Mid canyon artillery work required the temporary closing of the canyon highway. The road was reopened at 7:59 am.

**February 5<sup>th</sup>, 5:23 pm:** The Marshal's

and Fire Departments responded to a medical emergency at the Goldminer's Daughter Lodge. A patient was transported to a local hospital.

**February 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm:** The Hellgate/Superior area was placed on Interlodge travel restriction.

**February 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:15 am:** The canyon highway was closed and the Town of Alta was placed on Interlodge closure until 9:09 am while avalanche control work was conducted.

**February 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 am:** The canyon highway was closed until 7:49 am for mid-canyon avalanche control work.

**February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2:14 pm:** The deputy on duty investigated a skier collision that resulted in two people being transported to area hospitals.

**February 13<sup>th</sup>, 3:42 pm:** A report of an over snow vehicle traveling into a closed area was received. Information was forwarded to the Forest Service for action.

**February 14<sup>th</sup>, 8:50 am:** The Unified Fire Authority and Questar Gas responded to a condominium on the report of a possible natural gas leak. A minor leak was detected and repaired.

**February 16<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 pm:** The Hellgate/Superior area was placed on road and Interlodge closure overnight due to increasing avalanche concern.

**February 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:39 am:** A person was cited for theft of services after having been caught skiing on someone else's season pass. At 1:00 pm, the Marshal's, Fire Departments, and the Alta Ski Patrol responded to one of the lodges on a medical emergency. A person suffering chest pains was transported via ambulance to a local hospital.

**February 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm:** The Hellgate/Superior area was placed on road/Interlodge closure. The mid-

canyon portion of the highway was also closed until 7:25 pm for avalanche control work.

**February 20<sup>th</sup> 6:30 am:** The Town of Alta was placed on Interlodge closure while avalanche control work was conducted. Restrictions were lifted at 9:02 am.

**February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 pm:** The deputy on duty investigated a suspicious vehicle and occupant in one of the parking areas. At 7:20 pm, at the Alta Justice Court Judge Balmforth ordered a defendant taken into custody and imposed a 180-day jail sentence for failing to comply with the court's orders. The deputy on duty transported the defendant to the Salt Lake County Jail.

**February 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 am:** The Hellgate/Superior area was placed on Interlodge closure. The mid-canyon was closed from 12:30 pm until 3:02 pm for avalanche control work. During the closure, the Marshal's Office took custody of two juveniles who were fighting in one of the lodges. The juveniles were later released to a parent.

**February 28<sup>th</sup>, 11:42 am:** Alta Central placed Wasatch Backcountry Rescue personnel on standby status for an avalanche incident in Big Cottonwood Canyon. It was determined that no one was in the slide and the response was cancelled.

**March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2:20 pm:** The mid-canyon was closed for avalanche control work until 3:49 pm.

**March 6<sup>th</sup>, 11:10 pm:** The deputy on duty was called to one of the lodges to keep the peace regarding an employee issue.

**March 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:50 pm:** Plans for an 8:00 pm road closure were suddenly changed due to avalanche danger and the need to clear the highway of standstill traffic. The Town of Alta was placed on Interlodge closure at 10:30 pm.

## Message from the Mayor



After a slow January, the snowfall has really ramped up in February and March leading to quite excellent coverage going into the season finale.

The Planning Commission has begun an effort to re-work the Town's General Plan. The Town's General Plan is required to be updated every five years by State Law under the Land Use Development and Management Act. The Town will be guided through this process by a planner who works for the Utah League of Cities and Towns. However, the most important part of this project is getting input from you!

As new ideas and concepts are worked through, we will often be seeking public input through surveys, open houses, and other means. We are still in the very preliminary stages of this laborious process, so please stay tuned for more information.

The legislative session wrapped up a few weeks ago, and what an interesting session it was! From the budget, to immigration, to alcohol reform and public records, there was a lot of tension and controversy to be found. At the end of the day, few bills had significant impact on local government, and we can breathe a sign of relief until next year. As always, we are appreciative of the Utah League of Cities and Towns for all of their hard work they do on behalf of the interests of municipalities during the legislative session.

With the Albion Basin Transportation Feasibility Study hot off the press, we are just beginning to process and digest the voluminous amount of informa-

tion. We will be moving forward in the next few months to think about ways we can make the summer Albion Basin experience a better one – not only for this summer, but into the future.

On a more sober note, the tragedy following the earthquake and tsunami in Japan bears mention. Our sympathies and condolences go out to all of those who lost loved ones and those who were injured or displaced. Incidents like this remind us all how quickly things can change in the event of an emergency. The Town has a strong history of rapid and effective emergency response. We hope to continue this effort into the future, and have been revamping our emergency management program in the wake of changing technology and federal compliance requirements. No one is immune from disaster, but we can try to be as prepared as possible.

Best wishes to enjoy the final turns of the winter season!

## Emergency Central

The "Emergency Central" section is a new feature of the Town Newsletter.

This will be a place where the Town can inform the community on emergency management projects and activities; and also a place where we can share information and resources with the community on emergency preparedness.

This month we will focus on putting together a basic emergency supply kit. After an emergency, you may need to survive on your own— and maybe without electricity, gas, water, and telephone service. **Are you prepared?**

It is recommended to have food, water, and supplies to last on your own for at least 72-hours. The following are recommended items to include in a basic emergency supply kit:

- Water (one gallon per person, per day, for 3 days)

- Food (3 day supply of non-perishable food)
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle
- Dust mask
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties (for sanitation)
- Wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities)
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers, inverter, or solar charger

Additional Items to consider:

- Prescription medications and glasses
- Pet food and water

- Important personal documents (insurance policies, bank account records, etc.)
- Cash or traveler's checks
- Sleeping Bag or warm blanket (one per person)
- Complete change of clothing
- Fire extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Mess kits

Please check out [ready.gov](http://ready.gov) for a wealth of information on how to prepare for emergencies.

Next month:  
Making an emergency plan.



# 1st Annual Alta Earth Day Event!

**Join Alta for its first-ever community Earth Day Event on Friday, April 22, 2011.** This event will encourage environmental stewardship, responsible recreation and awareness of the relationship between climate change and the future of the ski industry in Little Cottonwood Canyon and beyond. The event will feature:

## VENDORS AND WORKSHOPS:

### Albion Day Lodge – 1 to 4:30 pm:

Green vendors and businesses from the Salt Lake Valley will be here in Alta to chat with you about their eco-conscious products and services (some edible!). Be sure to visit and help us support these local, environmentally sensitive vendors in their efforts to offer green goods and services to the community.

## ARTS AND CRAFTS:

**Albion Day Lodge – 1 to 4 pm:** Join ACE for fun Kids & Adult craft projects. Kids will be reusing old crayons to make fun EARTH CRAYONS and adults can join in to learn how to make a NATURAL SINK CLEANER. Also, there will be free supplies to create your very own RECYCLED HAT masterpiece for the runway CONTEST at 3 pm where community judges will pick their favorite from 12 & Under and 13 to Adult. Winners receive a basket of prizes. No need to bring anything except for a desire to recycle and reuse!

## NATURALIST SNOWSHOE TOURS:

### Meet at Albion Day Lodge – 11 am & 1 pm:

Join Cottonwood Canyons Foundation for a fun adventure and discover all that is wild and natural in Alta! Snowshoe rentals available at REI or at Alta. Folks can meet just outside of the east end of the Albion Day Lodge. Tours run for approximately an hour to two.

## SKI WITH A RANGER TOUR

**Meet at Bottom of Cecret Lift – 1:30 to 2:30 pm:** Come practice some turns with the family, then join Cottonwood Canyons Foundation's Naturalists on a ski tour to learn about the natural history of Alta. The tour is free, but a

beginner lift ticket is needed required to participate.

## SKI GEAR RECYCLING DROP-OFF

### Wildcat Parking Lot – 9 am to 5 pm:

Looking to get rid of your old skis, boots and winter coats? LOOK NO FURTHER! Help keep these items out of the landfill and drop them off for recycling with Stone Castle Recycling and the Coat Exchange at the Wildcat Parking Lot.

## EVENING FESTIVITIES:

### Our Lady of the Snows – 5 to 8 pm:

From 5-6 pm, join us for great conversation and locally provided appetizers as we kick off the evening events with a community "Meet and Greet." At 6 pm, sit back and hear remarks from

community leaders and enjoy a special Earth Day performance from the Alta School children. At 6:45 pm, enjoy a viewing of "Generations," a short film produced by Teton Gravity Research about the impacts of climate change on winter recreation. Please join us for an evening of thoughtful conversation, climate change awareness, and a lot of fun!

A full event line-up and additional details can be found at:

<http://www.alta.com/pages/altaearthday.php>

**Help us build awareness and appreciation for the place we call Alta!**



# Alta Events Calendar

## April

9	6pm	<b>Alta Gala at La Caille.</b> Join Alta's non-profits for an evening of dining, dancing, live music, take home photos, silent auction, and go home with an Alta day ticket voucher! Alta Gala is an annual collaborative fundraiser for Alta Community Enrichment, Friends of Alta, and the Alta Historical Society. The goal is not only to raise money for these 501(c)(3) non-profits in Alta, but to raise awareness of the arts, environment, and history of Alta. View details and purchase tickets at: <a href="http://altagala.org">altagala.org</a>
10	5pm	Friends of Alta annual public meeting, Alta Peruvian Lodge. Join FOA and community partners to discuss current events.
13	5pm	Alta Chamber Visitors Bureau Reception, Our Lady of the Snows. Please see details below.
14	10am	Town Council Meeting, Alta Community Center (Library)
16	5:30pm	<b>Volunteer Bucket Brigade BBQ!</b> Join the community at the Albion Grill for BBQ, tug of war, and music! The BBQ cost is \$10 a person and the profits will go to update emergency response gear used by Town of Alta emergency services and citizen volunteers.
22	All day!	Alta Earth Day Celebration. Additional details on page 4
24	11am	ACE Event: Easter Egg Hunt, meet near Alta Java. Three age categories: Ages 4 and under, 5-8 years, and 9-12 years.
27	12:30pm	Alta Planning Commission Meeting, Market Street Grill (2985 East Cottonwood Pkwy, Salt Lake City)

### **SPECIAL EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT:** **RECEPTION TO LAUNCH THE NEW ALTA CHAMBER VISITORS BUREAU**

Join the members of the Alta business community in launching the Alta Chamber Visitors Bureau (ACVB). A reception will be held at Our Lady of the Snows on Wednesday, April 13 at 5:00 pm.

At the reception, information will be provided about this exciting new and innovative venture. Be part of this new direction.

If you want more information, please contact Joni Dykstra [jonidykstra@altalodge.com](mailto:jonidykstra@altalodge.com) or Sara Eubank at [sara@canyonservices.com](mailto:sara@canyonservices.com).



Alta folks enjoy the events of the 25th annual Snowflake Festival!



# Town Information and Contacts

## Town info

<http://www.townofalta.com/>

Town of Alta Phone:

(801) 742-3522 or  
(801) 363-5105

Town of Alta Fax:

(801) 742-1006

Post Office Phone:

(801) 742-2142

Library/Community Center Phone:

(801) 742-2068

Alta Visitors Bureau:

(801) 742-0101

Justice Court Phone:

(801) 742-2407

Alta Central Info Line:

(801) 742-3403



## Town Council contact info

Mayor — Tom Pollard — [mayor@townofalta.com](mailto:mayor@townofalta.com) — Term expires 2014

Councilmember — Cliff Curry — [cliffcurryaltautah@gmail.com](mailto:cliffcurryaltautah@gmail.com) — Term expires 2014

Councilmember — Steven Gilman — [gusgilman@msn.com](mailto:gusgilman@msn.com) — Term expires 2012

Councilmember — Paul Moxley — [ptm@pkhlawyers.com](mailto:ptm@pkhlawyers.com) — Term expires 2014

Councilmember — Dave Richards — [drichard@townofalta.com](mailto:drichard@townofalta.com) — Term expires 2012

**ABOVE: Town Council from left to right:** Steven Gilman, Tom Pollard, Paul Moxley, Cliff Curry, Dave Richards

## Winter Travel Information

Please consult the following sources for road condition information *before* calling Alta Central:

- Local Information Line: (801) 742-3403
- Check out <http://www.townofalta.com/road> for updated road conditions and interlodge status
- AM530: Tune in to hear messages concerning travel in both Little and Big Cottonwood Canyons
- Canyon Alert System: Sign up for canyon updates via text messaging at <http://updsl.org/services/canyonalerts>
- Twitter: Follow **@CanyonAlerts** on your twitter account



The Town code is available online at: [www.sterlingcodifiers.com/Alta,Ut](http://www.sterlingcodifiers.com/Alta,Ut)

## Staff contact info

John Guldner — Town Administrator  
[jhg@townofalta.com](mailto:jhg@townofalta.com)

Kate Black — Town Clerk  
[kswb@townofalta.com](mailto:kswb@townofalta.com)

Piper Lever — Assistant Town Clerk,  
Justice Court Clerk, Business License  
Official  
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Mike Morey — Town Marshal  
[mmorey@townofalta.com](mailto:mmorey@townofalta.com)

Claire Runge — Assistant Town  
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[cer@townofalta.com](mailto:cer@townofalta.com)

Alta Visitors Bureau  
[info@discoveralta.com](mailto:info@discoveralta.com)

The Town Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm. Please call us at 801.742.3522 or 801.363.5105 or stop in for assistance.