

Town of Alta Newsletter



Vol. 3 Issue 1

September/October 2010

Municipal News

The 2010 General Election is coming up! The election will be held on Tuesday, November 2nd at the Albion Grill from 7am to 8pm. Additional information on the election can be found on the Salt Lake County Clerk's website: <http://www.clerk.slco.org/>

Auditors from Hansen, Barnett & Maxwell were in the Town Offices the week of September 13th to perform the Town's annual audit. The final report is expected to be available before the end of the year.

Mayor Pollard and Keith Hanson met with representatives from the EPA on September 22nd to show off the Town's Antimony Treatment Plant. The EPA wishes to use this model for other Antimony treatment plants across the country.

Sara Eubank spoke on behalf of the Alta business community at the October 7th Town Council meeting. As the Alta Visitor's Bureau continues to evolve, Ms. Eubank presented the following options for the future of AVB:

- 1) Creation of a Private-Public partnership, a "Chamber-Visitors Bureau"
- 2) Operate AVB as a town department
- 3) Stay the same

The Town Council was in support of the first option. The Mayor asked Ms. Eubank, on behalf of the business community, to come back to the Town

Council in the November meeting with a detailed blueprint and budget for the creation of a "Chamber-Visitors Bureau." The Town looks forward to working with the business community on this ambitious endeavor.

A Planning Commission meeting was held October 19th. Mike Reberg, a representative from Congressman Matheson's office spoke to the proposed Wasatch Watershed Protection and Wilderness Act of 2010 and answered questions from Planning Commission members. Work on the Land Use Application Ordinance will resume at the next scheduled meeting which is tentatively scheduled for November 16th.

The Town of Alta attended a meeting on October 22nd between Albion Basin cabin owners and the Alta Ski Area concerning the recent decision on winter OSV travel in Albion Basin. The decision handed down by the U.S. Forest Service prohibits OSV travel to Albion Basin from 8am to 5pm, and eliminates the day time travel window that was permissible in the last few years. The groups discussed ways to work together to make OSV travel safer in the evening hours and how to better communicate with Alta Central and Alta Ski Area during emergencies or when travel conditions are difficult.

Thanks to the stimulus program funded Energy Efficiency and Conser-

vation Block Grant (EECBG) Program the Town has three new high efficiency furnaces. Three aging 80% efficiency furnaces were replaced with 95% efficiency furnaces in both Alta Central and the Community Center. Through the EECBG program, the Town will also be doing a major lighting retrofit and energy audit in the upcoming year.

Claire Runge attended a Climate Leadership Academy on Adaptation and Resilience held by the Institute for Sustainable Communities. The three day conference brought together government officials from around the country to discuss innovative ways to identify and plan for risks posed by climate change.

Winter is upon us! Please check page 6 for a list of helpful services to keep your winter travel plans running smoothly!

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Marshal's Report

This report covers activities from August 15th — September 28th.

Aug. 15th, 3:24 pm: The deputy on duty responded to and mediated a civil dispute in the Cecret Lake parking lot.

Aug. 23rd, 2:55 am: The deputy on duty responded to an Albion Basin residence on a 911 hang up call. This call ended up being unfounded and caused by a telephone line error. At 6:20 pm, a group camping in a prohibited area was relocated.

Aug. 24th, 4:10 pm: A burglary was reported and investigated at a local business. Our investigation is ongoing.

Sept. 2nd, 2:52 pm: An aggressive driver was reported speeding up the summer road and harassing other motorists. The deputy on duty located the vehicle and enforcement action was taken.

Sept. 4th, 11:32 am: A medical response was made to the Cecret Lake Trail where a female patient had become disoriented. The person was transported to a local hospital via ambulance. At 6:27 pm, a group of six individuals on a day trip from a "supervised treatment facility" were reported missing in Albion Basin. The group was located shortly thereafter and reunited with their supervisors. One member of the group had sustained a hand injury that required transportation to a local hospital.

Sept. 5th, 11:50 pm: The deputy on duty observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed through Town and up the summer road. The deputy on duty located the driver and occupants near the campground. The driver was cited for a speed violation and another in the party was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.

Sept. 6th, 12:02 pm: The Marshal's Office, Unified Police Department and Unified Fire Authority all responded to

a search and rescue call in the Pole Line Pass area. A woman who had become stranded on a ledge was located and assisted to safety.

Sept. 7th, 10:48 am: An intrusion alarm at a Bypass Road residence was responded to after construction workers accidentally set it off.

Sept. 7th, 10:48 am: An alarm was investigated at a Bypass Road Residence.

Sept. 9th, 10:00 am: A vandalism report was taken regarding a broken window at a ski area building.

Sept. 17th, 3:30 pm: The Deputy on duty assisted in the search for a reportedly suicidal person. The person was safely located in another canyon.

Sept. 23rd, 1:46 pm: The Deputy on duty investigated the report of a suspicious/abandoned vehicle. The owner was located and it was determined that the vehicle had broken down. Arrangements were made for its removal.

Sept. 24th, 3:20 am: The Deputy on duty was dispatched to a residence regarding an intoxicated/disorderly person. A male was removed from the scene and transported down the canyon. A follow up investigation was also conducted after a possible assault was reported relating to the incident. At this time, no charges have been filed.

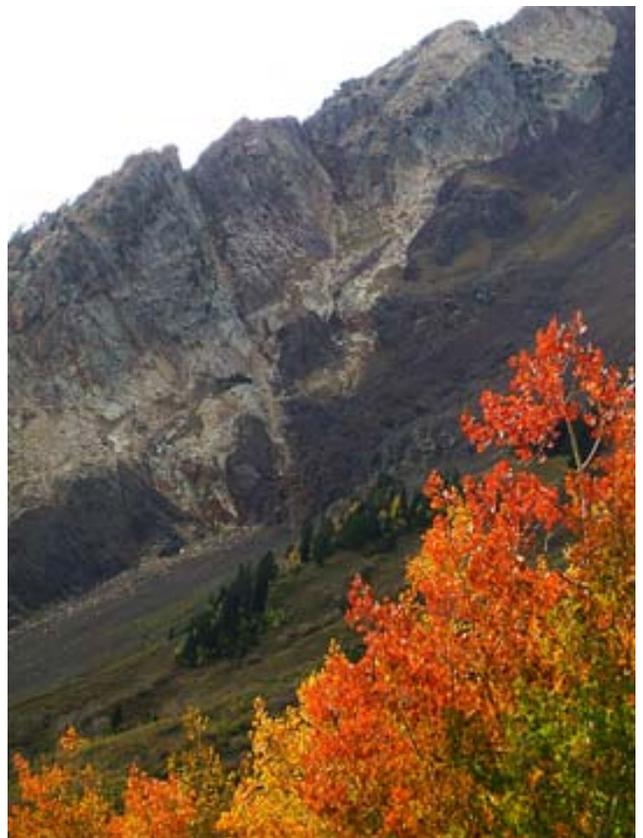
Sept. 26th, 5:13 pm: The Marshal's Office assisted at a serious auto accident in the Tanner's Flat area.

Two males were airlifted from the scene in critical condition. The crash was investigated by the Unified Police Department.

Sept. 28th, 7:09 pm: Citations were issued to motorcyclists riding off road in a watershed area in Albion Basin.

ADDITIONAL NOTE:

The UDOT/Alta Ski Area gun crews will be using the new 105 mm Howitzer to collect data on the targets across the road. This will require several days of firing, which will mean road and interlodge closures during the morning hours. It will also be necessary to have good visibility to carry out the desired goals, and the closures will therefore not be associated with storms as they usually are. It is anticipated that the interlodge and road closures will occur after November 17th. More precise dates and times will be announced as we move closer to mid-November.



Message from the Mayor

After a great summer and longer than usual fall season we have quickly entered into the winter weather pattern that we need to drive our winter economy. It has been a busy summer, starting with the trip to Washington D.C. and the wilderness bill saga and the evolution of the Shrontz Estate lawsuit.

Several months following the July hearing on the Shrontz Estate v. Town of Alta and Salt Lake City lawsuit, Judge Kennedy denied the three motions made by Salt Lake City and the Town for dismissal and summary judgment. However, Judge Kennedy did grant the Town's motion to stay on the first claim pending the results of the other remaining claims. Our attorneys and staff are now diligently working to answer the complaint by early November. The discovery process will start in early December with a expected trial date in 2012.

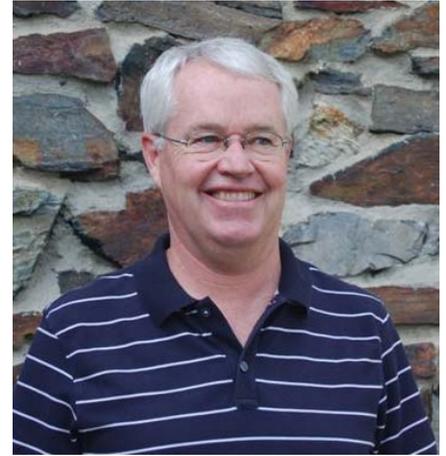
Transportation continues to be one of our major focuses. The Albion Basin had one its busiest summers with cars and shuttle ridership [Newsletter editor's note: We will provide those numbers in next month's edition]. The Forest

Service has nearly completed a study to evaluate transportation alternatives in Albion Basin and we will work with them and other partners to move forward on potentially implementing new management strategies.

Throughout the last couple of years, the Town has been involved in numerous planning processes examining uses of the canyons and how those uses impact transportation. These focused and collaborative processes have resulted in several detailed plans, including: UDOT's Hwy 210 study, the Scenic Byways Corridor Management plan, and Wasatch Canyons Tomorrow recommendations.

It was noted recently that these studies have all highlighted and recommended the need for improved and/or alternative canyon transportation. These recommendations include park-and-ride improvements, better turnouts, increased ski bus service, and many more. How do we move from these recommendations to implementation? An initial stumbling block is a lack of consensus of where we should start. Two new working groups are focusing on this.

The first is a group of stake-



holders brought together by Salt Lake County from both canyons. This group has set a goal of determining two or three projects that we can focus on to get funded and completed in the Summer of 2011.

I also have created a second working group to look at the long-term needs for transit specifically in Little Cottonwood Canyon, including the areas at the base of the canyon. We are looking to UTA to provide the leadership in planning and funding for transit in Little Cottonwood Canyon and we have made strides with Wasatch Front Regional Council in getting these transit ideas on the long-range plans.

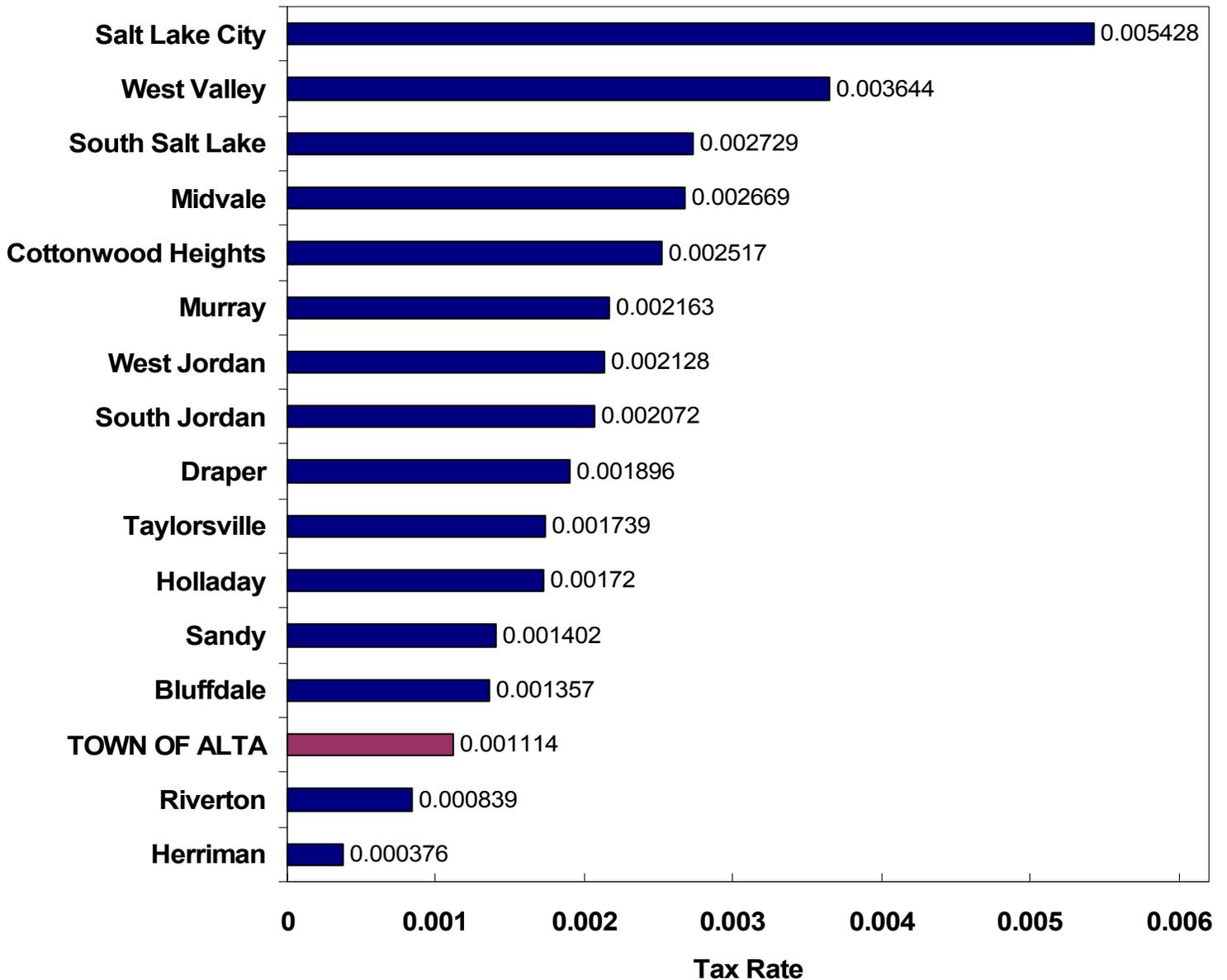
UDOT, with help from the U.S. Forest Service, and Alta Ski Area, has completed construction of the new artillery mount and installation for the new Howitzer. This new Howitzer will replace the Recoilless Rifle for shooting targets across the street and over occupied buildings. This will allow us to be in compliance with the U.S. Army's requests and continue to use this program for avalanche mitigation into the future. The Recoilless Rifle will be retained and used for in-bounds ski area firing only and as a possible backup for the new Howitzer.

Let's hope we receive the necessary snow for a great Thanksgiving opening!



Certified Tax Rate Comparison

2010 Salt Lake County Municipal Certified Tax Rates



The Certified Tax Rates (CTR) shown above represent the portion of the total property tax that is paid to each municipality. The graph above compares the CTR for all municipalities in Salt Lake County. Of the 16 municipalities in the county, Alta has the third lowest CTR. Only Herriman and Riverton have lower CTR's.

Alta Events Calendar



November

2	7am-8pm	General Election. Town of Alta polling place is at the Albion Grill.
8	6pm	ACE Event: Intro to Breakdancing with Erik Exeter, Our Lady of the Snows, FREE! No experience needed. Intro to top rock and floor work. Learn a couple of stalls and basic balance practice.
11	10am	Town Council Meeting, Alta Community Center/Library.
16	12:30pm	Alta Planning Commission Meeting, Market Street Grill. This date may be subject to change, please check: http://www.townofalta.com/gov_planning_agendas.shtml
18	7pm	ACE Event: Welcome to Winter, Our Lady of the Snows, FREE! View local, professional and aspiring photographers & cinematographers for an evening of visual inspiration to get your engines revving for the 2010-11 winter season. Drawing tickets will be available and dance party to immediately follow!
19		Alta Ski Area opening day (conditions permitting). Check www.alta.com for more information.
22	7pm door; 7:30pm movie	ACE Movie Event: The award winning producers at Teton Gravity Research (TGR) present their newest ski film, "Light The Wick." Our Lady of the Snows, \$5. Doors open at 7pm, movie will be shown at 7:30pm. Come early, seats go fast!

December

3-4		ACE Gear Swap, Our Lady of the Snows. Swap details can be found at: http://altaarts.org/events/GearSwap2010
17	7pm	ACE Event: Chris Davenport film "Australis: An Antarctic Ski Odyssey" and book signing of "Fifty Classic Ski Descents of North America." Our Lady of the Snows, FREE!
27	7pm door; 7:30pm movie	ACE Movie Event: TGR's "Deeper", Our Lady of the Snows, \$5. Follow Jeremy Jones and other top freeriders as they travel to the world's snowboarding meccas and venture past the boundaries of helicopters, snowmobiles, and lifts to explore untouched realms.



LEFT: The Alta schoolkids come to trick or treat at the Town Office. **RIGHT:** Alta's little AND big kids carve pumpkins at ACE's Haunted Hollow event.

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 — Term expires 2014
 Councilmember — Cliff Curry — cliffcurry@altalodge.com — Term expires 2014
 Councilmember — Steven Gilman — gusgilman@msn.com — Term expires 2012
 Councilmember — Paul Moxley — ptm@pkhlawyers.com — Term expires 2014
 Councilmember — Dave Richards — 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 www.slsheriff.org
- Twitter: Follow **@CanyonAlerts** on your twitter account



Staff contact info

John Guldner — Town Administrator
jhg@townofalta.com

Kate Black — Town Clerk
kswb@townofalta.com

Piper Lever — Assistant Town Clerk,
Justice Court Clerk, Business License
Official
plrem@townofalta.com

Mike Morey — Town Marshal
mmorey@townofalta.com

Claire Runge — Assistant Town
Administrator, Newsletter Editor
cer@townofalta.com

Alta Visitors Bureau
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.