

# Town of Alta Newsletter



Vol. 4 Issue 3

Winter 2012-2013

## Municipal News

### **TOWN COUNCIL NEWS**

The Town Council adopted a consolidated fee schedule which outlines all of fees the Town charges in one comprehensive and transparent document. The fee schedule is posted online at: [http://www.townofalta.com/about\\_new.shtml](http://www.townofalta.com/about_new.shtml)

The Town Council has been dedicating time to working on revisions to the General Plan. For more information about this process, visit: [http://townofalta.com/gov\\_plan.shtml](http://townofalta.com/gov_plan.shtml). The Council will be holding a work session to discuss these revisions December 13th at 9:00am, prior to the Town Council meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Town Council will be held December 13th at the Alta Community Center (Library) at 10am.

### **PLANNING COMMISSION NEWS**

The Planning Commission has been meeting to discuss possible changes to the Base Facilities Zone Ordinance.

The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be December 10th at 4pm at the Alta Community Center (Library).

### **OTHER MUNICIPAL NEWS**

The Mountain Transportation Study has been completed. The Town participated as one of the many stakeholders involved in building consensus and moving forward to tackle complex mountain transportation issues. The

study explored a range of transportation solutions and provided recommendations for next steps. Check out the "Message from the Mayor" to get his perspective on the process moving forward. View the executive summary and full Mountain Transportation Study here: <http://cottonwoodcanyontransportation.com>

The Town joined the State of Utah in hosting a Business Continuity and Preparedness workshop on November 15th. If you would like more information or would like a hard copy of the materials that were presented at the workshop, please email [cer@townofalta.com](mailto:cer@townofalta.com)

On Friday afternoon, October 26, Raymond and Mark Haik filed a lawsuit in the District Court of Utah, Central Division, against the Town of Alta and Salt Lake City. The Haiks filed a notice of claim on the same issue in June of 2012. The suit seeks to overturn the previous adverse decision against the Haiks related to their access to water to build cabins in the Albion Basin. The previous suit commenced in 1996 and was affirmed by the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver. The case was appealed to the United States Supreme Court, which denied further hearing on the matter. (denied cert.) The Haiks claim that the previous decisions should be overturned based on alleged fraud and civil conspiracy by Salt Lake City and the Town of Alta. Response has been

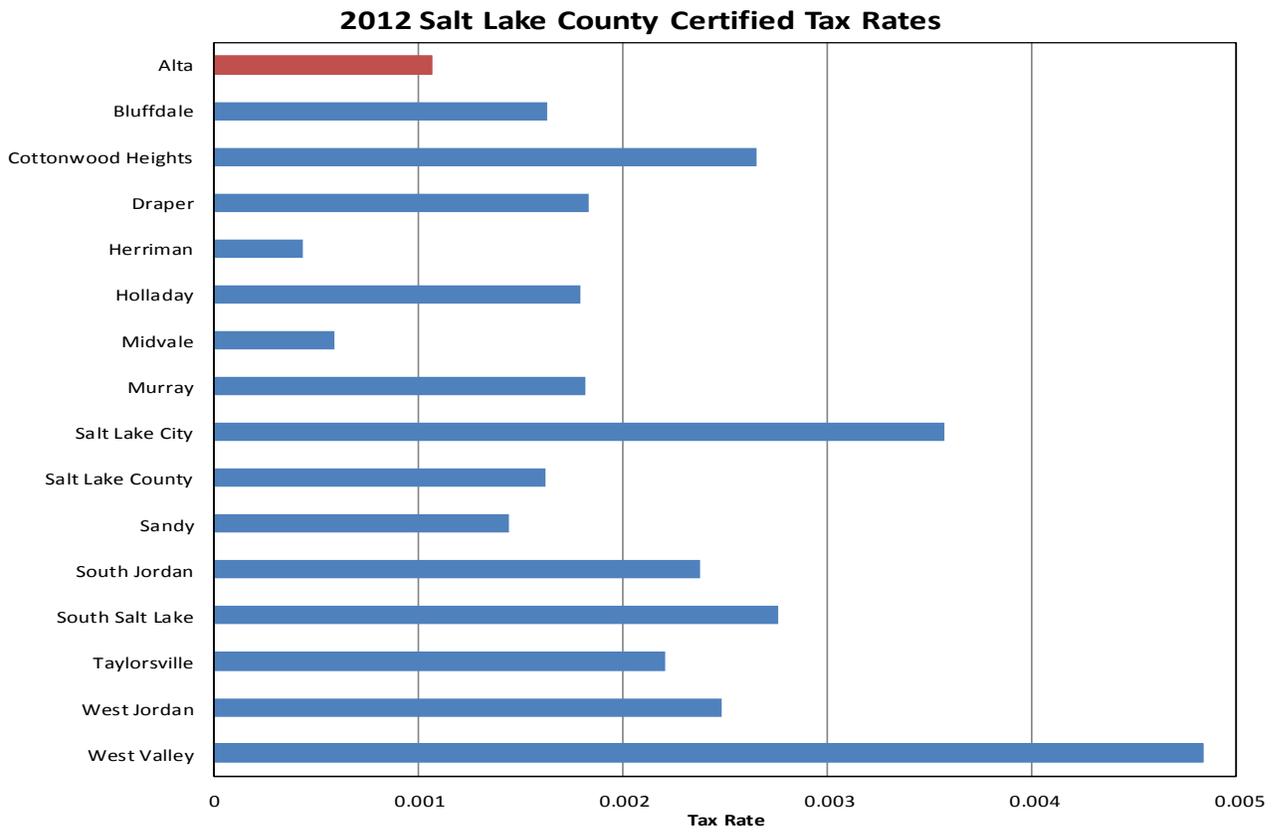
submitted by both Town and Salt Lake City Attorneys.

The statewide "Earn it. Keep it. \$ave it." coalition provides free tax preparation services to low and moderate income households throughout Utah. If your household income is below \$51,000 per year, you may qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) of up to \$5,891 – even if you don't owe any taxes. You may also qualify to have your taxes prepared and filed for free by IRS trained and certified volunteers through Earn it. Keep it. \$ave it. and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. In addition, the program is looking for volunteers to be trained and certified by the IRS to work with taxpayers to ensure they receive all of the credits to which they are entitled, including the earned income tax credit. For information on how to volunteer or to see if you qualify for free tax assistance, visit: <http://utahtaxhelp.org/>

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# Tax Rate Comparison



The above graph shows the certified tax rate for all municipalities in Salt Lake County for the year 2012. Out of 15 municipalities with a certified tax rate, the Town of Alta has the third lowest rate. Next newsletter we will have information about the breakdown of property taxes for Alta residents.



## Notes from the Marshal's Office



**Parking:** Winter parking regulations are in effect. Cars may **ONLY** be parked overnight (12AM — 8AM) in **DESIGNATED**

**NORTHSIDE** parking areas. A map of these locations can be found outside the Post Office and online. If you have any doubt about where to park call Alta Central. [http://www.townofalta.com/about\\_maps.shtml](http://www.townofalta.com/about_maps.shtml)

**Vehicle Maintenance:** To prevent accidents and allow for better plowing, please dig out cars parked in town within 12 hours of a storm. Non-compliance will result in a citation.

**Dawn Patrol closures:** New as of last winter, these closures are issued by the

Marshals Office, Unified Police Department, and the U.S. Forest Service and restrict backcountry access to certain areas north of Hwy 210 when avalanche control work is being planned. Violation of the closure order is a class B misdemeanor. Please respect these closures and help us ensure the future of the highway avalanche program and safety of backcountry skiers.

### Road/Interlodge information:

Local Information Line: (801) 742-3403. Please call this number before calling Alta Central.

Website: <http://www.townofalta.com/road> for updated road conditions/interlodge status.

Radio: Tune into AM530 for road status and closure/interlodge information.

**Want to make travelling around the valley a breeze?** Check out the Salt Lake County Map Book app and the UDOT Travel app. The Salt Lake County Map Book app provides a street guide and apartment maps for the county. The UDOT travel app allows access to road and travel conditions including traffic conditions, accidents, road construction, and more. Both apps are available for iPhone, iPad, and Android devices.



## Message from the Mayor



I can't believe the winter is here already. I hope you all had a nice summer and are gearing up for a great winter.

It was busy summer here in Town. We had another heavily visited summer season in the Albion Basin. We implemented new management techniques that increased the safety and dispersion of our visitors while still providing a pleasant experience. Overflow and roadside parking were eliminated

along the summer road which helped reduce congestion and provide a safer experience for pedestrians, hikers, and bikers. The Alta Ski Area graciously allowed us to use the Albion Base parking lot for shuttle staging, parking, and restroom facilities. Finally, we are incredibly appreciative for the financial contributions from the Friends of Alta to staff our Summer Booth information program, funding from Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities that was used towards the shuttle program, and volunteers provided by the Cottonwood Canyons Foundation to help with visitor dispersion and education.

I'm happy to report that the momentum gained from the Mountain Transportation Study seems to be heading in a positive direction. Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker is leading the charge in bringing together the stakeholders in taking the next step towards developing transportation solutions along the Wasatch Front and in the

Wasatch Canyons. With the purpose and need established by the Mountain Transportation Study, the group wishes to move forward with a formal Environmental Impact Study (EIS) that would look at potential transportation alternatives and corridors in the valley and beyond. In addition, the group anticipates becoming a "pilot project" for streamlining the burdensome federal review process for large transportation projects. In my years on the Council and now as Mayor, I feel this project has "legs" and a lot of potential. There is an ambitious timeline and a hefty price tag—but having a viable transportation alternative moving into the future is imperative to the health and viability of our Town. We will be actively involved as the group moves forward and I look forward to keep you all up to date.

I hope you have a safe and happy holiday season and a great new year!

## Environmental Central

### Top 10 Winter Energy-Saving Tips

Save energy and money this winter with these *wattsmart* tips:

1. When you are home and awake, set your thermostat as low as comfortable. We recommend 68°F or below in the winter. When you are asleep or out of the house, lower the setting by several degrees. Use a programmable thermostat to automatically adjust the temperature in your home.
2. Cover drafty windows with a heavy duty, clear plastic sheet on the inside of window frames during winter months.
3. Set your water heater to 120°F and drain your water heater annually.
4. Wash clothes in cold water, and wash only full loads.
5. Use your dishwasher at full capacity, and air dry dishes instead of using the dishwasher's drying cycle.
6. Switch to compact fluorescent light bulbs. Energy-saving CFLs are available for a variety of fixtures. They provide high quality light and smart technology, plus they use less energy and last longer than incandescent bulbs. For light closest to an incandescent bulb, choose CFLs marked "warm white."
7. Set refrigerator temperature between 37° and 40°F, and your freezer at 0°F.
8. Unplug old refrigerators in garages or basements that might be used as storage, but are inefficient and not fully utilized. Better yet, have your old refrigerator or freezer picked up for proper recycling and earn a cash incentive.
9. Unplug appliances and electronics when not in use. Plug home electronics, such as TVs, DVD players and computers into power strips and turn off the power strips when the equipment is not in use.
10. Improve your home's heating and cooling systems by cleaning or replacing furnace filters and scheduling routine system maintenance to help air flow through the system more efficiently.

From: <http://www.rockymountainpower.net/res/sem/het/twest.html>

## Community Covenants Program

The Town of Alta formally entered the Community Covenant program on September 13, 2012. The Town Council welcomed members of the Utah National Guard, veterans from the community, and community representatives to a formal Community Covenants signing ceremony and reception. In addition to the Town Council, Mike Morey (Marshal's Office), Chief Mike Kelsey (Unified Fire Authority), Onno Wieringa (business community representative), and Sara Gibbs (Alta Community Enrichment representative) participated in the signing ceremony. We look forward to working with the Utah National Guard and the Community Covenant program in promoting the support of the military in our community.

What is the Community Covenant program? The Community Covenant program is designed to foster and sustain effective state and community partnerships with the Army to improve the quality of life for Soldiers and their Families, both at their current duty stations and as they transfer to other states. It is a formal commitment of support by state and local communities to Soldiers and Families of the Army - Active, Guard and Reserve. While Community Covenant is an Army program, it extends to the other Military Services as well, recognizing that many community efforts support all Service Members and their Families regardless of the uniform they wear. Check out the following websites for more information:

#### Utah Family Programs

<http://www.ut.ngb.army.mil/family/index.htm>

#### Military OneSource

[www.militaryonesource.mil](http://www.militaryonesource.mil)

#### Utah Department of Veteran's Affairs

<http://veterans.utah.gov/>

#### Community Covenant Program

<http://www.army.mil/community/>

COMMUNITY  
COVENANT  
SUPPORTING THOSE WHO SERVE



# Alta Events Calendar

## December

4	Doors open 6:30PM; movie 7PM	ACE Movie Event: Powderwhore presents: "Choose Your Adventure, 'A Ski Odyssey'". Our Lady of the Snows, \$5 for entrance and raffle ticket
6	5:30PM	ACE Event: Yoga with Stacy Petersen, Goldminer's Daughter, FREE!
8	8AM	ACE Event: Women's Beacon Clinic. Meet at the end of the road, "Grizzly Gulch" area. REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Details for this and other ladies-only events at <a href="http://utahavalanchecenter.org">utahavalanchecenter.org</a> and <a href="http://shejumps.org">shejumps.org</a> . Email questions to <a href="mailto:devin@utahavalanchecenter.org">devin@utahavalanchecenter.org</a>
10	4PM	Planning Commission Meeting, Alta Community Center (Library)
11	7PM	ACE and FRIENDS OF ALTA EVENT: Presentation and Book signing by Howie Garber — Utah's Wasatch Range: Four Season Refuge
12-13	All day	Alta Employee Avy I Class: \$100 per person, meet at Our Lady of the Snows. Pre-registration with Alaska Mountain Guides is required, call 801-742-0100. Space is limited; must be an employee of an Alta business and have an Alta Ski Pass.
13	9AM; 10AM	Town Council Meeting, Alta Community Center (Library). Work Session to discuss General Plan, 9am. Regular Meeting, 10am.
14	3:30-7:30PM	ACE EVENT: Art Show and Sale, Our Lady of the Snows.
18	6:30PM	ACE CRAFT NIGHT: Glass Cutting and Felted Soap River Rocks, Our Lady of the Snows, FREE!
27	6:30PM	ACE MOVIE NIGHT: Teton Gravity Research presents, "Further." Our Lady of the Snows, \$5 plus a drawing.
28	Doors open 6:30PM; movie 7PM	ACE EVENT: Lee Cohen slide show and book signing. Our Lady of the Snows, FREE!

### Ongoing winter events:

**Join Stacy Petersen for Earthflow yoga classes.** Stacy offers a Tuesday 6:45AM Power Yoga class, and a Thursday 5:30PM Restore Yoga class. Both classes are held at the Goldminer's Daughter Lodge and classes will start December 4<sup>th</sup>. Pay what you can, the suggested fee is \$10/class. Learn more at: [earthflowyoga.com](http://earthflowyoga.com)

**Catch up on your Alta history!** Join the Alta Historical Society and featured speakers for fireside chats focusing on Alta's storied mining, skiing, and political history. Chats will be held periodically throughout the winter at the various lodges during après ski hours. Visit [altahistory.org](http://altahistory.org) for more details.

**Alta Community Enrichment** has a jam packed winter schedule! Check out the full line-up at [www.altaarts.org](http://www.altaarts.org)



# 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

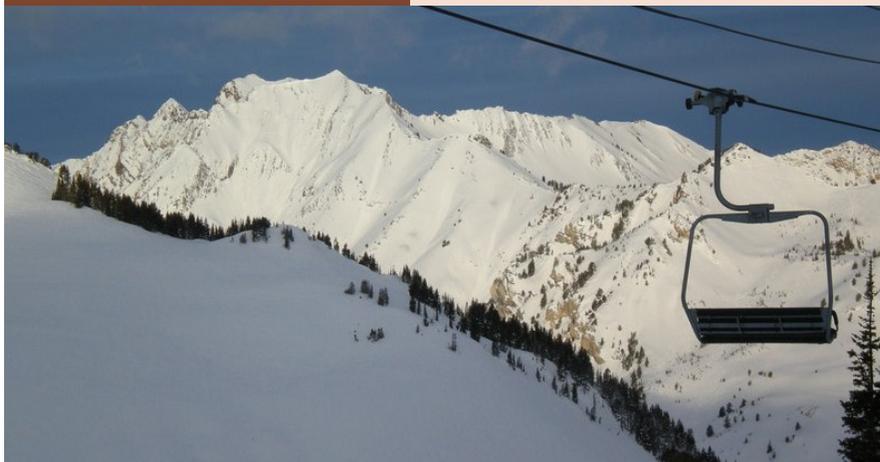
Justice Court Phone:  
(801) 742-2407

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 2016  
 Councilmember — Paul Moxley — [ptm@pkhlawyers.com](mailto:ptm@pkhlawyers.com) — Term expires 2014  
 Councilmember — Harris Sondak — [harrisondak@gmail.com](mailto:harrisondak@gmail.com) — Term expires 2016  
**ABOVE: Town Council from left to right:** Harris Sondak, Steven Gilman, Tom Pollard, Paul Moxley, Cliff Curry



## 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](https://twitter.com/CanyonAlerts) on your twitter account

## 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  
[plrem@townofalta.com](mailto:plrem@townofalta.com)

Mike Morey — Town Marshal  
[mmorey@townofalta.com](mailto:mmorey@townofalta.com)

Claire Woodman — Assistant Town Administrator, Newsletter Editor  
[cer@townofalta.com](mailto:cer@townofalta.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.