

# EMIGRATION CANYON COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



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## Message From the Chairman

It's been awhile since our last newsletter. We tried to use email to get information to you but we felt it wasn't effective. We hope to be able to inform all the canyon residents about the important issues in the canyon. Should we miss anything you would like to know about please let one of the council members listed below know and we will get you the information.

Our meetings are held the 2ND Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at Camp K. Sept through May. In the summer, June through August we meet at someones home. Contact a council member for meeting information. In the near future our meetings will be held at the new fire station which should break ground in late April or May.

Some of the issues we are following are House bill 40. We should be hearing more about this in the following year leading to a survey of all the township and unincorporated residents. Fred Sylvester on our council is keeping an eye on this for us.

The trails master plan came before the county council in March and they adopted the Parks and rec reaction recommended plan. Which is a version including some of both the townships recommendations and the consultants.

In regards to the proposed Enclave development: No applications for permits have been received by Salt Lake City to build anything as of 4/10/07.

Kathy Christensen heads up our fire wise community and has worked hard to educate us and also secured a large grant to help with thinning and brush removal in the canyon.

We are also following bike lanes, rezoning of some property next to Emigration Oaks and a turnaround in Pinecrest.

Visit our Website at [www.emigrationcanyon.org](http://www.emigrationcanyon.org). The website has minutes of our meetings. If you give your email address to Lynn Gutke you will receive an email each month.

*Joe Smolka*

## **FIRE DAY:**

**Sheriffs Dept. will provide child protection kits, Neighborhood Watch info.**

**Saturday June 2nd**

**Sunnyside Park**

**8:30-11:00 AM**



## Township Status/HB40

As part of the establishment of townships by the Utah Legislature, restrictions were placed upon annexation of part or all of a township by and adjacent city, essentially keeping cities from picking off certain commercial properties in townships with high tax rates. The restrictions on annexation were subject to a Sunset provision, meaning without renewal by the legislature, cities would be able to again begin cherry picking such areas. In 2006, the Legislature passed H.B.40 which extended the annexation restrictions until 2008 and mandated a survey of township residents to determine their desires with regard to their status as townships.

The process mandated by the legislature is now proceeding under the leadership of the Salt Lake County Mayor's Office. A private consultant has been chosen to prepare educational materials to send to township residents and to prepare the survey questions which will be used to survey the townships. A committee consisting of five representative from the cities, five representative from the townships and two representatives from the county will meet with the consultant for the next few months to assist in development of the educational materials and the survey. The survey results will be used to develop legislation attempting to implement citizens' desires.

The significance to citizens of the townships varies depending upon the township characteristics. For those townships with attractive commercial areas, the threat is that changes residential neighborhood such as the canyon, therefore, if the legislature eases the restriction on annexation and cities resume annexation of commercial areas, the County will be robbed of large portions of the tax based which provide the fund for municipal services to the townships and unincorporated county. If township residents throughout Salt Lake County voice strong support for empowering townships and resisting encroachment by cities, the legislation proposed could increase local control over the townships.

-Fred Silvester



## Fire Wise

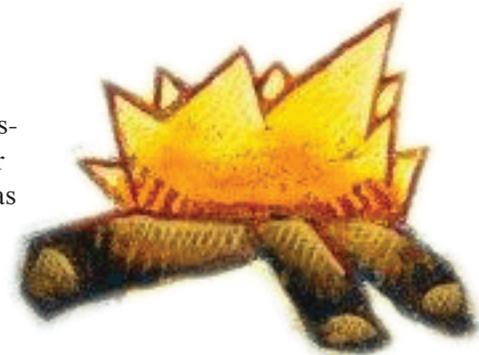
**Fire Day is Saturday, June 2nd from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at Sunnyside Park 840 S. 1600 East.**

Why should you come to Fireday?

We are a Firewise community and the residents need to show support for Fireday in order for us to keep our Firewise status. This qualifies us for grants that can help us with the cost of clearing dead wood and overgrown brush that endangers homes in the canyon. Everyone who lives in the canyon is influenced by a potential fire. Those who lived in the canyon in 1988 remember the fear and devastation of the fire and the subsequent spring floods. The responsibility of maintaining the forested areas of the canyon with healthy trees and not heavy fuel loads (vegetation amounts) that choke out healthy growth and support wildfires belongs to us, the residents. Most of the property in the canyon is private so if we want a safe environment, we must each do our part. We can maintain forest health and fire safety without losing aesthetics or privacy. In fact those people who have had help from the wildland fire crews are very pleased with the improved beauty of their properties. They say they can also see the animals better. Don't think clear cut which is not what we want at all.

What can I get out of Fireday?

Fireday is a time to be educated about what is and is not a fire danger and to ask fire professionals your personal questions or schedule an inspection. Even if you have trimmed your property of excess brush, coming to Fireday will allow you to meet people from other areas of the canyon in a friendly atmosphere and enjoy breakfast and music by the bluegrass band. Jason Garn, a goat farmer, can tell you if you have an area appropriate for goats to clean up. This might be an area too steep for people to do or it might just be that you like having the goats around for a while.



Who pays for all of this?

Emigration Canyon has an \$180,000 FEMA Grant to help with getting rid of dead wood and trees or limbs that touch a roof or are under a deck or too close to a house. It pays 75% of the cost. It will also pay for removal of brush you cut yourself. If you want to have this help, contact Kathy Christensen at [kchriste@xmission.com](mailto:kchriste@xmission.com). Put something about fire in the subject line so I do not delete it. Or you can call 581-0897.



Can I do it myself?

It is not necessary to remove all of the trees or shrubs on your property. Depending on the species of plants present and the conditions on site, it may be more appropriate to simply “Limb up” (remove the lower limbs) the trees, or remove trees to leave scattered individuals or clumps across the site. Information you can get from the professionals at Fire Day can help you make these decisions.

-Kathy Christensen

## Charter School Opportunity

The Open Classroom, a Salt Lake City school district charter school, has recently expanded to include 7th and 8th grade. A 30-year-old program, the Open Classroom embraces a strong sense of school community, parent participation and whole-child learning. A special open house will be held Thursday April 19th at 6:30pm at Lowell Elementary 134 N. “D” Street for students entering grades 5-8th. More information can be found at [www.ocslc.org](http://www.ocslc.org) or by calling 578-8144.

## Criminal Activity in the Canyon

Emigration Oaks has had several mailbox thefts in the last few months. The last one occurred on January 10 after midnight. The Sheriff has an eye witness and a vehicle description. They are teaming with the Postal Inspector to investigate this activity.

Criminals are finding easy marks in the Canyon. Recent home burglaries in the Oaks and car burglaries along Smokey Lane indicate everyone needs to be aware of what is happening. Things that you can do:

A. Be extra vigilant in your own security and the security of your neighbors. Namely,

1. If you have an alarm system put it on when you leave. Do not depend upon your barking dog to keep the bad guys away.
2. Make your home appear like someone is around: leave on a TV or radio or an inside light. Arrange for someone to bring in your garbage cans and pick up your newspapers. Don't make your home a likely target.
3. Lock your cars and don't leave items such as purses, cell phones, or day planners visible on the front seat.
4. Get to know your neighbors; be able to recognize the cars they drive. Inform them when you'll be away and look out for each other.
5. Be alert for people or vehicles that don't seem to belong. Try to get a good description and, if possible, a vehicle license number. Report all suspicious activity to the Sheriff regardless of how insignificant it may seem. Call dispatch at 743-7000.

6. Pick up your mail everyday without fail. Don't let it sit in your box overnight. Ask the Post Office to hold your mail if you'll be away. You can either fill out the form in person at the Foothill Branch or on-line at <http://www.usps.com/>. Click on “Hold Mail” under the column entitled, Receiving Your Mail.

7. Consider having your mail delivered electronically. Most banking institutions allow e-statements and online account review. You can set up your bills for automatic payment either through your bank or credit union or direct from your checking account. Have your payroll or Social Security checks direct deposited into your account and not delivered via mail. Don't deposit outgoing mail in the pickup slot.

8. See what the US Postal Service says about avoiding identity theft: [http://www.usps.com/websites/depart/inspect/idthft\\_ncpw.htm](http://www.usps.com/websites/depart/inspect/idthft_ncpw.htm)

9. Here's a link to the Salt Lake County Sheriff's page on crime prevention: [http://www.slsheiff.org/html/org/staff\\_support-admin-crimeprevent2.html](http://www.slsheiff.org/html/org/staff_support-admin-crimeprevent2.html)

B. Establish a Neighborhood Watch program in your immediate area.

C. Shred old checks and credit cards from closed accounts and consider putting valuables in a safe.

For your information Emigration Oaks is offering a reward of \$1000 for the apprehension and successful prosecution of anyone who has stolen mail or has committed burglary in the Oaks.

-Kathy Christensen



March 16, 2007

Residents of Emigration Canyon and the Emigration Canyon Community Council have expressed a number of concerns to the Salt Lake Valley Health Department regarding the number and location of trash receptacles along the road in the canyon. The complaints involve trash receptacles blocking lanes of traffic, bike lanes, spillage from the trash receptacles onto the road, and trash receptacles being permanently left on the side of the road.

The following information is provided in an attempt to address the above problems.

Salt Lake Valley Health Department Health Regulation #7, General Sanitation states:

4.2.9 Location of Solid Waste Containers. Solid waste containers shall be stored at least 3 feet from the property line and placed where they do not create adverse health or nuisance conditions.

4.3.2 Placement of Solid Waste Containers for Collection. Solid waste containers shall not be set out on the street prior to the evening of the day before the scheduled collection. All containers shall be removed from the street the same day they are emptied.

The Salt Lake Valley Health Department realizes that unique conditions exist in Emigration Canyon. Waste haulers may not have access to all properties due to grade, adequate turning radius, lack of paved road, etc. For these reasons, exceptions to the above regulations will be made.

If trash receptacle cannot be removed from the side of the road, the following conditions must be met:

1. The trash receptacle may not be left on any paved portion of the road or bikeway.
2. The trash receptacle storage area must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.

This letter is a warning that if the trash receptacles are left on the side of the road in violation of the above regulations or exceptions, further action may be taken as the law allows.

Should you have any further questions, please contact the Salt Lake Valley Health Department, Bureau of Sanitation and Safety at 313-6641.

## Logo Contest

Think you have what it takes to design the new logo for the Emigration Canyon Community Council? If chosen, your logo will appear on the ECCC web site and correspondence. Submit your entries in PDF format to Jessica Hook ([jessmhook82@hotmail.com](mailto:jessmhook82@hotmail.com)) by May 11, 2007.