

# The Times - News

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## Site for Red Cliffs Elementary being reviewed for difficulties in construction

By Myrna Trauntvein

Times-News Correspondent

The site for the Red Cliffs Elementary is difficult to work with and will require extra effort.

Ross Wentworth, architect, and Chris Houghton and Nick Slye, with Westland Construction selected as the construction management firm for the three district building projects, will be the ones responsible for overseeing the endeavor.

"The soils at the site are rough," said Wentworth.

He said the site was still being reviewed as to the best method for dealing with the soil.

"We would like to have the project out on the street (ready for bidding) by the end of May," he said.

The preparation of a building site is a step-by-step process that includes analysis of water-table levels and soil make-up, how utilities are run into the structure, zoning restrictions, curb-cut location regulations, and environmental concerns.

Soil Testing looks at two separate things: the composition of the soil and its ability to support a structure, and the absorption and drainage rate of the soil or how well it will accommodate water drainage.

After a soil test has been performed, it is necessary to have a site-plan design drawn up to indicate placement of important features.

The slope of the property must also be considered.

"We are leaning toward geopiers," said Wentworth.

Soil compaction methods would not be as good a choice, said Slye, because the ramming process could break windows in nearby buildings.

"Geopier is simply a discrete over-excavation and replacement method that densifies and increases lateral stress in the surrounding soil," said Wentworth.

Geopiers are installed by drilling a 30-inch diameter shaft and then ramming crushed stone into the shaft in 12 inch lifts. So for a 15 foot shaft, you would have 16

to 18 lifts of rammed aggregate (2 to 3 lifts in the "bottom bulb" and 14 to 15 in the shaft).

The ramming process takes place with a modified 3,000 to 4,000 lb hydraulic hammer that has a 27 inch beveled tamper that delivers 300 to 400 blows per minute or 1 to 2 million foot-pounds per minute.

The ramming action pushes and embeds the aggregate laterally into the sidewalls of the drilled shaft.

High quality and high hardness aggregate is required for the ramming process or it is pulverized. Pressuremeter tests have shown that the Geopier process increases the horizontal stress to near the passive pressure limit in the upper 3 to 4 diameters of the pier. Typical spacing is 2 to 3 diameter center to center under spread footings.

The result is good. One case history for 6-story parking garage in Sacramento, CA, used 12 to 15 foot Geopier elements to replace 75 foot drive piles. Total settlements from the garage are less than 1 inch since the beginning of construction in 1999.

Another selling point is that they are cost effective and provide 70 to 120 kips (Kilo Pounds a measure of force) per pier for the support of shallow spread footings.

"We need to settle this issue so we can move forward," said Wentworth.

An accurate plan is required when applying for a building permit, submitting plans to a zoning review board and writing specifications for contractors and subcontractors.

Plans should clearly indicate the intended placement of the building, municipal sewer connections and municipal water connections. The site-plan design will show access roads for construction vehicles as well as the proposed location of any paved driveway or road.

Curb-cut locations will be indicated as well, and setbacks from any road to the actual building on

See Site on page 2



**ROUGH SOILS** • The Juab School Board heard from the architect that the soil at the site for the new Red Cliff's Elementary school will be challenging to work with and made recommendations to the board. The board would like construction of the new school to start this summer. We don't know who left the ball, but maybe it's a good sign

## Levan youth critical after crash on I-15

By Myrna Trauntvein

Times-News Correspondent

A local boy from Levan remains in critical condition following a three-car accident on April 18.

On April 18, 2007 at approximately 11:15 a.m., Tyrel C. Zufelt, 17, who received critical injuries in the accident, was traveling northbound on I-15 passing the Mona Exit.

"The accident involved three vehicles and two of them hit head on in the southbound lanes," said Hoby Metz, Utah Highway Patrol Sgt.

"At mile marker 235 (located near Mona), Tyrel Zufelt's vehicle,

a Toyota Pickup, left the roadway to the left," said Metz. "The vehicle was brought back onto the roadway and then went across both lanes to the right and then back across to the left and went into the median."

He said there were two vehicles, pickups, traveling southbound whose drivers both observed Zufelt's vehicle coming through the median and heading towards them.

"The first pickup was able to avoid the collision, receiving rock and debris damage, but the second pickup collided head-on with Tyrel Zufelt's pickup," said Metz.

After collision both vehicles ended up off the right side of the

roadway.

The driver of the second pickup was driven by Peggy Johnson of Nephi, said Metz. She received minor injuries.

The driver of the third pickup was Bruce Johnson of Tooele.

"I-15 southbound lanes were shut down for 30 minutes to allow for Lifeflight Helicopter to land and transport Tyrel," said Metz.

Zufelt is currently in critical condition at the Utah Valley Medical Center in Provo.

At this time it is unknown why Zufelt lost control of his vehicle, said Metz.

The investigating officer is UHP Trooper, David Henrie #469.

## Young and old + tractors = "Plow In"

By Rebecca Dopp

Times-News Correspondent

What do you get with nine men, antique tractors, and a beautiful

day? A plow-in, that's what.

Members of the Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association, Branch 14, met on a beautiful, crisp Saturday morning to do what they love to do, plow a

field.

Three miles west of Mona, on pasture land owned by Gordon Young, nine members unloaded their antique tractors and got to work. For no other reason than

sheer enjoyment these men drove back and forth, tilling up dirt and sagebrush and occasionally coming into contact with a wayward rock or dip in the land.

Three different models of trac-

tors were on hand including a 1947 Oliver, a 1937 John Deere, and a 1937 Allis Chalmers. Dale Longhurst of Delta had the oldest plow, dating back to 1929. Other tractors were a 1952 and a 1957 John Deere tractor.

Members of this club range from all different ages and occupations, and come from all over the state. Chris Kay of Mona is the youngest at age 19 while another member was 70-years-young.

Farrell Jensen is an Economics professor at Brigham Young University. Dale Penrod owns an excavating company, and Phil Diamond is a retired mechanic.

Members that were present on this day came from Spanish Fork, Salt Lake City, Springville, Gunnison, Delta, and Mona.

Steve Kay of Mona had his grandkids present, attired in John Deere sweatshirts.

"They love to ride on the tractors," he said.

All appreciate the friendship



**JOHN DEERE GREEN** • Members of the Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association plow this field owned by Gordon Young on Saturday, April 21st, west of Mona Reservoir. The weather was perfect for this gathering of tractor enthusiasts, both young and old. Photo by Rebecca Dopp.

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