

The Times-News

Serving East Juab County - A Nice Place To Live!

Volume 112, No. 36

September 3, 2014

Single Copy Price

75¢

Fraudulent charges affect a dozen individuals who purchased derby tickets online; may affect others

By Myrna Trauntvein

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Juab County fairgoers may find that their personal bank accounts are at risk after a security breach was discovered involving ticket sales for the Summit County Fair rodeo and demolition derby.

Juab County has also now discovered that there are fraudulent charges on several credit cards used by residents to purchase demolition derby tickets in Juab.

"Summit County became aware of their breach last Sunday after a number of county employees and members of the community reported experiencing fraudulent charges on their bank accounts," said Julie Booth, Summit County spokesperson.

Jamie Garrett, Juab County Fair and Events Coordinator, said that Juab County became aware that there were also problems with ticket sales to do with the recent county fair demolition derby held during the fair the first full week of August 2014.

Booth said it is believed a third-party vendor offering online sales of tickets to the rodeo and derby was compromised.

"We are encouraging anyone who purchased tickets using the online ticketing system carefully review their credit card statements," said Garrett.

In Summit County a total of 951 transactions were made through the vendor, Booth said, but it is not yet known how many individual customers were affected.

"The largest fraudulent charge that we have heard of was \$5,000, and the smallest one we heard of was \$75," said Booth.

Roughly half of the Summit County employees who purchased tickets through the vendor have so far been affected by the breach, but it is not clear if that ratio extends to the 951 total transactions, she said.

In Juab County, there are 12 individuals, to date, who have found fraudulent charges on their credit cards.

See **Tickets** on page 5



LABOR DAY TRAFFIC • I-15 was deep into Labor Day trailer traffic on Monday as our friends from the Wasatch Front returned from camp outs in Southern Utah. While our photographer was only at this bridge north of Nephi for 5 minutes, he counted 47 trailers, motor homes and campers headed north. We wonder where they all set up.

Drainage problems in Mona persist; council pledges to tackle problem

By Myrna Trauntvein

Times-News Correspondent

Recent rain storms have caused problems with flooding in Mona that are largely due to the fact that many of the city's drainage ditches and stormwater routes have been filled in by residents in subdivisions.

Other problems have been caused by construction of the sewer system, the laying of irrigation lines, the improper grading of sidewalks, the clogging of culverts and by those contractors who have laid lateral lines to the sewer from homes to the street sewer trunk lines.

Jeff Smith, council member, said that, on August 23, when a cloud burst pelted the city, the area between 100 North to Main to 200 North and from 600 South to 200 West became high water areas that threatened to flood the basements of homes in that area.

"Water was flowing around both sides of a couple of homes on 200 West," said Smith. "We

cleaned out a culvert on 200 North and the stormwater there runs pretty well now."

In the other affected areas of the town, however, stormwater needs to be directed into some manufactured channels because, in more intense storms, it creates a river that runs down the sidewalks.

Smith said that Jesse Ralphs, representing Sunrise Engineering, said that the city needed to have curb and gutter along the streets in that area of the community. The gutter would serve to move drainage through the community following the slope of the land.

"I would like to see us do a curb back to the sidewalk," said Smith.

Homeowners along the route have filled in the drainage, have put ornamentation on the city's right-of-way and use the gravel strip to park their vehicles.

"The sidewalks need to be taken out," said Smith. "They need to be rebuilt."

Water was ponding and pooling along that route and would,

likely do so, with a curb and gutter until the sidewalk was made to slope toward the street.

Another problem, Ron Veater, resident, said was that the irrigation line, when it was installed, was not compacted. He is not able to pull his travel trailer into his home without it dragging. In fact, his vehicles drag and one had bumper damage because of the hump that had been created because the soil was never compacted.

"If the sidewalk has dropped 6-inches, that is not acceptable," said Smith. "We need to re-create a drainage channel or ditch along 200 West to allow flow to the north."

At the corner of 500 South and 200 West, he said, both culvert ends (on both sides) need to be cleaned out and the drainage needs to be lowered both ways to meet the culvert invert elevation.

Lori Veater said that they did not have the problem prior to the construction period with the drainage, but now they have continual problems.

Homes in that area were facing basement flooding if something was not done soon, hopefully before winter.

Smith said he thought that the city should talk to homeowners and explain to them that they needed to open the drainage back up in front of their homes.

"The city should not have to do it (pay for someone to run a bulldozer along the city right-of-way)," he said.

He said that it also upset him that the city did not have a longer guarantee with street repair contractors so that the drainage could have been addressed when, after there was settling and after drainage problems became apparent, they could have been addressed and not on the city's dime.

Smith said that he would, most likely, not get the work done on the drainage before winter this year but he pledged that it would not become a forgotten topic and that he would continue to work to see the problem solved.

Mona City offering reward for information about vandalism at city park

By Myrna Trauntvein

Times-News Correspondent

Mona City will pay a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrators who, two times in August, vandalized the city restrooms at city park.

On August 16 and August 24, the restrooms were vandalized, lights and switches damaged, bathroom facilities filled with debris, graffiti painted on the walls and other physical damage done to the facility.

Youth have also been seen climbing on the roof of the concession stand and doing damage to the roofing.

"We are going to lock the restrooms at night and only open them in the daytime," said Jonathan Jones, mayor pro tempore in Mayor Greg Newton's absence. "That is sad, because it is the only public bathroom that we have."

Churches do have public restrooms and there is a restroom in city hall but this is the only restroom facility in the community that has been open to the public on a daily basis.

Mayor Newton had sent an email to the council since he knew that he was going to have to work the night of council meeting and suggested that a reward be offered.

He had suggested a reward

of several hundred dollars but the council wanted to further discuss the amount before settling on what should be offered.

One resident said that he feared too high a reward might lead a youth to fabricate a vandal rather than really knowing for certain who it was.

"This happens several times a year," said Michelle Dalton, city secretary.

The Juab County Sheriffs Office, who serves as law enforcement under contract with Mona, has been notified and an investigation is now taking place. "On the 24th," said Dalton, "bathrooms were opened for a reunion on Saturday and were left open after it was over,

and the vandalism is what happened."

It was sad that the city could not even leave the bathrooms unlocked for a short period of time without people committing acts of destruction.

"We have trouble with this every year," she said. "It's sad people don't have more respect then they do."

In the past those who have been caught have been punished by the law but it has not prevented the problem from continuing.

The council asked the public, that if anyone noticed anything that looked suspicious that they please call the authorities.

Jeff Smith, council member,

said he had talked to the mayor that day and he agreed that a reward might be the best way to go because, if were high enough, some young person would likely inform authorities about who was doing the vandalism.

"The mayor suggested a reward," said Jones. "I think it would be good to offer a reward."

Council members did not agree on the amount, still keeping it high enough to bring results, but not so high that it would encourage false information.

They were clear in agreeing

See **Vandalism** on page 5



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