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NCPD locate and arrest suspect involved in Salt Lake City shooting

By Myrna Trauntvein

Times-News Correspondent

The Nephi City Police Department assisted with locating and arresting a homicide suspect out of Salt Lake City.

At 3 a.m. on November 16, said Sergeant John D. Shepherd, Nephi City Police Department Information Officer, Nephi City Police Officer Clint Bowles was notified by the Juab County Sheriff's Office about a homicide suspect possibly passing through Juab County southbound on Interstate 15.

The suspect, Quincy Lawson, was involved in a shooting at a concert in Salt Lake City a few hours before.

"He allegedly was in a fight at the concert and is accused of firing a gun multiple times killing a 24-year-old adult male," said

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WINTER HAS ARRIVED • This photo taken on Monday shows ice and snow in Salt Creek Canyon as the result of the cold spell that hit last week. Nephi gas customers had a surprise on Sunday when the gas system shut down. Sources at the city say the shutoff was caused by a bad filter and about 50% of the customers were affected during the three hour event and that the problem has been corrected. Persons with older water heaters and furnaces were largely those that were affected. Our source also said that the gas utility would not compensate those who had to pay others to relight their pilot lights as city policy prevents employees to enter homes.

Public hearing will be held to take comment on Houewling-Mona City water agreement

By Myrna Trauntvein

Times-News Correspondent

An agreement which is up for consideration by the Mona City Council and Houewling's Tomato Plant, and would allow temporary use of Mona City culinary water, brought out 15 concerned Mona residents last Tuesday evening.

The result of comments made by those 15 residents was that the Mona City Council will hold a public hearing at 7 p.m. on Tuesday November 25, in the Mona City Council Room to take comment on a proposal for a Temporary Water Service Contract for Houewling.

Brenda Newton asked how those who did not have email could get a copy of the draft agreement to review.

"The temporary water agreement draft copies handed out tonight can be taken home," said Jeff Hearty, council member.

Other copies will be available at the city hall, and on the city website at monarocks.org. Some copies had been emailed to city council members and city staff members.

While the agreement was still a work in progress, according to Hearty, it could still be discussed.

"We can talk concepts," he said.

He said the agreement would only last until March 31. Houewling was hoping to have plants in the ground by December 1, 2014, just a couple of weeks away.

Those plants would need water. Houewling, the producer of tomatoes, has requested the city provide a temporary water supply lasting no longer than March 31, 2015, to the greenhouse to assist in its start-up operations until Houewling's water lines can be completed.

The public is invited to attend and provide comments to council

members at the upcoming public hearing. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

The notice will be posted at the Mona City Office, at the United States Post Office, Mona Branch, Gaydene's Sweet Art, and will be published on the Utah State Website and in the Nephi Times News.

If there are questions or comments prior to the hearing, please contact Council member Jeffrey Hearty: jeffhearty@gmail.com

Lyla R. Spencer, Mona City Recorder, said she would post the notice of the public hearing so that residents will have time to plan to attend.

"Why would we even consider allowing them to use our water?" asked Jana Crawford.

Hearty said that the tomato-growing facility had already been approved by the state engineer and the company could begin drilling water close to the city's culinary water well and that action could have a direct effect on lowering the water in the aquifer where the city water was being pumped.

By agreeing to move their well further away from that site, they had slowed the process of getting culinary-grade water for use at the plant.

Casey Houewling, owner of the business, said the greenhouse had originally planned to use water from PacifiCorp and had the right to drill a well and that would have been sufficient to meet the needs of the plant.

"We are a family operation," said Houewling.

For that reason, they wanted to have a positive relationship with the community and wanted to do what was best for Mona City residents as well as the plant.

That decision would reduce the water pulled from the aquifer by 80 percent because the water being pulled from that

source had been purchased from a farmer and was being used for agriculture. An industrial use, which was what the tomato greenhouse was considered, was different from an agricultural use, he said, in the view of the state.

"The application is in to take the water from the other site," said Houewling. "We are purchasing water from a farmer rather than leasing it from PacifiCorp."

The approval will take some time to receive, although the assurance was that it would be approved in the long run. However, Houewling is under a deadline to obtain water for the plant so that they can begin planting, growing and harvesting tomatoes according to plan.

The state would approve the well right for the plant at 55 percent less than it had approved the agricultural right, he said.

"The state will only allow us to pump at 55 percent when we change from agricultural use to industrial use," he said.

The company must run a pipeline to the property once the approval is given. Moving the well further away, Houewling said, and purchasing the water right was much more expensive for the company than if they had just gone ahead and drilled on the site approved even if it were close to the city well.

"PacifiCorp can still drill on that site," said Mollie Graham, council member. "That is out of our hands."

Houewling and PacifiCorp are both on the approved application to obtain water for use by drilling from the previously approved well site.

"Their name (Houewling) is on the change order," said Hearty.

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"Memories of Christmas Past" is Nephi City's 7th Annual Christmas Light Parade

By Jennifer Zirbes

Undoubtedly one of the most beloved stories of all time is "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. We all know the story: Ebenezer Scrooge, a wretched old miser, is visited by spirits who help him change his ways by simply showing him his past, present, and future. If the Spirit of Christmas Past were to visit you, what would he show you? How has celebrating Christmas changed for you through the years, and what lessons have you learned from this? Let's talk a walk with the Ghost of Christmas Past and analyze.

For my part, the Spirit shows me shadows of me as a child, lying under the Christmas tree for hours at a time, quietly observing the patterns of colored light and shade. Shadows of my brother, sister, and me guessing what the presents could possibly be, almost wearing out the wrapping paper before it was even opened. Leaving a select squadron of my dolls and stuffed animals hidden behind the Christmas tree on Christmas Eve so they could report to me later what Santa Claus really looked like (Raggedy Ann was silent on the subject, so I was happy that at least THEY got to see Santa). Being so excited on the night before Christmas that it was impossible to sleep more than a few hours, if at all, thereby turning the night into a hyper sibling Christmas party. Helping Mom make hundreds of heavenly sugar cookies, cinnamon rolls, or popcorn for sharing with neighbors and friends (and also proving that I have a talent for eating vast numbers of homemade cookies). My poor sister who has almost never failed to be sick somehow during Christmas, whether it be chicken pox

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PREPARING FOR THE HOLIDAYS • Nephi City employees were putting up more decorations at Old Mill Park on Monday as they prepare for the annual Christmas Parade and holiday lighting event next weekend November 29th.



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