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Lynndyl woman dies in accident in Salt Creek Canyon

By Myrna Trauntvein
Times-News Correspondent

Mary Sue Dutson, 49, Lynndyl, died in a fatal accident on a snowy road Friday in Salt Creek Canyon east of Nephi.

Critically injured in the accident was her daughter, Emily Ann Dutson, 21, also of Lynndyl, a passenger in the car driven by her mother.

The accident occurred at about 7:15 p.m. on SR 132 near mile marker 35 in Juab County.

Robert T. VanDam, 62, and his wife, Marilyn VanDam, 59, both of Mt. Pleasant, received minor injuries in the accident.

The 1998 Buick LeSabre, driven by Mary Sue Dutson, was traveling west in Nephi Canyon when it appeared that she lost control of her vehicle.

"The road was slick due to snowy conditions," said Nick Bowles, Utah Highway Patrol Sgt. "The Buick crossed into the eastbound travel lane where it was struck by a 2000 Chevy Silverado with a flatbed trailer in tow."

The Chevy, hauling hay, was driven by Robert T. VanDam. The truck impacted the passenger side of the Buick. Both vehicles came to rest on the eastbound shoulder.

Both of the Dutson women were extricated from the Buick.

"The driver of the Buick sustained fatal injuries and the passenger was transported in critical condition," Bowles said.

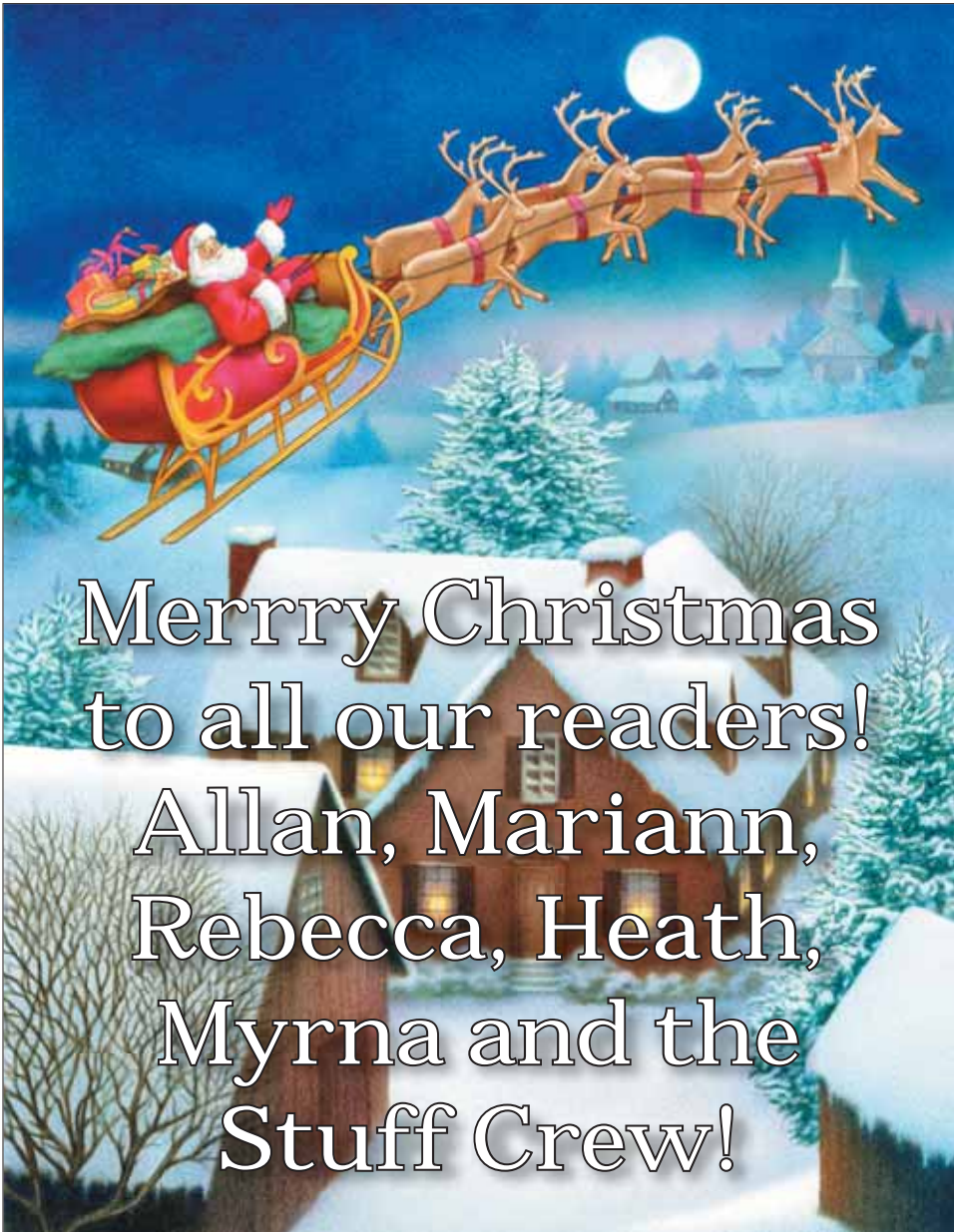
All subjects were wearing seatbelts. All the injured were transferred from the accident scene to Central Valley Medical Center in Nephi by East Juab Ambulance.

"Witnesses stated that the Buick was traveling faster than was safe for the conditions," said Bowles.

Cory Housekeeper was the UHP Trooper who investigated the accident.

SR 132 East was closed for one hour while the accident scene was cleared and the injured were removed.

The 21-year-old Lynndyl woman remained in critical but stable condition Sunday.



Controversy over Mt. Nebo access road continues, with possible legal action

By Myrna Trauntvein
Times-News Correspondent

The problem a group of Mona residents have with a land-owner blocking a road providing access to areas on Mt. Nebo, which have been favorites of locals for years, is that he is breaking the law.

JoEllen Peterson, Shannon Memmott, RaDonna Thalman, and Susan Kay met with Juab County commissioners. They were supported by the attendance of more than 20 residents who had the same concern.

"We can have more people than this here, in fact we could fill the room if it were needed," said Peterson.

The first item on their list was that Commissioner LuWayne Walker was not re-elected to the commission and would, therefore, no longer be their representative.

"We feel that LuWayne (Walker) has been the commissioner who has been at bat for us on this issue," said Peterson.

Walker told them that the commission had the county attorney write a letter to the landowner, Randy Brooks, co-owner

with his wife Coni, of Barnes-Bullets, located just outside Mona. The Brooks couple own a home built on the side of Mt. Nebo.

The letter had been drafted by Jared Eldridge, Juab County attorney, and was ready to be delivered to Brooks.

Val Jones, commission chairman, said that the letter had not been delivered because he wanted to meet with Brooks a final time to see if the controversy about the road, which the commission holds is a legal county road and Brooks disputes is not, could be worked out amicably.

He said that he and Chad Winn, commissioner, were hoping that they could work out the problem. Failing that, the remaining commissioners were prepared to go to court to fight for ownership of the road.

Peterson said that she had a problem with the county considering taking Brooks to court because she thought the county should simply enforce the law.

"Let him defend himself against the law rather than us defending the law against him," she said.

The county commission should see that the law was obeyed by its residents. If the county went in, took down the fence and removed the gate Brooks had built, then Brooks would need to defend his reasons for having the road blocked and he would need to be the party doing the suing.

"It is a county ordinance," she said.

She said the group was also worried about the failure of the county to demand that Brooks obey the law and feared it would set a precedence for other prop-

LuWayne Walker received a Certificate of Appreciation from Governor Gary Herbert

By Myrna Trauntvein
Times-News Correspondent

LuWayne Walker, Juab County commissioner, was honored at his last regularly scheduled commission meeting on Monday.

Gary Richard Herbert, Utah Governor, sent an award to Walker honoring him for his work as a commissioner.

"This Certificate of Appreciation is hereby presented to LuWayne Walker for dedicated service to the residents of Juab County as a Juab County Commissioner," read the certificate which was signed by the governor and lieutenant governor and carried the official seal of the state. Herbert also sent Walker a personal card.

"The governor appointed me to the POST (Peace Officers Standards and Training) council," said Walker. "I was the only county commissioner on that board."

Post Council Chairman is Bud E. Cox Chairman of POST Council and Sheriff, Davis County Sheriff's Office; Donna Dillingham-Evans, Vice President, Dixie State College, Representing Education; LuWayne Walker, Juab County Commis-

See Award on page 2



FATAL ACCIDENT • Mary Sue Dutson, 49, Lynndyl, died in a fatal accident on a snowy road Friday in Salt Creek Canyon east of Nephi. Above, emergency personnel work at the scene. Photo UHP

See Road on page 3



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