

HOW SHOULD WE ADDRESS “HOT BUTTON” TOPICS LIKE RECENT DEBATE ABOUT THE PONY EXPRESS RODEO?

Hot button topics by nature elicit strong emotional responses from people. While it isn't always easy to discuss these topics, I think it is beneficial to have everything out in the open. Certainly, I am not immune to feeling strongly about a subject, and I imagine you aren't either. In some cases, the “hot button” topic can result in lines drawn in the sand between neighbors and friends. This is why I place such a high premium on communication. Communication is the only way to reach understanding. Understanding is not the same as agreement, and I would argue that understanding is the more important of the two.

With respect to the Pony Express Rodeo, for many people the rodeo itself really isn't an issue. I believe for most people with concerns, the issue has been the cost, or the potential cost of the rodeo. This has been the case for me as well. On Tuesday, September 2, the City Council (in a 4-1 vote with Council Member Bradley voting no) awarded a contract to purchase bleachers for the rodeo grounds with an agreement that the non-profit rodeo committee make payments for a significant portion of the cost, with the remaining funds coming from a developer as part of a renegotiated agreement with the City.

Your representative government, (the City Council and me) have very different roles. From time to time, our ideas, values, or vision may be in opposition. It isn't easy when that happens, though that is EXACTLY what is supposed to happen. Homogeneous thought results in a lack of critical thinking. While swift action by government is something I would like to see more of sometimes, it is far better that each and every elected official be challenged by balancing powers. This means disagreements will arise, especially with “hot button” topics, and sometimes the solutions aren't ideal to every party.

I enjoy our western heritage. There is a romantic element to the Wild West, and Eagle Mountain's history is tied to it. I



For information on the new educational signage along the Pony Express Trail, please visit the City website, News section.

recognize there is value in celebrating that heritage through rodeo, even though I have opposed some of the solutions to doing so. Be that as it may, the time for disagreement has passed. I recognize and appreciate all of the hard work and effort the volunteer committee members have put forth to continue the rodeo. It is that passionate community involvement which makes Eagle Mountain such a great place to live! I will always encourage our residents to serve others and offer value to the community. I believe that is exactly what this civic improvement committee intends to do. I have chosen to focus on how I can help in a personal capacity. I have volunteered to assist the rodeo committee in whatever way they need me. Whether it be taking tickets or picking up trash, I'll support their efforts.

In next month's issue I should have an update for you on the utility sale. A voter information pamphlet will also be mailed to residents ahead of the November 4 election.

MAYOR CHRIS PENGRA
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LIBRARY NOOK

Upcoming FREE kids' activities for Eagle Mountain residents:

Kids on the Move - Music & Movement (ages 18 mos. to 4 yrs)

September: 17, 24 October: 1, 8, 22, 29 (Not on the 15th) November: 5, 12, 19

All sessions are on Wednesdays and will be at 10:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers.

Fall Story Time (ages 3-6)

We will have two sessions for Fall Story Time - Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. and Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. They will be held in the Children's Corner of the Library.

SEPT:	OCT:	NOV:
Tues. 16 and Thurs. 18	Thurs. 2	Tues. 4 and Thurs. 6
Tues. 23 and Thurs. 25	Tues. 7 and Thurs. 9	Library closed Nov. 11
Tues. 30	No Story Time the week of October 13.	Thurs. 13
	Tues. 21 and Thurs. 23	Tues. 18 and Thurs. 20
	Tues. 28 and Thurs. 30	

Brought to you by: The Pony Express Rodeo Committee and their sponsors

PONY EXPRESS RODEO
SEPTEMBER 18, 19, 20
 EAGLE MOUNTAIN RODEO GROUNDS

CHUCK POPE OF THE **Cowboy Church**
 SAYS SEPT 19 IS THE BEST ALL FIELD

FEATURING **TROY LERWILL**
 "THE WILD CHILD"

PRE-SHOW 6:00 P.M. | RODEO 7:00 P.M.

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE THROUGH REGTIX AT **WWW.PONYEXPRESSRODEO.COM**

MUTTON BUSTIN & CASH CALF SCRAMBLE EVERYNIGHT!
 REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! CALL KRISTA BLACK @ 801-319-8314



NEWS BRIEFS

Transportation Plan Open House

What will the transportation network in Eagle Mountain City look like in 2040? Come and provide comments about the Transportation Master Plan update on Thursday, October 9 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Singers and Instrumentalists Wanted

The communities of EM and SS are uniting to put on a production of Handel's Messiah on December 8 and 21. Practices for the non-auditioned choir and orchestra begin September 14 from 6-8 p.m. Please purchase a G. Schirmer edition Messiah score prior to the first rehearsal. Visit <http://saratogaspringseasterchorus.blogspot.com/p/handels-messiah.html> for rehearsal location, solo audition instructions, and a link to purchase a score. Questions? Contact: emcc.messiah@gmail.com.

Prescription Take Back Event

On September 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Utah County Substance Misuse and Abuse Reduction Team (SMART) Coalition, Utah County Department of Alcohol and Drug Prevention and Treatment, local law enforcement, and other partners will give the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by removing potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs from their home medicine cabinets. Medications will be collected at locations throughout the county, including Smith's in Saratoga Springs. For more information please see www.UseOnlyAsDirected.org or call 801-851-7181. A permanent drop-off location is available at the Utah County Sheriff's Office - Eagle Mountain Division at 1680 E Heritage Dr, Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

City Hotline

Remember, if you have an urgent request related to City services (streets, parks, storm drain, sewer) or a utilities emergency (gas, electricity, or water), call 801-789-5959, select the department you need and leave a message. The on-call employee will respond. If the situation is wide-spread the employee may not be able to return the call as they are working to fix the problem.