



The Ranch News

TSVR FARMERS MARKET IN FULL SWING

SATURDAYS THROUGH SEPT 2ND, 8AM TO 11AM [EXCEPT AUG 19TH]



The Town of Star Valley Ranch began its Farmers Market series on July 15th with additional markets held on July 22nd and 29th.

Each market in July saw a steady stream of patrons eager to sample a variety of local offerings to include homemade jams and canned goods, baked breads and treats, coffee, fruits, produce and more. Food trucks, live music, and volunteers from Lucky's Place with adoptable pets rounded out the Saturday morning events.

In August, Farmers Markets are scheduled from 8am to 11am on the 5th, 12th and 26th. Look for the signs and tents on Vista Drive next to the First Response Center (across from Town Hall).

MARKET BASKET DEBUT

COMMUNITY TABLES AT THE TSVR FARMERS MARKET

A new addition to the TSVR Farmers Market is the **Market Basket**. These community tables offer space where small growers and backyard gardeners (on the Ranch or elsewhere in Star Valley) can bring, share, and sell produce.

Have more lettuce, squash or other garden vegetables than you need? Then bring your extra to the **Market Basket** tables at the TSVR Farmers Market and we can practically guarantee you'll find a patron to buy it!

Interested in participating? Please contact Council Member Merrill (kmerrill@starvalleyranchwy.org) or Council Member Rok (rrok@starvalleyranchwy.org) for more information and to provide a notification before showing up at the **Market Basket** tables each Saturday. We look forward to seeing all the amazing Ranch and SV gardeners at the next TSVR Farmers Market!

*[Please note that the **Market Basket** is intended primarily for produce, i.e., vegetables and fruits. Honey and eggs are also welcome but, please no craft items. Contact one of the Council Members listed above if you aren't sure your product is suitable for the **Market Basket**.]*



CALENDAR ITEMS

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Water Utility Board

August 7th at 1pm

Coffee with the Mayor

August 8th at 10am

Town Council Workshop

August 8th at 2pm

Town Council Meeting

August 8th at 7pm

Planning & Zoning Board

August 9th at 5pm

August 23rd at 5pm

NUMBERS YOU NEED

CONTACTS

Town Hall

(307) 883-8696

clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org

Special Municipal Officer

(307) 880-2666

smo@starvalleyranchwy.org

MAYOR'S MEMO

A FEW WORDS FROM KATHY BUYERS

Dear friends and neighbors,

Hearing the name Town of Star Valley Ranch brings a sense of pride and joy to me. As a Town we have accomplished so much over the last several years. We have 265 fire hydrants that did not exist twelve years ago. We have replaced almost all our water infrastructure and continue to look for funding to replace the last couple of lines. Our water system is the newest and best system in the state of Wyoming.

I fully understand that your road gets dusty, and that the Town does not have the revenue to pave all roads. We are a small community with limited funding but rest assured that your water is the very best. We should all be very proud of what we have accomplished in such a short period of time.

Our Town is still seeing a flurry of new homes and remodeling of old homes. Please remember that you must have a building permit. The fines are up to \$750.00 a day if you decide to ignore the law and not apply for a building permit. The permit is much cheaper than the fine so please apply online or at Town Hall for your building permit.

Look for some upcoming legislation from the Town Council for the nuisance ordinance, short-term rental ordinance, building ordinance, and driveways.

As a reminder *fireworks are not allowed in the Town*. Please refer to [Ordinance §92.03 DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS](#).

Kathleen Buyers, Mayor

ARTICLE FOR STAR VALLEY RANCH NEWSLETTER

FROM LINCOLN COUNTY WEED & PEST

I want to write this little article to express my gratitude to the residents of Star Valley Ranch, the Town Council and the Mayor.

Thirteen years ago, the area of Star Valley Ranch was the weediest place in Lincoln County. Acre after acre was infested with noxious weeds like Leafy Spurge, Musk Thistle, Dyer's Woad, Houndstongue and Whitetop. I wrote letter after letter to landowners but wasn't getting anywhere. I asked to be on the agenda for a Town Council meeting where I explained the devastation that these weeds cause to our environment and what was needed to continue to keep our part of Wyoming beautiful and native. While there I met Greg Greenhoe (who later became one of my board members). Together we came up with the idea of having a "Star Valley Ranch, War on Weeds Day". The first year we held it, the turnout was incredible. We have now had 13 "War on Weeds" events for the town. We have worked to get grant money for Boy Scouts and the Golf Association to control Dyer's Woad and Musk Thistle. I can honestly say that after 13 years of hard work and dedication, Star Valley Ranch leads the way in noxious weed control among other towns in Lincoln County. Together we can make a difference! Thank You!



Travis Osmond
Lincoln County Weed & Pest

COUNCIL CORNER

A FEW WORDS FROM COUNCILMAN ELLIS

Councilman Ellis is the Town Council Liaison to both the Planning and Zoning Board and the Financial Advisory Board. Here are his latest board reports:

Planning and Zoning Board - Chair, Mike Black

Under the direction of Mike Black, the Planning and Zoning Board is in the process of accomplishing the following:

- Updating the building inspection checklist,
- Reviewing the 2021 International Residential Code (IRC) and the International Building Code (IBC) to determine if there are any needed updates to the Town of Star Valley Ranch building codes, and
- The Board is also updating the fees and deposits for building permits.

Financial Advisory Board - Chair, David Sankaran

Under the direction of David Sankaran, the Financial Advisory Board is in the process of accomplishing the following:

- Working with the Town to simplify the town budget with the intent to make it easier to understand with the result that residents will see a significantly improved and easier to understand budget document, and
- Based on the new Vision and Mission Statement, the board is also helping the Town identify and prioritize projects, staffing, benefits, and equipment.

Taylor Ellis

CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL

COUNCILMAN ELLIS

tellis@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCILMAN DENNEY

rdenney@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCILWOMEN MERRILL

kmerrill@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCILWOMEN ROK

rrok@starvalleyranchwy.org



Have questions, comments or just thoughts to share about our Town?

Please email the *Ranch News* editor at newsletter@starvalleyranchwy.org and we'll do our best to answer your query, publish your letter, or pass along your comments in a future newsletter. Thank you!

FROM TSVR PUBLIC WORKS

ROADS 101

CAUSES AND CURES FOR POTHOLES

Here on the Ranch after the snow melts many of our roads develop potholes. For those of you who live here year-round, it is pretty reasonable to say we really have two seasons in Star Valley Ranch: winter and pothole repair.

The reasons behind this type of road damage involves both the limitations of road construction and mother nature.



Most roadways are built in layers, starting with compacted earth and gravel for drainage. In our town, some of these layers are covered with asphalt or chip-seal that (in an ideal setting) repels rainfall and snow, forcing it into drains or the shoulder of the road.

A pothole is the natural result of environmental conditions, especially in our area of the country where the roadway freezes. When the road freezes, it expands, which will cause cracks. Extreme heat can also degrade the quality of the roadway. When combined with the heavy wear and tear of a multitude of vehicles, a pothole can form very rapidly. If it rains, the growth of the pothole will be accelerated, as the water will eat away at the bottom and sides of the pothole.

Eventually, the asphalt or chip-seal layer over these potholes' collapses, leaving holes in the roadway. Potholes can cause significant damage to a car's suspension system or tires if the driver fails to avoid them. They can also fill with water, obscuring any other hazards they may contain.

How does our Town Public Works department fix these roadway menaces you may ask? Whether asphalt or chip-seal the first step is to smooth the edges of the pothole. This is done with a saw as needed and the pothole may also be dug-out further to ensure at least 1" of depth is available to accommodate the patch-fill. Once the patch-fill is applied, it is raked, leveled and tamped-down. Roadway traffic can actually help at this point as it serves as an additional measure of compaction over the newly filled pothole.

For potholes on our gravel roadways the process is more complicated. The road surface must first be cut down with the grader to the bottom of the deepest pothole in order to stop the pothole from becoming a repeat offender. This entails first watering the road surface to soften it. Next the road base must be pulled up and relayed before compacting. Unlike repair of potholes on asphalt or chip-sealed roads, the worst thing that can occur to a freshly regraded road is high-speed vehicle traffic. Even though compacted, the road surface is still soft enough for wash-boards to form from speeding cars. And, wash-boards lay a foundation for new potholes to emerge.

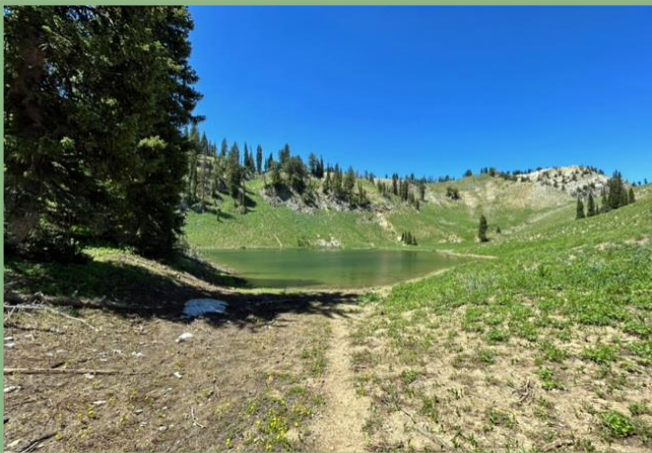
Have questions? Please contact the Town Clerk by email at clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org or give Town Hall a call at (307) 883-8696.

“SUMMER ON THE RANCH”

photos of summer days on the ranch from our residents



MORE "SUMMER ON THE RANCH"
photos of summer days on the ranch from our residents



NEWS & NOTES FROM THE NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD (NRB)

GARAGE SALE FOR TRAILS & PARKS THIS MONTH!

SAVE THE DATE! THE SALE YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR IS HAPPENING
AUGUST 18TH & 19TH

The Natural Resource Board / Town of Star Valley Ranch will again have a two-day “**Garage Sale for Trails & Parks**” on August 18th & 19th 2023. Due to limited storage capacity after modifications to the First Response Center we will gather all donations during the week of the event (August 14th through 18th) in a tent across from Town Hall. As always, the NRB will work with you on larger items and/or higher value items you wish to donate as we may be able to market these items prior to the actual sale date. Please call Craig Adler at (513) 324-4197 to coordinate. Have other questions? Send an email to: svrtrails@gmail.com

**Trails & Parks 2023**

The NRB will need volunteers for the setup, sales, and cleanup from 8am to 4pm on both August 18th and 19th. Please email/call Craig Adler if you would like to help. This is the NRB's largest fundraiser of the year so, we look forward to seeing you. And, thanks in advance to all of the volunteers who help make the sale a success and to the dedicated patrons who support our event!!

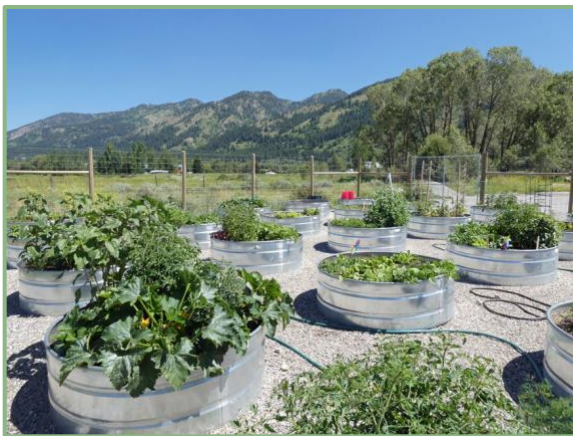
COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

UPDATES FROM OUR CROP CIRCLES COMMUNITY GARDEN

Hello again fellow SVR gardeners!

By now, our tanks hopefully are showing signs of upcoming produce. I have seen all the tanks and everyone's looks great. The potato tanks are coming along too and hopefully will produce lots of potatoes for the Thayne Food Bank when it comes time to harvest.

For now, keep on growing gardeners! And as always with questions or concerns please contact me (svrcommunitygarden@gmail.com).



I hope many of you made it to the first but not last TSVR Farmers Market held on July 15th. What a great idea and superlative addition to TSVR offerings for residents. We look forward to seeing how the Market progresses through Labor Day.

Just a gentle reminder about picking up after our four-legged family around the Crop Circles. Today I found a forgotten remnant left at the fence at the Circles. As you may all recall, our four-legged family members are welcome to come with us as we tend our gardens but please dispose of any remnant bags in the garbage can at Canine Commons. Thank you!

Deb Johnson

SVR Community Garden Coordinator

MORE NEWS & NOTES FROM THE NRB

LEAVE NO TRACE

WE ARE THE CARETAKERS OF THE TRAILS WE HIKE

We are fortunate to live close to great hiking in the Bridger-Teton National Forest. Easy access to multiple trailheads (Cedar Creek, Vista Drive, Green Canyon, and Prater Canyon) adjacent to the Town of Star Valley Ranch has resulted in increased recreation and use by dog walkers, hikers, runners, mountain bikers, and horse riders.



It is imperative that users abide by the "Leave No Trace" principals which are critical to preserving our natural resources for future generations. You can read more about these principals here: <https://lnt.org/why/7-principles/>

The most important overall principal is *leave the National Forest in a "natural" state*. A few areas where we are locally having problems are:

- Leave rocks, plants, and other natural objects as you find them.
- Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches (*do not dam streams or creeks*).
- Campfires: Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, then scatter cool ashes.
- Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your campsite and rest areas for trash or spilled food. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter. Burning trash is never recommended.
- Control pets at all times, or leave them at home.
- *NEVER* deface or mar live trees!

We can all do our part to "LEAVE NO TRACE". Help out if you see something which needs attention. Please let your Trail Crew know if you see anything that needs correcting. Send an e-mail to: svrtrails@gmail.com

Craig Adler

TSVR Trails Committee Chairman

In the next issue of
Ranch News



As ever, we love seeing your photos!

Our new photo call is for images that capture

"The Change of Seasons"

for use in the October newsletter.

We'll be looking forward to seeing all those great pictures!



Please email photos to

newsletter@starvalleyranchwy.org

and we'll publish them next time around!



"Meet Your Town Employees"

will be returning in a future newsletter issue!

Stay Tuned!

LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF DISPATCH REPORT

AKA - THE RANCH BLOTTER

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office provided the following TSVR dispatch report for 1 - 30 June 2023:

Citations	0
Warnings	0
CFS/Law Incidents	60
Special Patrol	13

Animal Problem		Abandoned Vehicle		Agency Assist	2
Alarm	2	Assault		Auto Accident	
Burglary		Citizen Assist	2	Citizen Dispute	
Civil Standby		Controlled Burn	3	Child Abuse	
Alcohol Problem		Controlled Substance		Disturbance	1
Court		Domestic Violence	2	Dead body	1
Elderly Abuse		e911	12	Harassing	1
Intoxication		Fire / Fireworks	1	Fraud	2
Littering		Information		Lost/Found Property	
Juvenile Problem		Mental subject	2	Lost/Found Animal	1
Game & Fish	1	Protection Order		Medical	12
Missing person	1	Noise / Test	2/1	Sex offense	1
REDDI	1	Suspicious	1	Theft	
Threatening		Traffic	1	VIN Inspection	4
Welfare Check	3	Trespassing		Vandalism	

FROM THE SPECIAL MUNICIPAL OFFICER

NOTES FROM JIM ROGERS, SMO

A few items for residents to keep in mind.

- Per Ordinance [§71.06 OTHER STREET ISSUES](#), address numbers must be clearly visible from the street at all times of the year.
- Per Ordinance [§90.04 DOG OR CAT LICENSING; REGISTRATION](#), every person owning a dog or cat within the town shall register and license the dog or cat with the town. All dogs or cats over six months old shall be licensed within 30 days of taking residence in the town. Licenses expire on December 31st of the calendar year and require annual renewal.

Thanks for your cooperation. Please contact Jim with questions at: smo@starvalleyranchwy.org

LETTERS, ORDINANCE UPDATES & OTHER PUBLIC NOTICES

LETTERS

FROM OUR TOWN RESIDENTS

Good morning Mayor,

I wanted to share my gratitude to the town, town leadership, and town staff for continued support of the FIREWISE program in our town of Star Valley Ranch, Wyoming. Living in this lovely landscape, very close to the Bridger Teton National Forest, we all bear some responsibility and stewardship to maintain our property in ways that make us all more aware, resilient and resistant to wildfire.

As we collected our materials for this year's FIREWISE cleanup event, another benefit presented itself ... "neighbors meeting neighbors". Working at the edge of our property, adjacent to the roadway, we enjoyed visiting with many neighbors that passed our way. I was reminded of the dog's names I forgot, associated with the people's names who I remembered. I met new residents to the town, a mother and young son out for a walk in the sunshine. One neighbor acknowledged that he needed to start similar work on his property (collect some dead/down limbs). Another neighbor was interested in small stock pieces suitable for a wood stove. We offered weeds free for the picking but didn't have anyone take us up on that offer.

This town supported activity benefits everyone and is certainly equal opportunity. Driving the town roads in advance of the pickup dates, we see large piles, small piles, tidy piles, not so tidy piles. Piles that look to have been built by very strong people, and piles that were likely built by one or more patient people over a course of days. Regardless of your physical strength, stamina, or how much equipment you own, we can all participate in our own way. All that participation makes a BIG difference. MANY THANKS to all of the town employees who make this event happen annually.

Ann Blakley

Grateful Town of Star Valley Ranch Resident

*Thank you, Ann! It's great to hear positive feedback.
Thanks again for writing!*

ORDINANCES

PENDING ORDINANCES OR UPDATES

The following ordinance updates were approved during the July 11th Town Council meeting. Ordinance updates become effective 10 days after the third reading.

ORDINANCE 2023-07 [SECOND READING]

TITLE III ADMINISTRATION CHAPTER 33 TOWN ORGANIZATIONS

This Ordinance is an update to board organization to have consistency of form and language and to dissolve the Economic Development Board and reserve the subsection for future use.

THIRD READING PLANNED FOR 8 AUGUST TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

ORDINANCE 2023-08 [FIRST READING]

TITLE III ADMINISTRATION CHAPTER 33 TOWN ORGANIZATIONS

This Ordinance is for the creation of a Roads Advisory Board and outlines the procedures in accordance with existing boards.

SECOND READING PLANNED FOR 8 AUGUST TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

The complete text of all ordinance updates can be found on the Town website under Government > Ordinances > and then by using the "Current Proposed Ordinance up for Reading" drop-down. Or [click here](#).

Questions or comments on proposed ordinances or ordinance updates can be emailed to:

clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org



NOTICE

MID-VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT (MVFD) SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

At the 11 July TSVR Town Council Meeting Chief Jensen of MVFD expressed the need for more volunteer firefighters. If you're interested, please contact MVFD' Chief Jensen by email at:

Ctjenkins@silverstar.com

LETTERS, ORDINANCE UPDATES & OTHER PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE

LUCKY'S PLACE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

It has been brought to our attention that our local animal shelter, Lucky's Place, is in desperate need of volunteers especially those willing to walk dogs.



Volunteers are also sought to play with and groom cats. Even one hour of your time can make all the difference in the life of one of these shelter animals. Please call (307) 883-7387 to find out what you can do to help.

Lucky's Place is a private, independent *no-kill* shelter run by the Animal Humane Association of Star Valley, a 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization. You can also visit the Lucky's Place website (<https://www.luckys.place>) to find out more to include listings of the available dogs and cats waiting for adoption.



NOTICE

CEDAR DRIVE REPAIRS COMPLETED



Repairs on Cedar Drive have been completed by the TSVR Public Works department and the road is now, once more, open to traffic. We appreciate your

patience during the closure of this town road during the month of July.



MORE NEWS IN BRIEF

QUICK NOTES ON TOWN OPERATIONS AS OF 31 JULY

- Note that Lower Valley Energy has recently begun work along Cedar Drive. With construction equipment in the area please exercise caution when driving in the vicinity.
- As of the end of July, most town roads have received initial dust guard treatment. Applications will continue into the fall.
- While Town Code incorporates state traffic regulations the Town has also adopted an open road policy which allows for golf carts, ATV's etc. on our public roads. Our Town SMO cannot enforce state law which includes traffic; he can only enforce Town Code. With an uptick in speeding and under-age drivers in July, the Town plans to invite Sheriff Johnson to an upcoming Town Council meeting. Stay tuned!



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