



Ranch News

MAYOR'S MEMO

A FEW WORDS FROM KATHY BUYERS

Swearing in Ceremony

On January 10th 2023, at 7pm Mayor Kathleen Buyers will be sworn into office by Town Clerk Kristin Gray followed by the swearing-in of Councilman Elect Ruzena Rok and Councilman Elect Kirsten Merrill by Mayor Kathleen Buyers. Further details will be sent via email and Facebook.

Fire Hydrant Clean-up

I would like to personally thank our special heroes in town that clean around the fire hydrants. We certainly appreciate all of your hard work.

Town Council Planning

The Town Council will begin working on goals and objectives for each member of council and short-term and long-term plans for major projects. The council will use the vision and mission statement as our guide in the decision-making process.

I look forward to continuing to serve as your Mayor with the start of the new term in 2023.

Kathy Buyers

It's a New Year and a new Town Newsletter format! You'll notice we've added a number of new sections such as the "Mayor's Memo", "Council Corner", "Letters", and more. Residents can now also submit questions comments or newsletter article suggestions via email to:

newsletter@starvalleyranchwy.org

We look forward to hearing from you!

CALENDAR ITEMS

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Water Utility Board

January 4th at 1pm

Finance Advisory Board

January 10th at 2pm

Town Council Meetings

January 10th at 7pm

February 14th at 7pm

Planning & Zoning Board

Jan 11th & 25th at 5pm

Feb 8th & 22nd at 5pm

Natural Resources Board

January 24th at 2pm

NUMBERS YOU NEED

CONTACTS

Town Hall

(307) 883-8696

clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org

Special Municipal Officer

(307) 880-2666

smo@starvalleyranchwy.org

TOWN ANNUAL AUDIT

NO INSTANCES OF NONCOMPLIANCE

During the November 16th 2022 TSVR Council Meeting, Jones Simkins, LLC, presented their findings for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Financial Audit of the Town. The results of the audit disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

You may find the complete audit report by [clicking here](#).

*Check out the
Star Valley Weather Blog
to see the latest snow totals and
weather updates for our Town!*

<http://blog.starvalleyweather.com>

WINTER TRAILHEAD PARKING UPDATE

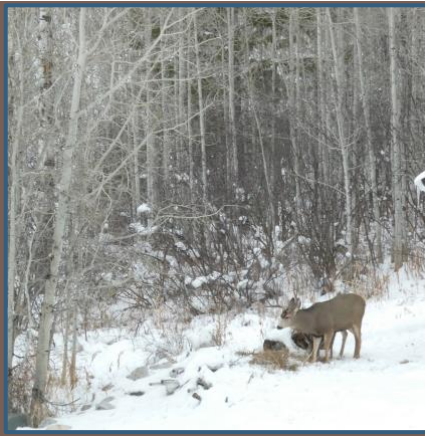
PLEASE READ AND HEED - THANK YOU!

In our last newsletter (published November/December 2022) information was provided on winter recreational parking options at the three trailheads accessible from our Town (Cedar Creek, Green Canyon, and Prater Canyon). Recent developments now warrant an update to the previously published parking information.

For Cedar Creek Trailhead: Park in the small plowed out area just to the right of the junction of the Trailhead Road and Cedar Creek Drive. Signs will be added to this area defining the approved area for winter recreation parking from 1 November to 1 May. The plowed area will accommodate four vehicles. If the approved area is full, overflow parking for Cedar Creek Trailhead is located at the Cedar Creek Swimming Pool parking lot.

For Green Canyon Trailhead: As you approach the Green Canyon Trailhead on Green Canyon Drive, turn left on Green Canyon Circle and proceed to the plowed cul-de-sac for parking. Please heed the new signage and do not park in front of Green Canyon Trailhead or obstruct access to private property! Winter parking rules apply from 1 November to 1 May.

For Prater Canyon Trailhead: Parallel parking is not allowed on either side of Cedar Drive at the National Forest Boundary; the previously installed parking sign has been removed and will be replaced with "No Parking - Tow Away Zone" signs. Obstruction of access to private property along with Town Road crews' inability to plow the road effectively due to the overabundance of parked vehicles has led to the need for this change. Instead, for snow-machine access, please park at the newly signed parking area located north of the First Response Center across from the SVR Town Hall. Snow machines can then make their way up Vista West Drive to Cedar Drive to access the Prater Canyon Trailhead. Winter parking rules north of the First Response Center apply from 1 November to 1 May. The Town understands this parking change for Prater Canyon may not be ideal, however, a longer-term winter parking solution is currently in the works. Stay tuned!



COUNCIL CORNER

A FEW WORDS FROM COUNCILMAN TAYLOR ELLIS

Town Master Plan Update

After acceptance of the Vision and Mission statements generated by community focus groups, town survey, and the work group committee, formal Requests for Proposals (RFP) were sent out to 20 master plan consultants on October 10th 2022. All the recipients of the RFP were located in Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, and Utah, or had experience doing town master plans in Wyoming.

Five of the RFP recipients requested conferences with Mayor Buyers, Kristin Gray, and Taylor Ellis. Of the 20 firms contacted, only 2 submitted proposals. I will be reviewing the submitted proposals and will forward all proposals, along with my suggestions of the high-quality proposals, to the Town Council on January 6th 2023. The Town Council will then rank the proposals by January 20th 2023 and obtain a signed contract prior to February 6th 2023.

The completion date of the draft Master Plan will be negotiated prior to signing the contract. Once a draft of the Master Plan has been reviewed by the Town Council, a copy will be presented to the Citizens of The Town of Star Valley Ranch.

Additionally, a study is currently being conducted by Forsgren Associates, Inc. and will result in recommendations regarding final road surfaces within the town. This study will be completed in time to be included in the information supplied to the Master Plan consultants. Once the study has been completed it will also be made available to the residents of Star Valley Ranch.

Taylor Ellis

CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEMBER ELLIS

tellis@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCIL MEMBER DENNEY

rdenney@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCIL MEMBER BAILLIE

dbailie@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

lhansen@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCIL MEMBER ELECT

MERRILL

kmerrill@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCIL MEMBER ELECT

ROK

rrok@starvalleyranchwy.org

ARBOR DAY 2023

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR ARBOR DAY 2023!

The Town of Star Valley Ranch will be celebrating our 13th annual Arbor Day on Saturday, June 10th 2023 at Fox Run Park. We will be planting additional trees within the park. The Town of Star Valley Ranch will also be recognized as a Tree City for our 12th consecutive year!

The Town of Star Valley Ranch has established a fund for the purchase of trees and supplies for the 2023 Arbor Day and other natural resources work. Donations can be dropped off or mailed to the TSVR Town Hall or you can make a donation online (see donation details below). The Natural Resource Board will add the names to our recognition plaque which is displayed at Town Hall. The minimum donation for displaying the names of donors or remembrances is \$50. Donations received after May 11th will be recorded on the plaque in 2024.



Natural Resource Board

Donation for Trees - Arbor Day 2023

Your \$50.00 donation will entitle you to have a name engraved on the plaque displayed in our Town Hall. Donations must be received by May 11th for Arbor Day June 10th 2023 (If not received by May 11th, donations will be applied to the 2024 celebration).



Donor's Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Donation Amount _____ Date _____

Do you want a name on the plaque? Yes _____ No _____

Is this donation in memory of an individual? Yes _____ No _____

If **Yes** to the above, please print the name you want engraved on the plaque:

Return this form to Town Hall or mail to:

Arbor Day and Natural Resource Donation
Town of Star Valley Ranch
171 Vista Drive #7007
Star Valley Ranch, WY 83127

[Click here](#) to provide an Arbor Day donation online via the Town's Online Bill Pay web page. After landing on this page click on the link that says "[Click HERE to donate to our Natural Resource Board/Arbor Day Fund](#)".

LETTERS

FROM OUR TOWN RESIDENTS

We're looking forward to hearing from you, Town of Star Valley Ranch residents, in future newsletters!

IN THE MEANTIME

HERE'S MORE NEWS YOU CAN USE...



DON'T FORGET FIFI & FIDO!

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR CAT OR DOG REGISTRATION

All dogs or cats over six-months old shall be licensed within thirty (30) days of taking residence in the Town of Star Valley Ranch.

Each dog or cat license expires on December 31st of the calendar year for which it is issued and each dog or cat shall be licensed annually thereafter.

Registration fees are \$10 for an altered dog or cat and \$25 for an unaltered dog or cat.

Registration fees will be waived for Certified Service Dog or Cat with proof of Certification as

prescribed by a Physician or a Certified Trainer.

A photo of Fido or Fifi along with a copy of a current rabies vaccination receipt from a certified veterinarian is required for registration or renewals.

[Click here](#) to register your pet online via the Town website. After landing on this page click on the Online Bill Pay link that says "Click HERE to register your animals in the Town of Star Valley Ranch".



PLEASE KEEP DOGS UNDER CONTROL

DOGS MUST BE LEASHED AND UNDER CONTROL WITHIN TSVR

Per ordinance remember that when not on the owner's property, a dog must be under control by either leash, cord or chain or in an enclosed vehicle (exceptions being the Town's designated off-leash dog park).

Additionally, *PLEASE do not let your dog chase or harass wildlife.* The latter is also prohibited by Town ordinance.

SHORT-TERM RENTALS



PERMIT RENEWALS ARE PAST DUE!

DO YOU OPERATE A SHORT-TERM RENTAL?

PERMIT RENEWALS FOR 2023 ARE PAST DUE!

If you operated a permitted Short-term Rental (STR) during 2022 and intend to continue operation in 2023, you should have already renewed your permit. (STR operators/owners are responsible for renewing rental permits by the last day of December each year.)

As an STR operator/owner you are also responsible for notifying the Town of any changes in the status of your rental home (e.g., change in property managing agent, no longer operating as a short-term rental, change in ownership, etc.).

Thank you for being a good STR neighbor in our Town!

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!

SMO'S REPORT

AKA - THE RANCH BLOTTER

From 1 November through 30 November 2022 the TSVR Special Municipal Officer issued 10 verbal warnings, 11 written warnings, and 0 citations. To follow is a summary of the calls and complaints responded to during this same time period:

Animal Complaint	2	Water Shut-Off	0
Building & Zoning	1	Meter Pit Tampering	0
Road Right-of-Way	18	LCSD Assist	0
Snow Complaint	0	Fire Prevention\Open Fire	0
Nuisance Complaint	0	Stop Work Order	0
Road Damage	0	Animal Impound	0

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office provided the following report for TSVR from 1 November through 30 November 2022:

Citations	0
Warnings	0
CFS/Law Incidents	34
Special Patrol	12

Agency Assist	2	Controlled Burn	4
Citizen Assist	1	Domestic Violence	1
Civil Standby	1	Fire/Fireworks	1
e911	6	Patient Transfer	1
Fraud	2	Medical	4
Information	1	Paper Service	1
Noise	1	Smoke/Fire Investigation	1
Traffic	1	Suspicious	2
Animal Problem	1	VIN inspection	3

With winter now in full swing on the Ranch, the TSVR SMO would like to remind residents that per ordinance vehicles cannot be parked on or in the Town road right-of-way at any time except where permitted with signage. The SMO works to provide reasonable accomodation to the latter when residents are working to clear driveways of snow. Thank you for your cooperation!

TOWN'S WINTER ROADS

SAFETY FIRST!

We are into our winter months and would like to remind everyone that road conditions are changing and will become more difficult to maneuver and drive on. Without proper vehicle equipment you will have a difficult time driving on some of the roads in Town during the winter. At times, you will have a berm in your driveway, you may get stuck, and you may hear a snowplow go by at 2am. All of this is part of living in a mountain Town in winter.



Please do not inhibit snow removal in any way or at any time. Our operators have 31 miles of road to plow, and this takes time. Please give them a break and abide by the following:

- Stay out of the way of the snow removal equipment
- Do not park in the road right-of-way
- Make certain that your garbage containers are on your property
- Do not push, shovel, or blow snow into the road

Snowplowing priorities will be adjusted according to snowfall amounts. The Town will begin plowing in the early morning hours when the snow depth is about 4 inches.

Please call the Town Hall offices directly at (307) 883-8696 with questions.

You can read the Town's complete snow policy by [clicking here](#).

In the next issue of Ranch News

Want to know more about the staff that keeps our Town running? Then we've got you covered with a semi-recurring article titled "MEET YOUR TOWN EMPLOYEES" debuting in our next issue.



For the March/April 2023 newsletter edition we want to see your best "pup in snow" photos.



Please email them to newsletter@starvalleyranchwy.org and we'll publish them next time around!

KEEP KIDS ALIVE – DRIVE 25!

PLEASE SLOW DOWN!

Speeding in residential neighborhoods represents the single greatest complaint issue for law enforcement and town councils. *Most speeders in your neighborhood live in your neighborhood.*

Per the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), crash rates increase faster with an increase in speed on residential roads and the death rate per 100 million miles driven on residential streets is almost 3 times the death rate on highways (NHTSA 2004).

Please slow down and keep our community safe! Thank you!

ORDINANCE UPDATES & OTHER PUBLIC NOTICES

ORDINANCES

PENDING ORDINANCES OR UPDATES

There are currently no pending ordinance updates.

Prior business from the Town Council meeting held on December 21st 2022 included the third reading and approval of Ordinance 2022-18 Title V Public Works Chapter 54 Rates.

Questions or comments on proposed ordinances or ordinance updates can be emailed to: clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org



NOTICE

NEW TOWN COUNCIL MEETING TIME APPROVED

During the December 21st 2022 Town Council meeting a request to change the Town of Star Valley Ranch regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting from the third Wednesday of the month to the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm was approved. This change will become effective immediately and remain in effect until a new motion is approved by the Town Council.



NOTICE

BACK-UP SMO APPOINTED

During the December 21st 2022 Town Council meeting the council approved the Mayor's appointment of William Cazier as a Special Municipal Officer (SMO) during the absence of the official Town Special Municipal Officer, Jim Rodgers.



NOTICE

NEXT COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR SCHEDULED

The next Coffee with the Mayor is scheduled for Monday, January 9th, 2023 at the Town Hall. See you there!



NOTICE

LCED BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED

The next meeting of the Lincoln County Economic Development (LCED) Board is scheduled for Tuesday, January 3rd 2023 at the County Offices located at 421 Jefferson Street, Afton, Wyoming. Mayor Kathy Buyers is a member of the LCED Board.



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Town of Star Valley Ranch
171 Vista Drive #7007
Star Valley Ranch, WY 83127
Phone: (307) 883-8696
Fax: (307) 883-8327