

# The Times - News

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## Police ask for your help, "do you know these people"

By Myrna Trauntvein

Times-News Correspondent

It doesn't take much time following a car burglary for a thief to begin using the stolen plastic at stores in the area.

At least that was the case with some burglaries which occurred in Nephi recently.

Mike Morgan, Nephi City Police Officer, said that following a car burglary in March, the thieves were less than an hour in making use of the credit cards they had taken from a local vehicle.

"The theft occurred at 3:30 a.m. and by 9 a.m., when the cards were canceled, there was already \$3,000 worth of illegal charges," said Morgan.

In fact, he said, the first charge on the card was done at Payson WalMart at 4:30 a.m. That was a break for police because the store's cameras captured the couple who used the card.

Now Morgan would appreciate a call from anyone recognizing the thieves. He can be contacted at 681-0169.

"WalMart has an excellent system and can pinpoint the exact register and the exact time when the transaction using the exact credit card occurred," said Morgan.

The card, stolen in March, was used at Payson, Springville, Lehi and River-

ton, and Kerns within hours.

The card was then either sold or traded to other persons and was used in Salt Lake County.

Morgan, who retired, after 20 years as a Salt Lake Deputy and Sgt. with the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Department, last December, still has some media connections and was able to get the video on a television newscast. He has received some calls reporting possible suspects in the case.

"We have had the same thing happen several times now," said Morgan.

Homes and vehicles, even those housed in garages, have been broken into, he said.

Vehicle burglary is often a crime of opportunity. Carelessness is often causing vehicles to be broken into as well as stolen. Minimize the chances of being a victim by taking away the opportunity.

Here are some tips to remember: lock they vehicle and take the keys; park carefully in well lighted areas; use anti-theft devices; clean out the vehicle and do not leave anything in it, remove the garage door opener; park in a closed garage, if possible; use an engraver to mark property and report suspicious activity or persons to the police department.

Remember to always lock up and take the keys with you because an unlocked car is an open invitation to a car thief, lock the trunk or tailgate, close all windows because professional thieves have tools that unlock cars through the smallest openings and be sure vent or wind-  
ing windows are shut tight and locked.

Lock the car even when making a quick stop at the gas station,

convenience store or mini-mall.

At night, park in well-lit areas with lots of people around when out running errands and turn wheels sharply toward the curb when parking, this makes it extra difficult for thieves to tow your car.

Avoid leaving in the vehicle and/or in view: cellular phones and chargers, pagers, CDs, purses/briefcases, wallets, back packs, clothing, laptops/cameras, sports equipment/tools, removable stereos including the removable face plates.

"The thieves were after anything they could take which could be used to sell or barter to support their drug habits," said Morgan. "Never leave a purse or credit cards in the car even if it is parked in the garage."

Be sure the garage door can be secured. Do not leave it open even when outside mowing the back lawn. An empty garage broadcasts the homeowner's absence.

Home burglaries have also been a problem locally, he said.

To prevent and discourage home burglaries, homeowners

should invest in solid doors and good quality locks on doors and windows. This includes on all sliding glass doors as well. Make it not only difficult but also time consuming for a burglar to gain entry.

Always lock the home's

doors and take the key with, even if just stepping next door or out mowing the back yard.

Don't put valuables where they can be seen from the window, especially items that can be easily carried.

Use a timer set to turn interior lights on and off at varying intervals as though the home was still occupied.

Don't keep large amounts of cash or really valuable jewelry around the house.

If someone comes to the door asking to use the telephone, make the call for them. Don't invite them in.

Don't hide a spare key under the door mat or under a flower pot. Thieves know all the good hiding places.

Plant thorny bushes under all windows. Trim back any trees or shrubs near doors and windows to eliminate hiding places for would-be thieves.

Invest in a good security system along with motion sensor lights installed out of reach

Don't leave ladders outside. Keep any tools that could be used to break in your home safely locked away in a garage or shed.

Get a barking dog or "beware of dog" signs. If you own a dog and go out of town, have someone come in and care for your dog in your home.

Always double check doors at night and lock all windows.

Engrave all valuables such as stereos, microwaves, video cameras and videotape the contents of the home. Keep the video and the list of all valuables in a safe place, such as a safety deposit box.



PROTESTS DO WORK • After the Levan City Council received a petition protesting the proposed animal control facility on Levan City Property south of the Levan DUP Cabin, the council decided to look elsewhere for property to house the facility. Photo Rebecca Dopp

## Citizens protest location of animal control shelter

By Rebecca Dopp

Times-News Correspondent

Not in my backyard!

That seemed to be the consensus of a group of petitioners who were protesting the proposed location of the Levan Animal Control Shelter. The proposed site is on city property, approximately 1st West and Center, southwest of the DUP cabin.

Sherman Petersen presented a petition to the Levan Town Council consisting of 93 names of people who did not favor building the shelter in the middle of a resi-

dential neighborhood, citing that there would be noise, unhealthy conditions, and it would be a nuisance to the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers and their cabin. Neighbors also feared that it would devalue their properties.

"A building of this kind should not be built right in the middle of a residential area," said Petersen.

He said that everyone who was approached to sign the petition did so without question. Joyce Justet obtained the signatures of the DUP members.

"An animal shelter is not going to fit in," said Justet when talking

about the downtown area of Levan: the store, post office, church and town hall. She said she'd like to see it built elsewhere.

Petersen said that of those who signed the petition all were in favor of having a shelter, just not in a place where if dogs were dumped off they could possibly cause injury to people or pets or become a nuisance.

He said that he had contacted other towns and cities and was told that they would never put an animal shelter in a residential

See **Protest** on page 5

## Mona City Council approved the Water Tanks Annexation ordinance

By Myrna Trauntvein

Times-News Correspondent

Following a public hearing on the Mona City Water Tanks Annexation, council members adopted the annexation ordinance.

The new annexation consists of 562.95 acres. Some of the property, in the annexation, is designated R-1 (residential), some as C-1 (commercial) and some is designated as being in a transition holding zone.

Allen Pay, water master, questioned why the annexation had the holding, or transition zone. He wondered at the two separate zones, the R-1 and the Transition zones.

"We have agreements with those who are seeking development," said Cory Squire, council member.

Those areas were given the R-1 zone. Other areas, those above the freeway, for example, will be designated as commercial development, or C-1. Currently, Barnes Bullets will have that designation.

Other properties in the transition zone as they seek development, will need to apply as subdivisions and will then need

to have a zone designation.

A transition zone is the area at the periphery of the residential zone and is often predominately residential but may also include retail and office uses or other uses which may be designated in future zoning plans. Its development intensity is compatible with existing or future development.

Pay also questioned the acceptance of part of Pat Painter's developed property saying that the water line did not meet current city code. The line should be 8-inches and should be looped. It was 6-inches, he said, and was not looped.

"The standard was 6-inches at the time," said Painter. "We met the requirements of that time."

He could not be held to the new subdivision ordinance since his construction pre-dated the annexation of his property.

Property east of the freeway to the water tanks, north of Cemetery Lane, is part of the annexation. That property, excluding Barnes Bullets to be built east of the freeway, belongs to Patrick and Tonya Painter, Gordon and Rhonda Jarrett, Utah Power & Light Co. and Mona Irrigation Company.

However, the largest number

of acres being annexed which belongs to approximately 27 landowners, is located south and west of the freeway. That property will become residential.

The property east of the freeway is being considered as possible commercial development property.

The city is also planning the development of a holding pond. Plans are to build the pond this construction year.

Harry Newell, council member, said he thought it was a good plan to build the water storage pond this year.

"Should the sewer be a consideration before the annexation is adopted?" asked Lynn Ingram, city planning commission chairman.

If the city does adopt a plan to build a city sewer system, said Bryce Lynn, mayor, all subdivisions will need to put in the sewer lines as part of the development of infrastructure during the early stages of construction.

That will come along with streets, gas lines, water lines, utility installation and secondary water lines.

"We should decide, fairly soon,

See **Annex** on page 2



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