

# The Times-News

Serving East Juab County - A Nice Place To Live!

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## Acting Forest Service district ranger gives update on burned areas on Mt. Nebo

By Myrna Trauntvein  
Times-News Correspondent

An acting forest ranger has been appointed until a permanent replacement for a retired ranger can be made but re-seeding of the burn area on Mt. Nebo has already taken place.

Paul Gauchay, Acting District Ranger, and Brook Chadwick, Deputy Forest Fire Management Officer for the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, met with commissioners on Monday.

The two showed the latest maps from the Bald Mountain Fire, the Pole Creek Fire and the Coal Hollow Fire.

"We have reseeded about 32,000 acres in the Pole Creek and Bald Mountain fires where there was lower elevation or steep slopes that may not recover well on their own," Chadwick said.

Native and beneficial plants for wildlife and livestock were seeded. Aerial reseeded began on the burned area, near the junction of U.S. 89 and U.S. 6, last fall.

"This was a fast-moving fire so it did not ruin the soil because it did not get so hot," said Chadwick. "We hope we have a fairly slow snow melt. We are about two weeks behind on the snow melt."

Highway 89 is sage brush and, after conferring with cattle owners who use the land for grazing, the types of native seeds to be replanted were determined. DWR had worked with cattle owners to find alternative grazing land for them.

Gauchay has spent 32 years with the Forest Service and said he was on a new 120-day detail as the acting ranger for the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest Spanish Fork Ranger District as the occupational health and safety officer. District 4 is based in Salt Lake City.

Gauchay said he was filling in for George Garcia, who recently retired from the Forest Service. His usual job is as the United States Department of Agriculture U.S. Forest Service in the Salt Lake City office.

"I have been around the Forest Service for a number of years," said Byron Woodland, county commission chairman. "There is a real mistrust of the Forest Service."

He said that the commission had been able to trust Garcia. He had gone a long way to rebuild that trust.

"We are disappointed to see him gone," said Woodland.

Forest Service rangers in the past had not built trust and the ability to be heard, listened to and consulted had not existed before Garcia came to the area.

"We need another good fit for



**SUNNY DAFFODILS** • April showers have brought several varieties of flowers into bloom such as these daffodils and tulips. But, get ready for some more rain and snow this week. The weatherman is calling for more storms Tuesday through Thursday.

## City looks for ways to keep officers safe while on duty at night

By Myrna Trauntvein  
Times-News Correspondent

Nephi should always have two officers on duty at night for their mutual protection.

Larry Ostler, Nephi City council member, said that his participation in the Nephi Citizen's Academy had opened his eyes to the need.

There should be two officers on shift each and every night.

Jeff Hansen, representing the Nephi City Police Department, with the go-ahead from Chief Mike Morgan, started the Citizen's Academy program last year so that the participants this year are the second group.

"I know that those of you who took the class last year saw what the officers go through in one night," he said.

He said he had already talked to Seth Atkinson, city administrator, and to Lisa Brough, city recorder/finance director, about funds.

The Utah Highway Patrol, the Juab County Sheriff's Office and the city police cooperate and offer backup on some events but, late at night, the officer might be alone.

"The goal," said Ostler, "is to have each officer go home at the end of the night alive."

Justin Seely, mayor pro tempore, said that going through the Citizen's Academy had enlightened him, humbled him and had offered understanding and had made him retrospective.

"While we were there last week (at the training), the police were called out on a situation," said Ostler. "When you think about how much the officers go through in one night, it makes you think."

Skip Worwood council member, agreed that it did give those attending the academy a new perspective and gave insight into the thought processes of the officers and the split second decisions they had to make.

"We could maybe talk to Chief Morgan and see what he could do about officer rotations so that officers would not work alone ever," Ostler said.

During one class, said Seely, there was a high level pursuit that ended in front of the bank and took the police officers away from the instruction of the class.

Perhaps, said Ostler, it was time to see if funds could be found to make certain that no

officer ever had to be out at night alone.

Earlier in the meeting, Dr. Rick Robins, Juab School District Superintendent, had talked to the council about what could be done about open campuses and thanked the council, police department, the county and the sheriff's office for the School Resource Officer and with the help with having law enforcement officers at the elementary schools during the daytime.

"Maybe we are at a point where it is time to reevaluate hiring another SRO officer," said Seely.

"Some areas with multiple entries to schools have put up high fencing and the schools

look more like prisons," said Robins.

He said that district schools were now safer because over the last few years the school board had made some significant changes: the entries were restricted, there was bullet resistant glass on buildings and there were effective surveillance cameras.

The new program, where an officer goes to an elementary school to do his paperwork, is a good one, said Robins. It is helpful because there is a police car out front and a police presence.

"Hats off to Chief Morgan and you for supporting the the substation offices at the schools," said Robins.

## JSD and city officials look towards the future of the area's youth

By Myrna Trauntvein  
Times-News Correspondent

"From the beginning of education in the valley of Juab County, in the late 1800s, the great people of Juab have always been dedicated to the success of their children," said Dr. Rick Robins, Juab School District superintendent, as he met with Nephi City Council on Tuesday.

"Fast forward to now," he said. "That same pioneering spirit exists."

Justin Seely, mayor pro tempore, welcomed Robins to city council meeting.

"It has been an absolute pleasure to work with you," said Seely. "I have always been impressed by your level of commitment and focus."

Seely said they both attended local inter-agency meetings and he was proud that those meetings were not territorial as participants focused on ways to better the lives of all youth. Seely said that the meetings also served as a model for other communities.

He also appreciated the way the board of education was willing to work with the city to provide youth with good experiences.

"I also appreciate your love of technology," he said.

Robins said he had brought a prop to share and that was a 1911 yearbook for Nephi High School.

The book had been owned by Stella Cox, a resident of Logan, who passed away. She was a graduate of Nephi High and her family contacted Rob-

ins about the old yearbook. They had been trying to decide whether to throw it away or donate it to the district.

"I told her that we would like her to send it to us," he said. "We have other old yearbooks that we have digitized. We were glad that the family did not throw it away."

Walter Inges Brown was an educator from Vermont who came to the valley to help with the family farm. The pioneers believed in education and appointed him as the first superintendent. The first graduating class was in 1899.

The first record of education in the valley came from Nan Schmidt.

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