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SOUTHERN UTAH'S INFORMATION SOURCE

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SPORTS

Looking back at the Pac West, GNAC breakup



LIFE

Foods fit for a fabulous picnic



Ivins home lost to fire



Bystanders watch as smoke rises from a trailer home and several out buildings that were consumed by flames Wednesday in Ivins. JUD BURKETT / THE SPECTRUM

Nearby homes temporarily evacuated, no injuries reported

By Samantha Sadlier
ssadlier@thespectrum.com

IVINS — One structure was deemed a total loss and two other structures were damaged following a human-caused structure fire at about 3 p.m. Tuesday in Ivins near the 40 East block of 350 North.

Other homes to the east of the mobile home, which suffered the most damage in

the fire, were temporarily evacuated Tuesday afternoon while fire crews from Ivins and St. George fire departments battled the flames, said Ivins Police Sgt. Rich Rogers. No injuries were reported and it was unclear Tuesday the amount of damage sustained by nearby structures, he said. Rogers said the fire began when an air-conditioning unit was being installed by a company and the workers were cutting

metal outside. The sparks from the metal cutting caught some cheat grass on fire and the flames quickly spread catching the mobile home on fire, Rogers said. The flames threatened several other homes, which sustained minor damage. Further investigation to the cause and

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Kane County wildfire burning freely

By David DeMille
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Firefighters continued their battle Tuesday with a fire that grew to 8,284 acres in Kane County, has forced evacuations, closed roads and remained at zero percent containment as of 8 p.m.

Interagency fire crews worked throughout the day on the "Shingle Fire," which has threatened approximately 550 residences and a number of other structures in the past two days, forcing more than 1,000 people to evacuate from Swain's Creek, Stout Canyon, Ponderosa Village, Harris Flat and Elk Ridge.

No injuries or destroyed structures were reported as of Tuesday night and crews had established what fire managers described as "good anchors" on the south end of the fire. A press release from the Color Country Interagency Fire Management Area said the western flank of the fire was "holding strong."

The problem, according to the press release, is the front of the fire, driven north and east by high winds toward U.S. Highway 89 and State Route 14.

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Solving heroic mysteries

By Samantha Sadlier
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WASHINGTON CITY — To honor the fallen military service members from several Southern Utah counties, Bill Stay, commander of the American Legion Auxiliary Post 90 is working to compile history of the individuals who served and gave their lives in the service of America.

Stay, a U.S. Navy veteran, said he first came upon the idea to put together the book when, after joining the American Legion, he realized no one knew much about Lester Keate, after whom Post 90 was named.

"I asked around, but no one really seemed to know much," he said. "I wanted to find out more, but the information wasn't available."

On the Memorial Day holiday during the Post 90 annual service to honor fallen heroes, Stay said he came upon his first clue regarding the history of Lester Keate, when he found his head stone in the St. George Cemetery.



Bill Stay, left, looks over his wife, Nora's shoulder as she edits a flier asking for information on soldiers from Southern Utah as they work in their home office Thursday in Washington. JUD BURKETT / THE SPECTRUM

"I found his head stone, but discovered that his name was Daniel Lester Keate," he said. "I'd just been looking for Lester Keate, so finding out his real first name opened up a way for me to find out who he was." Using Keate's full name, Stay was able to search for and find a website that listed each of the fallen military service

members by Utah county, he said. From this new information, Stay said he found that Daniel Lester Keate was killed in action in 1918 in Champagne, France, while serving during World War I in the U.S. Marine Corps.

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JROTC program sees large growth

By Kevin Jenkins
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ST. GEORGE — A high school program that promotes citizenship and youth leadership will nearly double its size when fall semester begins in Washington County.

The U.S. Air Force JROTC program is beginning its seventh year in the local school district and its growth to about 400 cadets means it will now be recognized as a "wing" with two separate units under the umbrella organization.

Retired U.S. Air Force Col. Glenn Whicker, the program's senior aerospace science instructor, said the JROTC will conduct a formation of command ceremony Aug. 17 during an evening gala to celebrate the program's success.

Although the JROTC is a military preparatory type of program, students who participate are under no military obligation.

"The community service — building better citizens — is the JROTC goal," Senior Master Sgt. Morgan Hager said.

Hager is the newest instructor in Washington County's program, having just completed his first school year. An additional instructor will be hired to teach in the fall because of the JROTC's growth, he said.

"To be honest, I didn't even know that the program existed. But it turns out they have a really big program," Hager said. "It's one of the greatest programs I've ever known for youth."

Dixie High School seniors Nasira Barker and Rebecca Husted said they will be involved with a couple of small JROTC teams that will present the United States flag today during patriotic services for Independence Day.

Husted will present the

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Heroic

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This new information lead Stay to begin trying to find out histories of other fallen service members from Southern Utah counties, including Washington, Iron, Beaver, Kane, San Juan, Wayne, Garfield and Piute.

"I knew I needed to find out more about the fallen," he said. "They deserve to be remembered. I really want to write something about these heroes."

Stay said his biggest struggle in gathering information about fallen heroes is that not much information is readily available, which is why he is hoping to get help from the community.

"I am reaching out to the communities in these counties to try and find as much information as I can about these men," he said. "I've been working with some of the cities to send out a letter that highlights a hero from each city in the Southern Utah area. It really opens people up."

So far, Stay said he has worked with cities such as Washington City as well as Beaver and Blanding to get information out about his project to residents who may have information about relatives who were killed in action during the past American wars.

Dick Warner, Navy veteran and honorary Pearl Harbor survivor, said he is impressed with Stay's desire to preserve the history of the service members who sacrificed their lives.

"It is really great that Bill is doing this," he said. "This is something that really needs to be done. Record of this information needs to be kept."

Stay said he hopes to have enough information about each of the fallen service members to compile a book in time for the dedication of the new veterans assisted living facility in Ivins, which is expected to be completed in spring 2013.

"I couldn't think of a more appropriate time to present this book to the community than at the dedication of the new veterans home in Ivins," he said.

Stay said he would like to encourage residents in Southern Utah that might have information about service members on the list, or would like to add any names to the list, to do so to help contribute to the project.

INFO ABOUT SOUTHERN UTAH TROOPS

The following are military service members who served and were killed or went missing in action during past American Wars from Southern Utah. Contact Bill Stay at suheros@juno.com if you have any information about any of the individuals listed below or have information about a service member that was killed or missing in action and is not named on the list.

Iron County

» **World War I:** Charles Lionel Dover, Harold McConnell.

» **World War II:** John G. Clar, Neuman P. Houchen, Earl D. Hyatt, Mark D. McMullin, John Quentin Page, Brian E. Pendleton, Elmo W. Platt, Albert B. Albertson, Carl B. Bayles, Norris L. Bradfield, Robert N. Bulloch, Fenton M. Dalley, Otto K. Dalley, Harold C. Davis, Leo Espkin, Chadrick D. Fife, Austin L. Halterman, Leonard E. Hulet, Lamar B. Lambeth, Jack W. Moore, Dean Nelson, Mangus A. Peterson, Lyle W. Robb, Kent L. Skougard, Lester E. Smith, Dewey A. Topham, Richard I. Tweedie, Mark J. Wilcock.

» **Korean War:** James W. Lund, Thiel M. Peeves, Homer Rice, Jack M. Webster.

» **Vietnam War:** John Clifton Bonzo, Randell Dockstader, Ellis Orton Jr., David R. Richtsteig, Marion C. Robb, Kurtess H. Walker.

Washington County

» **World War I:** Clayton J. Reber, Cleon J. Robert, Ernest R. Russell, Moroni Kleinman, Lester D. Keate, Isaac H. Lanston.

» **World War II:** George Felton, Wallace M. Gray, Dal G. Covington, Emil Mace Graff, JR Fawcett Hinton, Marion W. Hinton, John Harvey Savage, Alvin A. Anderson, Keith W. Beckstead, Rulon B. Bracken, Robert K. Burgess, Edward H. Cornelius, Garth B. Cottam, Willard D. Duncan, Wesley B. Empey, Grant L. Fawcett, Keith L. Hafen, Alma S. Hunt, Mark E. Imlay, Dwight H. Jones, Erban L. Jones, Vance Justet, Golden Lang, Merrill Laub, Willis A. Matthews, Jack N. Ostenson, Ernest A. Pickering, Dalton Pulsipher, Fay F. Reber, Rex O. Russell, John W. Seaman, June P. Sorenson, Marston J. Stokes, Wayne R. Stucki, Clayton B. Sullivan, George G. Tait,

Daniel R. Worthen, Howard A. Wade, Robert A. Cromwell.

» **Korean War:** Lavon Martineau.

» **Vietnam War:** Lauren B. Green, David Leo Reeve, Crawford Snow.

Beaver County

» **World War I:** Albert Dean, Rual King Dorrity, Frank J. Edwards, Wallace Ipson, James H. Gardley.

» **World War II:** John Baldwin, Abe Griffiths, William O. Baker, Alma W. Barton, Phillip J. Barton, Houston B. Baxter, Bernell Bills, James B. Blackner, Ward M. Burt, Maurice W. Clothier, Arch Fotheringham, Delmont L. Goff, Leo D. Hollingshead, Merrill L. Jameson, Robert R. Page, Ralph J. Walbeck.

» **Korean War:** Ned E. Davies, Howard Stewart.

» **Vietnam War:** James Bernard Low.

Kane County

» **World War II:** Winsor A. Asay, Deverous W. Bowman, Merl T. Chamberlin, Woodrow S. Ellertson, Lional M. Hoyt, Rodney Park Perkins, Heber J. Smith, James W. Young.

» **Vietnam War:** Ken Swain Maxwell.

Garfield County

» **World War II:** Ellis H. Adair, Lark Allen, Ira R. Barnhurst, Leon C. Barton, Julian Cherrington, Milan W. Cottam, Arthur V. Dickinson, Earl E. Excell, Elden E. Griffin, Erwin T. Kockers, Conrad Lyman, Gren McInelly, Ted V. Riddle, Boyd E. Riding, Thomas F. Sevy, Farlan L. Spencer, Guy Smith, Arthur E. Twitchell, Lamont J. Haws.

» **Korean War:** Luke D. Lefevre.

» **Vietnam War:** Gerry Geo Chestnut, Jim Frank Jennings, Chris Delano Munson, Thomas Paul Talbot.

Wayne County

» **World War II:** Ralph J. Baker, Carl E. Taylor, Hans F. Torgerson.

» **Vietnam War:** William W. Johnson.

Fire

Continued from A1

responsibility of the damages is being investigated, Rogers said.

Wendy Walker, a Santa Clara resident who lives on the border with Ivins, said she could see the smoke and was concerned for her neighbors.

"It's a little terrifying," she said. "These kinds of fires can be potentially life threatening. It is scary seeing all of these fires this year."

Ivins resident Norma Garmendez said she was worried when she saw the smoke.

"It's scary this time of year, especially with the heat and the wind," she said. "It is so dangerous."

The fire was extinguished by Tuesday evening.

Wildfire

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Investigators determined that the fire started at 3:38 p.m. Sunday in nearby Shingle Mill Canyon, due to a faulty ATV spark arrestor, said Mark Wilkening, inter-agency fire information officer.

A type-two fire management team was brought in to help fight the blaze, with multiple aircraft and ground crews working to prevent any damage to structures. Wilkening reported that helicopters, heavy air tankers, fire engines, hand crews and bulldozers were assigned to the fire, fighting to establish a defense for the surrounding communities.

There were a number of road closures in place, including all of SR-14 from U.S. Highway 89 to the Mammoth Creek Road junction.

At one point, the Kane County Emergency Services Office reported that power was cut to the area so firefighters could fight the blaze safely around power lines, but power was expected to be restored to the area by late Tuesday night.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency authorized federal funds to help with the costs of the fire after it was determined the fire threatened to create a major disaster. It was the fifth time FEMA has approved such grants for a fire in Utah this year.

Fire officials say the moisture levels in the grasses and plants that fuel wildfires are at an all-time low. Combined with the region's usual gusty winds, high temperatures and low humidity, those dry fuels create the potential for an especially dangerous summer.

Fire and fireworks restrictions are in place throughout state and federal lands, as well as in most municipalities. Gov. Gary Herbert and government officials across the state have called for caution, encouraging residents to do what they can to prevent fires.

JROTC

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colors during ceremonies at Hurricane's Community Center Building today following the city's Freedom Parade, which begins at 8:30 a.m.

The JROTC also will march in Hurricane's parade and will perform a rifle demonstration. A separate JROTC team will raise a new flag at 8 a.m. at Washington City's Veterans Park.

Barker said she is in charge of the color guard and will be watching from the sidelines. Audience members are usually generous in praising the youths for their service, she said.

"Especially when the veterans come up and say, 'You guys did a good job.' It's a good feeling," she said.

"It's odd, though, when you think you should be thanking them," said cadet Kevin Thompson, a junior at Dixie High.

Hager said the program encourages the cadets to get to know military veterans during activities such as gala dinners and awards ceremonies.

"Our challenge to them is to go up to as many veterans as they can and introduce themselves," Hager said. "We have our cadets sit with veterans (at the dinners) so they can talk to them and get to know them better because (veterans) like to see the strength of youth."

The cadets also will participate in flag ceremonies Friday at a St. George care center and at Ivins' Pioneer Day celebration on July 24, Hager said.

"I know the community knows we're here, because we get so many requests. We don't like to turn anybody down," he said.

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