



The Ranch News February 2008 Volume 3 Number 1

## Mayor and Council Present State Of The Town Message

*By Mayor Boyd Siddoway*

The Town celebrated its second birthday on November 8, 2007. The one word that best describes the last two years for the Town, the Association and those of us associated with our community is **"CHANGE"**. We have had a lot of changes over the last two years, and depending on your personal point of view, some have been very good, some not so good. But we are changing and hopefully in the long run, changing for the better.

**Why the Change?** We need to constantly remember **WHY** we are changing. Our water system had deteriorated over the years due to lack of Association funds. The SVRA Board created a committee (staffed by volunteer Association members) and authorized a study of the various alternatives for raising funds that would address our community's need for large sums of money to repair, replace and expand our aging and inadequate culinary water system. The *results of the study*, supported by over 80% of the members who had the interest and concern to participate, were to form a Town. A Town has access to State and Federal Grants, effectively reducing the cost of most projects, many times by as much as 50% to 67%. The Town also received over a million and a half dollars in our first year from State Shared Revenues; reducing the cost that each of us would have had to bear.

**A Change of Responsibilities!** In the early fall of 2006, every member of the Town's Council and the Association's Board of Directors signed a *Joint Resolution* supporting the defined responsibilities of each organization. It established which organization would be responsible for the various citizen and member services. The Town Council agreed to focus on infrastructure; water and roads, the Association's Board of Directors agreed to focus on recreation, entertainment and social activities.

**A Change of Ownership – Culinary Water!** On May 30, 2007 a *Contract* for \$1.00 for the transfer of the Culinary Water System to the Town was signed by the Association's newly appointed Chairman of the Board, Joe Angelovic and the Town's Mayor. More change! At the same time the Town *purchased* all of the Association's non-golf course related equipment, culinary water parts inventory and tools. The Town *leased* the maintenance shop and the airport apron on the north end of the runway for our road maintenance equipment and material. The Town and the Association signed an *agreement* that guarantees the citizens that in a water shortage year, drinking water demands will take precedence over irrigation water demands until the Town is able to expand its own water sources and storage systems to adequately meet the homeowner's demands for culinary water. In addition, on June 1, 2007 the Town hired two members of the Association's water crew to continue their same jobs for the Town.

**A Change for Water Conservation** – The Association has totally replaced the old leaky Aspen Hills Golf Course Irrigation System. According to the engineers, this alone will save thousands of gallons of wasted water. The Town had a professional "Leak Test" performed on the culinary water system. The test identified over 135 unique leaks. By fixing the largest of these leaks, the Town will also be saving thousands of gallons of previously wasted water every day. Together along with each individual citizen's conservation practices, we can all work towards making sure we all have sufficient water during our peak periods of demand until new water sources are on line.

**A Change of Ownership – Roads!** In the early spring of 2007, the Town was able to have all the Roads within the Town limits declared and classified as "Public Roads" through a "friendly" Eminent Domain action against the Association. This is important to all of us to have the roads classified as "Public Roads" as it will allow the Town to apply for grants for reconstruction and to continue using public funds for improvements and maintenance of our roads; such as the addition of gravel in the low spots, grading, dust guard and snow plowing



**A Change for Safety with “Good Looks”!** We have signed a three year contract for Fire and EMS Services. The County Sheriff provides traffic control. A Special Municipal Officer enforces Town Ordinances. We started placing large, highly reflective, brown street signs on tall, brown poles at each intersection, with completion currently slated for spring. To fund the sign project’s estimated cost of \$43,000, we used a 50% grant and 50% Town “in kind” contribution (equipment and labor).

**More Change!** The Town Hall was moved on April 1, 2007 to the upper floor of the commercial building at the corner of Highway 89 and Cedar Creek Road (SR 118). We are currently seeking a more permanent location for Town Hall closer to Town. We are also investigating a room for *USPS Boxes* for local mail delivery to our citizens.

**A Delightful Change!** The WWDC changed the contract. The SVRA Board had a change of heart and the Board unanimously approved the request to drill a test well on the SVRA common property (maintenance shop property leased to the Town) located at the main entrance.

**A Change for the Better!** Our community was awarded two grants for water studies, neither required matching funds from the Town; \$200,000 to document our culinary water system’s condition, and \$600,000 for the exploration of wells for additional water sources for our Town. The Town has spent nearly \$1,000,000 on our roads for both maintenance and improvements. We have dust guarded for two years, contracted snow removal and this year we are doing all the road work ourselves including snow plowing and sanding with Town equipment and employees.

**Still More Changes Coming!** The Town’s Council and staff continue to strive to meet your expectations within our financial limits. Thank you in advance for your support and understanding as we go through the many more “**CHANGES**”. Mayor Boyd Siddoway, Councilmen Kent Harker, Al Redlin, Carol Warren and Jim Wheeler.

Copies of referenced *material* are available on the Town’s website at [www.starvalleyranchwy.org](http://www.starvalleyranchwy.org) or at Town Hall.

## Introducing the Town’s New “Old” Employees

*By Mayor Siddoway*

The Town of Star Valley Ranch is very please to re-introduce you to our existing employees as they assume more and additional responsibilities for the Town. Promoting from within is great from both the Town’s prospective as well as providing employees with career advancement.

**Brenda Bauer – Town Clerk**

Brenda has been employed by the Town since June 13, 2007 as our Municipal Water Department Billing Clerk. She was appointed Town Clerk on November 27, 2007. She continues to support and help the Town in a very professional and knowledgeable manner.

**Yolanda Navarrete – Town Billing Clerk / Secretary**

Since September of 2007 Yolanda has been and will continue to work part time as the Town’s Special Municipal Officer in the enforcement of Town Ordinances . She assumed her new additional part time position as Town Billing Clerk/ Secretary on January 2, 2008. She is managing both her responsibilities very effectively and efficiently from the Town’s point of view.

Again, please join us by congratulating both these individuals.

### Table of Contents

Page 3	Search for Permanent Home	Page 6	Sheriff’s Report
Pg. 3	Acquisition Efforts Continue	Pg. 7	Animal Owner Control
Pg. 4	Planning and Zoning News	Pg. 8	Water Dept Report
Pg. 4	Culinary Water Fees	Pg. 9	Postal Service update
Pg. 5	Road Dept. Information	Pg. 11	SVRA Consent to Sell Form
Pg. 5	Public Safety Message	Pg. 12	Snowpack Status Report
		Pg. 13	Calendar of Town Events



## Search For Permanent Home Continues

As the Town Council investigates short-term options for our facilities, we continue to evolve and refocus our efforts as plans or desires run into roadblocks. We have hit several snags; financial, size, condition, and term as we have tried to secure a facility that is physically and financially acceptable to us on a temporary basis.

Rentals seem out of the picture at the moment. A new permanent Town Hall is in the distant future, so our current efforts are as follows:

Our real Town need is for a shop and covered parking area for all our road and water equipment and supplies, tools and inventory. We estimate our short term requirements are about 3,000 square feet, while our longer term requirements approach 6,000 square feet of heated maintenance shop space. There is another requirement for 5,000 to 6,000 square feet of covered, unheated parking sheds.

If we build the maximum heated shop area in the beginning, we can split the space with the maintenance area and construct a temporary Town Hall. This cost to both construct and reclaim later appears to be more economical than renting for an equal amount of time.

With the current lease of SVRA's maintenance building, we have the option to use that heated facility for the storage of the Thayne Volunteer Fire Department's four wheel drive pumper and water trucks. This equipment can be onsite, chained up and ready to provide fire suppression assistance anywhere in Town with a much faster response time than currently driving from Thayne, stopping to chain up and then proceeding to the fire. This approach again gives our community future flexibility as our Fire Suppression alternatives unfold; such as the possibility of the formation of a Fire District or even the consideration of our Town's own volunteer fire department.

We are currently investigating applicable grants and low cost loans. We have had one steel building contractor visit with the Town to give us ideas for an upcoming RFP bid request.

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## Acquisition Efforts Continue For Town Hall Site

Efforts to finalize the sale of land from SVRA for a future Town Hall continue with the cooperation of the Association. The site is the main entrance to our Town, currently being used for the maintenance shop and equipment parking. The location is on the northeast corner of the intersection of Vista West with Vista Drive. This area of the Town is the most prime spot for the future, permanent location of our Town Hall.

The Town is most desirous to purchase this land from the Association. The Association is most desirous to sell this land to the Town..... However,

Our Association's DCC&R require that 2/3rds of all the members give their consent, in writing, to the Board of Directors to make this transaction valid.

Your signature on the "Consent to Sell" Form would be greatly appreciated.

Need a form?? Just sign on to the Town's web page: [www.starvalleyranchwy.org](http://www.starvalleyranchwy.org), then click on the "Consent to Sell" form and print your own copy. Completed forms can be returned to either the town hall or the SVRA office.

We really need everyone's support in this effort. Thank you



## Town of Star Valley Ranch-Planning and Zoning Board *By Councilman Al Redlin*

**Notice to Property Owners Planning Construction or Building Alterations:** Ordinance 2007-06 received its third reading and was approved at the Town Meeting on November 13, 2007. This Ordinance sets forth the requirements, procedures, regulations, and rules for building construction or alteration and the fees to be charged for plan review, issuance of building permits, construction inspections and construction deposits for construction projects within the Town of Star Valley Ranch. Beginning January 1, 2008, a Building Construction and Alteration Permit must be obtained from the Planning and Zoning Board prior to the start of any residential or commercial construction, exterior building alteration or structural modification to an existing structure. Further information and Ordinance 2007-06 can be obtained from the Town website [www.starvalleyranchwy.org](http://www.starvalleyranchwy.org) or by requesting a "Building Construction and Alteration Permit Application" from the Town. Obtaining a building permit from the Town does not eliminate the need to also obtain a permit from the Star Valley Ranch Association and abide by their regulations. The Star Valley Ranch Association will continue to monitor projects for which they issued a building permit prior to January 1, 2008.

Town of Star Valley Ranch Planning and Zoning Board meetings are normally held on the first and third Wednesdays of every month at 7:30 PM at the Town hall. Applications for building permits will be reviewed at the P&Z Board meetings. These are open meetings and the public is invited to attend. It is recommended that persons planning to attend P&Z Board meetings, contact the Town Hall in advance as meetings may be cancelled if there are no items on the agenda or applications to be reviewed.

## Culinary Water Fees *by Councilman Al Redlin*

Considerable effort was expended in developing the fees to be established for culinary water service for fiscal year 2007/2008 (July 1, 2007 thru June 30, 2008). There was little historical information available on costs to maintain the system. Original fees were based on recommendations of the WWDC contracted water engineers. The overall objective was two fold; first keep rates at a bare minimum, but secondly high enough to qualify for WWDC grants. This was to be the first time that Star Valley Ranch households were to be charged a water service fee since the Wyoming Supreme Court struck down the SVRA's water fee. The Town Council was aware that the establishment of a water service fee would have a severe adverse financial impact on a few households and therefore it was the desire of the Council to hold the fees to the minimum possible. It was also determined by this Council that to assist in keeping the culinary water service fees to a minimum that, at least for the first few years, all funds received from the eight mill property tax levy would be directed to culinary water service activities.

We now need to re-examine the expenses the Town has incurred in maintaining the water system and administration of the billing and fee collection process. We need to refine our projected future costs and adjust the fees for fiscal year 2008/2009 accordingly. We also need to coordinate with the Wyoming Water Development Commission (WWDC) to assure that the rates being charged continue to be adequate to meet the requirements for future grants to rebuild the Star Valley Ranch culinary water system.

Your comments and suggestions are solicited for any modifications that you feel would meet our objectives and make our culinary water system more self sufficient, fees more equitable or procedures more user friendly until we are able to install meters on all services. Your comments or suggestions should be received by March 15, 2008 as the Town will need to present the proposed rates and any changes in proposed procedures in the first of three readings of a planned ordinance change at the April 15, 2008 Town Meeting.

## Town Meeting Highlights, Agendas, Minutes To Go Online *by Councilman Carol Warren*

Town Meeting Highlights will no longer be published in the Town's Newsletter.

These highlights can be found on the Town's Website at: [www.starvalleyranch.org](http://www.starvalleyranch.org).

Just go to the website and click on "Council Meetings". You can view Agendas, Highlights and Complete Minutes. Alternatively, copies of all minutes, etc. are available at the town hall anytime during normal business hours.



## Town Road Department Information *By Councilman Kent Harker*

With the arrival of the winter season, the Town of Star Valley Ranch is now busy performing its road snow removal service. With that goes a request to all citizens to help the road crew with their job. Any inhibitor costs the Town time, money and more importantly, delays in providing our citizens with safe, clear roads.

Please observe the following:

Pedestrians: Please be careful as you are walking on the roads during snow removal. Please walk on the extreme side of the road opposite the snow plowing operation. For your personal safety, the snow removal equipment may not be able to stop or avoid an accident. Your safety is paramount.

Road Right-of-Way Parking: Please make sure you park in your private driveway off the road right-of way. For private gatherings at your home contact the Road Department (880-ROAD) for temporary permission for group parking.

Garbage Cans: Please make sure you keep your garbage cans out of the road right-of-way by placing them in your private driveway toward your home. Please place your garbage cans out as late as possible and move the garbage can back to your home as soon as you can. Even on non-snow days you should observe these requests as the road crew could be working on grooming the roads.

Cleaning Driveways: When you clean your driveway, please push your snow to the sides of your drive, making sure you pile the snow on your property. Please do not push your snow across the road or pile snow in or along the side of the road. Homeowner's using contract snow removal services are responsible to ensure the individual performing the service is properly notified of these requirements.

We are now writing citations for violations of Ordinance 2006-07.

Violation of any Town Ordinance can result in a fine of up to \$750.

When snow is pushed across the roads, it is compacted and can freeze as hard as concrete. When a plow hits one of these hard spots, it is dangerous to the driver and can cause serious damage to the snowplow.

So far this plowing season we have spent about \$4000 to repair damage to our plows, much of it caused by hitting these hard spots caused by pushing snow into or across the roads.

If you have any problems or questions regarding these requests, please contact the Town's Road Department at 880-ROAD or Town Hall, at 883-TOWN during normal business hours.

## Public Safety Message *by David Ward, SVR Public Safety Advisor*

Well, we are well into the winter with all the inherent dangers that go with the extremely cold and snowy weather so for this newsletter I will remind us all of some of the things that can jeopardize your safety this time of year.

### Snow Plow Safety

Our town employees are kept busy this time of year plowing our town roads. This is a very valuable service for all of us but does present a safety hazard to us as we drive and walk on the town roads. So let's discuss ways that we can be safer when we are in the vicinity of snow plowing operations. It is important to understand that the snow plow operator's visibility is at times very limited, and he is also focused on the task at hand. With this in mind, when you are walking on town roads and encounter a snow plow working, be sure to make yourself as visible to the operator as you can. This can be done by walking on the opposite side of the road from the approaching snow plow and avoiding approaching a snow plow from the rear. When driving, never pass a snow plow that is working unless you are certain that the operator has seen you. Your best choice is to follow until you reach your destination or can take an alternate route. And if you get a chance thank those that work long hours to keep our roads open.

### Snow Machine Safety

Snow machine operation around the Ranch presents a hazard not only to the rider but to those of us that are driving on our roads. First I would like to caution those that ride snow machines on town roads and the SVRA property (the golf course). When riding use caution approaching roads. Stop or slow down and be sure there are no vehicles approaching on the perpendicular road. If there is approaching traffic when riding on the golf course, please yield the



right of way to that traffic. When riding on town roads follow basic rules of the road. Secondly for parents of underage riders, please don't allow your underage riders to ride unsupervised. It is illegal for them to ride on public roads, and riding unsupervised on the golf course presents opportunities not only to trespass onto private property but also for accidents with traffic on our roadways. Please consider the safety of your children before turning them loose on a snow machine. Finally, be courteous. Riding on the golf course is a benefit to those of us that utilize that privilege. Please don't ride on tee boxes and greens. These areas are all marked with yellow flagging tape. Already this winter, greens have been damaged by inconsiderate riders. If you see someone riding on greens or tee boxes please call the SVRA office immediately with a description of the violators.

Safety In Your Home

During this time of year our homes are sealed up. Because of this there is very little fresh air introduced into the indoor environment. Make sure that all heating appliances are properly ventilated. Carbon Monoxide buildup and resulting poisoning is a very real hazard this time of year. Also on these cold gloomy days and evenings many people like to light candles to brighten the mood. Be sure to extinguish all candles when leaving your home or when going to bed. An unattended burning candle presents a significant fire hazard. Another fire hazard that we must consider is an unattended fire in a fireplace or wood heater. Be sure to secure these fires before leaving your home or going to bed at night. And finally I would like you to consider unplugging all extension cords used in your home when leaving for an extend period of time. You can also utilize a surge protector to plug extension cords into to protect them. Unprotected extension cords can overheat and result in a fire.

Winter Recreation Safety

Star Valley presents many winter recreation opportunities. Whether it is riding a snow machine, cross country skiing, downhill skiing, or snow shoeing make certain before you engage in these activities that the area where you are going is safe. As many of you know, we lost three good friends and valued residents recently to an avalanche. This very tragic event is a reminder to all of us that utilize the public lands that surround us to do so with caution. Before venturing into these areas consult with the local authorities regarding avalanche potential and weather conditions. Dress appropriately and be sure to take extra clothing, food and water. Do not go alone and also let someone know where you are going and when your will return. Always bring (and know how to use) an emergency locating beacon, probe pole and shovel.

Thank you for taking the time to read this safety message. Have a safe and enjoyable winter.

## Town of Star Valley Ranch Sheriff's Report

Covering 12/01/2007 to 01/14/2008

<b>Citations</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Warnings</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>CFS (Calls for Service)</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Law Incidents</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Specific Patrols</b>	<b>48</b>

<b>Animal Problem</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Abandoned Vehicle</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Agency Assist</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Auto Accident</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Controlled Substance</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Domestic Violence</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Execution</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Keep the Peace</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Juvenile Problem</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Lost Property</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Lost/Found Animal</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Medical</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Motorist Assist</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Suspicious</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Traffic</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Trespass</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Utility Problem</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Vandalism</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Vin Inspection</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Welfare Check</b>	<b>0</b>

Our personal thanks to the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department for all the services preformed for our citizens. It is great to see the Sheriff's vehicles patrolling our streets. Crime prevention is more cost effective than crime investigation. Our goal is a safe community, speed obedient drivers and no citations.



## Animal Owner Control Information *By Councilman Jim Wheeler*

The Town Council is actively involved in developing an "Animal Owner's Control Ordinance." The running at large of dogs and other pets creates one of the greatest areas of complaints for any town government. We are working at developing an ordinance that will be fair and acceptable to as many of our town residents as possible. The Mayor has spent time with the other Mayors in north Lincoln County along with the County Sheriff. Our long-range goal would be to have all of the town's and the county's regulations be compatible so that the cost of an animal control officer and a dog pound could be shared by all the entities throughout the Valley. We want this "animal owner's control ordinance" to meet the needs of all our residents.

We need your input. Such things might include--the number of animals allowed within each household; the requirement of a leash while walking pets; the price charged for tags; the fees charged for the recovery of your pet following an incident; along with any other appropriate subjects. A committee which includes Mayor Siddoway, Councilman Wheeler, Peggy Parker (former chief of police in Jackson Wyoming and current town resident), Gary Fralick (with the Wyoming Game and Fish department and current town resident) is working on putting this ordinance before the Town Council for its first reading as soon as possible. Your ideas and recommendations are very important. This ordinance will have three readings. Changes can be made following each reading. Please provide your ideas as soon as possible so that when the final reading is completed and voted on, you don't find yourself saying, "I wish they would have included such and such in the ordinance". This is a very important ordinance that will help us regulate our animals and pets in the Town of Star Valley Ranch.

Gary Fralick provides the following information:

The Town of Star Valley Ranch provides some of the most important wildlife habitats in the Salt River watershed. The various habitats found within the Town provide important nesting and foraging habitat for songbirds, birthing and winter ranges for big game animals, game birds, and furbearers. It is the presence of wildlife, and the habitats they depend on, that not only enhance the quality of life for Town citizens, but contribute to making the Town of Star Valley Ranch a desirable place to live, view and appreciate wildlife. It is because, in part, of these unique and natural setting of native habitats and the presence of wildlife, that the Town Council deems it necessary to develop an ordinance to protect the wildlife that live here.

The County Sheriff has asked us to also include the following message from him.

### Chapter 31 Dogs and Cats

#### Article 3. Animals Running at Large

Sec 11-31-301. Public nuisance; notice; penalties; rules and regulations; animal control districts and officers.

(a) A board of county commissioners may declare the running at large of any specified animals in unincorporated areas within the county limits a public nuisance.

(b) Notice of such a declaration shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the county and notices may be placed in appropriate locations. The notice shall specify any regulations necessary and convenient for animal control and shall state that:

- (i) It is a public nuisance for one (1) or more specified animals to be running at large in unincorporated areas;
- (ii) A fine shall be imposed on the owner of such animal and restitution for any damages to person or property caused by the animal shall be made by the owner;
- (iii) Dogs or other animals, whose ownership cannot be determined, may be destroyed.

(c) Upon the filing of any complaint, the county sheriff may arrest or issue a summons to the owner of any animal which is running at large or has attacked a person. A first conviction is punishable by a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00). Each subsequent conviction is punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).



(d) A dog injuring or killing livestock may be killed by the owner of the livestock or his agent or any peace officer.

(e) Any dog attacking any person in a vicious manner may be impounded by the county sheriff or animal control officer and held in quarantine for at least fifteen (15) days and not more than twenty (20) days after the attack to determine whether the dog has any disease which may be communicated to humans, except that no dog shall be quarantined if the dog's owner or custodian presents a valid rabies vaccination certificate showing the dog has been vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian. The costs of impoundment, quarantine and testing shall be paid by the owner or custodian of the dog. Any dog which attacks any person in a vicious manner may be destroyed or the owner or custodian of the dog may be fined not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00), or both. Proof of the fact that the dog has bitten or attacked any person at any place where a person is legally entitled to be is evidence that the dog is vicious within the meaning of this section.

(f) Upon the declaration of a public nuisance, the county sheriff may dispose of any unlicensed animals, the ownership of which cannot be determined.

(g) A board of county commissioners may enact regulations relative to dogs running at large, vicious dogs, dogs running wild game or livestock or acts by other animals which shall carry out the purposes of this action. The county sheriff shall and a county animal control officer or any other peace officer may enforce these regulations to protect persons and property.

(h) A board of county commissioners may require an annual county license or tag for dogs within their jurisdiction upon payment of a fee of not more than five dollars (\$5.00). Funds collected pursuant to this subsection may be used for dog control or for the maintenance of dog control centers for either purpose.

(j) A board of county commissioners may establish and provide for the operation of animal control districts which may encompass all or parts of the unincorporated area of the county and may cooperate with municipalities in a joint animal control program. Joint animal control programs may employ joint animal control officers who have the authority to enforce the animal control regulations and ordinances of each of the participating entities.

(k) As used in W.S. 11-31-301 "animal" means a dog or cat. (Laws 1979, ch. 124, ~1; 1981, ch 73, ~1; 1983, ch. 123. ~ 1; 1984, ch 37, ~ 1; 2002 Sp. Sess., ch. 41, ~ 1.)

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## Town Water Utility Report for January 2008

*By Yolanda Navarrete, Water Utility Billing Specialist*

The Town's third quarter water billing was mailed January 2, 2008. This billing amounted to a total of 486 invoices of which 60 were past due. This amounts to 12% that were past due with 37 of those 60 owing for three quarters, and 23 owing for two quarters. As of January 24, 2008, the Town has collected 41% of money billed in this latest billing.

The Town plans to notify the delinquent water customers of the Town's intent for disconnection of services, charging turn-off fees, and the addition of penalties and interest. Any collection process fees incurred will be passed on to the delinquent water customer, including phone calls, and time spent trying to collect their delinquent accounts.

We feel the citizens have had more than enough notice and opportunity to pay their water utility bill, and we will be adhering to the collection parameters set forth in the Town Ordinances referenced below:

\*ORDINANCE: 2007-02 - Section 4-10: Discontinuance of Service-Failure to Comply with Regulations or Pay Charges.

\*ORDINANCE: 2007-02 - Section 4-17 C+D: Billing and Payment.

### APPENDIX 4-2: WATER SERVICE FEES

The Town greatly appreciates the cooperation of the other 88% of our customers that have paid on time.

\*All Town Ordinances can be found on the Town's Website at [www.starvalleyranchwy.org](http://www.starvalleyranchwy.org) in the Documents/Ordinance section.

### Local US Postal Service Mail Delivery

The Town of Star Valley Ranch requests the immediate response of those citizens desirous of local mail delivery. It is now or never for this Town Council to commit its time and resources to pursue, provide and fund local mail delivery service.

**For the Town to continue to pursue this service or abandon the idea permanently, we need to hear from you no later than.....**

## March 15<sup>th</sup>

Please call, e-mail, fax or write us as soon as possible.

1-307-883-TOWN (8696)

[svrtown@silverstar.com](mailto:svrtown@silverstar.com)

1-307-883-TFAX (8329)

Town of Star Valley Ranch

PO Box 1180, Star Valley Ranch, WY 83127

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**I am interested in a USPS Post Office Box for local, central mail delivery in our Town.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

(Select One): You MUST be paying taxes to the Town or be a full time "Renter".

Full-Time Resident: Owner  Renter

Part-Time Resident: More Than Six Months  Less Than Six Months

Other , Please Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**What is an NPU?**

**NPU** – stands for Non Personnel Unit. The best description is a facility just like a standard USPS Post Office without the people to run it. Ours will be a minimum of 500 square feet. Serviced by an individual who is under contract to the USPS and administered by the USPS Office in Thayne.

**Where will the NPU be located?**

The physical location has not yet been confirmed; however, it is our desire to first have it located near the front entrance of the town or adjacent to the town boundaries, such as the BLM property adjacent to Hardman Road.

**What is the rental cost of a local mail box?**

**\$0.00** – however, there is a planned one-time cost of approximately \$35.00 for a key.

**How much money will I save by using the Town's NPU?**

Your savings will vary on how often and how far you go to pick up your mail. But as an example; if you went to town for the sole purpose of picking up your mail 3 times a week and drive approximately 15 miles round trip you'll save in the neighborhood of \$10 a week, over \$40 a month and as much as \$500 a year in gas alone. (If you use the Federal Mileage Rate of 48.5 cents per mile, you are looking at something over \$1,100 per year.) Of course, you also save the cost of the annual fee that your current Post Office charges you for a box.



## LOCAL MAIL DELIVERY Q & A—Cont.

***Will I lose any current services, like winter time mail forwarding service, holding my mail while I'm on vacation or etc?***

**NO** – all current services will continue to be available through the Thayne USPS Office.

***What about “Security” and “Privacy”?***

**Same as today** - All mail is handled exclusively by USPS Employees or USPS Contract Individuals and access to the “back room” is used and controlled exclusively by these same people.

***How will my address look with this new service?***

**Current Indications are, that are new addresses (HC stand for Highway contract) would appear as:**

SVR Citizen (Your Name)

HC 61 Box 3000 (or as assigned)

Star Valley Ranch, WY 83127-xxxx

***With the establishment of local mail delivery, do I have the option to keep my existing mail box location and not move to the Town?***

**YES** – except for the current 32 customers who have a box in the SVRA Maintenance Building.

***If I don't choose to use the Town provided local delivery, will my current postal arrangements change?***

**NO** – not unless a change is implemented in that specific location for all postal patrons.

***What size of a box will be available?***

**One Size** – approximately 6 inches by 6 inches.

***Will I be able to buy a larger box size?***

**NO** – the Town will be installing only one size of box.

***What about package delivery?***

**Parcel Boxes** – additional keyed oversized boxes will be provided to accommodate larger packages.

***What about excessive mail?***

**Parcel Boxes** – additional keyed oversized boxes will be provided to accommodate exceptionally heavy mail.

***Will I be able to mail letters and packages?***

**YES** – there will be letter and small package drops with daily pickups.

***How will I receive registered “signature required” mail?***

**Notice** will be placed in your box to pick up your mail at the USPS Thayne Office.

***Will I be required to send change of address notice***

**YES** – any change in addressing would require address changes.

***How long will my mail be forwarded from my previous address?***

**USPS** states they will forward mail up to one year.

***Will a NPU prohibit the community from ever qualifying for a regular Post Office?***

**NO** – fact is, according to the USPS personnel we have talked with, this is the only option available to us at this time that could be upgraded to a standard post office. The decision of the USPS however is: “NOT at this TIME”.

***Will a NPU help us get our own Zip Code?***

**NO** – Not at this time. We have officially requested a unique Zip Code for our area. The USPS has denied our request at this time.

***What happens if not enough citizens sign up for mail delivery to a Town NPU?***

**Nothing** – The Town will not be able to justify the expense if the number is small and therefore no NPU. The citizens will not have Town mail delivery, and you will continue to use your current mail service.

**MORE QUESTIONS?** Please contact Town Hall via any of the avenues listed at the beginning of this notice.

STAR VALLEY RANCH ASSOCIATION, INC.
CONSENT TO SELL

I (We), \_\_\_\_\_ the owner(s) of

(Print or Type Name(s) exactly as recorded on your Deed)

Plat \_\_\_\_\_ Lot \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby give my (our) consent to the sale of the following assets of the Star Valley Ranch

(Only one lot per form)

Association, Inc.'s (a Wyoming Corporation) to the Town of Star Valley Ranch, Wyoming (a Wyoming Municipal Corporation) for Three Hundred Fifty Thousand dollars (\$350,000.00) less any amount paid as a lease cost prior to date of sale:

The assets to be conveyed to the buyer are the grounds, heated shop, covered storage area and storage yard currently used by and referred to as the SVRA Maintenance Shop Area of approximately 1.75 acres on the Northeast corner of Vista Drive and Vista West Drive in the Town of Star Valley Ranch. These assets are located on the parcel of land described to wit:

BEGINNING at the Southwest corner of Lot 1, STAR VALLEY RANCH Plat 10, in the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of Section 31, Township 35 North, Range 118 West, 6th principal meridian; thence North 89° 54' 44" West 166.65 feet; thence Left along a 587.219 foot radius curve, 108.97 feet to a point on a 493.586 foot radius curve whose center bears South 77° 02' 27" West; thence Northwesterly along the arc of said curve 165.69 feet to the Southeast line of Lot 56; thence North 58° 00' East 308.50 feet; thence South 40° 00' East 226.72 feet; thence South 68° 00' West 80.00 feet; thence South 103.10 feet to the point of BEGINNING.

Said land and building to be used as temporary storage for the Town of Star Valley's maintenance vehicles and equipment. By July 1, 2010, all vehicles, equipment and the building will be removed from the property provided adequate resources are available.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 200\_\_.

(Signature of Lot Owner/Representative)

(Signature of Lot Owner/Representative)

(Mailing Address)

(Mailing Address)

The foregoing CONSENT TO SELL was acknowledged before me

By, \_\_\_\_\_

(Print lot owner/representative name(s) exactly as they appear on the first line)

this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 200\_\_.

The Declarant(s) has (have) been personally known to me and I believe the Declarant(s) to be of sound mind. I did not sign the Declarant's signature above nor at the direction of the Declarant(s). I am not related to the Declarant(s) by blood or marriage.

1st Witness Signature

2nd Witness Signature

Printed Name of Witness

Printed Name of Witness

Witness Address

Witness Address

Witness Address

Witness Address

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING FORM

- 1. Please use a separate form for each lot.
2. Make sure the name(s) you put on the first line are exactly as recorded on your deed. If you have any doubts about the exact name(s) on the deed, please call the SVRA office at (307)-883-2669 and they can tell you for certain.
3. Please have two (2) individuals, unrelated to you by blood or marriage, witness your signature.

Please return the completed form to the SVRA Office, P.O. Box 159, Thayne, WY 83127.

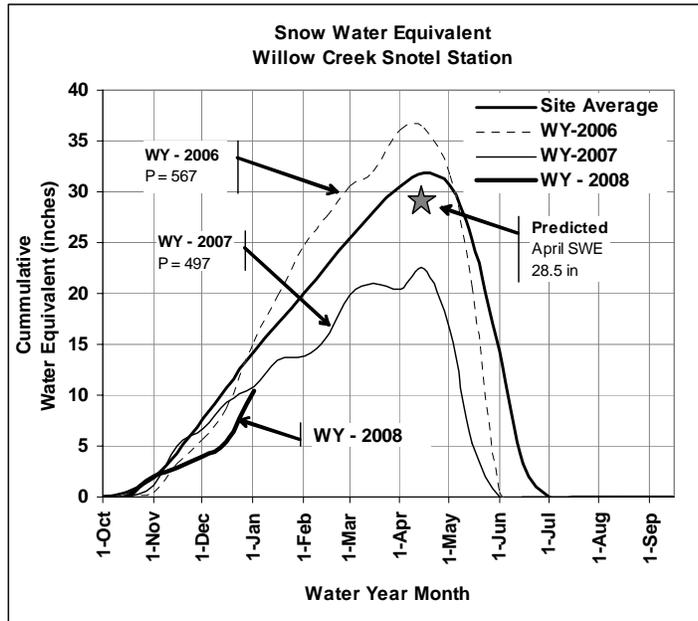
Town of Star Valley Ranch **Water Status Report** December, 2007

**Introduction**

This is the first of the snow reports for the winter of 2007-08. They present data on the snow water equivalent, which is the amount of released from the snow upon melting, at the Willow Creek Snotel station described in the "Water Status Reports."

**December**

The early winter of the 2008 water year was dry with a total snow water equivalent (SWE) in early December of 51% of average. Late December snows raised the SWE to 10.5 inches which is 73% of average. So far the 2008 water year is similar to 2007 year but the predicted SWE in mid-April (the peak accumulation) is predicted to be 28.5 inches, which is greater than the observed April peak last year. The predicted peak SWE will change as more observations become available.



**Figure 1.** Accumulation of snow water equivalent for this water year (2008) compared to previous water years.

**Water Status Reports**

A water status report is based on snow moisture data from the automated Willow Creek Snotel station located at an elevation of 8380 feet in the Salt River Range near Bedford. Snow depth, air temperature, water stored in snow (snow water equivalent - SWE), and precipitation are measured hourly and reported here for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Special Report No. 1 (December, 2006) describes methods to interpret the SWE data presented here.

**About the Graph**

The graph shows the monthly snow water equivalent for various water years (WY). A WY begins in October (the month with the lowest stream flow) of one calendar and continues to September of the following calendar year; it is named for the second calendar year. The **Site Average line** shows the average monthly SWE for the site since 1982. The **heavy black line** is the measured SWE for the current water year (WY-2008). The **WY-2006** and **2007** lines show the data for the last two water years. The **callouts** present the June discharge in gallons per minute (gpm) as measured and Prater springs in 2006 and 2007.

**Water Year Snow Water Equivalent (inches)**

Date	Site Av.	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2007-08	Site Av.
1-Oct	0	0	0	0	0	0%
15-Oct	0.4	0.1	0	0	0	0%
1-Nov	1.9	0.5	1.2	2.0	2.0	105%
15-Nov	4.3	3.3	5	2.9	2.9	67%
1-Dec	7.7	5.7	6.7	4.0	4.0	52%
15-Dec	10.7	8.7	9.3	5.5	5.5	51%
1-Jan	14.3	15.3	10.9	10.5	10.5	73%
15-Jan	17	19.7	13.4			
1-Feb	20.2	24.9	13.8			
15-Feb	22.7	27.6	15.7			
1-Mar	25.4	30.6	19.9			
15-Mar	28	32	21.2			
1-Apr	30.6	36.1	20.4			
15-Apr	31.9	36.3	0			
1-May	30.6	31.6				
15-May	25.3	20.7				
1-Jun	14.3	0.5				
15-Jun	3.3	0	0			

# FEBRUARY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Ground Hog Day
3	4	5	6 7:30 pm P&Z Board Mtg	7	8	9
10	11	12 9 am Municipal Court 7 pm Town Meeting	13	14 Valentines Day 	15	16
17	18 President's Day Town Hall Closed	19	20 7:30 pm P&Z Board Mtg	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

All meetings are held at the Town Hall

# MARCH 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 7:30 pm P & Z Board Mtg	6	7	8
9 Daylight Salving Time begins	10	11 9 am Municipal Court 7:30 pm Town Mtg	12	13	14	15
16	17 St Patricks Day	18	19 7:30 pm P & Z Board Mtg	20	21	22
23 Easter	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



Presort  
Standard Mail  
US Postage Paid  
Permit 23  
Thayne, WY 83127

15 Cedar Creek Rd. (CR118) Suite D  
PO Box 1180  
Star Valley Ranch, WY, 83127  
Phone: 307-883-TOWN (8696)  
Fax: 307-883-TFAX (8329)  
[www.starvalleyranchwy.org](http://www.starvalleyranchwy.org)  
[svrtown@silverstar.com](mailto:svrtown@silverstar.com)

Town Road "Hotline" 307-880-ROADS  
Town Water "Hotline" 307-880-WATER

## Town of Star Valley Ranch Personnel

### Mayor:

J. Boyd Siddoway — [svrmayor@silverstar.com](mailto:svrmayor@silverstar.com)

### Councilmen:

Kent B. Harker — [khark@silverstar.com](mailto:khark@silverstar.com)

George A. Redlin — [redlinaz@aol.com](mailto:redlinaz@aol.com)

Carol J. Warren — [cjw@silverstar.com](mailto:cjw@silverstar.com)

Jimmy D. Wheeler — [jim96san@silverstar.com](mailto:jim96san@silverstar.com)

### Town Public Works

Warren Webb, Director — [svrwater@silverstar.com](mailto:svrwater@silverstar.com)

### Town Office::

Brenda Bauer, Town Clerk — [svrtown@silverstar.com](mailto:svrtown@silverstar.com)

Gregg Wilkes, Asst to Mayor — [svradmin@silverstar.com](mailto:svradmin@silverstar.com)

Yolanda Naverreta — Town Billing Clerk / Secretary — [svrtown@silverstar.com](mailto:svrtown@silverstar.com)

### Special Municipal Officers

Warren Webb — [svrwater@silverstar.com](mailto:svrwater@silverstar.com)

Yolanda Naverreta — [svrtown@silverstar.com](mailto:svrtown@silverstar.com)

This Newsletter is being sent to all the property owners in the Town of Star Valley Ranch who are not on the Town's E-mail.  
To sign up for e-mail, send a not via e-mail to [svrtown@silverstar.com](mailto:svrtown@silverstar.com).