Utah Council of the Blind

This article is to introduce James Emerson and Dixie Smith as Teacher/Trainers for the Utah Council of the Blind (UCB). As a team, they have been asked to assist blind and visually impaired people with learning how to live with sight loss. The goal is to help people remain as independent as possible.

Mr. Emerson is visually impaired himself and has experience in coping with sight loss. Ms. Smith is his sighted partner. Together they have the assignment of contacting anyone living in the area to offer them their services.

The UCB is an organization of nearly all blind and visually impaired people living in Utah. Its members volunteer to initiate and oversee programs to help those who are blind or losing sight anywhere in the state.

Members seek funding for these programs through grants from private foundations. They receive no government funding. The Teacher/Trainer program is one of its largest and most successful programs. Because of their unique skills, they can teach techniques especially useful to people who have experienced sight loss.

It is the hope of the UCB that you will be able to benefit from the service this team can provide. You may be able to help people who are blind to connect with our team in your area. Please accept the free service they offer.

For information see www.utahcounciloftheblind.org

Leslie Gertsch, Executive Director
(801) 292-1156

2017 Municipal Election

Ephraim City has a Mayor and two (2) four-year Council positions open for the 2017 Municipal Election.

Persons seeking to become a candidate for municipal office in Ephraim shall file a Declaration of Candidacy, along with a $25 filing fee, in person with the City Recorder during regular office hours (Mon – Fri 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) in the Ephraim City offices, 5 South Main, between June 1 and June 7, 2017.

Requirements to run for office include being:
- a United States citizen who is 18 years of age,
- a registered voter in Ephraim, and
- a resident of Ephraim City for 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the election date.

For more information, please contact the City Recorder at 283-4631.
In an effort to promote economic development within the community, Ephraim City renewed its designation as Recycling and Enterprise Zones for another five years. Businesses within the City have the opportunity to participate in the Recycling Market Development Zone and/or Enterprise Zone tax credit program.

Recycling Market Development Zones
In 1996, the Utah Legislature created the Utah Recycling Market Development Zone Program which focuses on recycling as an economic development tool. As more products are recycled and used to manufacture new products the economy will be stimulated through new company expansion or formation and the creation of additional jobs. The zone legislation was established to incent businesses to use recycled materials in their manufacturing processes and create new products for sale. It also benefits business or individuals that collect, process, distribute recycled materials. Composting is considered to be eligible recycling operation.

ELIGIBILITY
Eligible recycling businesses that are located in designated Recycling Market Development Zones qualify for:
- 5% Utah state income tax credit on the cost of machinery and equipment
- 20% Utah state income tax credit (up to $2,000) on eligible operating expenses
- Technical assistance from state recycling economic development professionals
- Various local incentives

Enterprise Zones
The Utah Enterprise Zone Program was established in 1988. An enterprise zone comprises an area identified by local elected and economic development officials and designated by the state. Under the program, certain types of businesses locating to, or expanding in a designated zone may claim state income tax credits provided in the law.

DESIGNATION
Any city or county in the state of Utah may be eligible for enterprise zone designation. Application for designation must be made by a city with 20,000 or less population located in a county with 70,000 or less population. Applications are approved on the basis of economic development need, its quality, and other considerations based on a variety of economic distress factors.

If you would like more information on these programs and to see whether or not you would qualify, please contact the Governor’s Office of Economic Development at (801) 538-8804, or you may log onto the State website at:
or