Preventing unintentional 911 calls

In today’s digital society we all love to stay connected. Sometimes we are connected and do not even realize it. Last year Spanish Fork City police officers responded to 1,290 abandoned 911 cellular phone calls. During the same period, the Utah Valley Dispatch Center received 21,564 abandoned 911 cellular phone calls. The majority of these calls were from pocket dialing, which is the accidental placement of a phone call while a person’s mobile phone is in the owner’s pocket or handbag.

These calls are not only an inconvenience but also a public safety issue. For every unintentional 911 call received, a 911 operator must determine whether or not an emergency exists. Every second counts when someone is waiting for an emergency operator to pick up a 911 call and dispatch police, emergency medical services, or fire fighters.

What can you do to prevent pocket or unintentional 911 calls?

- Lock keypads by using the keypad feature
- Turn off the 911 auto dial feature
- Refrain from programming a wireless device to speed or automatically dial 911
- Prevent small children from playing with such devices

Remember, if you place an unintentional 911 call you are not in trouble, but please:

- Stay on the line
- Answer the emergency operator’s questions
- Pick up the phone when you receive a call back
- Tell the operator there is no emergency

Let’s all do our part to reduce the number of unintentional 911 cellular calls and make our community a little safer.

PI System preparation

The PI system is being filled and will be pressurized very soon. As soon as you read this notice, be sure the PI valve on your property is closed and that your sprinkler clock is off. This can help avoid flooding if any of your sprinkler pipes happened to freeze and break during the winter.

Household hazardous waste collection day

Utah County residents with household hazardous waste items such as old gasoline, paint, fluorescent light bulbs, and unused medications can dispose of these items safely at the annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day Saturday, April 12 from 9 am to 3 pm. The collection will take place in the west parking lot of the Provo Towne Centre Mall. For details, including a list of what will or will not be collected, please visit www.UtahCountyHealth.org/HHW or call 801.851.7525.
Spanish Fork City continues to grow

Spanish Fork City continues to grow with robust residential development. In 2013, the City issued 50 percent more building permits for new homes than what the City had issued the year before. The majority of the permits issued were for single-family dwellings and the City estimates that Spanish Fork’s population at the end of 2013 was just under 37,000 at 36,923. Given that Spanish Fork City’s population was just over 20,000 in 2000, our population has nearly doubled in that past 14 years.

Fiesta Days Children's Parade

Have your kids ever wanted to march down the street in their very own parade? All children (under age 13) in our community are invited to decorate their bike or a wagon and participate in the 2014 Fiesta Days Children's Parade on Saturday, July 19 at 9:00 am. While Fiesta Days does celebrate the pioneers that settled the Utah area, our invitation and theme is broader and structured to be inclusive of all children in our community.

To register, go to www.spanishfork.org and then to Events/Fiesta Days to download a registration form. This form must then be mailed to the organizers. All children groups must include Adult Supervision. Participants are urged to try and depict in some creative manner this year’s theme: “I love this town!”

The Children’s Parade is one of several activities for children during Fiesta Days, including a Fish Rodeo, Car Show, Soap Box Derby, a Street Dance, a second parade featuring western animals and vehicles, and an Activity Tent. Check out the day’s activities in greater detail at www.spanishfork.org under Events/Fiesta Days.

April Library News

Spanish Fork Library's Comic Con Craze will be held on Saturday, May 3rd, 1:00-4:00. A family fun celebration of comics, costumes, and crafts. Come meet local authors Matthew Kirby and J. Scott Savage. Includes a costume contest, face painting, balloon artist, and limited crafts. For more information, check with the library.

Remember to look up

This amazing spring weather means it is time for yard work. As you are out fixing up the yard, please remember to look up. Power lines may run either above or below ground, with lines either in the front or back yard. Before you lift something up, like a ladder or a pipe, be sure to look up to avoid a potentially deadly interaction with a power line.

Name: Phone #: Address:
Email:

Please complete the form and return it with your utility bill. You can also send comments to the City from the City's website. Thank you for your comments.