

News line

Huntsman fills final 2 Regents Board seats

All positions on the Board of Regents will be filled, following Gov. Jon Huntsman's announcement of two new members.

Utah State Board of Education member Teresa Theurer and land use and planning attorney Joel Wright were named Friday, succeeding Sara V. Sinclair and Josh Reid. Reid said he is resigning in July to focus on his business.

"Teresa will be a tremendous asset as a regent," Huntsman said. Theurer has served on the public school board since being elected in 2000. During her tenure, she has served on various committees, including the Utah College of Applied Technology, the Public Education Job Enhancement committee and several state and national health committees. She received a bachelor's degree in nursing from Weber State University.

Wright, who works with local law firm Kirton & McCorkie, has served as an interim appointee to the Utah State Charter School Board since January 2007. He has been a Cedar Hills city councilman and earned a bachelor's degree from Brigham Young University and a doctorate from New York University's School of Law.

"As an attorney, a city councilman and a charter school board member, Joel has served the community in so many capacities," Huntsman said. "His perspective will be a great benefit to the Utah System of Higher Education."

Sinclair served as a regent since 2001. She resigned to serve as a federal monitoring surveyor for the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare.

Theurer and Wright must be confirmed by the Utah Senate.

Golfers upset by plan to raise greens fees

ST. GEORGE (AP) — The price of a round of golf at public courses in St. George could be increasing soon.

City officials are considering raising the golf fees as part of the upcoming city budget, although an exact price hasn't been decided.

The prospect of higher prices has upset many golfers in the area who say they won't be able to spend as much time on their game if the fees go up.

Several golfers told City Council members that a reduced rate should be offered for senior citizens.

Rising water reopens route on Lake Powell

Lake Powell's elevation reached 3,620 feet Wednesday and is expected to continue rising. At this elevation, boat passage on the Castle Rock Cut has been deemed safe. Glen Canyon National Recreation Area announced the official opening to boat travel Friday.

Castle Rock Cut has been closed since 2003 due to low water levels. However, with the reopening, boaters will be able to travel between Wahweap and Warm Creek bays to reach popular upper-lake destinations, saving a 12-mile trip through The Narrows.

The National Park Service placed buoys to mark the channel from Wahweap to the junction of Warm Creek and the main river channel. The cut is marked as a no-wake zone.

Orem's 800 East closing for 2 weeks

OREM — The Utah Department of Transportation will close 800 East at 800 North in Orem for two weeks beginning Monday. Crews will be doing underground utility work and adding curb, gutters and pedestrian ramps.

Request to force legal action rejected



ELECTION 2008

By Lisa Riley Roche
Deseret News

It didn't take long Friday for the Utah Supreme Court to deny a state treasurer candidate's request that Lt. Gov. Gary Herbert be forced to make a decision on an elections complaint before the June 24 primary election.

Justices ruled against the candidate, Richard Ellis, about 1½ hours after hearing arguments. Ellis wanted the court to order Herbert to decide now whether his complaint against his primary opponent, Rep. Mark Walker, R-Sandy, merits further investigation.

Ellis has alleged that Walker offered him the opportunity to keep his job as chief deputy state treasurer at a higher salary if he dropped out of the race. Walker has denied the allegations.

The lieutenant governor has said he deferred deciding whether to refer Ellis' May 30 complaint to the Attorney General's Office for possible

prosecution because he was concerned about affecting the outcome of the election.

In a single paragraph ruling, the court stated while Herbert must "gather information and determine if a special investigation is necessary," he has "considerable discretion over the timing of his decision. . . ."

The court ruling written by Chief Justice Christine Durham also stated he "has no discretion to refuse to do so within a reasonable time" but does have "broad discretion over the methodology used in the process and the factors considered."

Ellis said he was disappointed about the ruling. Not being able to let voters know if the lieutenant governor believed his complaint against Walker warranted further investigation may have an impact on the primary election, he said.

"I guess we'll never know. I've always tried to say this was not done for political means. The issue to me is my personal integrity," Ellis said. Now, Ellis said, he may take his complaint directly to prosecutors.

Walker, though, said Ellis needs to forget about his complaint. "His mud-

slinging and schoolyard antics have gotten out of hand. I think that was shown today," Walker said. "I'm calling on him to pull this and start a real campaign."

Herbert's chief of staff, Joe Demma, said he was "very pleased that the court supported the lieutenant governor's position." Demma said as a result of the court decision, Ellis' complaint will be dealt with "in short order" after the election.

Ellis' attorney, Chandler Thompson, argued before the court that the case was about whether Herbert could withhold a decision for political reasons. Thompson said Herbert had never asked for more time to gather information about the allegations.

Voters are entitled to know Herbert's determination before the election, Thompson said, acknowledging that forcing a decision means that Ellis' complaint could be declared frivolous by the lieutenant governor.

"This chips should be allowed to fall where they may," Thompson said.

Assistant Attorney General Thom Roberts, who represented the lieutenant governor, said Herbert was

concerned that any action taken on the complaint before the primary "might be misinterpreted" by voters.

As the state's chief elections officer, the lieutenant governor is only responsible for reviewing election complaints to determine if they warrant further investigation by the Attorney General's Office. It's up to prosecutors to decide if charges should be filed.

But Associate Chief Justice Michael Wilkins said all that could be explained to voters by the lieutenant governor and others. "You have to give the voters the opportunity not to be stupid," Wilkins said.

Earlier Friday, the court denied an attempt by Walker to intervene in the case.

Ellis, who narrowly avoided being eliminated from the race at the state GOP convention last month, has the backing of the current state treasurer, Ed Alter, who is stepping down after 28 years in office.

Walker is supported by many high-ranking Republicans, including Attorney General Mark Shurtleff.

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RAVELL CALL, DESERET NEWS

One final fling?

A skier takes advantage of what may be the last weekend of skiing at Snowbird for the 2007-08 season. The

resort's Web site reports that Father's Day, this Sunday, is the final day of scheduled lift-serviced skiing.

VOTING

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Rep. Chris Cannon and Jason Chaffetz. Parts of north Utah County, which are not in the 3rd District, will only have the state treasurer's race on the ballot.

On June 24, Election Day, the county will be using all of the polling places instead of consolidating, even though the race is smaller. Thompson said the county is using this election to make sure that everything works so there aren't any glitches during the November presidential election.

County officials decided to place an early voting location in Saratoga Springs to make it easier for residents there, as well as residents in Eagle Mountain, who would normally have to drive into American Fork to vote, Thompson said.

Although early voting hasn't become well-known yet, county officials are hopeful that residents will catch on and prefer early voting to voting on Election Day.

"Once people experience the convenience of doing early voting . . . they'll get used to that, and they'll like that and they'll do it then," said Scott Hoganson, chief deputy clerk/auditor.

Hoganson said in states where early voting has

Election sites for early voting

Early voting will take place through Friday, June 20, except weekends, at the following locations:

- Utah Community Credit Union, 1364 N. Commerce Drive, Saratoga Springs, noon to 5 p.m.

- American Fork Library, 64 S. 100 East, American Fork, 3 to 7 p.m.

- Utah Valley State College, McKay Event Center, North Presidential Suite, 800 W. University Parkway, Orem, noon to 5 p.m.

- Utah County Administration Building, 100 E. Center St., Room LL900, Provo, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- Spanish Fork National Guard Armory, 2801 N. Main, Spanish Fork, noon to 5 p.m.

caught on, about one-third of the voters vote early, which helps out other voters and the elections offices.

Residents can go to any early voting location and don't have to stay in their respective cities, he said.

Early voting ends Friday, June 20, at 5 p.m.

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DEBATE

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when Chaffetz said that Cannon's introduction of an oil-shale production bill "just 15 days from the primary" is just like the games that incumbents are playing in Congress these days.

"You had 12 years" in office to do something about oil-shale production and the rising cost of gasoline, Chaffetz said, but only acted now.

Cannon countered that if America had pushed the oil-shale production he has fought for since being elected to Congress, that oil would now be coming on the market and oil prices "would plummet" because of the price competition. "You clearly don't know my record on oil shale" or anything else, Cannon chided Chaffetz.

"I'm looking at results. And we're not getting them," Chaffetz countered. Wrong, Cannon said. He has been a leader in pushing for oil shale production since the day he went to Washington. And Chaffetz is purposely misrepresenting that record, he said.

Cannon asked Chaffetz to give one example where he would have voted differently. Chaffetz said Cannon missed a vote on Dec. 15, 2005, on an "important" immigration matter, when Cannon had voted on the bill just before and the bill just after.

"You're complaining about a vote I missed, when I was out (in the hallway) working for constituents, not a bill I voted on," Cannon said. "Why is one vote I missed relevant?"

"You tell the voters of Utah that you have a 100 percent record on voting for enforcement on immigration." When in fact Cannon missed that vote and voted "the wrong way" on a few other immigration issues, Chaffetz said. "It's just not true" that Cannon is right on the immigration issue, Chaffetz said.

Cannon then said he has been ranked as one of the most conservative-voting members of Congress, and why does Chaffetz want to replace him when Chaffetz should be running against Democratic Rep. Jim Matheson, who consistently votes with the Democrats all the time? Chaffetz actually lives in Matheson's 2nd District area.

"I'd like to get rid of both of you," Chaffetz said. But Matheson's on the 3rd District ballot this year, not the 2nd District's, he said.

"It is no longer enough to have an 'R' by your name," Chaffetz said. One has to vote like a conservative Republican, too. And Cannon doesn't, he said.

Cannon voted "for the single largest budget, and consequently the single largest deficit in the history of the United States," Chaffetz said. "People like me and others in Utah say you are not carrying the Republican banner."

Cannon said that he's tried to be a leader on any number of energy issues, but that Democrats and Republicans who vote like Democrats have stymied him every time.

"The time to act was 12 years ago, when (Republicans) controlled the presidency and both" houses of Congress, Chaffetz said.

OneCard ID at new UVU

OREM — A joint effort with Utah Community Credit Union will give faculty, staff and students at Utah Valley State College the option to choose an enhanced UV OneCard ID beginning this fall.

The new UV OneCard campus ID will include advanced chip technology to allow select door access, library services, bookstore purchases, discount purchases at dining services on campus, a UTA bus pass and more, in addition to an option to upgrade to Visa debit and ATM capability. UVSC will be the first college in the country to combine this many technologies into a campus ID card.

"We are very excited about the enhanced UV OneCard campus ID and to be partnering with Utah Community Credit Union," said Val Peterson, vice president for administration and legislative affairs.

Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to obtain a OneCard before fall semester. Cards will be available in July.

Republicans "didn't act," Chaffetz said, and Republicans across the country are mad at the incumbents in both parties.

On health care, Chaffetz said he likes former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney's approach. Chaffetz said he wants a private sector solution, and doesn't believe you can mandate that people who lack health insurance must get it.

But Romney's Massachusetts plan is not working, Cannon said.

Cannon said he has made public the budget earmarks he's asked for. But Chaffetz said Cannon didn't do that consistently over the past 12 years and that he will not vote for any earmarks — while Cannon continues to do so.

"It is just not true" that his earmarks are not public, Cannon said. "You do this all the time," he said, meaning Chaffetz' misrepresentation of his record.

Cannon said earmarks should be public, as his are. In reality, earmarks are just Congress telling the bureaucrats where to spend money that is already appropriated. If individual congressmen don't list priorities, the bureaucrats will spend the money their own way, and that is not good, either, he said.

Cannon acknowledged that many Republicans, even those in the 3rd District, are not happy these days. But he said his job approval ratings are actually getting better as the primary election wears on, despite Chaffetz continually misrepresenting his record.

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