

# SOUTHERN UTAH NEWS

KANE COUNTY, UTAH

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## KANAB WEATHER

December/January

Date	High	Low	Prec
30	45	18	
31	47	22	
1	45	16	
2	51	22	
3	44	32	
4	34	16	
5	30	9	Tr

Courtesy: Wayne &amp; Stacy Grosz

## 2008 Year in Review-Part I

By Dixie Brunner

2008 was a year for southern Utah and northern Arizona much like what most every part of the country experienced - a tumultuous time! It featured a moderate housing market and economy for the first part of the year, but when the big banks and auto industries were failing, and the federal government (meaning us taxpayers) were called to bail them out, most everyone began to get nervous. Subsequent lay-offs and reduction of expenditures demonstrated people were understanding the brevity of a recession.

The general election, while historically electing our first black president, offered us some hope for change. Most everyone understood it was time to knuckle down, cut back on out-of-control spending, and get back to the basics of putting food on the table and a roof over their heads.

These were the top stories in 2008!

### January

The Dogtown series debuted on the National Geographic Channel. Best Friends Animal Society's canines, handlers and quarters were featured to take viewers on a journey inside the grounds to meet the dogs and skilled professional team dedicated to ensuring that even the

toughest cases survive.

Kanab City Justice of the Peace Gary Johnson administered the oath of office to three recently elected council members. Incumbents Steve Mower and Tony Chatterley, along with new member Nina Laycook, were sworn in to serve on the Kanab City Council.

Bureau of Land Management Kanab Field Office Manager Rex Smart, 60, Kanab, was charged with 13 felony counts of child sex abuse involving a child under the age of 14.

Twenty-four year old Jasson Hines of Las Vegas, NV, pleaded guilty to attempted murder/inflicting serious bodily injury/use of a dangerous weapon in the shooting of Tracy Armstrong of Panguitch. Hines' conviction and maximum sentence under the law stems from a shooting incident on August 3 of 2007 when Hines shot Armstrong three times unprovoked at point blank range, while Hines' family was checking into some Panguitch Lake cabins owned by Armstrong.

Dinosaurs and creatures left imprints in the sandstone wash over a hundred million years ago southwest of Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park. They're still

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## Kane County roads get snow job

By Dixie Brunner

Kane County drew a line in the snow. What Kane County residents expect, and what they get concerning road maintenance issues and snow removal, might be far different things due to legal issues.

The gist of the conflict is how Kane County and the BLM have interpreted a May 2008 District Court decision by Judge Tena Campbell. She said that the county must remove 39 county signs placed on roads in the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument in 2003.

Currently, snow removal on roads across federally managed lands will be assessed on a road by road and case by case basis, according to Kane County. The recently approved Public Safety

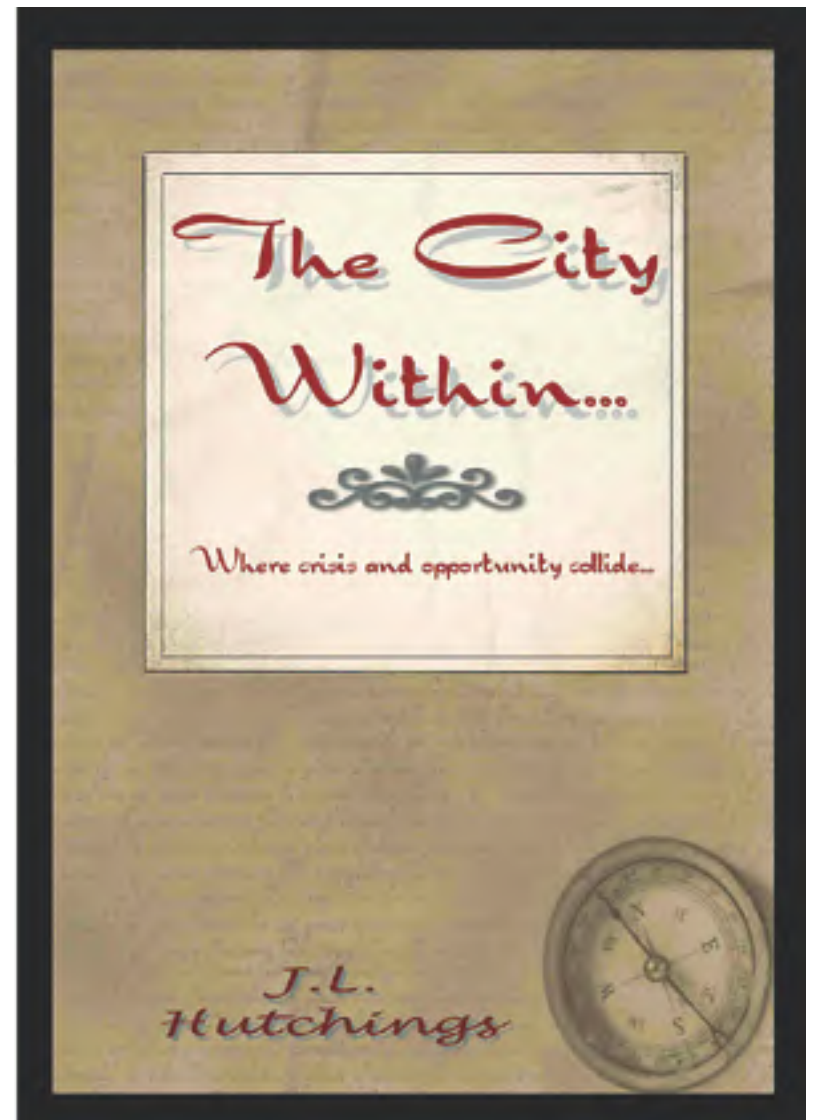
Snow Removal Policy focuses on the county addressing specific situations concerning safety issues.

"There will be no maintenance on roads they say they have jurisdiction on," explained Commissioner Mark Habbeshaw. "If they can't identify their jurisdiction, why should we maintain them at taxpayers' expense? We aren't doing road maintenance on roads they say they have jurisdiction. We are removing a public safety threat, when the federal government isn't."

Habbeshaw clarified the county would do road maintenance on roads frequently travelled, or to help ranchers access their livestock.

The issue came to a head with

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The cover of a book written by Kanab resident Jerry Hutchings. The book will be released this Friday and is available at Canyon Book.

## Hutchings offer gift back to community

This story, *The City Within...*, is something that you can only experience when you become a part of it. It's a most wonderful story. It brings a part of a magical change within us which envelops you, and you desire to become better as a reminder that when the dust clears from a tragedy, something magnificent emerges within us all.

Josh Hutchings was buried by a collapse of the Kanab Creek bank while playing with friends. The community responded with help to recover his body, and support his family. His father Jerry has written this book in honor of Josh.

This story isn't about Josh or that day; although there are some similarities. It is a must-

read for everyone and reaches out into each genre.

This is a gift back to the community that so helped their family. The intent of the book is to somehow implement back into our community and all communities in the world that there is something within us that shouldn't only be brought out when a tragedy occurs. But sadly it too often is the only way.

A quote printed on the back cover written by Kathleen Salter: "When crisis and opportunity collide, the lives of two men become inextricably connected. Mack and Daniel are separated by generations and means, but

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