

Utah/Metro

BYU denies it misused LDS tithing monies

PROVO (AP) — Mormon Church-owned Brigham Young University said today it is investigating allegations by a former employee that a campus movie studio has misused tax-exempt church tithings.

BYU spokesman Paul Richards said the university has been contacted by the Utah County Attorney's Office, which apparently plans its own probe into allegations that up to \$4 million in donations has gone into production of commercial films on campus.

aired Sunday night by Salt Lake television station KUTV, a "snow job."

"The allegations aren't true," he said. "No tithings have ever been used."

Faithful members of the Mormon Church are required to donate 10 percent of their earnings to the church in the form of a tithing.

Private donations to the school have been appropriated to the on-campus production studio for production of commercial and educational films, Richards said. Those donations can be used

as a religious tax write-off by the donor, he said.

The television station interviewed a former employee of the BYU film studio, Kurt Vreeken, who said the studio's director, Peter Johnson, had lost millions in tax-exempt church tithings and donations made while producing private films at the campus film studio.

Johnson, however, denied any wrongdoing and said all of the films produced by the studio have the sanction of church and university officials. Richards agreed and said no

tithing money has been used in the productions. The university has worked closely with the Internal Revenue Service to make sure the church's tax-exempt status is not jeopardized, he said.

Both men think Vreeken has gone public with his allegations because he was laid off along with several other studio employees about a month ago.

"I don't blame them for being unhappy," Richards said. "I've sensed some hard feelings.... I don't think all this would have surfaced if they hadn't been laid off."

"What we've got here really is a disgruntled employee," said Johnson.

Richards said the \$4 million in question was used to produce three films through a private production company, Sandstar.

He said the came out a discretionary donations fund, but did not include any tithing money paid by church members.

"We have the option to determine where we want to use the funds," Richards said. "Unless something is going on behind our backs, the money was approved by the administration for this

purpose."

Johnson said Sandstar is owned by two men, one of whom is also a Mormon Church auditor. He said he has no personal interest in the company.

The largest of the films, a feature-length movie about George Washington titled, "A More Perfect Union," cost the school about \$3 million, Johnson said.

Two other films, the Home Box Office series "Encyclopedia Brown" and a Disney production, "The Witching of Ben Wagner," also were financed with donations to BYU, Johnson said.

What's happening

ALZHEIMER'S MEETING: Ogden Alzheimer's Support Group, Wednesday 7 p.m., Cedar Room, St. Benedict's Hospital, 5475 S. 500 East, Washington Terrace. Open discussion. Information, Ilene Rose, 479-0537.

PUBLIC MEETING: The North Ogden Planning Commission is holding a public meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the city building, 505 E. 2600 North. The purpose is to obtain public opinion on changing the sign ordinance to allow monument signs and to limit the use of pole signs.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE CLINIC: The Weber-Morgan Health Department's STD Clinic, which offers testing for all sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS, has changed its hours to Mondays and Wednesdays 1 to 4 p.m. and Fridays, 9 to 11 a.m. In addition, testing for AIDS only is done from 1 to 3 p.m. Tuesdays. Cost is \$5. Information, 399-8433 or 399-8812.

NUTRITION WORKSHOPS: Sponsored by Utah State University Extension Service from 9

a.m. to 1 p.m., March 29, in the third floor auditorium of Weber County Human Services Building, 2650 Lincoln Ave., Ogden. "Low fat cooking," from 9 to 11 a.m. by Teresa Cooley and Susan Stokes. "Choose a Diet Program," from 11 a.m. to noon by Chris Koldewyn. "Possibilities of Pasta," from noon and 1 p.m. by Teresa Brooks. Cost \$1. Reservations required, 625-3790.

NUTRITION LECTURES: Sponsored by McKay-Dee Hospital, "Nutritional Needs During Pregnancy," Thursday, and "Eating and the Healthy Heart," March 29 at noon in the hospital's Green auditorium, 3939 Harrison Blvd., Ogden. Information, 625-2028. Free.

WATER EXERCISE CLASS: Sponsored by St. Benedict's Hospital every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, starting March 26, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Weber State College pool. Cost \$1 per class. Class, designed especially for pregnant women, is conducted by registered nurse and certified childbirth educator. Information/registration, 479-2600.

Ex-police chief blames racism

Ousted black man blames Wendover council vendetta for his firing

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Former Wendover Police Chief Augustus June Carter believes racism and a mayoral vendetta, not allegations of drug possession, are the reasons he was fired from his job last month.

In an interview with a Salt Lake newspaper while awaiting trial on drug possession charges, Carter, who is black, said he thinks his firing was premature and partly stems from a long-standing feud between himself and Mayor Albert Smith because he once arrested the mayor's grandson.

He also claimed a city council member once called him a "black bastard" and "Captain Midnight" to a casino security guard.

The council member, Brenda Morgan, denies ever making those statements and said Carter is angry because she questioned his budget.

Carter, 35, was fired from his job as police chief in the tiny



A. June Carter

border town March 5. A week earlier, state narcotics officers had arrested and charged his wife, Janese, on narcotics possession and distribution charges af-

ter she alleged sold \$16,000 in cocaine and methamphetamines from the trunk of the chief's police car outside a Salt Lake City mall.

Officials have said they believed at least some of the cocaine was stolen from the department's evidence room, where Janese Carter, a part-time officer, was custodian.

Lawmen later charged Carter based on the paraphernalia found in his car. He was fired hours after he was arraigned in 3rd Circuit Court in Tooele.

"I feel that it was definitely premature. This is like you're guilty, now you have to prove yourself innocent," Carter said.

"I was not told, except by media, that I was terminated. It was definitely premature, without a doubt," he said. "To me, that is totally unfair."

Carter believes Smith and some council members have been looking for a reason to fire

him for months.

Hard feelings between the mayor and himself stretch back to 1984 where court records showed Carter arrested Smith's grandson on a residential burglary charge.

Smith, however, said he can recall no such arrest. He said his grandson was once escorted home by Carter after he and some other boys got in trouble trying to cash in some chips at a Wendover, Nev., casino.

Smith denied he has ever made a racist remark about Carter.

"I haven't anything against him because he's black and I told him that," the mayor said. "In fact, it wasn't even mentioned about his being black."

Smith acknowledged that he wanted Carter replaced as chief after he took over as mayor in January.

Syracuse drawing up ordinance

By DONNA BROWN
Lakewood Review

SYRACUSE — Because Syracuse is "growing up," the city council, planning commission and board of adjustment plan to meet April 17 to work up the city's first zoning ordinance.

The ordinance could place more restrictions on some owners of undeveloped land and greatly increase the value of property

owned by others, said council member Michael Gailey, adding that the city was prompted to consider enacting zoning laws because "we're growing up."

Gailey said the city now is divided into districts and what goes on in those districts is up to the planning commission.

Five zones have been proposed including a commercial zone; a residential/suburban zone for the

development of single-family dwellings; a single-family residential dwelling zone that will allow homes to be built on a minimum of 10,000 square feet of property;

a single-family residential zone for development on no less than 8,000 square feet; and a zone that would allow apartments, condominiums and other multifamily dwellings.

Military people

John D. Bryant arrived for duty in West Germany. The private is a tank system mechanic with the Army's 66th Armored Battalion. The 1989 Bonneville High School graduate is the son of William H. and Barbara A. Bryant of Ogden.

Capt. Ronald E. Opp II received the Air Force Commendation Medal at Holloman Air

Force Base, N.M. He is a computer systems engineer with the 6585th Test Group. The son of Ronald E. and Lora S. Opp of Sunset, he is a 1972 graduate of Clearfield High School and a 1984 graduate of Brigham Young University.

Brandon L. Payne, son of Kenneth R. and Donna L. Payne of Syracuse, arrived for duty in

West Germany. The Army private first class is a bridge crew-member with the 10th Engineer Battalion. He is a 1989 graduate of Clearfield High School.

Tearl S. Stice of Clearfield enlisted in the Air Force. He is a 1989 graduate of Croughn High School in England. He will report for duty in April.

City

From 1B

fect on the statistical measure. Suicides, for example, happen pretty evenly around the county, "but, once again, we have a high rate downtown because of that low population."

On injuries leading to death, he said, downtown Ogden is triple the countywide rate, with a rate of 15.9 per 10,000 population compared to the county rate of 5.2 per 10,000.

For non-death injuries, the rate is 1,348 per 10,000 in downtown Ogden compared to 851 per 10,000 in the county, he said.

The nature of the downtown population might also account for the 35 percent increase in the number of non-fatal falls and 133 percent increase in the number of people being hurt by objects that occurred between 1983 and 1988.

Thompson said the population in that area is mostly older, lower-income people. Old people are

more susceptible to falling down, he said. Lower-income areas tend to experience more violence, he said, and some injuries are simply because the infrastructure in the area — buildings and other objects — is getting older.

Central Ogden isn't highest in all areas of injury and death, he said. His study notes that "the highest injury rates in this study are in the rural upper Ogden Valley. The high rates in this area can also be linked to specific types of injuries including automobile and motorcycle crashes along U.S. 39 through Ogden Canyon, drownings at Pineview Reservoir and suicides in campgrounds and other deserted areas."

Analysis of those injuries, he said, also shows that only 15 percent of the people involved were Ogden Valley residents, with 34 percent being residents of Ogden City.

By comparison, he said, 54 percent of the people injured in the central Ogden area were residents.

Injury death in Weber County



Residence of victim for the 10 leading causes of injury death in Weber County, 1974-1988. Per 1,000 population:

Area	Motor vehicle injuries	Suicide	Falls	Homicide	Undetermined	Motorcycle	Drowning	Poisoning	Fires	Sports	Total
1. Central City	4.69	4.02	4.36	4.19	1.84	.33	.67	1.01	1.01	—	23.13
2. West Ogden	.79	3.97	—	1.59	—	.79	—	—	.79	—	8.74
3. Monroe Park	3.08	3.32	2.83	1.35	.62	.25	.49	—	—	.12	12.55
4. Liberty Park	2.26	2.61	3.33	1.43	.71	.24	.36	—	.12	.12	11.64
5. Canyon area	2.82	3.69	1.30	1.08	.43	.22	.65	—	.65	.22	12.80
6. Fourth Street	2.46	1.57	2.01	1.12	.22	.45	—	.67	—	—	9.62
7. Ron Clair	1.19	3.27	.74	.74	.30	—	.15	—	.15	—	6.70
8. East Bench	1.38	2.76	.98	.49	.39	.10	.20	—	—	.10	6.79
9. Ogden Valley	2.14	1.53	.92	.31	—	.61	.31	—	—	—	7.04
10. North Weber	1.69	1.42	.61	.27	.27	.27	.20	—	—	—	4.99
11. West Weber	2.48	1.21	.40	—	.20	.47	.33	.13	.07	.07	5.96
12. Roy-Riverdale	1.45	1.75	.58	.19	.28	.17	.11	.11	.08	.03	5.17
13. SE Weber	1.81	1.40	1.40	.23	.29	.70	.17	.12	—	.06	6.82
14. NE Weber	1.87	2.21	.47	.23	.70	.47	.12	.12	—	.12	6.72
Total injury rates	1.98	2.10	1.25	.61	.41	.32	.24	.12	.11	.07	7.69

* Totals in this row include all injury deaths per 1,000 population

Standard-Examiner graphic

Kanesville revives planning group

By AMY BRYSON
Standard-Examiner

Concerns about community planning have prompted the revival of the Kanesville Planning Committee, a seven-member group that ceased functioning a few years ago.

Ron Schultz, acting chairman, said the committee was disbanded five or six years ago because of lack of community interest.

"It just went dormant. There was no action taken for a number of years. Now, there are a number of new developments that we are not too happy about and some new ones coming in that

we'd like to have a little better control over," he said.

He said the re-establishment of the committee is designed to help monitor growth in the rural community of approximately 1,500 residents in western Weber County. Because Kanesville is not an incorporated city, the Weber County Commission has authority over the area. The planning committee will make recommendations to the commission.

Schultz, a 55-year-old farmer, said he and two other members, Roland Hadley and Steven

Toone, are carry-overs from the previous board. He said new members were selected at a community meeting in February. Those selected include Virginia Briscoe, Willard Pingree and Richard Saunders.

He said an additional member will be selected at the committee's next meeting, which begins at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the Kanesville Elementary School, 3112 S. 3500 West. Schultz said the committee will also vote on a permanent chairman.

The group plans to meet the third Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. at the elementary school.

Pipes

From 1B

She said the pipe was old, but believes it would not have ruptured without the water being shut off and then re-engaged. She

said she is disturbed that she wasn't notified of the city's intentions, a sentiment shared by Ogden resident Lowell Hillier.

He said workers appeared at his house without announcement on Oct. 4 and changed the meter. The same scenario occurred: water gushed from the hole around

the meter, he was without running water for nine days, the bill came to \$884 and the city told him it was his problem.

Lowell said the pipe was 76 years old and "quite rotten," but said he is upset by the lack of notification by the city.

"I think they should come to

the door and tell us what they will do," Hillier said.

Paul Hodson, superintendent of the Ogden City Division of Water Utility, said water inspectors check to see if water is being used at the time of the meter replacement and will notify residents of the change if it is.

The replacement is a "routine thing," and takes about 10 minutes, he said.

Most of the city's meters were installed in the 1930s and 1940s and mark water use with dials, Hodson said. The new meters are digital and easier to read, he said.

