

Table of Contents

“Uplift People’s Spirits and Nurture Their Souls” Rachel Barton Pine Plays with The Timpanogos
Symphony Orchestra..... 2
Mountain to Lake Trail Is Finished.....4
New Child's History of Cedar Hills Launches at Family Fair.....6
Scouting for Food, 2018.....8
Balloonists give rides at Lindon Days launch.....10

“Uplift People’s Spirits and Nurture Their Souls” Rachel Barton Pine Plays with The Timpanogos Symphony Orchestra

by Harlow Clark

How does a small community orchestra without a hall of its own, an itinerant orchestra playing in high school auditoriums throughout the north end of the valley, attract a world class violinist (and heavy-metal) rocker like Rachel Barton Pine?

Just ask, says cellist Carolyn Lundberg, explaining that the orchestra's music director asked Pine's manager, and found a time when she would be traveling from the East Coast to the West Coast between engagements. “She even gave us a small break on her fee.”

Classical 89's Eric Glissmeyer broadcast short segments of an interview with Pine in the week leading up to the April 25, 26 concerts, including how she got started with the violin. “I first encountered the violin in person when I was three years old, and I saw some middle-school girls playing in my church one Sunday, and I was just absolutely intrigued by the sound of the instrument. It really drew me in and I started nagging my parents for lessons.” By age 5 she self identified as a violinist, “the core of my being,”

Asked about having been part of a heavy-metal band she said she got a transistor radio from Santa at age 10 and was drawn to heavy-metal by the intensity, only realizing later that “a lot of the sub-genres are incredibly compositionally complex, and a lot of them are very influenced by classical. You would think that the two kinds of music, classical and metal, are really far apart, but they're actually incredibly close cousins.”

Asked after the concert if she had recorded any metal albums, Pine wrote down two, Stringendo: Storming the Citadel, and Earthen Grave, named after her bands.

Did she bring copies to sell? “No. I didn't think anyone here would be interested.”

Glissmeyer also asked about The Rachel Barton Pine Foundation, and part of her reason for setting it up was to help young musicians with expenses.

“Even though I had a scholarship for my lessons, that scholarship didn't cover things like filling the tank with gas to drive to those lessons, or buying concert clothes, paying for new strings for your violin, and the sheet music that you're supposed to learn, and piano accompanist fees and recording sessions for auditions. All of those things come out of families' pockets.”

Pine received a lot of help with those expenses, and wanted to help others, “basically what you would call poor prodigies.”

The Foundation also started the Music by Black Composers program after releasing an album of that name and realizing how much of the sheet music was out of print or inaccessible. The Foundation's website, rbpfoundation.org, has many musical resources for music lovers and musicians.

In the second half of the concert Pine rolled on stage in a scooter, and her assistant helped her onto the soloist platform, where she played Sibelius's Violin Concerto in D minor with passion, energy and joy.

So what is it like to play with such an intense, passionate artist who feels music “is the best way I can uplift people's spirits and nurture their souls”?

Lundberg, who loves to talk about the experience, answered this way in an e-mail: “What I can say is that she was absolutely brilliant and mesmerizing. In rehearsals she never used music and could pick-up anywhere instantly from memory. Each night of her two-night concerts she delighted the audience with different encores that were absolutely stunning feats of virtuosity. All along she was kind and gracious and just down to earth - sincerely wanting to share stories and answer questions, which is rare among artists of her caliber. It really was an honor to play in the symphony behind her and one of the best experiences.”

Mountain to Lake Trail Is Finished

by Harlow Clark

When Lindon set out, decades ago, to create a trail system from the mountains to the lake, the length of the city, there were two major obstacles to solve (besides land acquisition): crossing State Street safely for people and animals, and crossing Geneva Road and the railroad tracks there.

The first problem was solved in 2008 with a tunnel under State Street tall enough for a rider on horseback. It wasn't feasible to tunnel under Geneva Road and the railroad tracks, but the city negotiated a crossing, and held a ribbon cutting for the trail on August 26.

"All right, crowd, count down," Mayor Carolyn Lundberg said, after inviting former mayors Larry Ellertson and Jim Dain to hold the handles of the ceremonial scissors, "You're the visionaries."

In remarks before the ribbon cutting, the mayor illustrated part of Ellertson's vision, pointing to a pasture he had acquired "decades ago," and to a new vision working with the Utah Lake Authority and its former chair, Vineyard mayor Julie Fullmer, and UVU, to create "a major science center" and conservation park, with Sen. John Curtis and Rep. Mike Kennedy and state legislators working to get additional funding.

The mayor also said that as the trail makes its way through an industrial area, "there is a creek, and we have a grant from the Department of Water Quality to improve that riparian waterway," including taking out invasive species.

The Utah Lake Authority had a tent with water bottles, treats, and flyers talking about conservation efforts in the lake. Ellertson, who went from the mayor's office to the county commission office chatted with Addy Valdez, the Authority's conservation and education program manager, about the work the commission had started to get rid of phragmites, and asked how that was going.

Valdez said it was going well and so much of the invasive vegetation had been cleared from the north end of the lake that they were replanting native species, and would have 60,000 plants in by the end of the year.

Asked about the possibility of a commuter bridge across the lake, Valdez said they had taken core samples 400 feet down and still not hit bedrock, so a floating bridge might be a possibility, but not a bridge with footings going down to bedrock. She said people forget how ancient the lake is, thousands of years old, not like a reservoir.

And how was the decarpification going, with all the millions of pounds of carp being taken out of the lake? (Ellertson pointed out that the carp were brought in 100 years ago to restock the lake when most of the native species had been fished out.)

Valdez said that had been going well, but there had been some deaths in the fishing family conducting the removals. One difficulty with carp removal is finding the carp. They like to burrow and stir things up, so they're hard to see. One technique is baiting nets with corn, then pulling carp out by the netload.

Part of her education outreach is visiting 4th grade classes throughout the valley to tell them about the lake and conservation efforts. What does she say about carp?

“Imagine all the cats in Utah County got out, but it’s also pitch black and they can fly. And they all reproduce like cats and your job is to try to go get rid of every single cat.”

While Valdez is talking about the depth of sediment, a man asks, “Are you the newspaper guys?” His name is Ken Drake.

“What does the trail mean to you?” one reporter asks.

“I live along the trail.” Drake said he thought putting the trail in would be a headache, and he would lose some land to eminent domain, and have to relocate sprinklers and rebuild his fence, but when all the adjusting was done he had gained a two-foot strip outside his fence line.

“It's been fantastic, as far as a community builder to tie everything together, and people go by and we talk to people. It's been a fantastic addition.”

New Child's History of Cedar Hills Launches at Family Fair

by Harlow Clark

Visitors to the Family Festival fair were greeted by five signs around Heritage Park.

Sign readers learned that Cedar Ridge Elementary was built on the site of the old sewage ponds, before Cedar Hills hooked up to American Fork's sewer system, that Manila Creek was dug in 1852 "to supply water to northern Pleasant Grove," and more.

The sign noted that the trees along the creek are more than a hundred years old. A timely sign because one tree on the east side had fallen and the area around it was taped off with yellow caution tape.

The signs invited people to scan a QR code or visit the Stories Under Your Feet booth. A reporter dropped by the booth and told Jamie L. Miller about the sign marking the first city hall, a trailer. "I was sent to that trailer by a temp agency to do a job and when I got there, no one was there."

Miller laughed and replied that strange things happen in our city. The booth was a launch party for Miller's new book, *Stories Under Your Feet: A Children's History of Cedar Hills, Utah*, illustrated by Kathy Mecham.

Was the book a production of Cedar Hills' historical committee?

No. Miller said, picking up part of a yellow brick. It all started when she dug up the brick on her property after moving to Cedar Hills six years ago. Where did that come from, she wondered. She learned her property had been part of Adams Turkey Farm. "The feedlot was just about where I live."

Later, "a woman in my ward found a cannonball about two feet down." By that time Miller had been interviewing longtime residents, including a resident of 80 years. "Would you know anything about a cannonball?" she asked him.

"That would be my friends and me. We had a cannon and used to come up here and shoot it off."

"I guess they left a few behind," she said.

Why a children's history? Miller studied a local history book in third grade in Fullerton, California, near Anaheim. "We could hear the fireworks from Disneyland every night."

The book third grade students studied was called, *Ostrich Eggs for Breakfast*, since Fullerton had been built on a former ostrich farm. "I wanted a cool title like that, but Turkey Omelette for Breakfast doesn't sound all that good."

Ostrich eggs age huge, Miller added. "You can make 10 omelettes out of one egg." One house had

been restored as a museum. They had a hollowed out ostrich egg, where the insides had been blown out through holes in the top and bottom. "It was huge."

Miller said she has always wanted to be a writer and plans to do histories of other cities, like Pleasant Grove and American Fork.

"Alpine?"

"Yes."

Miller would like to do a book about Manila. Most of the signs are gone, but there are a lot of people who remember. Miller said she caught herself giving directions recently by referencing the names of old residents' houses.

One of the people she wants to talk to soon is Fred Lavine, the rodeo clown from the Manila rodeo, which went on for about 20 years, even though Manila was never incorporated. "The clown is still alive. I need to interview him."

Mentioning the blue silos, a local landmark, Miller said, "They're trying to put housing there but they're running into legal issues."

What kind?

"The area needs to be zoned as Pleasant Grove," she said. It's unincorporated part of the county now. "I'm not even sure they're used anymore," she said about the silos. "Hopefully they'll get them cleared up."

A quick drive by the silos showed no activity or animals.

Scouting for Food, 2018

by Harlow Clark

St. Patrick's Day is a day for Parades and Boy Scouts in Utah paraded from house to house in neighborhoods throughout the state gathering food for food banks, and taking it to drop off points.

For years the drop off point in Pleasant Grove has been Allred's Ace Hardware, and before that at the National Guard site. In past years an 18-wheeler flatbed loaded with orchard boxes has been standing by in the parking lot to haul the food away. This year they've been replaced by wire crates. The orchard boxes broke apart, according to Jeralyn Merrill and Kris Van Wagoner of the Timpanogos District, which serves Pleasant Grove and Lindon.

The flatbed is courtesy Niels Fugal Sons Co., driven this year by Greg Cox. Van Wagoner said the truck would spend the weekend at Fugal's, in a covered space, she added, with a nod at storm clouds.

Keeping the truck at Fugal's over the weekend and delivering it Monday would help the Utah Food Bank in Provo, one less truck to be pulling in and out on Saturday. Van Wagoner added that a lot of BYU volunteers would be at the Food Bank sorting the food that came in, "Not all the drop offs sort like we do. We're exceptional," she said, smiling.

Kirt Moyes, assistant district commissioner, operated one of Allred's forklifts to load 24 crates on the flatbed, 11 rows of 2 crates and one row stacked 2 high. Cox guided the stacking from atop the crates on the flatbed, at one point climbing onto the forklift. the truck, and strapping down each of the 11 rows of 2 crates.

But the Utah Food Bank sent over 31 collapsible crates, so the 7 empties were the last to be strapped.

How does that compare to last year's haul?

"Higher than last year," Merrill said. "About half of our highest ever." Last year's haul was 26 orchard boxes, but the wire crates hold more. The highest ever was around 54.

Merrill and Van Wagoner attributed the drop to the Timpanogos District disbanding the monthly round table gatherings of scout leaders in the district, opting instead for round tables at the LDS Stake level.

So how many units participated? “About 100 units,” said Nick Hutchison, the district executive. Van Wagoner and Merrill wondered if that could be accurate since there are at most 84 units in the district, “and we’ve never had 100 percent participation.”

Hutchinson checked his list of units that had brought food in and confirmed the number, saying they probably had units from American Fork and other areas dropping off at Pleasant Grove.

As everyone was finishing up the loading one last unit pulled into the parking lot in a minivan. Volunteers unstrapped the last row, and the last unit handed the food they had gathered up to Jacob Devereaux and Kyle Willes of Troop 1179 to unload and sort.

Van Wagoner said people who still want to donate can take food to the food bank at 815 S Freedom Blvd in Provo, or to Tabitha’s Way, 675 W Garden Dr in Pleasant Grove.

Balloonists give rides at Lindon Days launch

by Harlow Clark - Lindon Correspondent

If you ask John Burr and Brian Moncur why their balloon was flying so low in Lindon Days balloon festival Aug. 3, they'll tell you they put down in a vacant lot. "My favorite thing is to land on the street," Burr said, because of all the excitement it generates.

And they love to give rides. Moncur says they stopped at a senior center once to give rides and had to lift the people in and out because they couldn't lift their legs over the basket.

Then there was the 90-year-old man who chased them down the street in American Fork. "My dream is to fly in a balloon, and every time I've been weathered out." They took him up and flew over his house. He called his wife on a cellphone, "You'll never believe where I'm calling from."

Other balloonists at the festival were Lyle Bingham and Brian Kelly, in several balloons, and Robert Haupt, who owns LDSSingles.com, the name on "the corporate balloon," as he calls it. Haupt stayed at the OakCanyon Junior High playing fields, tethered by a drop cord to David Mala and Duane Fox, who guided the balloon around the field while Haupt gave rides, mostly to children.

Of course, two men isn't much of a tether for a balloon that "can drag a pickup truck across a parking lot when the wind's up," Haupt said. "This is the biggest sail you've ever seen," and when a wind of about 10 mph came up he thought he might have to deflate the balloon, but the wind died down and as the sun came up and people took shade under the balloon's shadow, Haupt was able to take all the children and a few adults up before he ran out of propane.