



Cottonwood Heights, UT | December 2024 | FREE

BETWEEN THE CANYONS

The official newsletter of Cottonwood Heights | ch.utah.gov

Pride in Our Community: Embracing Growth and Unity in Cottonwood Heights

Council Member Shawn Newell



The statements in this article are the author's views and not necessarily of the entire city council.

Every day I feel a sense of pride living in our wonderful city. This prideful sensation is a result of many factors that I experience when I walk our neighborhoods, drive our streets, and visit our local businesses. There are not many communities in this country where residents can feel safe and welcomed while experiencing their community and its amenities in the manner we can here in Cottonwood Heights.

I have lived in Cottonwood Heights for over thirty years, and like many of you, I have watched our city grow and thrive through many challenges. Through the time I have called Cottonwood Heights City home, we have experienced well-managed growth. Throughout these periods of change, we continue to develop an awareness of community and unity. There will always be challenges along the way as our city navigates change and growth, but through citizen engagement and careful planning, we will continue to blossom as a place where our residents are gratified by their environment.

There are examples of wonders all around our city. For example, have you had a chance to visit the pollinator garden at Mountain View Park, taken a moment to stroll the Cottonwood Trail, or spent "Date Night" or time with friends at some of our palate-pleasing restaurants? These are just a few

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CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

UPCOMING TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS

DECEMBER 3

- MODERATE INCOME HOUSING POLICY DISCUSSION
- 20TH ANNIVERSARY DISCUSSION 2025
- CANYON CENTRE

DECEMBER 17

- PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE REPORT

JANUARY 7

- OPMA TRAINING

JANUARY 16

- CITY COUNCIL RETREAT

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EVENTS CALENDAR

- **NOVEMBER 18- DECEMBER 31:** AROUND THE WORLD WINTER WONDERS AND CULTURAL TRADITIONS ART SHOW
- **DECEMBER 2-20 :** PUBLIC WORKS SOCK DRIVE - M-F FROM 7 AM TO 4 PM
- **DECEMBER 2:** LIGHT THE HEIGHTS AT CITY HALL FROM 5 TO 7:30 PM
- **DECEMBER 6:** ECLIPSE 6 CHRISTMAS CONCERT FROM 7:30 TO 9 PM
- **DECEMBER 25:** CITY OFFICES CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS
- **JANUARY 1:** CITY OFFICES CLOSED FOR NEW YEARS
- **JANUARY 25:** ARTS COUNCIL CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION FROM 10 AM TO 12 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT CH.UTAH.GOV AND CLICK COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Light^{the} Heights
DECEMBER 2 5-7:30 PM
 Cottonwood Heights City Hall
 Visit Santa, Tree Lighting and Vendors

ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER. POWERING YOUR GREATNESS
CH.UTAH.GOV

COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS ARTS COUNCIL
 Call for submissions of ceramic art for:
On the Wall: Celebrating Ceramics in Utah

- Juried show with prizes awarded
- Submission deadline Feb. 14
- Exhibit runs March 4-31 at Cottonwood Heights City Hall

Arts Council Cottonwood Heights CHCityArts.com for criteria and submission info. Cottonwood Heights

Cottonwood Heights Arts Council Presents
November 18 to December 31, 2024

Around the World
Winter Wonders and Cultural Traditions
 Art Show

Cottonwood Heights City Hall
 2277 Bengal Blvd.
 Cottonwood Heights, UT
 Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm

CHCityArts.com for a list of exhibited artists.

ZAP IS YOU 6 SALT LAKE COUNTY ARTS & MUSEUMS

ECLIPSE 6
Christmas
 CONCERT

DECEMBER 6, 2024
 7:30 - 9 PM CONCERT IS FREE
 Doors Open at 7pm General Admission

Butler Middle School Theater - 7530 South 2700 E.
 PRESENTED BY THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS ARTS COUNCIL

Arts Council Cottonwood Heights chcityarts.com Cottonwood Heights ARTS COUNCIL

Cottonwood Heights Arts Council
2025
 Chinese New Year Celebration

A free, educational and entertaining family event celebrating Chinese culture through art, music, and martial arts.

January 25, 2025 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Cottonwood Heights City Hall
 2277 E. Bengal Blvd.

Presented with
 The Asian Arts and Culture Association

CHCITYARTS.COM

ZAP IS YOU 6 SALT LAKE COUNTY ARTS & MUSEUMS

Pride in Our Community: Embracing Growth and Unity in Cottonwood Heights continued from cover



of the things our city has to offer, and the future will shine even brighter. CH continues to work to improve our walking and biking trails. Our city crews are hard at work on our roads, staff members are analyzing and planning to develop codes and ordinances that both allow for our individual property improvements, ecological considerations and our overall safety. What a wonderful place to live.

As a City Council and staff, we have maintained a focus on citizen input and participation as a key component to our decision-making on issues and

activities concerning our municipality. We desire continued citizen involvement as volunteers, voices of reason, and messengers of specific information. In looking at where we are going, projects like the proposed City Center and other developments seem propitious to our future. These amenities and projects are why having an engaged and contributive community is imperative. This will continue to be one of our primary considerations as we continue to nurture a prideful feeling throughout our citizenry and put the safety of our community first.

With that in mind, as we move into the fall and

winter seasons my hope is that we stay engaged as a community. Our public works team will need your support as the sun gives way to snow. We should look to address issues around the removal of debris caused by wind, and the snow that will soon draw a veil over our streets, with dignity and understanding.

Let us continue to grow in relationship, as a community, and strive to employ collaboration and civility as the heightening of our city is illuminated to all. ■

Open Space Spotlight: Butler Park

Ronna Cohen, member of Parks, Trails, and Open Space Committee, Gayle Conger, member of the Historic Committee

Spanning 26 acres adjacent to the Rec Center, Butler Park has lighted pickleball courts, basketball hoops, tennis courts, play fields, walking paths, playgrounds, and grills. Pavilions can be reserved. Squirrels, birds, and an occasional rabbit call Butler home.

Sally Cooper and son Henry reached out to participate in the Volunteer in the Parks Program and said, “My 5-year-old son and I often take a wagon around the skate park, tennis courts, and fields to pick up trash and recycling. Butler Park is an important part of the special neighborhood feeling of

Cottonwood Heights. I take pride in having our parks and always look for a small way I can keep it clean for everyone to enjoy.”

Ken Verdoia, a long-time resident and member of the Historic Committee, said, “I love our parks and “my” park is the favorite. Butler Park is a special treasure for Cottonwood Heights. Every day I see residents from the youngest children playing with families in the playground, to older residents walking our dogs. Weekends are filled with boys and girls playing soccer, football, and lacrosse. You can even catch the Brighton High marching band rehearsing for the upcoming season. In the summer, Butlerville Days turns the park into a carnival.”

Part of the park is where the old Cottonwood Elementary School was located. The school began holding classes on August 28, 1960, to help meet the needs of our fast-growing community. In a decade, the population grew from about 250 people in Butler to over 5000. The school closed in 2006.

If you are interested in getting involved



at Butler Park or any park in Cottonwood Heights, please reach out to Andrew Davis at Andrew@cottonwoodheights.com to join the VIP Program. ■



Photos courtesy of Cottonwood Heights Parks & Recreation

Tips for a Safe and Joyous Holiday Season

Assistant Fire Chief Riley Pilgrim



As we approach the winter holiday season, many will be decorating and hosting get-togethers with family and friends. Though this is a fun time of year, there is also an increased risk of home fires due to the addition

of decorations, candles and Christmas trees. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has provided the following facts to raise awareness:

- U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 790 home structure fires per year that began with decorations, excluding Christmas trees. These fires caused an annual average of 4 civilian fire deaths, 33 civilian fire injuries and \$14 million in direct property damage.
- Electrical distribution or lighting equipment was involved in more than two in five home Christmas tree fires.
- Nearly one in five Christmas tree fires were started by lamps or bulbs. Eight percent were started by candles.
- Roughly two of every five home Christmas tree fires started in the living

room.

- Candle fires peak in December and January with 11 percent of candle fires in each of these months.
- Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires, followed by Christmas Day and Christmas Eve.
- Year round, one-third (33%) of home decoration fires were started by candles. This jumped to almost half in December when candles started 46% of such fires. Cooking started one-fifth (19%) of decoration fires.

In an effort to celebrate the holiday season safely, we

have a few tips that we would like to share:

- Avoid placing lit candles near decorations, and make sure they are extinguished before leaving your home.
- Have furnaces, fireplaces, and chimneys inspected and maintained annually if possible, and replace furnace filters regularly.
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors monthly. Remain attentive while cooking, as it's easy to become distracted. When setting up a Christmas tree, remember to water live trees daily,



inspect lighting strands and remove them if damaged, keep trees at least three feet away from any heat source, and turn off lights before going to bed or leaving your home. Ensure walkways, paths, and stairs are free from snow and ice. If you have a fire hydrant near your home, try to clear snow within three feet.

We hope you and your family have a happy holiday season! ■

"Christmas Tree Safety Tip Sheet," 2020, <https://www.nfpa.org/downloadableresources/safety-tip-sheets/christmas-tree-safety-tip-sheet>

Prepare for winter weather: Tips to follow

Cottonwood Heights' snowplow drivers work hard whenever there is snow, plowing even on holidays and weekends to ensure residents can safely drive throughout the city. Follow these tips to make it easier for crews to clear the snow in your neighborhood:

- **Move snow onto your lawn, not into the street.** When you blow/shovel snow from your sidewalk into the street, it creates dangerous ice patches after drivers have already plowed.
- **Clear all snow or ice from your sidewalk and driveway within 24 hours of the end of a storm.** Review Cottonwood Heights code section 14-32-060 for more information.
- **Help neighbors who have mobility issues to clear their driveways and sidewalks after a storm.** The city doesn't have the resources to clear private sidewalks and driveways.

- **Don't park on the street after any snowfall and not until 24 hours after the end of a snowstorm.** If plows are unable to get around your vehicle to clear the road, a towing company may tow your car. See Cottonwood Heights code section 11.20.130 for more information.
- **Remove- trash and recycling cans from the street within 12 hours of Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District collection.** Note: WFWRD generally delays collection on snow days to allow snowplows time to clear neighborhoods. See Cottonwood Heights code section 9.05.030 for the full ordinance.

Our snowplow drivers follow assigned routes, prioritizing the main streets to maintain safe travel for the largest volume of traffic. The city strives to plow every city road within 24 hours after a storm ends.

Follow Cottonwood Heights on Facebook



Photos courtesy of Alvaro Segura, Public Works Department

(/CHCity), Twitter (@CHCity), Instagram (@cottonwoodheights) and NextDoor or subscribe to city emails (ch.utah.gov/emails) for plowing updates.

You can also call the city at 801-944-7002 Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. to report a snowplowing issue. ■

Stormwater Tip of the Month

Spread holiday cheer, but not your oil! If you spill hazardous chemicals clean them up using an absorbent such as kitty litter and dispose of waste in the trash. Hosing down a spill pollutes our creeks and is harmful to aquatic life. ■

Fill out a form now for Wasatch Front Waste to collect your Christmas tree

Did you know that Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling diverted 27 tons of Christmas trees from landfills last year?

Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District will be collecting live Christmas trees during January. Fill out a curbside tree pickup request form at wasatchfrontwaste.org or call 385-468-6325.

Put your undecorated trees on the curb, and WFWRD workers will collect them the day after your regular collection day. If they don't pick up your tree that day, they will

return the following week.

Remember to:

- **Remove all snow, decorations, lights, or flocking from the tree**
- **Cut trees taller than eight feet into smaller sections**
- **Put your tree stand away (WFWRD can't accept trees in tree stands)**

Do not put trees in your garbage, recycling, or green waste cans. **As a reminder, Wasatch Front Waste cannot accept artificial trees.** ■



Green Waste Collection Schedule

The Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District has announced that the last pickup date for Green Waste Collections in Cottonwood Heights will be on Wednesday, December 13th, 2024. Please note that residents should refrain from placing their green cans out on the curb after this date, as they will not be collected or emptied. Green waste collections will resume on the week of March 9th, 2025.

Thanks to your support, WFWRD have successfully diverted an estimated 6,000 tons of green waste from landfills this year and have composted the same amount to create healthier soil in our communities.

If you would like to begin participating in their green waste program in 2025, please visit www.wasatchfrontwaste.org or call 385-468-6325. We appreciate the continued support of our loyal patrons! ■



See if your wrapping paper passes the recyclability

As you exchange gifts this season, remember that paper-based wrapping paper is recyclable. The following items are not recyclable:

- **Tape, Foil, Glittery Paper**
- **Plastic or Mylar wrapping**
- **Bows and ribbons**

Not sure whether your wrapping paper gets the green light for the blue recycle bin? Scrunch it up into a ball. If the ball keeps its shape, it is likely recyclable. If it opens back up into a sheet, it is likely not.

Consider opting for more sustainable and eco-friendly wrapping alternatives. Choose recyclable wrapping paper when wrapping your gifts. Paper-based materials or recycled wrapping paper are great options! For a more sustainable approach, use cloth to wrap gifts—it's a reusable option that can last for years.

If you have any recycling questions or concerns, call 385-468-6337. Have a happy holiday season! ■



Cottonwood Heights Amateur Radio Club (CHARC) Achieves First Place in ARRL Field Day Competition

CHARC has recently received news of their impressive first place win in the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) field day competition held last June.



Operating within the Established Emergency Operators Center (EOC) 1F category, the team members ranged from ages 10 to 80+ and communicated with operators across the United



States, Canada and now including Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

The competition was run out of the Incident Command Center, where City Officials and youth operators came by to witness the contest in action. It's worth noting that CHARC has won first place in this competition in 2016, 2019, 2021, and 2022. ■



GAYLE CONGER

Cottonwood Heights Historic Committee

Cottonwood Heights is incredibly fortunate to have residents who are passionate about preserving our city's rich history. One such individual is Gayle Conger, a dedicated community member whose contributions to the Cottonwood Heights Historic Committee have made a lasting impact.

Gayle's roots in Cottonwood Heights run deep. She has lived in the same house for nearly 80 years – a home recognized on the National Register of Historic Places and a testament to her family's homesteading legacy dating back to 1872. Her great-grandfathers were among the area's original settlers, further solidifying her connection to our city's past.

For two decades, Gayle has been an invaluable member of the Historic Committee. Her "get-it-done" attitude and leadership have been instrumental in the success of numerous projects. She spearheaded the creation of historic signage throughout the city, oversaw the publication of "City Between the Canyons: A History of Cottonwood Heights 1849-1953," and diligently administered grants to document and preserve historic buildings and homes.

Gayle's passion for history extends beyond committee work. She has shared her knowledge with countless residents through engaging in historical walking tours during Butlerville Days and by planning exhibits that connect citizens with their shared heritage.

Gayle firmly believes that understanding our past allows us to truly appreciate our present. Her dedication to preserving history has fostered a stronger sense of community and belonging within Cottonwood Heights.

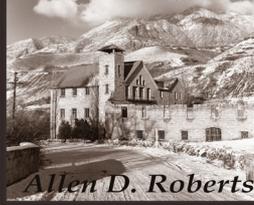
As 2024 draws to a close, we recognize Gayle's remarkable contributions and bid farewell as she concludes her service on the Historic Committee. While we will miss her dedication and expertise, her legacy will continue to inspire us all. Thank you, Gayle, for your invaluable service to Cottonwood Heights!



*Thank you
for your
dedication!*

CITY BETWEEN THE CANYONS

A History of Cottonwood Heights, 1849-1953



Allen D. Roberts

Buy the book!

Get your very own copy of the hardbound history book *City Between the Canyons: A History of Cottonwood Heights, 1849-1953*! Buy yours at City Hall for \$20 (3 for \$50) or online at ch.utah.gov/history-book for \$25 (3 for \$59) with shipping. ■

CHRC Holiday

Cottonwood Heights

Parks & Recreation

FREE

SKATE WITH SANTA!
SATURDAY, DEC. 21ST
2PM - 4PM

All Ages

You do NOT need to register for this event!

MORE DETAILS TO COME!
check CHparksandrecUT.gov



City council members

MAYOR: Michael Weichers
801-944-7087 | mweichers@ch.utah.gov

DIST# 1: Matt Holton
801-944-7089 | district1@ch.utah.gov

DIST# 2: Suzanne Hyland
801-944-7086 | district2@ch.utah.gov

DIST# 3: Shawn E. Newell
801-300-3068 | snewell@ch.utah.gov

DIST# 4: Ellen Birrell
385-910-5942 | ebirrell@ch.utah.gov

CITY MANAGER: Jared Gerber
801-944-7010 | jgerber@ch.utah.gov

City office

2277 E. Bengal Blvd.
Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121
Phone 801-944-7000
Fax 801-944-7005

Numbers to know

Emergency 911
Dispatch 840-4000
Fire authority 743-7200
Animal control 944-7100
Justice court 273-9731

Call direct

City manager 944-7010
City planning 944-7060
Public works 944-7000
Recorder 944-7021
Finance director 944-7012
Code enforcement 840-4000
Police administration 944-7100

City council meetings

- **December 3:** Work Session at 4 p.m. (tentative time), business meeting at 7 p.m. (tentative time)
- **December 17:** Work session at 4 p.m. (tentative time), business meeting at 7 p.m. (tentative time)
- **January 7:** Work session at 4 p.m. (tentative time), business meeting at 7 p.m. (tentative time)

City council meetings are held the first and third Tuesday each month at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. unless otherwise noticed. Agendas are posted at least 24 hours before public meetings at ch.utah.gov/agendas.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission generally holds meetings at 6 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month.

Editor: Beatriz Mayorga,
Communication Manager

Apply to Transfer to Top-Ranked Cottonwood Heights Schools Starting Nov. 15

Did you know that in Utah, parents can apply to have their students attend a school outside their neighborhood boundaries by submitting a School Choice Open Enrollment request? In Canyons School District, families are able to submit these requests from Nov. 15, 2024 to Feb. 7, 2025.

Applying early is recommended as school transfers are approved when space is available and on a first-come, first-served basis. Canyons continues to be the school district of choice for students from both within and outside our boundaries.

About 23 percent of CSD’s 32,000 students attend school on a School Choice permit. Of those, 1,200 come from outside the District. Learn more at: <https://cnyns.org/40OnWwb>. ■

SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainable Skiing

Ian Harris, Associate Planner/Sustainability Analyst

One of the best parts of living in Cottonwood Heights is the access to world-class ski areas. Adopting sustainable practices on the slopes can help preserve mountain ecosystems for generations of skiers to come. Here are some ways you can become a more sustainable skier:

1. **Reduce Travel Emissions** – One of the easiest ways to be a more sustainable skier is to reduce your emissions. Consider meeting up with friends and family in the city and carpooling to the resorts. Or even better (and cheaper!), take the ski bus! If you have a season pass, the bus fare is included. For more information, visit: rideuta.com/Rider-Info/Ski-Service.
2. **Consider Renting** – Renting equipment you don’t often need rather than buying it and letting it go unused is the more sustainable route. When you do buy new essential equipment, like skis, boards, and helmets, consider the lifespan and quality of the items.
3. **Support Environmentally-Focused Brands** – Choose ski equipment, apparel brands, and even resort passes



based on their environmental chops. Many resorts, even those in our own backyard, publicize their sustainability initiatives online. Take advantage of the information and explore opportunities to get involved if possible.

4. **Ski Local** – This is an easy one! Not only are the Cottonwood Canyons right in our backyard, they offer some of the greatest snow on earth. While traveling to new resorts can be fun, utilizing local recreation is the most sustainable way to have fun on the slopes. ■

Business spotlight

VR Decor | 801-918-3498 | VRDecor.co

Local designer Cara Shimizu, owner of VR Decor (since 2019), specializes in creating stunning spaces that increase revenue for vacation rental owners—but her talent doesn't stop there.

Cara loves to work with everyday homeowners too, offering affordable & fast makeovers that breathe new life into a space. She has a unique gift for using what you already own in fresh & creative ways, proving that a beautiful home doesn't have to break the bank or take weeks to complete (as is typical

with traditional interior design). With a focus on functionality, style, & the homeowner's personal touch, Cara's designs are great for anyone looking to update their space quickly & affordably.

For more information or to schedule a Consultation, visit VRDecor.co to see how Cara can help transform your space! ■



Focal Point Content | Focalpointcontent.com | 801-556-2226

Focal Point Content helps marketers and business owners get more from their budgets. They manage all aspects of the content creation process for B2B companies, including strategy, buyer research, and content development. Contact Focal Point Content to get more from your budget! ■



Jen Cottam Real Estate | ERA Brokers Consolidated | jencottam.com | 801-828-6952

Jen Cottam is a dedicated real estate professional with ERA Brokers Consolidated and a longtime resident of Cottonwood Heights who cares deeply about both the community and real estate. She is passionate about guiding people to their perfect home, whether it's a young family putting down roots, empty-nesters looking to downsize, or anyone in between. Jen takes the time to understand each client's unique situation, helping them take the next best steps in their real estate journey. Her approach goes beyond transactions; it's built on strong relationships and trust, fostered through transparent, open communication. Jen is dedicated to making

each transaction as smooth and personalized as possible, ensuring her clients feel fully supported and confident.

An active member of the community, Jen believes in giving back and supports local programs that promote youth sports, community health, and sustainable living.

For anyone looking for a Realtor who truly understands Cottonwood Heights and is committed to finding you not only a home but a community, Jen is here to make the experience memorable. Reach out to her to find a home you'll love! ■



Did you know you can reach more than 13,000 households in Cottonwood Heights each month by promoting your business in *Between the Canyons*? Through our business spotlights and Love Your Locals campaign, which offers residents a discount to shop with you, you'll get the word out about the unique foods, products, and services you offer. You can also become part of the Cottonwood Heights Business Association and network with other business leaders.

To learn more or share your company and services, email business development specialist Sydney Pierce at business@ch.utah.gov.