



Cottonwood Heights, UT | November 2023 | FREE

# BETWEEN THE CANYONS

The official newsletter of Cottonwood Heights | [ch.utah.gov](http://ch.utah.gov)

"So long, and thanks for all the fish!" - Douglas Adams

Council member Scott Bracken



As my time on the city council comes to an end, it's natural to reflect on all that has changed over the years. I have enjoyed serving the people of Cottonwood Heights (CH) and feel we have a much better place to live as a result of incorporation and the effort put forth by some amazing public servants.

Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore, Gordon Thomas, Don Antzack, Bruce Jones and I had a herculean task ahead of us, but had great support from community volunteers to help us with an initial budget, location space for offices, business identification and many other items. Our first city manager, Liane Stillman was uniquely qualified to help with a start-up city as she had done the same work for Holladay

as its first mayor. We had a lot of fish to fry.

I never aspired to public office – but upon a successful vote to incorporate (~86% "YES" votes), my wife, who was on the community council, encouraged me to run as she was pursuing a master's degree program with four kids at home. As I had experience in a private start-up, I took her advice and was one of the successful five (out of 35 candidates) for our inaugural city council.

Under Kelvyn and Liane's leadership we spent most of the first five years in start-up mode and always looked for ways to save taxpayer dollars. We negotiated with Salt Lake County for a grant from the municipal services fund balance (tax monies CH residents had paid, but that had not been expended yet), and ultimately Mountview Park was constructed using much of those funds. We exited the newly created fire service district and re-joined Unified Fire Authority (UFA) as a contract member. That, in addition to creating our own police force in 2009, has amounted to

*"So long, and thanks for all the fish" continued on page 3*

## CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

### UPCOMING TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS

#### NOVEMBER 7

- CITY COUNCIL RETREAT POLICIES REVIEW
- SPORT COURT ORDINANCE DISCUSSION
- METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT REPORT
- FORT UNION TRAFFIC AND SPEED DISCUSSION
- TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN
- APPEALS HEARING OFFICER APPOINTMENT
- APPOINTMENTS TO THE ARTS COUNCIL

#### NOVEMBER 21

- ORDINANCE DISCUSSION ON MAINTENANCE OF PRIVATE ACCESS EASEMENTS
- WASATCH BLVD MASTER PLAN DISCUSSION (CONT.)
- CDRA -HILLSIDE PLAZA ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE
- TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN

TO FIND FULL AGENDAS, VISIT [CH.UTAH.GOV](http://CH.UTAH.GOV).

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

- **NOVEMBER 16:** DISTRICT 4 TOWNHALL MEETING WITH COUNCIL MEMBER ELLEN BIRRELL
- **NOVEMBER 21:** GENERAL ELECTION DAY
- **NOVEMBER 24 - DECEMBER 7:** HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST
- **NOVEMBER 27:** LIGHT THE HEIGHTS AT CITY HALL

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [CH.UTAH.GOV](http://CH.UTAH.GOV) AND CLICK COMMUNITY CALENDAR

*Light<sup>the</sup> Heights*  
TREE LIGHTING AND SING-ALONG

**Monday, Nov. 27, 2023**  
**5-7:30 P.M.**  
**City Hall-2277 Bengal Blvd.**

**5-6:50 P.M. Visit Santa (Inside)**

**5-7:00 P.M. Holiday Vendors**  
Write Letter to Santa  
Kids Craft

**6-7:00 P.M. Hot Chocolate & Cup of Chili**  
(While supplies last)

**7:15 P.M. Tree Lighting & Sing-Along with Santa**  
(Outside)

More info: [CH.UTAH.GOV](http://CH.UTAH.GOV)






**COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS**

*Light<sup>the</sup> Heights*  
**HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST**

**CONTEST IS OPEN**  
**NOV. 24 - DEC. 7**

**Judging Dec. 8-12**

- Prizes awarded
- Free to enter

More information available online at [CH.UTAH.GOV](http://CH.UTAH.GOV) or email Ann Eatchel at [aeatchel@ch.utah.gov](mailto:aeatchel@ch.utah.gov)

Scan to enter:





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**ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER**

## Get the latest news from Cottonwood Heights through email and social media

Don't miss any Cottonwood Heights news! Visit [ch.utah.gov/emails](http://ch.utah.gov/emails) to get notifications about city council agendas, committee, council and board meetings, events, jobs, road projects, and volunteer opportunities. You can also follow Cottonwood Heights on Facebook ([/CHCity](https://www.facebook.com/CHCity)), Instagram ([@cottonwoodheights](https://www.instagram.com/cottonwoodheights)), Twitter ([@CHCity](https://twitter.com/CHCity)), and NextDoor ([@CottonwoodHeights](https://www.nextdoor.com/CottonwoodHeights)).



"So long, and thanks for all the fish" continued from cover

over \$55 million in savings to CH taxpayers over the years.

We have always looked at progressive and innovative ways to do things. For example, when city hall was being constructed, we investigated having solar power on it. However, at that time, no grants or other items were available and the payback period for them was ~47 years! Yet we still designed and built so that solar could easily be added. Fast forward less than a decade, and grants and other programs became available and solar is in place – and with a much shorter return on investment.

The roundabout by city hall was initially conceived before the idea of city hall on that corner was conceived. The concept was applied as an air quality improvement project and has been a tremendous success – not only in traffic flows, but in removing over 100 hours of idling time right in the center of our neighborhood. I also suggested and advocated that our police fleet was running on Tier-3

gasoline which reduced their emissions by 80%. We have also recently approved the restitution of our traffic unit in the police department. Three new officers will be out helping to patrol our streets, identify impaired drivers, remind drivers of dangerous or careless behaviors, and help mitigate 'snow day congestion' on the east side of the city when the powder calls.

I completed my Master of Public Administration degree in 2014 while serving on the council. My research project for that degree was centered around traffic calming and improvements on local streets. Much of the data I obtained was from studies conducted locally, augmented by other work done elsewhere. I was a key contributor to the current version of our traffic calming manual and process.

I've done my best to put my personal agenda aside and listen to all voices in the community. As you would imagine, I did not agree with everything that was communicated by residents, but I felt an obligation to listen – and to explain if asked my position while weighing what was being said. When elected officials put a personal or narrowly focused agenda above the needs of the organization they represent, problems invariably arise and diplomacy often goes out the window – just look at congress! Everyone has personal ideas and items they like to promote, but that must also be balanced with getting the work of the city accomplished.



Our city runs a very tight and balanced budget so that even in difficult financial times, providing quality services has been accomplished sensibly. Prudent tax/fiscal management has been my hallmark, coupled with progressive ways to improve our lifestyle and community to keep Cottonwood Heights a premier place to live.

I am grateful for the role my neighbors have allowed me to play in formalizing the city of Cottonwood Heights and in maintaining it as a great place to live. ■



[www.got-vote.org](http://www.got-vote.org)

## MUNICIPAL ELECTION DATES

November 21: General Election Day

In-office early voting (weekdays only): **November 7 - 17**

Voter registration deadline: **November 13**

Early voting (3pm to 7pm): **November 14 - 17**

To view Vote Center Locations, ballot drop box locations, and additional information, please visit Salt Lake County Election site at <https://slco.org/clerk/elections/>. If you have any questions, please call (385) 468-7400.



**We're planning for a new Cottonwood Heights town center and we want to hear from you!**

Visit [cottonwoodheights.utah.gov](http://cottonwoodheights.utah.gov) beginning in November for project updates and information on how to get involved in the planning process.



**Cottonwood Heights is now partnering with South Valley Chamber of Commerce**

We are thrilled to reveal our partnership with the South Valley Chamber of Commerce. This collaboration will provide our businesses with valuable resources such as networking opportunities, marketing strategies, and educational resources to aid in their growth and development.



From small shops to large corporations, South Valley businesses are innovators and disruptors. They drive Utah's commercial activity and make the South Valley the epicenter of Utah's economic activity. The South Valley Chamber is here to support your businesses and be a champion for community prosperity. We are a connector, an educator and an advocate to help your business grow!



Connect, Educate, Advocate and Grow  
[southvalleychamber.com](http://southvalleychamber.com)

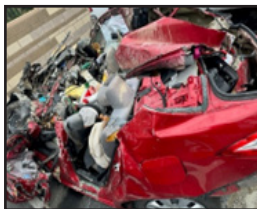
## Cottonwood Heights Accidents-Traffic Enforcement

Police chief Robby Russo



We have seen an increase in accidents in our city this month, particularly involving pedestrians. Many of these accidents were caused by

drivers who were under the influence of alcohol or drugs, with a significant rise in cases involving opioids and fentanyl. Although there has been a lot of attention given to the rise in



overdose deaths due to fentanyl, not much has been reported on the impact of drug-impaired driving.

In Cottonwood Heights, a majority of our driving under the influence apprehensions this year have been for drug impairment, with fentanyl-positive cases being quite common. Most of these cases involved the use of multiple drugs, with fentanyl or opioids not being the only substances detected.

Our officers are regularly making traffic stops and discovering significant amounts of fentanyl. It is also not uncommon for them to come across drivers who are unresponsive behind the wheel, resulting in crashes.



This increase in drug-impaired driving poses a significant threat to traffic safety.

To address this issue, the City Council has approved funding for a Selective Traffic Enforcement Unit that will focus on enforcing traffic laws throughout the city, with a particular emphasis on pedestrian safety and impaired drivers. This unit will be operational within the next 30 days, and our goal is to reduce fatalities on the road to zero. ■

## Mayor Mike Weichers urges Brighton High School students and residents to focus on vehicle and pedestrian safety



On October 23rd, Cottonwood Heights issued a press release urging residents to be safe as they walk and drive in the city. Mayor Mike Weichers also met with Brighton High School students

and advised them to focus on vehicle and pedestrian safety. There have been recent tragic vehicle/pedestrian accidents and Mayor Weichers conveyed that the "City Council, staff and I have been devastated by these incidents, and our thoughts and prayers are with the individuals involved and their families." Although the accidents did not include excessive speed, one included a DUI impaired driver, and another accident showed no evident indication of driver error or impairment.

Throughout Utah, the media has reported a spike in the amount of pedestrian/vehicle accidents, with the Utah Department of Public Safety reporting over 660 auto-pedestrian accidents. The months of October and November present additional hazards with the increase in darkness due to the season and the number of children walking in the right-of-way for Halloween activities.

In the press release, Mayor Weichers conveyed that the "city council and I are taking important steps to improve road safety in Cottonwood Heights. We recently approved a budget amendment to hire additional police officers with a focus on traffic

and transportation safety. The presence of these additional officers will enhance efforts to prevent accidents involving DUI-impaired drivers and will also provide an enhanced presence to address drivers who are speeding on our roadways and other safety concerns on roads during low visibility hours. The City Council will be evaluating and discussing speed limits on Ft. Union Boulevard and working with UDOT to fast-track the Bella Vista crossing light improvements.

I urge our residents to be cautious and strongly recommend that vehicle drivers follow the United States Department of Transportation tips. These include:

1. Look out for pedestrians everywhere, at all times.
2. Use extra caution when driving in hard-to-see conditions, such as nighttime or bad weather.
3. Slow down and be prepared to stop when turning or otherwise entering a crosswalk.
4. Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and stop well back from the crosswalk to give other vehicles an opportunity to see the crossing pedestrians so they can stop too.
5. Never pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk. There may be people crossing where you can't see.
6. Never drive under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.
7. Follow the speed limit, especially around people on the street, in school zones and in neighborhoods where children are present.
8. Be extra cautious when backing up and look

for pedestrians.

I also urge our residents--and especially parents of children--to use and teach extreme caution while walking near streets and follow national safety tips including:

1. Follow the rules of the road and obey signs and signals.
2. Walk on sidewalks whenever they are available.
3. If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible.
4. Cross streets at crosswalks or intersections. Look for cars in all directions, including those turning left or right.
5. If a crosswalk or intersection is not available, locate a well-lit area where you have the best view of traffic. Wait for a gap in traffic that allows enough time to cross safely; continue watching for traffic as you cross.
6. Watch for cars entering or exiting driveways or backing up in parking lots.
7. Avoid alcohol and drugs when walking; they impair your abilities and your judgment.
8. Embrace walking as a healthy form of transportation - get up, get out and get moving.

As the city endeavors to promote safe roadways in our city—including crossing improvements and enhanced police presence—all citizens also should please do all they can to follow the above safety tips. I invite you to please join the city in working together to prevent future tragedies in our community." ■



## Results of 2023 Customer Recycling Survey by Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District

The WFWRD Board of Trustees met on August 28, 2023 for their regular meeting and reviewed the continued rising costs associated with labor markets, truck maintenance, truck replacement, landfill fees and recycling processing fees.

Each Board Member supported continuing the current service levels that include:

- **Weekly garbage and recycling collections.**
- **Courtesy container delivery (SCRIP) and landfill vouchers.**
- **Leaf bag collections and Christmas tree pick-up.**
- **Trailer rentals for green and bulk waste.**

We at WFWRD feel that recycling is important

to divert reusable materials from landfills for long term sustainable and viable communities and we asked for customer feedback through a Recycling Survey conducted in September. There were 4,983 total responses resulting in a **93% recycling services satisfaction rate** (combination of Satisfied and Extremely Satisfied).

There were **599** respondents from **Cottonwood Heights**:

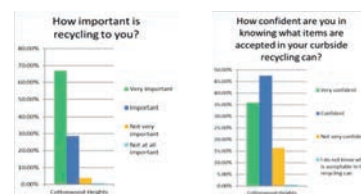
### Heights:

- 94% of respondents are satisfied with WFWRD recycling services.
- 95% of respondents support weekly recycling services.

These results show that there is always work to do with recycling education:

- 35% of respondents have not visited our website while 45% visited it at least twice a year.
- 94% of respondents do not follow us on social media.

If you would like to learn more about our recycling services or view the full report, please visit our website at <https://wasatchfrontwaste.org/>. ■

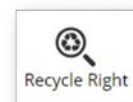


## Download the WFWRD application on your Android or iOS device to gain quick access

Did you know that the WFWRD website has a "Recycle Right" icon that provides guidance on how to dispose of items properly? Simply type in the material you want to recycle and get instant advice! Check out this feature at <https://wasatchfrontwaste.org/>

**how-recycle.** Don't forget to download the WFWRD app on your Android or iOS device for quick access to recycling information.

Download the WFWRD application on your Android or iOS device to gain quick access. ■

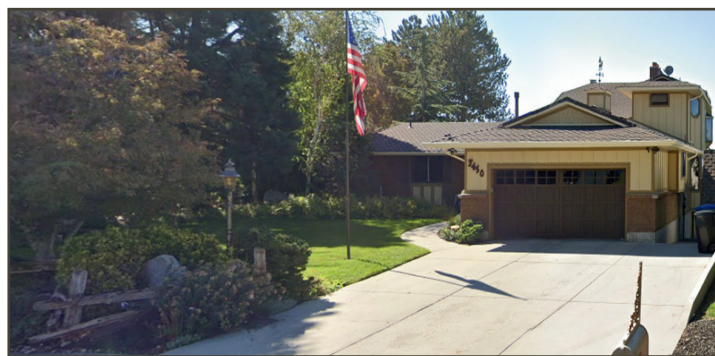


## Check out photos of the 2023 landscaping/beautification award winners!

Congratulations to the following winners of the 2023 landscape/beautification awards, which recognize homes and businesses with beautiful, sustainable landscaping.

The city council judged properties based on district location and selected a residential winner from each of the four city districts. The mayor selected one commercial winner. All winners

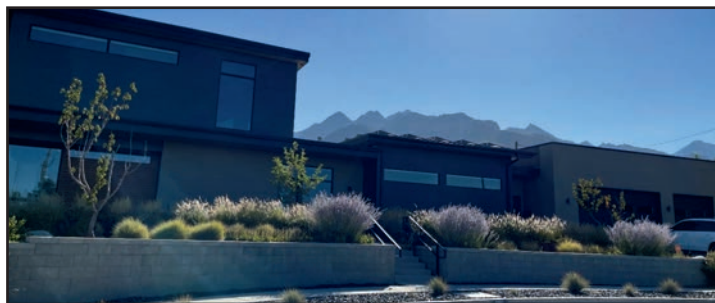
received prizes and were recognized at an September city council meeting. ■



District 1



District 2



District 3



District 4

## There's still time to visit the digital archives exhibit at City Hall through Nov. 15!

The Cottonwood Heights Historic Committee has a historic exhibit about its online digital archives launch at City Hall until Nov. 15! You can also now access these archives anytime at [ch.utah.gov/archive](http://ch.utah.gov/archive).

Our digital archives are also a space where the Historic Committee can capture and record history as it is happening. You'll have online access to oral history interviews with long-time area residents and important figures in city government. By maintaining a 21st-century archive, future generations will be able to understand the history and pivotal decisions that have shaped our community. ■

Curious about the Historic Committee? Members meet monthly to plan initiatives that highlight Cottonwood Heights' history. Past efforts include:

- Gathering information about historic sites and creating historic markers
- Guiding the publication of *City Between the Canyons*
- Staffing a rotating exhibit at Butlerville Days

Interested in joining? Demonstrate your interest in and knowledge of history and historic preservation, and fill out an application now at [ch.utah.gov/history](http://ch.utah.gov/history).



Bywater Park

# OPEN HOUSE

COME SEE THE BYWATER PARK MASTERPLAN CONCEPT!

*We want your FEEDBACK!*

**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2023

**Time:** 6pm - 7pm

**Where:** 7500 South 2700 East CWH, UT 84121  
Cottonwood Heights Parks & Recreation Center

Cottonwood Heights  
Parks & Recreation

## COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS THANKSGIVING DAY 5K

REGISTRATION NOV. 2ND - 21ST

ADULT: \$35

YOUTH (11 & UNDER): \$20

LATE REGISTRATION NOV. 22ND

8AM - 8PM ONLINE ONLY!

ADULT: \$45

YOUTH (11 & UNDER): \$25

20% OFF PER PERSON  
FOR GROUPS OF 5+

PRICING INCLUDES SHIRT  
AND CHIP TIMING



Run FIRST

Gobble LATER



## City council members

**MAYOR:** Michael Weichers

801-944-7087 | [mweichers@ch.utah.gov](mailto:mweichers@ch.utah.gov)

**DIST# 1:** Matt Holton

801-944-7089 | [district1@ch.utah.gov](mailto:district1@ch.utah.gov)

**DIST# 2:** J. Scott Bracken

801-944-7086 | [sbracken@ch.utah.gov](mailto:sbracken@ch.utah.gov)

**DIST# 3:** Shawn E. Newell

801-300-3068 | [snewell@ch.utah.gov](mailto:snewell@ch.utah.gov)

**DIST# 4:** Ellen Birrell

385-910-5942 | [ebirrell@ch.utah.gov](mailto:ebirrell@ch.utah.gov)

**CITY MANAGER:** Tim Tingey

801-944-7010 | [ttingey@ch.utah.gov](mailto:ttingey@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

- **Nov 7:** Work session at 4 p.m., CDRA meeting at 6 p.m. (tentative time), business meeting at 7 p.m.
- **Nov 21:** Work session at 4 p.m., business meeting at 7 p.m.

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](http://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

## Five Bengals Named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

Congratulations to Brighton High School's Five Students on Advancing to National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinals We are proud to announce that five Brighton High School students have been named semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program. These students are among 26 at Canyons District who have advanced to the semifinal round. It is a remarkable achievement since the pool of semifinalists represents less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors. Out of 16,000 students, more than 15,000 are expected to move to the finalist stage in February.

Here are the names of the five students from Brighton High School who made it to the semifinals: **Asher R. Anderson, Aspen L. Edwards, Thomas P. Hansen, Alonzo Talmage Howe and Avery J. Parry.** ■



## Butler Middle School Dominates Cross Country Meet

The Butler Middle Bruins have achieved an impressive feat by winning first place in both the girls' and boys' teams at Canyons District's annual intramural cross-country meet. All eight middle schools in the district participated in the championship event. Butler Middle athletes who showcased outstanding performances were awarded individual medals. Congratulations to **Trevor Dance** for taking first place in the Boys Intramural and **Eli Jackson** for securing third place in the Boys Open Race. ■



## SUSTAINABILITY

### Welcome to Ferguson Park!

*Ian Harris, Associate Planner/Sustainability Analyst*

The city is excited to share that Ferguson Park is now open! We appreciate our elected officials and staff for all the hard work they've put into this project over the past few years. We hope residents and their dogs take some time to enjoy the park this Fall and for seasons to come.

Ferguson Park offers visitors an array of amenities, including:

- Trailhead amenities for Ferguson Canyon
- A spacious, off-leash dog area
- A natural, sustainability landscaped park area
- A large walking loop

Here are some essential tips to remember when visiting the park:

- The parking lot is situated at 7722 S Prospector Drive. Please do not park on Wasatch Blvd.

- Ensure your vehicle is locked when parked.
- Clean up after your pets, and practice good etiquette with other dogs and visitors.
- Although the park will be regularly maintained, it is intended to be natural.
- Please monitor your dog to ensure they do not come into contact with any harmful weeds that may emerge.

If you haven't had a chance to check it out, be sure to do so soon! ■



## Business spotlight

### So Inflated | [soinflatedballoons@gmail.com](mailto:soinflatedballoons@gmail.com)

Meet Lindsey, Owner and Creative Mastermind behind So Inflated. Lindsey's passion for creating unforgettable moments inspired her to establish So Inflated, a business specializing in special events such as birthdays, baptisms, and weddings. Her creative drive sets her apart from the rest, as she strives to create

an experience that her clients will cherish for a lifetime. Collaborating with her customers to achieve their vision for their special events is what brings her the most joy. She loves to see her own personal growth with each event and can't wait to share more with you! ■



### Yoga Sunné | 2242 E. Fort Union Blvd. | [yogasunne.com](http://yogasunne.com) | 801.943.0107

Discover Yoga Sunné: A Welcoming Studio for All. Yoga Sunné is an inclusive studio that caters to clients of all abilities, practicing at any level.

Their offerings include heated and non-heated classes, workshops, sound baths, and yoga teacher training. The studio's design incorporates sacred geometry and natural light to create a serene atmosphere that feels like home. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned yogi, Yoga Sunné is the perfect

place to deepen your practice.

Their mission is to promote healing, strength, and vibrant health in body, mind, heart, and spirit for all who practice. Rachel Coleman and Annette York, Yoga Sunné owners, and Cottonwood Heights residents for 17 and 22 years respectively, would be thrilled to have you as a member of their studio community. ■



Visit our local businesses for their November specials.

### So Inflated | [soinflatedballoons@gmail.com](mailto:soinflatedballoons@gmail.com) | 385.695.133

So Inflated is currently offering an exclusive discount of \$100 on any order placed by Cottonwood residents until the end of 2023.

Whether you're looking for balloon garlands, stands, backdrops, or bounce houses, So Inflated has got you covered. We provide delivery

and setup for all our products. To get a quote and discuss your requirements, please call us at 385-695-1339. You can also check out our Instagram page at @so\_inflated or email us at [soinflatedballoons@gmail.com](mailto:soinflatedballoons@gmail.com). Don't miss out on this amazing offer! ■



### Yoga Sunné

[info@yogasunne.com](mailto:info@yogasunne.com)

801.943.0107



## First Class FREE!

One per person  
2242 E Fort Union Blvd.

Expires on January 31, 2024