



Cottonwood Heights, UT | January 2024 | FREE

BETWEEN THE CANYONS

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

Evaluating Transportation Policies

Council Member Ellen Birrell



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

The ski industry reported record revenues this last season. This money, for the most part, passes through rather than into our "city between the canyons." If we are to weather the headaches of ski traffic, we have the opportunity to capture more city and local business revenue by offering convenience and common-sense mobility solutions. Keep more of that ski revenue in Cottonwood Heights!

As stated in Cottonwood Heights' proclamations, a top government priority is to secure the safety, health, and welfare of our community.

We're all saddened when traffic-related crashes harm anyone regardless of the circumstances. Cars moving at our currently posted speeds play a part in this. With the advent of well-designed vehicles that can stop on a dime, we can look to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe Systems Approach guidelines for suggestions on best practices to bring the chance of serious injury and fatalities down to only 10%. Currently, Cottonwood Heights Public Works just finished a continuous sidewalk within 2700 East southeast of the recreation center. They are designing/building a continuous sidewalk on 1700 East and working with UDOT for a flashing Hawk Lighted crossing at Bella Vista Elementary across Ft Union Blvd.

Your city is evaluating road conditions and making changes that improve safety and traffic flow on our boulevards and other roadways. As informed

Evaluating Transportation Policies Continued on page 3

CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

UPCOMING TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS

JANUARY 2

- ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE FOR COUNCIL DISTRICTS 1 & 2
- NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS RECEPTION
- INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH SALT LAKE COUNTY FOR AERIAL IMAGERY
- REAPPOINTMENTS OF HISTORIC COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- CITY COUNCIL POLICIES & PROCEDURES AMENDMENTS
- INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH UDOT FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENTS ON FT. UNION BLVD.

JANUARY 16

- LOBBYIST REPORT
- COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS DISCUSSION
- WASATCH TRAILHEAD CONCEPT
- ARTS COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS
- RV ON STREET PARKING CODE CHANGES
- PARKING SPACE CODE DISCUSSION PROCEDURES
- AGREEMENT FOR BENGAL BLVD. DESIGN

TO FIND FULL AGENDAS, VISIT CH.UTAH.GOV.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

- **JANUARY 1:** CITY OFFICES CLOSED FOR NEW YEARS DAY
 - **JANUARY 2:** OATH OF OFFICE (TIME UNDETERMINED)
 - **JANUARY 2 - FEBRUARY 1:** ART EXHIBIT BY UTAH ARTS & MUSEUMS TRAVELING EXHIBIT
 - **JANUARY 9:** FUTURE TOWN CENTER PUBLIC FORUM (HOSTED BY SHAWN NEWELL DISTRICT 3)
 - **JANUARY 24:** FUTURE TOWN CENTER PUBLIC FORUM
 - **FEBRUARY 3:** CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION BY THE ARTS COUNCIL
- FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT CH.UTAH.GOV AND CLICK COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Join the Arts Council! Members meet monthly to plan and deliver arts projects in the city, which include:

- Summer musicals
- Art displays
- Concerts
- Activities at Butlerville Days

Interested in joining? Fill out an application now at chcityarts.com.

COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS ARTS COUNCIL PRESENTS

Art Exhibit

UTAH ARTS & MUSEUMS'
TRAVELING EXHIBIT

THE EYES HAVE IT

SALT LAKE SEVEN (SL7)

THE MEMBERS OF SL7 ARE PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO USE DIGITAL AND/OR ANALOG CAPTURE TO CREATE IMAGES. EXHIBIT PRINTS ARE SILVER GELATIN, TRADITIONAL, ALTERNATIVE, OR DIGITAL/ARCHIVAL INK PRINTING METHODS. THE EYES HAVE IT EXHIBIT INCLUDES ARTWORKS BY: BRIAN BUROKER, LAUREL CASJENS, P. KENT FAIRBANKS, KATHY GARDNER, HUNTER JACKSON, KENT MILES, STEVE PROCTOR, IKE SANDERS



P. KENT FAIRBANKS, DRIGGS IDAHO SUNRISE, ARCHIVAL INK PRINT



BRIAN BUROKER, COLOR & LIGHT #4285, ARCHIVAL INK PRINT

The Eyes Have It will be showcased at Cottonwood Heights City Hall lobby located at 2277 E. Bengal Blvd. Weekday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan 2 - Feb 1



CHCITYARTS.COM



Evaluating Transportation Policies Continued on page 3

by 2022 and 2023 surveys, we are advancing better land use and zoning, walkability, and housing options.

We share similar challenges of fast-moving roadways designed to move commuters at the expense of the safety, health, and welfare of our residents.

With the resources we have, can we do better? We want reliable roads but is shaving a few seconds or minutes off our commute worth even one injury or death?

We can provide reliable mobility and do so safely.

By realigning our policies with our topmost priorities, a policy shift that prioritizes "safety over motorist reliability", we can:

- Redesign roads, crossings, and intersections for safety first
- Offer viable and convenient transportation alternatives
- Lower VMT Vehicle Miles Traveled, which lessens air pollution, improves residents' health, and puts less wear and tear on our roads
- Lower mobility costs

As your elected representative, it is my opportunity to learn from other communities

around the country and find the best policies that promote a better balance of safety with "reliability for motorists."

This type of change cannot be easy but seldom are worthy causes ever easy. Creating a safer environment for our children to walk, ride, and roll to elementary, middle, and high school cannot be negotiable.

Driving our cars is part of modern life. In a time when "affordable living" is becoming unattainable to many of our students, young families, seniors, and workers, and higher frequency of poor air quality, and the inconvenience of frequent crashes and associated back-up as well as the tragedy of loved ones who are lost or severely injured on our roadways, our time to act is now.

The last 100 years of creating access to every corner of the U.S. is a remarkable achievement. But, pedestrian injuries and fatalities are growing. Is it time to consider "Is there a speed that is too fast in Cottonwood Heights? Is it 20, 30, 40, or 50MPH?" It appears there is a national movement afoot to reconsider these very concepts.

Currently, our transportation policies are largely focused on the maintenance of our car-centric roadways. We have an opportunity to



Should correcting places on city-owned roadways like this where youth are exposed to 35MPH traffic with no shoulder or sidewalk be a stated priority?

set policies that require roads to be designed with low car speeds or prescriptive separation between kids walking & rolling and the cars traveling at speed. (See picture of kids walking on Bengal Blvd from school.)

We have the opportunity to build a safer, healthier city. Together, let's make it happen! ■

Future Town Center Public Forums - January 9th and 24th

The city and the Town Center Advisory Committee will be hosting two public forums to gather input from the community.

- When: January 9th and 24th, 2024
- Where: Cottonwood Heights City Hall (2277 East Bengal Blvd.) in the Community Room.
- Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Here are some important details:

- **The meetings will be open to the public, with the goal of receiving feedback and ideas from attendees.**
- **Each person will have a maximum of three minutes to comment or share their thoughts.**
- **In order to hear from as many people as possible, there will be no dialogue or back-and-forth during the meetings.**
- **The sessions will be recorded so that individuals who cannot attend have an opportunity to view the recording and submit their comments later.**

Also, check out the latest project website at www.chtowncenter.com. ■



Future Town Center Public Forums

Cottonwood Heights Residents are invited to Two Public Input Meetings Hosted by the City and the Hillside Plaza Advisory Committee.

JANUARY 9TH AND 24TH 2024

 COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY HALL (2277 EAST BENGAL BLVD.) COMMUNITY ROOM

 6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION



CHECK OUT THE LATEST PROJECT WEBSITE: WWW.CHTOWNCENTER.COM.

Skilled Interaction Between Police and Mental Health Challenges

Police chief Robby Russo



The importance of skilled interaction between law enforcement and individuals with mental health challenges is essential for community safety and the effectiveness of police

work. Consider the example where officers responded to a call about a man gesturing with what appeared to be a gun toward pedestrians and drivers. The first responders' body cameras captured the incident, and though the item was not a real firearm, this situation underscores the obstacles officers encounter, as criminals may disguise real weapons as toys.

The individual in question was not previously identified by officers and displayed defiance and resistance. It is crucial that officers maintain a composed and professional demeanor in communication, as this greatly influences the resolution of such incidents. In this case, the man claimed he was Satan and

mimed shooting at the officers.

In the end, they resorted to apprehending the individual, a decision that drew positive media attention. This situation is a snapshot of the array of events law enforcement faces regularly. Mental health issues traverse all political and economic boundaries, presenting a unique challenge to a justice system not entirely primed to deal with such complexities. However, it's essential not to overlook the necessity for officer vigilance in matters of personal safety.

The officers deserve recognition for their measured and strategic handling of the incident, particularly as the individual became physically aggressive. Their conduct is a testament to the department's commitment to address mental health concerns with sensitivity and respect, all while striving to balance the duties of law enforcement and the safety of the community. Proper medication can significantly aid those with mental health conditions, but the tendency to seek relief through illicit drugs can lead to tragedy or



aggressive behavior—a difficult situation for officers to evaluate quickly, despite public expectations.

Nevertheless, such endeavors require resources. We value our partnerships with professionals like the Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams (MCOT) and the University of Utah Mental Health Unit. This cooperation is vital for integrated responses that can yield superior outcomes. We recognize that the optimal strategy is to identify problems and provide treatment and support proactively, hopefully reducing the need for police intervention in crisis situations on the street. ■

Obeying Traffic Laws

Mayor Mike Weichers



Over the last couple of months, the city council has approved a new traffic enforcement division within our Police Department, under the direction of Chief Robby

Russo. The focus of the traffic enforcement division will be to target impaired and aggressive drivers and to help enforce existing traffic laws on our roads, especially those specific to pedestrian and bicycle safety. Our Officers efforts will be to find those who drive impaired, speed excessively, run red lights, or don't adhere to STOP signs. Every traffic stop is different, and our goal is to change driving behaviors which may include issuing warnings, citations or sometimes it may be

just a reminder to educate residents on the importance of obeying traffic rules to help keep our roads as safe as possible.

Traffic tickets are not a revenue source for the city, as a majority of the funds are collected by the State of Utah and the remaining is used to offset the costs incurred by the Holladay City court system, with whom we contract for services. As you see more of our Officers on our roads looking for those not obeying our traffic laws, we hope you'll help be part of



the solution and slow down. We want all of our drivers and pedestrians to feel safe as they travel within our city boundaries. ■

History question of the month

Answer on page 6

Curbside Christmas Tree Collection

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)

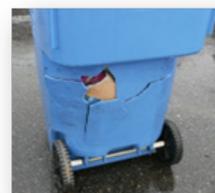
Do not put trees in your garbage, recycling, or green waste cans. As a reminder, Wasatch Front Waste cannot accept artificial trees. ■



Requesting a Replacement for Your Recycling or Garbage Can

If your garbage or recycle can is broken or damaged due to normal wear-and-tear, please call Wasatch Front Waste offices at (385) 468-6325. They will come and repair or replace your can as part of your fees for

services. You can also submit a service order request on their website at <https://wasatchfrontwaste.org/report-a-problem-or-request-service/>. ■



Looking for Ideas for Your New Year's Resolutions?

If you're looking for ways to make a positive impact this year, consider adopting some of these eco-friendly resolutions to reduce waste and increase recycling in your home:

- Avoid using plastic bags to bag you recyclables. Dispose of them directly into the recycling bin or place them in paper bags.
- Reduce junk mail by removing your name from credit lists, catalogs, and

other mailing lists. Donate or recycle old appliances, electronics, and clothing that you no longer use or need.

- Invest in reusable containers such as food containers, tumblers, water bottles, and lunch bags.
- Take advantage of one of your subscription services that help divert waste from landfills by visiting the Wasatch Front Waste website at

<https://wasatchfrontwaste.org/how-recycle/>. ■



PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

HELP US SHAPE THE FUTURE OF CRESTWOOD REGIONAL PARK

DATE: Thursday, February 1
TIME: 4 pm – 6 pm
PLACE: The County Library | Whitmore 2197 Fort Union Blvd, Cottonwood Heights

Future park feature options and design configurations will be on display.

Design Consultants and Salt Lake County Park Planners will be on hand to receive your feedback.

sloco.org/planning

Cottonwood Heights Arts Council

Chinese New Year Celebration

February 3, 2024 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Cottonwood Heights City Hall - 2277 E. Bengal Blvd.

Join the Arts Council for a free and educational event that celebrates Chinese culture through art, music, and Kung Fu. The event is open to everyone aged five and above, but parents must accompany their children. Please note that space is limited. Register now at CHCITYARTS.COM.

- Chinese Traditional Musical Instruments
- Kung Fu Demonstration
- Calligraphy Class

Presented By:
Asian Culture, Art, Development & Communication Association

CHCITYARTS.COM

Answer

Question, continued from page 5

Leander Neri Butler was killed instantly on Aug. 12, 1918, when he put his hand on a highly charged live wire while trying to turn on a switch with defective wiring.

He was employed by Utah Power & Light Co. and was readjusting his barn wiring when the accident occurred. The power plant superintendent and Butler's sons, Clement, age 14, and Henry, age 10, were also there when Butler was killed.

Born in 1866, he was the son of Leander and Eliza Butler, one of the first families to live in Butlerville. His father, the elder Leander, sold 20 acres of land to the Deseret News Co. in 1881, on which they built the Deseret News Paper Mill.

As a Utah Power & Light employee, Leander Neri Butler lived in one of the four employee homes owned by the company on Big Cottonwood Canyon Road, east of the old mill. He planted a cedar tree in 1894 to commemorate his daughter Eva's birth, and it still stands today.

Leander Neri Butler was survived by his

wife, Effie Wagstaff Butler, and children Gerald, Eva Butler Israelson (who died at 105 years old), Merlin, Clement, Clella and Henry. ■



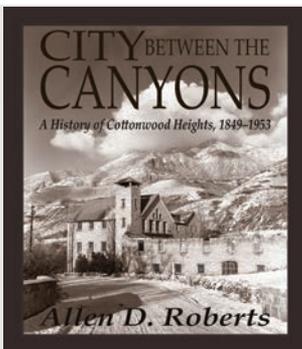
Joe Butler, left, and Neri Butler, right (man standing in center unknown)

Join the Historic Committee

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

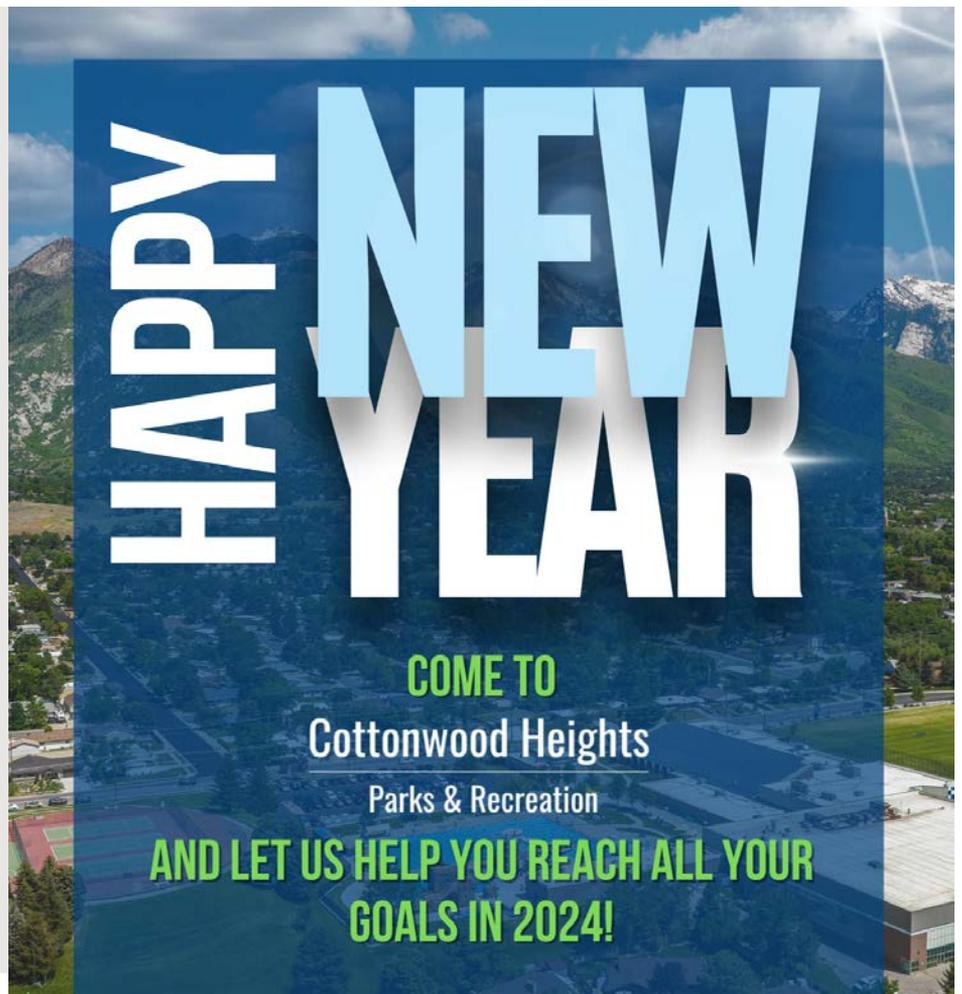
- Gathering information about historic sites and creating historic markers
- Guiding the publication of *City Between the Canyons*
- Staffing a rotating exhibit at Butlerville Days

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.



Buy the book!

Looking for a great personalized gift for the family member or friend who has everything? The hardbound history book *City Between the Canyons: A History of Cottonwood Heights, 1849-1953* is a great option! 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. ■



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: J. Scott Bracken

801-944-7086 | sbracken@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: Tim Tingey

801-944-7010 | 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

- **Jan 2:** Oath of Office at 5:30 p.m., reception at 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m., business meeting at 7 p.m. (tentative time)
- **Jan 16:** Work session at 4 p.m. (tentative time), 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.

Planning Commission

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

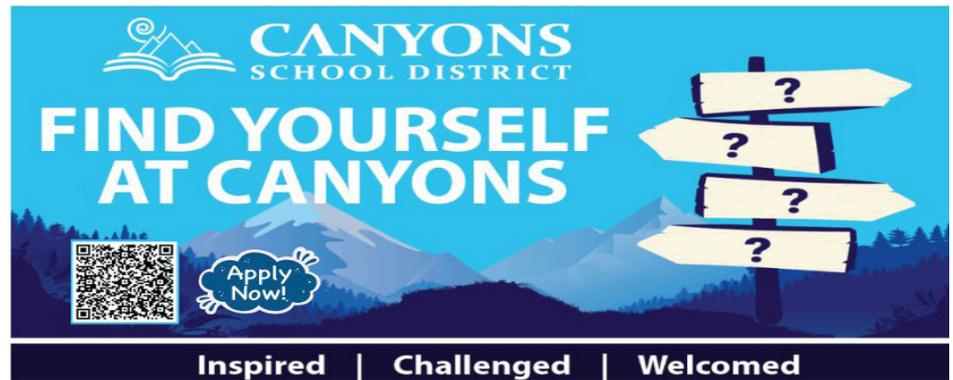
Editor: Beatriz Mayorga,
Communication Manager

Jumpstar Your Child's Education with CSD's Preschool Program

Word is getting out about the learning and growth happening in Canyons District's preschools. To meet the needs of the community, the tuition-based program is now housed at 13 locations, including the Cottonwood Heights schools of Bella Vista and Oakdale. Families can apply to enroll for the 2024-2025 school year starting Jan. 10, 2024. Children who will be age 3 or 4 by Sept. 1, 2024 are eligible. Learn more at <https://www.canyonsdistrict.org/depts/early-childhood/>. ■

School Choice: Apply to Transfer to Top-Ranked Canyons School District

Did you know that in Utah, parents can apply to have their students attend a school outside their neighborhood boundaries? In Canyons District, families are able to submit these transfer requests through the first Friday in February. New this year: There is no limit to the number of applications families can submit. When parents submit their transfer applications, they'll be asked to designate their top choices. Administrators and admissions experts will work with each family to find a place for all students who meet transfer requirements. Read more at canyonsdistrict.org. ■



SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainable New Year's Resolutions

Ian Harris, Associate Planner/Sustainability Analyst

Every year, many of us make resolutions to be better versions of ourselves. Often, this takes the form of improving our health and fitness, or doing good deeds for others. This year, why not consider sustainability New Year's Resolutions! Many of them are easier than you think, could save surprisingly large amounts of money, and help you feel better about your impact on the world.

Here are a few ideas, big and small:

- **Use less water!** Reduce your water consumption and utility bill by taking shorter showers, running full loads of laundry, and reducing your lawn watering.
- **Unplug your devices!** When electronics are plugged in, they often use electricity even when they aren't in use. Unplug them or invest in an adapter or power strip that you can turn off when devices aren't in use.
- **Vegetarian dinners!** Many of us think of a meal as having three essential components: a meat, a starch, and a vegetable or two. However, there are many alternatives to this format that can be even more nutritious and

better for the environment. This year, consider reserving a couple nights a week to make vegetarian dinners.

- **Donate and thrift!** Donating clothes, furniture, tools, and more is a great way to pass on things you no longer need, but don't want to throw in the landfill. And while you're at it, take a look around your local thrift store – it may surprise you!
- **Consider Sustainability in all Purchases!** Keep sustainability in mind when making big financial decisions to reduce your impact. When shopping for a new car, consider going electric or hybrid and research the make and model's reliability. When making travel plans, consider using tools like Google to assess the trip's environmental impact and how to reduce it. When replacing large appliances or electronics, check their EnergyStar rating and research new government rebates to save big on new, efficient items. ■

Business spotlight

Gallop to Growth | 2825 E. Cottonwood Pkwy Suite 500 | 385.446.3080

Gallop to Growth is a specialized clinic that focuses on utilizing evidence-based treatments to address a range of mental health issues such as depression, PTSD, anxiety, and trauma. Their treatment approaches include trauma-focused cognitive-behavioral therapy (TF-CBT), cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), acceptance and commitment therapy (ACT), and dialectical behavior therapy (DBT). They also offer equine-assisted psychotherapy, which is an

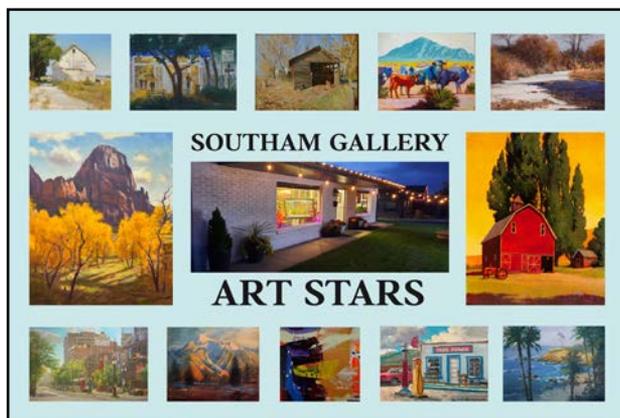
experiential therapy that has proven to be effective in helping individuals with trauma, emotional regulation, self-confidence, and responsibility. Whether in the office or at the stables, Gallop to Growth provides a safe and supportive environment where clients can explore their thoughts and emotions to find healing. Their ultimate goal is to empower their clients to achieve their goals and live fulfilling lives. For more information visit www.galloptogrowth.com. ■



Southam Gallery | 7160 S. Highland Dr. | www.southamgallery.com | 801.712.5170

Southam Gallery was an art gallery located in downtown Salt Lake City for 40 years. It was one of the oldest galleries in Utah and represented some of the best award-winning artists in the state. In 2019, the gallery was voted as the Best Gallery in Utah by American Art Awards. The mother-daughter duo of Linda and Kimberly worked hard to create a great gallery that celebrated wonderful artists and the beautiful American landscape.

The gallery has now moved to Cottonwood Heights and is excited to meet new art lovers. You can visit them at their new address, 7160 S. Highland Dr., or check out their website at www.southamgallery.com. ■



Nora Mental Health | 7138 S. Highland Dr. Suite 220 | www.norautah.com

Nora Mental Health has recently opened a world-class clinic in Cottonwood Heights! They offer a wide range of services, including anxiety and depression treatment, addiction recovery, marriage, couples, and family therapy, group therapy, and medication management. Their services cater to children, adolescents, and adults, and they welcome everyone to come in for a consultation. When you visit Nora, you can expect to receive the best mental health care available. Their office

is located in a quiet, comfortable, and welcoming environment. When you contact them over the phone or online, they will pair you with the most suitable therapist for your unique needs, and they pride themselves on their accessibility. You won't have to wait for a long time like other clinics, as you'll be contacted within 24 hours to schedule an appointment with the right therapist. Nora's ultimate goal is to make mental health better, which is why they provide top-notch care to all

their patients. Visit their website at www.norautah.com or call 801.386.7036 to schedule an appointment today! ■



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

Don't miss any Cottonwood Heights news! Visit 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)).