



Cottonwood Heights, UT | May 2021 | **FREE**

BETWEEN THE CANYONS

The Official Newsletter of Cottonwood Heights | www.ch.utah.gov

Stay Informed and Select Good Candidates in the Upcoming Municipal Election

By Council Member Scott Bracken



With the mayor's seat and two council seats up for election this year, it is important to elect good, honest people willing to work to keep Cottonwood Heights the great place it is to live. City Council members make critical

decisions on police, fire, streets, land use and other services. Candidate filing dates for those offices are approaching, so now is the time to decide and prepare for the November election that has the most direct impact on how we live.

When we use our power to vote and elect, our representatives have the right and obligation to make many decisions for our city and its residents. Therefore, voters should strive to make the best and most-informed choice possible. Here are a few

qualities and abilities I feel a good representative should have.

Time and dedication: A public servant needs time to serve and a commitment to put in the time. Council positions can take 10-20 hours a week answering emails, attending meetings and reading background information on policies, projects and, most importantly, the budget. The mayor's office requires more time, as they have other statutory duties and meetings they can't delegate.

Budgeting is a crucial statutory responsibility. Grants and other outside sources pay for many things in the city budget and have restrictions on how they can be used. For example, some funds must be spent only on roads, others only on recreation or trails, some on low-income housing, and others on alternative energy projects. Thus, outside the city's general fund, pickleball courts rarely get funded from the same place as police equipment or stormwater system upgrades. Elected officials must

"Stay Informed", continued on page 3

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#MASKUPUTAH

Wear a cloth face mask in public settings

SU SALT LAKE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT Learn more at SaltLakeHealth.org

CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

UPCOMING TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS

MAY 4

- GRAVEL PIT DISCUSSION
- TENTATIVE BUDGET ADOPTION CONSIDERATION
- PROPOSED STORMWATER FEE DISCUSSION
- SHORT-TERM RENTALS AND ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT ORDINANCE DISCUSSION
- ARTS COUNCIL SCULPTURE AGREEMENT CONSIDERATION
- 2021 SALT LAKE COUNTY MUNICIPAL ELECTION AGREEMENT CONSIDERATION

MAY 11

- ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT ON AUG. 2 MILL HOLLOW AREA INCIDENT

MAY 18

- BUDGET DISCUSSION
- GRAVEL PIT DISCUSSION

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History Question of the Month

Answer on page 6

What Butler resident worked for the Big Cottonwood Chlorination Station that opened in 1917?

City Committee and Commission Vacancies



Cottonwood Heights currently has vacancies on the Parks, Trails, and Open Space Committee and the Architectural Review Commission.

Parks, Trails, and Open Space Committee

Focuses on maintaining and enhancing the city's parks, trails and open space resources

Includes residents with expertise and passion for all things recreation

Architectural Review Commission

Reviews and makes recommendations on development within the city's Gateway Overlay District .

Includes licensed architects, landscape

architects, professional planners or urban designers, historians, developers, contractors and realtors

If you're interested in serving with either group, please contact Community and Economic Development Director Mike Johnson at mjohnson@ch.utah.gov or 801-944-7060. ■

Follow These Five Tips for Conserving Water at Home

With 97% of Utah experiencing severe drought conditions in April, Gov. Spencer Cox issued a state of emergency and urged residents to conserve water. Although water conservation is a large-scale issue that requires state, national and worldwide collaboration, some simple actions at home can help ease the stress on our local supply.

1. **Scrape food from dishes instead of rinsing them off.** Use a sponge, dish scraper or even a utensil to gently slide food into your compost bin, garbage disposal or trash bin.
2. **Turn off the tap while washing your hands.** After lathering, turn off the tap while you scrub your hands, nails and wrists, and turn

it back on to rinse off the soap.

3. **Design with native landscaping.** Local plant species typically require less irrigation than their exotic cousins. They also add place-based character to your yard and may even require less weeding and maintenance.
4. **Water strategically.** Remember the 8/8 rule for landscaping that does need regular watering: Set your sprinklers to water before 8 a.m. and after 8 p.m. This schedule avoids peak daily temperatures, reducing the amount of water lost to evaporation.
5. **Reduce shower time.** Cutting even one minute from your shower can have a massive



cumulative impact on water conservation. Even better, limit showers to five minutes or consider turning off the showerhead while shaving or lathering.

For more water conservation tips, visit ch.utah.gov/community/sustainability or email sustainability@ch.utah.gov. ■

Butlerville Days Held July 19-24

Butlerville Days will be held July 19-24. While the committee has decided not to hold the carnival or provide inflatables this year due to COVID-19 safety concerns, each day will include different activities.

Look forward to the movie in the park at dusk on Friday, July 23, and the parade, car show, food vendors, concert and fireworks on Saturday, July 24. The committee always strives to provide a safe and affordable family event for all residents and is taking extra steps to keep everyone safe. Members are still

finalizing the schedule but will be announcing the new events and a full schedule soon.

Visit bvdays.com to submit parade and float entries, display your classic car, fill out the performer application, or share other creative ideas. Butlerville Days also needs community sponsors. If you or your company is interested, call culture manager Ann Eatchel at 801-550-8225 or email her at aeatchel@ch.utah.gov. ■



"Stay Informed", continued from cover

understand these differences and be able to balance a wide variety of revenues with valid expenditures.

Objectivity: Most voters want an officeholder who will listen to their concerns. Those officials must also listen to your neighbors' — even when that opinion is different than yours. Those concerns must be balanced within the law, budgets, and civic priorities.

There is wisdom in the precept of "seek first to understand, then to be understood." I remember the time it took our newly formed city council to learn and adapt to making a government work. Fortunately, we all knew we had much to learn, and we had some great mentors that helped us avoid many pitfalls. Keeping an open mind and a willingness to understand first is key. I am regularly asked, "Why did you....?" Being able to articulate my understanding of an issue and the reasoning behind a decision is essential.

Representatives with narrow agendas who are unwilling to study out other issues that are relevant to running a city typically implement poor policy or even cause unnecessary litigation. We will hear of cities or elected officials taking on constitutional or federal issues to "make a statement" when, in my opinion, time on a City Council should be spent in running the city. Advocating for specific items within a niche can be OK, but a beneficial representative will have a holistic view of city-oriented and city-focused policy and budgeting.

Social media and finance: Most candidates have social media profiles. As part of your selection

process, take a look through their social media history and how they respond to questions. We all know it takes money to run a campaign. Financial disclosures are filed with the city recorder's office periodically and before each election. These public disclosures can be informative.

Some candidates show long lists of local supporters donating to their campaign. This is a good thing, in my opinion, and it helps to illustrate that their neighbors and the local community back them. However, even in our city's short history, we have had campaigns that brought in tens of thousands of dollars from out of state and national PACs and very little (if any) from local residents. That causes me concern for me, even if I agree with their views.

Most candidates spend personal funds on their campaign, and for a local campaign a few hundred or couple thousand dollars is not uncommon. However, when candidates spend tens of thousands and list very few, if any, other donors, it smacks of trying to "buy their seat" or wanting to hide the true sources of their funds. Some voters may be fine with that, but I find it bothersome.

In our local elections, prominent area activists have promised to "raise money, canvass, and oppose" specific candidates' election efforts by using their national and statewide clout to flood our neighborhoods. While that is legal, such actions are not in the interest of local control over local government. In my opinion, local politics should stay local.

I'm wary of anyone who will knock on my door or hand me a flyer but then refuse or fail to self-identify or indicate if they are being paid to canvass. Likewise, beware a wolf in sheep's clothing. A candidate who is unnecessarily evasive in answers on police, public works, or land-use issues raises concern. Ask deeper questions on local issues. Someone well-versed in national politics may not be the best person to serve our local needs.

Legality: Our city council and mayor must abide by state and federal law. Candidates who make campaign promises contrary to constitutional rights or state statutes (even in ignorance) show a lack of understanding or respect to the oath they must take to uphold the law. Examples might include "undoing" a lawfully acquired land use change, "fixing" a road under state or private control, or seizing private property for a park or trail. An informed voter will recognize these attempts to sway votes based on falsehoods.

A candidate's ethical responsibility is promising only that which is lawful. A voter's responsibility is being informed. Do some research yourself to confirm what is being said so you don't feel duped afterward. A simple phone call or email usually does the trick.

I hope as we enter this local election season that you will do your due diligence and elect leaders that will keep Cottonwood Heights the great place it is to live. ■

2021 Municipal Election Information

The following seats are open in 2021 for four-year terms:

- Mayor
- District 3 Council Member
- District 4 Council Member

The City Council will vote at its business meeting on Tuesday, May 4, on whether to implement ranked choice voting for the 2021 Municipal Election.

To run for office, candidates must:

- Be a Cottonwood Heights resident for at least one year
- Be a resident of the council district for which they are running
- Be a current registered Cottonwood Heights voter

Candidates must file a declaration of candidacy in person with the Cottonwood Heights city recorder at City Hall. The forms will be available at the reception desk on:

- **Tuesday, June 1 - Monday, June 7** (traditional election)
- **Tuesday, Aug. 10 - Tuesday, Aug. 17** (ranked choice election)

The 2021 Municipal General Election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 2. If the City Council determines the city will hold a traditional election, the primary election will be held Tuesday, Aug. 10. Email the city recorder at recorder@ch.utah.gov for more information. ■



Mayor Michael J. Peterson will not seek a second term. Prior to serving as mayor, Mayor Peterson served for more than 50 years in public service in various capacities. He also served as a Cottonwood Heights city council member for six years.

The mayor's seat and seats for council districts 3 and 4 are open for the 2021 municipal elections. Visit ch.utah.gov for more candidacy information.

Four Ways to Prepare for Wildfire Season

Assistant Fire Chief Riley Pilgrim



This year, Utah is anticipating an active wildfire season. It's never too early to ensure you and your property are ready in the event a wildfire occurs. This is especially important if you live in areas that

border open space. Here are four things you can do now to prepare:

- **Know your risk:** If you live within the urban interface zone (the areas in which homes blend in with natural landscape), your home is at an increased risk of wildfire. Assess your risk at wildfirerisk.utah.gov.
- **Understand the ember zone:** Residents within a mile of a large, wind-driven fire will likely see embers come close to their homes. Several areas in Cottonwood Heights, especially along the foothills and open space-adjacent properties, are within the ember zone.
- **Create defensible space:** Ensure flammable materials are cleared 30 feet away from your home or outbuildings. This includes vegetation, vehicles and wood piles.
- **Harden your home:** Use fire-resistant construction materials, put screens and coverings over vents and other openings, and create non-flammable landscaping to better prepare your property.

Visit firewise.org, wildlandfirersg.org, and fireadapted.org for user-friendly wildfire information and easy-to-follow recommendations. You can also email wildfireriskassessment@unifiedfire.org for a property assessment and more tips on preparing your home.

Cottonwood Heights and the Unified Fire Authority are committed to working with our partners to prepare the city and its residents for wildland fire mitigation. It is also critical that our residents are doing their part where they can. ■



Masks Strongly Encouraged in City Buildings

Utah's statewide mask mandate ended April 10. Cottonwood Heights has not reinstated a mask mandate, but we are continuing to require all city employees to wear masks in city offices.

Cottonwood Heights strongly encourages residents to continue wearing masks and practicing social distancing in all city offices, as well. Some area businesses will also maintain mask requirements.

Learn more about Utah's COVID-19 transmission index at coronavirus.utah.gov/utah-health-guidance-levels. Cottonwood Heights businesses that continue to require masks can visit coronavirus.utah.gov/business. ■



Follow These Tips to Keep Mosquitoes Away from Your Home

As summer approaches, so do the mosquitoes. The South Salt Lake Valley Mosquito Abatement District (SSLVMAD) works to reduce the number of larval mosquitoes that develop to the adult stage. District technicians regularly inspect known larval mosquito habitats in the Salt Lake Valley and apply mosquito control measures. They also target adult mosquitoes when needed.

Here are four ways to keep mosquitoes from breeding in the water near your home:

1. Eliminate unnecessary standing water from your property
2. Empty and refresh desirable standing water at least weekly.
3. Treat livestock watering troughs and ornamental ponds with mosquito control products (SSLVMAD offers this free service).
4. Report other standing water to the SSLVMAD.

For more information about mosquito control or to request service, visit sslvmad.org. ■



Can Placement on Windy Days

When the wind is blowing, turn your blue can facing sideways to the street. This will help ensure lightweight items like loose paper don't fly out and litter your neighborhood.



Don't place the recycling can with the lid hinge facing towards the street. That makes it harder for the collection trucks to successfully empty your can. ■



Remote Recycling Education for Schools

WFWRD's sustainability team has provided education remotely to 31 classes at 13 different district elementary schools in 2021. The team is still available to conduct more remote classes. If you're interested in this opportunity, contact sustainability coordinator Ethan Morris at EMorris@wasatchfrontwaste.org or 385-468-6337. ■



Area Cleanup

Cottonwood Heights has a limited number of landfill vouchers that waive the fees for landfill loads up to 4 x 8 feet (about the size of a standard truck or truck-sized trailer). You can pick up a voucher at city hall. For more information, visit wasatchfrontwaste.org/garbage-collection. ■



Answer

Question, continued from page 2

William Henry Staker was born in Butler, Utah, in 1889, to Nathan H. Staker and Matilda Wagstaff. In 1912, he married Mabel Hilton, the daughter of David A. Hilton and Margaret Burt. The Hilton family moved to Butler sometime after 1900 and bought the old Philander Butler homestead.

Henry started working for the U.S. Government in 1913 as a forest ranger patrolling the canyon. Around 1920, he began working at the Chlorination Station (predecessor of the water treatment plant) at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. Henry moved his family into the house built behind the Chlorination Station. He and his wife lived there for nearly 40 years, raising their three children in that home. When the Chlorination Station was replaced by a modern water treatment plant about 1957, they moved to a home on Wasatch Boulevard.

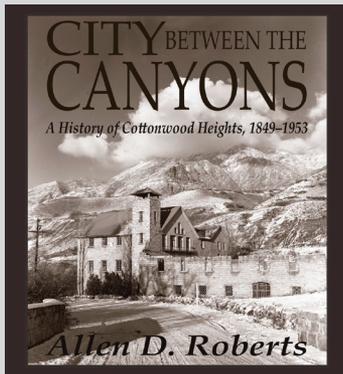
Operating the Chlorination Station was a 24/7 job. If any chlorine feeding system malfunction or gas leakage occurred, an alarm sounded in the house. The plant had huge screens to collect the debris from the creek, but workers had to operate them manually to wash the debris off. In the fall, the debris amount increased significantly, requiring an additional man to work the night shift.

In his personal history about growing up in Butler, Almon Green mentions the house and Chlorination Station at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon, where the Staker family lived. He recalled often seeing Henry on his motorcycle patrolling the canyon.

Henry's granddaughter Judy Draper has fond memories of visiting her grandparents and still vividly remembers the home, Chlorination Station and diversion dam. She recalls on one occasion, while visiting, the alarm went off in

the building where the spare chlorine tanks were kept. Her grandfather told them all to stay in the house while he donned protective clothing and a gas mask and left to identify and correct the problem. Judy remembers that once the emergency was over and they could go outside, everything was covered in fine, yellowish-green powder.

During WWII, there was concern that the enemy would try to sabotage the water supplies. Murray posted guards at McGhie Springs, and Salt Lake City had their plant operator patrol the canyon to ensure the wooden pipeline bringing water from the upper lakes did not show signs of sabotage. ■



Buy the Book!

Find more community stories in the book *City Between the Canyons: A History of Cottonwood Heights, 1849-1953*. Buy yours at City Hall for \$20 (3 for \$50) or order it online at ch.utah.gov/community/history/history-book for \$25 (3 for \$59).



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Historic Committee is
now on Facebook




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DIST# 1 - Douglas Petersen

DIST# 2 - J. Scott Bracken

DIST# 3 - Tali C. Bruce

DIST# 4 - Christine Watson Mikell

CITY MANAGER - Tim Tingey

City Office

2277 E. Bengal Blvd.

Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121

Phone 801-944-7000

Fax..... 801-944-7005

Numbers to Know

Emergency..... 911

Dispatch 743-7000

Fire Authority 743-7100

Animal Control 743-7000

Justice Court..... 273-9731

Call Direct

City Manager 944-7010

City Planning 944-7065

Public Works 944-7000

Recorder 944-7021

Finance Director..... 944-7012

Code Enforcement..... 944-7095

Police Administration..... 944-7100

City Council Meetings

May 4 - Work Session 5 p.m.,

Business Meeting 7 p.m.

May 11 - Work Session 5 p.m.

May 18 - Work Session 5 p.m.,

Business Meeting 7 p.m.

(Work session may reconvene after business meeting.)

Agendas are posted at least 24 hours in advance of public meetings.

For details about the agendas,

go to: www.ch.utah.gov. City Council meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of every month at 5 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Planning Commission

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

Editors

Lindsay Wilcox, Kim Horiuchi

Graphic Designer

Megan Pace

Teachers of the Year: Celebrating Excellence in the Classroom

Canyons School District offers its heartfelt congratulations to the following schools' Teachers of the Year:

- **Bella Vista Elementary:** Kylee Wolfe
- **Butler Elementary:** Summer Briggs
- **Canyon View Elementary:** Alison Parkinson
- **Oakdale Elementary:** Jocelyn Cox
- **Ridgecrest Elementary:** Madeleine Mack
- **Butler Middle:** Nicole Clark
- **Brighton High:** Mikala Mortensen

From this field of standout educators, one

teacher will be chosen as Canyons District's overall Teacher of the Year, to be announced at a May 4 ceremony. ■



Spring into Volunteering for your Neighborhood School

With vaccination rates picking up, and the broadening availability of rapid COVID-19 testing, Cottonwood Heights-area schools

are now able to safely welcome parents, grandparents and other helpers back into classrooms.

"We're at that point where, by taking the right precautions, it's safe. And the help is needed," said Canyons Superintendent Dr. Rick Robins.

Schools are in special need of classroom helpers to mentor and tutor students. Many are also in the planning stages for spring fundraising efforts and year-end celebrations, and school Parent Teacher Associations are now building their PTA Boards. To volunteer, you must register with the school district and follow health and safety precautions. Visit canyonsdistrict.org or canyonsdistrict.org/podcast/ for sign-up information. ■



Canyons Forges Ahead with Online Learning Innovations

Canyons School District recently announced the launch of Canyons Online, a program for self-driven, organized learners in grades 3-12 who, for health, family or personal reasons, seek an educational experience away from the traditional brick-and-mortar classroom.

Starting in fall 2021, elementary- and middle school-aged enrollees in Canyons Online can move through grade-level learning at their own pace and on their own time. High school students enrolled in Canyons Online can take the online classes for credit, both original and recovery, toward high school graduation. Classes will be taught by licensed teachers with advanced training in research-backed digital teaching and learning practices.

For more information, see canyonsdistrict.org. ■



Business Spotlights

Alpha Coffee | 7260 Racquet Club Dr. | alpha.coffee

Located at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon, Alpha Coffee is a veteran-owned family business that sells fresh-roasted craft coffee, unique specialty drinks, pastries, breakfast items and branded gear and apparel. Alpha Coffee is a cause-based company with a mission to donate coffee to deployed troops and support veteran charities, local organizations

and fellow small businesses.

Carl and Lori Churchill founded Alpha Coffee in 2010 as an online business and opened their first shop in Cottonwood Heights in 2017. They now have a second location in West Jordan and will be downtown on Regent Street this summer. ■



JQ Medical Supply, LLC | 6910 Highland Dr. #4 | jqmedical.com



JQ Medical Supply, LLC was founded in Cottonwood Heights

in 1994. They specialize in diabetes, insulin pump, CGM and ostomy supplies and compression stockings and garments and

also carry canes, walkers, bathroom aids and wound care supplies. JQ Medical Supply bills most insurance companies. ■

YogaSunné | 2242 Fort Union Blvd. | yogasunne.com

Locally owned studio YogaSunné offers heated and non-heated classes, including Flow, Bikram, Ashtanga, Kundalini and Anusara and imparts a sense of harmony with nature and the elements. The yoga room includes infrared

heat panels that provide sun-like warmth and proven health benefits like stress reduction, increased circulation, lymphatic flow and immune system support. ■



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