



Cottonwood Heights, UT | October 2020 | FREE

# NEWSLETTER

[www.ch.utah.gov](http://www.ch.utah.gov)

## Let's Come Together by Showing Greater Civility

By Council Member Christine Mikell



In last month's newsletter, Council Member Doug Petersen wrote about how, in his experience, most Cottonwood Heights residents use civility and dialogue to affect positive change.

I couldn't agree more. But apparently that's not how most Americans feel. According to the 2019 Civility in America survey, 68 percent of Americans find lack of civility a major problem. Not surprisingly, social media contributes heavily to this mindset; many of those surveyed also reported that their overall experience with social media has been more negative than positive.

Civility is one of the essential virtues of democracy. The Institute for Civility in

Governments defines civility as "more than just politeness, although politeness is a necessary first step. It is about disagreeing without disrespect, seeking common ground as a starting point for dialogue about differences, listening past one's preconceptions and teaching others to do the same. Civility is the hard work of staying present even with those with whom we have deep-rooted and fierce disagreement." Amid what many perceive as a severe civility deficit in our nation, I think it's worth taking a moment to consider what civility really means.

A great example of civility was illuminated in an op-ed piece written by Eugene Scalia, son of the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, that appeared in The Washington Post the day after the recent passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. In it, Scalia wrote about the well-known and, to some, unlikely friendship shared

*"Let's Come Together", continued on page 3*



Mask up or Miss Out



School events and sporting activities are important to creating a sense of normalcy this year. Cottonwood Heights wants to make sure our families can continue to enjoy these kinds of events. Face coverings are the easiest way to stay safe so we don't have to miss out.

### CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

#### UPCOMING TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS

##### OCTOBER 6

- BUDGET AND REVENUE REVIEW
- INFLATIONARY TAX INCREASE DISCUSSION
- STORM WATER FEE DISCUSSION
- OUTDOOR LIGHTING TECHNICAL REVISIONS
- ROAD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT
- SURPLUS OF EQUIPMENT

##### OCTOBER 20

- EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION STUDY DISCUSSION
- BUDGET BOOK ACCEPTANCE
- BONNEVILLE SHORELINE TRAIL ACCESS PLAN
- CORRIDOR AGREEMENT WITH UDOT

##### OCTOBER 27 - CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL WORK SESSION

- POLICE POLICIES AND PRACTICES

TO FIND FULL AGENDAS,  
[WWW.COTTONWOODHEIGHTS.UTAH.GOV](http://WWW.COTTONWOODHEIGHTS.UTAH.GOV)

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## 15Treesfor15Years

To celebrate 15 years of Cottonwood Heights, the Butlerville Days Committee, through the help of a grant from the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands (FFSL) and in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, purchased and planted 15 trees at City Hall and the Cottonwood Heights Recreation Center. Additionally the committee designed a float to be used in next year's parade. ■



## Protect your Drinking Water by Learning about an Upcoming Ballot Issue

Approximately 150,000 Utahns, including many residents of Cottonwood Heights, receive their drinking water from neighboring communities. What this means is multiple cities in Utah provide water to residents who live outside of their civil boundaries. This water agreement is a working arrangement, however, it can be terminated at any time by the host city with a simple 30-day notice. This termination clause does not require justification and could leave thousands of Utahns high and dry. This potential situation would have a direct impact on many Cottonwood Heights residents who receive surplus water from nearby cities.

To rectify this potential issue the Utah State Legislature passed HB31 in 2019. This provides some protection to those who receive water from, but live outside of, municipal boundaries of a designated water service area. This new law provides protection, but

without an amendment to the Utah Constitution, it is ultimately not enforceable.

This November residents in the State of Utah will be asked to cast a ballot for a Utah Constitutional Amendment about water resources. The Amendment is titled Municipal Water Resources – Amendment D. It regulates water to customers outside respective political boundaries.

The amendment would allow a municipality to do the following:

- Designate by ordinance the geographic limits of its water service area and define its terms of service including reasonable water service charges;
- Commit its water supply for use outside its designated water service area if the water is in excess of the water needed for the municipality's

designated water service area;

- Supply water to retail consumers outside its boundary but within its designated water service area for reasonable charges established by ordinance; and
- Exchange water rights or sources of water for other water rights or sources of water that the municipality determines will equally enable the municipality to meet the needs of its designated water service area.
- More information on Utah Constitutional Amendment D can be found at: [https://ballotpedia.org/Utah\\_Constitutional\\_Amendment\\_D,\\_Municipal\\_Water\\_Resources\\_Amendment\\_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Utah_Constitutional_Amendment_D,_Municipal_Water_Resources_Amendment_(2020)) ■

## Bengal Boulevard Roundabout Open House Planned for Next Month

Final design of the Bengal Boulevard roundabout is now complete and construction will begin in 2021.

In April 2019, the city held an open house to present the preliminary design of a roundabout at the intersection of Bengal Boulevard and 2300 East to 2325 East. The city listened and enhanced the roundabout to vastly improve pedestrian and bicycle safety, circulation through the roundabout and access to the new Brighton High School.

Join us on Nov. 12 to learn about the updated design and safety features. We will also have materials on hand highlighting proper navigation through the roundabout.

**Bengal Boulevard Open House**  
 Cottonwood Heights City Hall  
 2277 Bengal Blvd.  
 Nov. 12, 2020  
 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.



 Cottonwood Heights  
 City between the canyons

 Cottonwood Heights  
**ARTS COUNCIL**

**VIRTUAL  
 ART SHOW**

**November 1 - 30, 2020**

ARTISTS MUST REGISTER ONLINE AT  
[WWW.CHCITYARTS.COM](http://WWW.CHCITYARTS.COM) BY OCTOBER 25.

ARTWORK WILL BE DISPLAYED ON THE  
 COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS ARTS  
 COUNCIL FACEBOOK PAGE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE GO TO  
[WWW.CHCITYARTS.COM](http://WWW.CHCITYARTS.COM).

 Utah Division of  
 Arts & Museums  ZAP  
 IS YOU

*"Lets Come Together", continued from cover*

by his father and Ginsburg. "It is often remarked today that if our government leaders spent more time together, they would come to like and respect one another, be more civil, and achieve consensus, harmony and wondrous legislation," Scalia wrote.

"Don't draw that lesson from Ginsburg-Scalia," Scalia went on to say. "What we can learn from the justices, though—beyond how to be a friend—is how to welcome debate and differences. The two justices had central roles in addressing some of the most divisive issues of the day, including cases on abortion, same-sex marriage and who would be president. Not for a moment did one think the other should be condemned or ostracized. More than that, they believed that what they were doing—arriving at their own opinions thoughtfully and advancing them vigorously—was essential to the national good. With less debate, their friendship would have been diminished, and so, they believed, would our democracy."

The pandemic has made almost everything more difficult, including healthy, civilized debate. Here in Cottonwood Heights, City Council meetings have been held remotely since March.

Residents who want to make a public comment during these meetings must do so electronically—a necessary method that, unfortunately, precludes Council Members the benefit of face-to-face contact with commenters. Not unlike how conversations on social media networks like Facebook or Nextdoor can become less than kind, I have noticed that in this virtual format, incivility seems to creep into City Council meetings more frequently than when our meetings were held in the traditional in-person format. Now, more than ever, we all have to remind ourselves to be civil. As leaders of our city, we must be examples of civility.

I did, however, witness and was told about several instances of civility and kindness in the wake of the windstorm that hit Utah last month. One neighbor allowed another to stay at his house for days until the power was restored at the other's home. Many others helped clean up felled trees

and branches from senior citizens' yards. It was heartwarming to know that when challenges arise, Cottonwood Heights' residents are quick to lend each other a helping hand.

Let's continue to be good neighbors and strive for genuine connections with each other. But rather than hitting the "like" button on social media, consider waving to the drivers of cars that pass you along the street or saying hello to a neighbor whom you have not yet met. Let your first instinct be, for example, to offer to cut your neighbor's grass or move their trash cans back into their driveway rather than calling Code Enforcement. Let's not wait for another windstorm to exhibit civility and, therefore, create a more welcoming, caring and inclusive community. In the words of the late Justice Ginsburg, "Don't be distracted by emotions like anger, envy, resentment. These just zap energy and waste time." ■

***"Don't be distracted by emotions like anger, envy, resentment. These just zap energy and waste time."***

***- Ruth Bader Ginsburg***

## Craving a No-hassle Fall Foliage Fix? Check out the Alpenbock Loop Trail

Melissa Fields, Chair Parks Trails & Open Space Committee

Autumn's cooler temps and brilliant foliage displays are finally upon us, providing an irresistible invitation to get away from our screens and out into nature. And so, if you're looking for a quick, family-friendly hike, with stunning views, that's located within a stone's throw of Cottonwood Heights, consider checking out the Alpenbock Loop.

This 1.1-mile moderate loop hiking- and climbing access-only trail (no bikes) was conceived by the Salt Lake Climbers Alliance to consolidate the former spiderweb of approach trails to the nearby climbing areas. The Alpenbock Loop also is a great way for casual hikers to access a beautiful part of the canyon that few outside of the climbing community visit.

The trail begins at the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon on the eastern edge of the canyon's Park 'N Ride lot. (This trail is within the watershed and so dogs are not allowed). From the trail head, you'll turn onto one switchback before arriving at the fork with the main trail, clearly marked by a U.S. Forest Service trail marker. From there, you can head out on the loop to either the left/west or right/east. (If you choose to go left, be sure to stay on the higher trail vs. a lower route that heads downhill and eventually dead-ends at a private property boundary.)

The route begins relatively flat in either direction before meandering up the mountainside over tidy rock-stair switchbacks through dense stands of

Gambel oak. At the top of the loop, signed climbing access spur trails lead north up to world-famous (and curiously named) climbing areas, including Mexican Crack, The Coffin and The Egg. (Hikers should stay on the main Alpenbock Trail, however, as rockfall is possible at the base of the climbing areas from those climbing above). Be sure to take in the breathtaking views to the south, spanning the other side of the canyon where mountain goats are frequently spotted, and to the west, out over the Salt Lake Valley.

On the loop's eastern end, you'll come to the Grit Mill Connector trail. You can add another half-mile to the Alpenbock Loop by continuing east along this trail past the Cabbage Patch Boulders and onto the Grit Mill parking area, which when completed later this fall, will provide a second parking area for the Alpenbock Loop. A fun stop along loop's southern side is the huge granite boulders making up the Secret Garden, a popular bouldering area. To return to the Park 'N Ride, simply retrace your steps west along the Grit Mill connector back to the loop and then follow the trail markers to the parking area.

The Alpenbock Loop Trail was completed in 2017 and is named after the now-dissolved Alpenbock Club, founded in the mid-1960s by a group of local climbers responsible for first ascents in both Big and Little Cottonwood Canyon. The trail was made possible by Salt Lake Climbers Alliance and Trails

Utah with funding support from the Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation, Recreational Trails Program, Mountain Accord, REI, the Access Fund and private donors. The U.S. Forest Service oversaw the project, and volunteers with the Cottonwood Canyons Foundation, AmeriCorp Youth and the general public pitched in, as well. For a trail map and more information, visit [saltlakeclimbers.org](http://saltlakeclimbers.org). ■



## Fastest Growing White-Collar Crimes are Title and Mortgage Fraud

By CHPD Chief Robby Russo



Fraud is a crime that impacts all of us, and we need to be extra vigilant to keep cyber criminals out of our homes — literally. Domestic and international cyber thieves target U.S. homeowner's equity in their homes. Removing

a name from a home's title takes just minutes.

Scammers do this to homeowners and then forge their name on the title document and refile it. They then can take out loans using your home's equity and stick you with the payments. You can protect yourself from this type of identity theft. There are several private companies that do a good job in monitoring activity on out home title.

For an easy way to monitor your property, I recommend a program introduced by Rashelle Hobbs, our Salt Lake County Recorder. Through Property Watch, you can monitor your property for free and it takes less than five minutes to set up. I encourage you to take advantage of this service. Here are the details:

- Property Watch is a public service launched by the Salt Lake County Recorder's Office.
- It is meant to be a tool for Salt Lake County property owners to ensure they have complete, timely information regarding their property record.

- This free service allows users to monitor any recorded changes (documents such as liens, deeds, reconveyance deeds, etc.) to their property as soon they are processed.
- After signing up for Property Watch, Hobbs will send property owners who register for the service an email alerting them to any newly recorded documents on their property record.
- Property owner email addresses will not be distributed and will only be used to communicate Property Watch information.
- Signing up is quick and easy; owners just need to

follow the link to the Property Watch tab on the Recorder's Office home page [slco.org/recorder/](http://slco.org/recorder/) and submit a name, email and home address.

- The service is expected to significantly reduce title fraud, further protecting people's property ownership and promoting transparency.
- For assistance or any questions, residents can email [PropertyWatch@slco.org](mailto:PropertyWatch@slco.org) or call 385-468-8176 for live support. ■

## Unified Fire mourns the loss of Chris Cage

By UFA Assistant Chief Riley Pilgrim



On August 29, 2020 retired Firefighter/Engineer and Paramedic Chris Cage succumbed to a difficult battle with cancer. Chris retired from the Unified Fire Authority in September of 2016 after spending 31 years with the Department.

He spent a significant amount of his career as a firefighter in Cottonwood Heights. He was also an active member of FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Utah Task Force 1 and was part of the response to the World Trade Center following the attacks on 9/11/2001.

He was an expert in this field and spent a significant amount of time training and mentoring others, while being an active member of Salt Lake County Fire, Unified Fire Authority and Utah Task Force 1. It is believed his cancer is related to his service provided on 9/11. Chris was also an active community member serving the citizens of Cottonwood Heights through emergency preparedness education and as an active member on several community related councils and committees.

He had a passion to serve and was always willing to give of himself. Chris will always be remembered by his great smile and selfless attitude. Our condolences are with his family at this time. ■

## Stormwater Investments in Cottonwood Heights

The City of Cottonwood Heights is considering the creation and implementation of a citywide storm water fee to assist in the costs associated with operation, maintenance and improvement of city storm water facilities. While invisible to most residents, the city's storm drain system and infrastructure provides a critical need of handling water runoff throughout the city. As cities grow and storm water systems age, challenges emerge in maintaining a high-quality system with proper capacity to handle regular runoff and major storm events. This fee, similar to a monthly water or sewer fee is generally paid on a regular basis by customers (i.e. city residents and businesses). Revenue from the fee is then used to cover operation, maintain and improve the city's storm water infrastructure. Storm water fees are currently assessed in most cities within Salt Lake County.

Currently, the city relies on general fund revenues to pay for storm water projects/programs and most other services in the community. Much of the city's storm drain infrastructure is aging, and additional

funding allocated to storm water is critical to ensure that city's system continues to function adequately and meet the needs of the city's current and future residents and businesses.

In recent years, money spent on storm water was for costs associated with regulatory and operational maintenance costs and emergency allocations for capital improvements that pulled funds from other road improvement projects. Such emergency allocations became necessary due to sudden system failures. This approach is not sustainable and these situations emphasize the need for continued substantial system improvement before failures occur. After much research and deliberation, Cottonwood Heights has decided that consideration of a storm water fee may provide a long-term and sustainable solution to storm water challenges. As stated above, this is the same approach used by other cities in Utah including most communities in Salt Lake County to fund storm water programs.

The City Council will discuss this issue in upcoming meetings and will also seek input from

the public on this matter. More information will be available in the near future on this issue and the potential financial impacts to property owners in Cottonwood Heights. If you would like to learn more about the city's analysis of a storm water fee and how it could impact residents, visit the city website or call 801-944-7000. ■



## Updates from the District

### Fall Leaf Collection

The annual Fall Leaf Collection Program will begin on Oct.15 and last through Nov. 30.

During this time Cottonwood Heights residents can pick up leaf bags at:

**Cottonwood Heights City Hall:**

2277 E. Bengal Blvd.

**Cottonwood Heights Recreation Center:**

7500 S. 2700 East.

**Whitmore Library:**

2197 E. Fort Union Blvd.

Leaf bags can be dropped off at:

**Bywater Park:**

3149 Banbury Road (7420 South)

WFWRD leaf bags are limited to 10 bags per household, and available while supplies last. Residents can also use and drop off their own purchased leaf bags or lawn bags, as long as they only contain leaves.

To maintain worker health and safety, during the continued COVID-19 pandemic, WFWRD will utilize additional equipment to assist with leaf bag disposal from residents. This will include additional protective gear for employees and the use of heavy equipment to reduce employees physically handling bags at the leaf bag drop-off sites. ■



**Cottonwood Heights**  
*City between the canyons*

**Cottonwood Heights City Hall requires**



**Face coverings**  
*Las cubiertas faciales*



**Social distancing**  
*Distancia social*

**- AND -**  
*- y -*

**Thank you for your cooperation.**  
*Gracias por su cooperación.*

**Slow the spread of COVID-19**



### Set Cans Out

WFWRD would like to remind all residents to have their cans placed on the street by 7 a.m. on the day of their normal collection. Salt Lake County Health Department Regulation 7, Ordinance 4.3.2 also requires that the cans be taken off the street the same day they are emptied. The district asks all residents to keep this in mind and to have their cans ready for collection in time, and to ensure they are taken off the street in time for the health and safety of our neighborhoods. ■

### Facebook/Twitter

As we approach the cold, winter months, there is the possibility of bad weather affecting WFWRD's ability to provide timely service to your neighborhood. Its Facebook and Twitter pages are the best way for residents and customers to find out if there could be a delay in service due to weather or traffic complications. Please follow them on Facebook and Twitter to stay apprised of these issues, and also to receive waste and recycling tips. ■



# Voting: Remember to Register and Update Your Address

The Salt Lake County Elections Office wants to get by-mail ballots to as many voters as possible. So they are asking residents to register if you haven't already, and update your address if you have moved.

If you've already registered to vote in Salt Lake County and have moved within the county, you do not need to re-register. Instead, email or call the Salt Lake County Elections Office with your new address. The number is 385-468-7400

or email: [got-vote@slco.org](mailto:got-vote@slco.org).

To still receive a ballot by mail, the deadline is Friday, Oct. 23, for voters to register or update their address. Voters can check their registration status at [www.got-vote.org](http://www.got-vote.org). ■



[slco.org/clerks/elections/voter-registration](http://slco.org/clerks/elections/voter-registration)



### Cottonwood Heights Mask Initiative

Cottonwood Heights City is running a face mask initiative for commercial businesses within the city. If businesses email [smartell@ch.utah.gov](mailto:smartell@ch.utah.gov) they can request up to four boxes at a time be delivered to their businesses. Requests may be made weekly if your business needs the help. ■



# COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS

## PARKS & RECREATION SERVICE AREA

**Text 'Newsletter' to 801-943-3190 to get the latest Parks & Recreation digital newsletter!**

[www.cottonwoodheights.com](http://www.cottonwoodheights.com)



## City Council Members

**MAYOR** - Michael J. Peterson

**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

**Oct. 6** - Work Session 5 p.m.,

Business Meeting 7 p.m.

**Oct. 20** - Work Session 5 p.m.,

Business Meeting 7 p.m.

**OCTOBER 27** - CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL

WORK SESSION - Police Policies & Practices

(Work session may reconvene after business meeting.)

Agendas are posted 24 hours in advance of

public meetings.

For details about the agendas,

go to: [www.ch.utah.gov](http://www.ch.utah.gov)

## Planning Commission

The Planning Commission holds meetings

at 6 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each

month. This month's meeting will be held

on Oct. 7.

## Editors

Tim Beery, Kim Horiuchi

## Graphic Designer

Megan Pace

## Student Body Presidents Face Unprecedented Challenge of Leading During a Pandemic

Will Rahaniotis was a freshman when he set a goal of running for Brighton High's student body president. Little did he know in his senior year he would be leading his peers in the most unprecedented year in the school's history. "Since freshman year, I imagined myself running, and doing my skit in front of my school [as part of my campaign]," said Rahaniotis. In March 2020, "all of a sudden it was just gone," he said. The campaign moved completely online, and Rahaniotis won knowing his tenure would be spent not only leading students to success, but also helping them stay physically safe and healthy.

"Chances are we are the only student government leaders that will have to do it this way," Rahaniotis said. This unique school year is giving student body organizations the opportunity to get creative and reach out to students in more meaningful ways. They're leading by example,

adopting new routines and finding new ways to stage events and assemblies. Hear more about the inspiring efforts of our student leaders on the Connect Canyons podcast: <https://www.canyonsdistrict.org/connect-canyons/> ■



## BHS Student Among National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists



Haley Taylor is on track to receive a financial boost for her higher education goals, thanks to her hard work in academics, extracurricular activities and recommendations from teachers. The Brighton High senior is among 16,000 students nationwide chosen as semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program. If designated as a finalist in February, Taylor will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit Scholarships in the amount of \$2,500. ■

## Apply to Test for Placement in CSD's Advanced Learning Program

Tests are available to assist parents in determining whether their children would benefit from placement in Canyons School District's SALTA magnet program for advanced learners — and the time for applying to be tested is now. Students in kindergarten through seventh grade can apply online to test into the SALTA program starting Monday, Sept. 21 through midnight on Friday, Oct. 16. See [canyonsdistrict.org](http://canyonsdistrict.org) for more information. ■

SALTA Magnet Services Program Testing

# SALTA

Supporting Advanced Learners Toward Achievement

### Is SALTA the best fit for my child?

**Save the date:** The window for applying to test into Canyons School District's SALTA magnet program for advanced learners opens soon. Applications for testing are for enrollment during the 2021-22 school year.

Students currently in kindergarten through the seventh grade may apply online:

**Monday, Sept. 21, 2020 through  
Thursday, Oct. 16, 2020**

## CHBA Trunk or Treat

Due to COVID-19, it has been decided that our trunk-or-treat event will be canceled for this year. See you all next year! ■



## Business Spotlights

### Eagle Condor Foundation | 7135 S. Highland Drive

Eagle Condor Humanitarian (ECH) is a non-profit focused on bridging cultures to provide opportunities for alleviating poverty through self-reliance training for children and adults in South America. ECH provides humanitarian experiences for families and youth in the United States and embraces a sustainable, holistic approach through a unique model. Among its services:

- Adults receive proven training to enhance income, savings and life balance through self-reliant workshops.
- Children and youth are provided nutritional meals in exchange for regular school attendance, with supplementary educational support from U.S. interns.
- Communities benefit from collaborative projects designed for self-reliance to flourish.

ECH invites everyone to be part of a team of volunteers to travel to Peru, Colombia or Ecuador to work on localized efforts to help lift people out of poverty through humanitarian projects such as schools, water systems,

community buildings and more. To explore Humanitarian Expeditions, sponsoring children or self-reliance training, please go to ECH's website: [www.eagle-condor.org](http://www.eagle-condor.org), and/or call 801-263-2000. ■



### 2020 Landscape Beautification Award Winners

Thank you to the Cottonwood Heights residents who nominated their neighbors in recognition of their efforts in creating a beautiful landscape and improving their yards and properties. The nominations were judged by the City Council based on district location, and a winner was selected from each district. Mayor Mike Peterson judged the commercial business nominations. Every nomination was deserving of the award and congratulations to our winners for 2020. They are:

