



BRIGHAM CITY MAYOR'S OFFICE

Summer Newsletter 2009

Sharon Brailsford - Editor

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

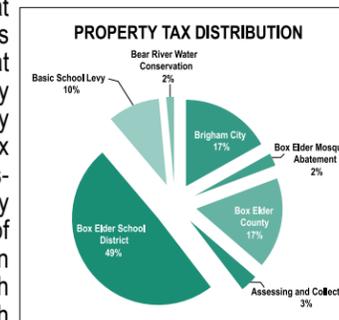
Dear Citizens,

Albert Einstein said, "In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity." During these tight economic times, we have been very concerned about the financial challenges we're facing. The challenge of the 2009-2010 budget has not been an easy one. Many meetings have taken place working to balance decreasing revenues with needed City services. Early in the budgeting process I met with the City Council to discuss their priorities. I took their main concerns into consideration and then met with and heard all the requests from every division director. My budget was presented on April 2. The Council then scheduled budget work session meetings that were published and open for our residents to attend. Mayor Pro-tem Reese Jensen presented their budget on May 7 which was a modified version of mine. On June 4, a public hearing was held concerning the 2009/10 City budget. Everyone of the budget session meetings were published and open for our residents to attend. In the end, we used a team approach to create a solid budget that balances the service needs of the city, takes into consideration our employees, and also reflects the lowest costs to our citizens.



Some of the fiscal challenges we faced in the preparation of the 2009-2010 budget included: 1) projected decreases in revenues with increasing costs of providing City services, 2) keep our utility infrastructure healthy, 3) increased power rates from Rocky Mountain Power and Western Area Power Association, 4) keep employee's salaries to at least 96% of market, and 5) stay the course of Vision 2012.

I'm sure you noticed that our property taxes were raised this year. Please keep in mind that only 17% of the overall property taxes are paid to the City. Forty nine percent of your property tax goes to the Box Elder School District (BESD). Box Elder County residents voted in November of 2007 to approve a \$70 million bond to rebuild Box Elder High School along with Bear River High



School and another future elementary school. This increase is being imposed on all Box Elder County residents by BESD as a result of the voter referendum. Brigham City has not raised property taxes since 2001.

This coming year's General Fund (GF) revenue is projected to be \$11.2 million, which is 1% lower than last year's GF revenue. Only 6% of our General Fund budget is comprised of property tax, whereas sales taxes and transfers make up 24% and 30% respectively totaling 54%. We are projecting over a half million dollars decrease in revenue from sales tax and interest income in the 2009/10 budget year as compared to the previous year's budget. This projection is due to the soft economy. Interest income is projected to decrease 69%. We've also projected energy sales decreasing from some of our largest commercial/ industrial users. For the past three years City departments have kept their budgets as flat as possible. Supervisors were asked to cut another 1% from each of their departments for the 2009/10 budget year. Last January 3% of the current year's remaining budget was cut from this year's budget due to the projection of these decreasing revenues.

Other fiscal challenges we faced during this budget cycle include rate increases from Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) and from Western Area Power Administration (WAPA). In keeping with the Public Utility Advisory Board and City Council recommendations, we are proposing that power rate increases from RPM of 5% and WAPA of 11% be passed on to our users. We purchase approximately 73% of our power from RMP and 22% of our power from WAPA. This pass through amounts to a 2.44% increase to your power bill for the average electric user. Additionally, we are proposing to pass through 0.75% of the 2.25% Municipal Energy Sales Tax on electricity to the users. The 0.75% was previously paid by the City.

Over the past two years we budgeted to pay for an electrical transformer which is costing the City \$1.1 million. In order to keep our electrical distribution system healthy, our 2008 Electrical Master Plan covering 20 years indicates that we must set aside about \$700,000 annually for upgrades to our system. Keeping our electrical system reliable prepares us for future growth which is a priority. Our future energy demands and how we manage them will always be a long term challenge that is dependent upon current decisions. We have in the 2009/10 year's budget \$20,000 for an energy study which will help us pursue renewable energy resources to comply with anticipated federal mandates requiring that 20% of our power comes from green energy sources by the year 2020.

Over the past few years the Council has made a commitment to increase utility rates equivalent to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to assist in covering the increased cost of providing services. (Cont'd on pg 2)

Suggestions for improvement:

Question or Area of Concern:

Phone Number:

Name: Address:

We would appreciate your comments (good or bad) relating to services provided by the City and/or information you would like to know in future newsletters. Also, please let us know if we've done something you liked. If you have concerns or questions about City services please feel free to contact us at 734-6600 or complete the following questionnaire and return it to City Hall. Note: We take all your comments seriously. Please give us your name, address, and telephone number so we can follow-up and answer your concerns. See us at: www.bringhamcity.utah.gov

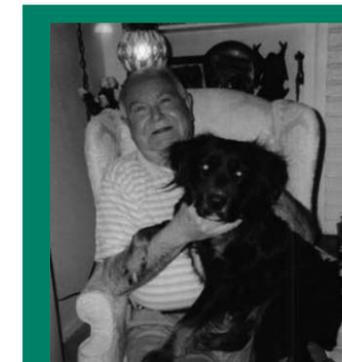
Brigham City Citizen Comment Card



Summer 2009 NEWSLETTER

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Ev McKinstry
INDIVIDUAL EVERYDAY HERO



Council on Aging
TEAM EVERYDAY HEROES

For complete details of the Individual and Team Everyday Heroes, see Article on pg 11

To nominate an Everyday Hero, please see the form on pg 11

We have included in the budget a rate increase of 3.32% for all utilities to cover increased costs of operations including the expansion, upgrading and maintenance of the infrastructure. This amount is .48% lower than the 2008 average CPI of 3.8% . This coming year's budget includes \$552,000 of capital projects for water system improvements.

Previously the Council set a policy to decrease the percentage of utility fund transfers to the GF. In 2006/07 the percentage was 17%, the current fiscal year's utility budget transfer is 15.5%, and the 2009/10 budget transfer is 15.3%. The overall percentage of funds being transferred is headed in the right direction. As of June 30, 2008 the City could finance operations for 134 days without any revenue which is an increase of 16 days from June 30, 2007. We estimate the fund balance as of June 30, 2009 will be \$2 million which is an 18% increase from June 30, 2008. The overall budget expenditures for all funds total \$37 million.

Balancing the budget is always a challenge because there are always more needs than available funding. This is why it is so important that we leverage city funds with other resources, when the opportunity arises. Thanks to our Congressional delegation and city staff efforts (over the past six years); Brigham City has or is scheduled to receive over \$44.7 million in federal grant funding for an array of city projects! The federal government provides grant money for qualifying projects that are outside of normal city operations. This year's new projects are the Army Corps of Engineers culinary water line grant for \$500,000 to be used on West Forest Street and the Library's seismic upgrades for the Carnegie portion of the building for \$650,000.

The Dance Academy Building (north of City Hall) is being partly funded through the efforts of our Congressional delegation. Brigham City received \$1.1 million for phase one which finishes the outside of the building. Phase two will restore the interior of the building and be paid through private donations. (See page 4 of this newsletter for more information.)

We take seriously our charge of using City resources wisely and are working smarter. To improve collaboration between departments and cut costs, we've restructured several departments. Six years ago we implemented a performance management program for all employees where they set measureable goals and were held accountable for their performance. Three years ago we implemented a computer tracking software that has simplified the process in documenting our employees' performance. We've also implemented a cost saving rewards program to encourage those employees who find ways to cut costs over time. We are stewards of our resources through careful oversight of each tax dollar we receive. Please go to www.brighamcity.utah.gov for more detailed information on how each department has cut costs and more in-depth details of the 2009/10 budget. For questions on the budget you can contact me, any council member, City Finance Director Jason Roberts, or City Administrator Bruce Leonard.

A priority of mine has been to increase opportunities for economic development within our City. The challenge is to create long term revenue sources to offset the need for increasing property taxes. Creating a climate where businesses can compete globally through the internet provides opportunities for not only retention and expansion of existing businesses, but

gives us an edge for the recruitment of new businesses. This emphasis creates jobs, which in turn increases the need for employees who want to live in our area. These families spend money on goods and services which in turn brings more commercial development that comes back to the City in increased sales tax revenues.

UTOPIA is crucial to future fiscal stability for our City. We've already seen several companies locate to Brigham City knowing UTOPIA was a benefit here. A major City employer decided to stay in Brigham City rather than relocate once they knew UTOPIA was coming. This company is now receiving high speed broadband services through a provider who uses UTOPIA infrastructure. The fiber light wave speed gives them a remarkable advantage to communicate with their clients and offices throughout the United States and the world. Brigham City provides utility infrastructure such as culinary water, sanitary sewer, waste collection, electric power generation and distribution, street improvements, storm water collection system and transportation infrastructure such as streets and an airport.

UTOPIA is a highway infrastructure that service providers are using to offer internet, voice, and video products. Having a variety of service providers that offer services on UTOPIA infrastructure encourages competition which insures the lowest possible price to our businesses and residents over many years. Service providers not currently using UTOPIA infrastructure can also reap the benefits of this high speed fiber broadband infrastructure through signing up to be a provider on UTOPIA's highway. Only UTOPIA has fiber broadband light wave speed infrastructure that connects directly to the home and business. Please sign up to become part of this opportunity for the future fiscal and economic health of our community. (See page 7 of this newsletter for more information.)

Being mayor of Brigham City has truly been a high point in my life! I have truly loved serving each of you. Working with great staff and city council members, we have laid the foundation for future growth and increasing revenues for our city. I've appreciated the citizen input and every task force reporting to the City Council has given critical information that has changed the City for the better. After fourteen years in public office, six years on the City Council and eight years as mayor; I've decided to not run again for mayor. It is time for another to take on this challenge. Two city council member seats are up for re-election this year along with the mayors position. I encourage you all to take stalk and ask yourself how you want to be involved. "Making Life Better," is a responsibility we all have through service to our community. You'll find details about how to go about the election process on page 6 of this newsletter. If you'd like to get involved by serving on a board or commission, please contact the Mayor's office at 435-734-6612.

Sincerely,



COUNCIL'S CORNER

Three elected official positions are opening this year. They are: two councilmember seats - Scott Erickson and Reese Jensen. The third position is for Mayor Lou Ann Christensen's seat. The filing period begins July 1 and ends July 15 at 5:00 pm.

To serve as an elected official is a great opportunity to give back to our community. It is an honor and a meaningful experience. Personally I have learned so much and have gotten to know a lot of wonderful people in our city.

Right now, as you know, the City Council and Mayor are working on facilitating space needs for the police, senior center, museum and city hall. I encourage all to participate in this project.

This is your city and money we are talking about and we need your input! Yes, we will use it. City Council Meetings are on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays of the month. Meetings begin at 7:00 pm and are held in the City Council Chambers located at 20 North Main Street (upstairs). Thank you. City Councilmember Ruth Jensen



Ruth Jensen

INDIVIDUAL EVERYDAY HERO EV MCKINSTRY

We, the undersigned, would like to nominate **Ev McKinstry** for Brigham City's Everyday Hero" award. In our opinion, Ev truly is a hero because of his service and dedication to the Box Elder Family Support Center (BEFSC) as well as service to many other organizations and people in Brigham City.

Ev has selflessly volunteered at the BEFSC since October 2003. Since the BEFSC is a non-profit organization, we aren't always able to afford to have things repaired by professional businesses and individuals. Thankfully, Ev is an awesome handyman. Whether it's fixing a leaking sprinkler, repairing the plumbing, installing a new set of shelves or whatever the need may be, Ev is there with a wrench and smile.

Ev comes to the Center on a regular basis and checks with the staff to see how things are going or just to share a joke. Ev McKinstry has been known to bring his trusty sidekick Henry to many of our events". He goes out of his way to make new staff members feel like part of the BEFSC Family. He has worked tirelessly as the chairman of the BEFSC's "Flamingo Fundraiser" putting in many hours (and lots of flaming legs) in order to make the fundraiser a success. Ev also donates more than just his time; sometimes it's a case of food, needed nursery items, or even monetary contributions.

One summer, Ev willingly took on the role as mentor to a wonderful young man with developmental challenges. Ev worked with him by bringing him to the BEFSC and teaching him yard and other helpful household maintenance skills. Ev made a huge impact in that young man's life. Ev's compassion impacted all of us at the center that summer.

Age doesn't stop Ev from helping and serving others. He is considered the "Church Grandpa" in his congregation. Ev takes meals to friends at the long-term care centers in town, and he is always ready to take on another project. He is eager to learn new skills and accepts challenges with enthusiasm

This past April, Ev was instrumental in raising over \$500.00 in donations for the BEFSC 5K Fun Run/Walk. This event was to raise money for our child abuse prevention efforts and raise awareness about the effects of child abuse. Ev was a good sport and even walked in the event.

Ev is a hero. Those who are fortunate enough to know Ev or work with him (like those of us at the BEFSC) have found our lives not only enriched but better because of Ev.

Thank you for this opportunity to nominate Ev McKinstry for Brigham City's Everyday Hero award. Nominated by: Katy Bonds, BEFSC Executive Director, Jill Scharrenberg, BEFSC Parent Advocate, Karrie Vincent, BEFSC Parenting Ed. Coordinator, Stacielee Musil, BEFSC Care Center Coordinator BEFSC Caregivers: Maria Escobedo, Office Manager, Eden Johnson, Wendy Lowry, Colleen Anderson, Kim Doung, Stephanie Millaway, Gloria Avilo, Rosie Ayala and Ashley Francis

TEAM EVERYDAY HERO MAYOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

The Mayor's Advisory Council on Aging is "My Everyday Hero". I can't think of a group more deserving of recognition or reward. Members are: **Ed Brightenburg (Chair), June Nelson, Nancy Green (Senior Center Director), Ken Wanlass, Joe Siggard, Noreen Randall, Karen Smoot, Ruth Jensen (Councilmember), Radene Morgan, Phil Reyes, D'On Jensen and Margaret Pounder.** This group meets monthly to oversee the operations of the Senior Center. They offer advice, direction, and encouragement while continuously seeking ways to raise funds for the continued delivery of meals on wheels. 2009 has been a phenomenal year so far and they are just getting started.

The 1st Annual Spring Variety Spectacular was an amazing success that brought together talent from throughout Box Elder County for an evening of family fun. Vice-chair June Nelson recruited the talent, organized practices, put together the order of events and arranged for the emcee. The rest of the board members worked Saturday mornings at local stores to sell tickets, seek donations and let people know about meals on wheels. This combined effort raised more than \$3,000 for meals on wheels and made our program eligible for matching funds from a national organization. Chair, Ed Brightenburg, also sits on the Box Elder Golden Spike Senior Services board and was busily helping them put together the annual murder mystery dinner theater during the same time period -another very successful event.

This amazing group is also "Aunty's™ Jam". Each year they pick and process apricots and peaches by the bushel to stir up delicious pots of old-fashioned peach, rosy peach and apricot pineapple jam. They bottle, process, label and market jars of this jam to help provide the funding necessary to provide meals to the homebound in our area. "Each jar sold provides one meal for the homebound elderly" is the marketing slogan that enables them to sell hundreds of bottles each year at bazaars, Peach Days, and fruit stands.

This group finds many other ways to be involved in the varied activities of the Senior Center. They help deliver meals on wheels, teach classes, call and visit shut-ins, take pictures and provide assistance any other way that they can. Each member of this board is an everyday hero.

Nominated by Nancy Green, Senior Center Director

Everyday Hero Nomination Form - Summer 2009

To nominate an individual and/or team, please complete this form along with a single page essay telling why you are nominating them.

Nomination Due Date: September 15, 2009

Nominee Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____

To be eligible Nominee(s) must be a resident(s) of Brigham City and working to make our community a better place to live.

Name of Individual Submitting Nomination: _____

Telephone #: _____

Return Form and essay to: sbrailsford@brighamcity.utah.gov or mail to: Sharon Brailsford, Mayor's Office, 20 No. Main, Brigham City UT 84302

Through our city newsletter, we are honoring one individual and one team, who we recognize as Brigham City's "Everyday Heroes." These citizens demonstrate their love of Brigham City through their actions. We recognize them because they are making a positive contribution to our community and are changing Brigham City's future one step at a time.

These Everyday Heroes spend countless hours in the service of others. Often their deeds go undiscovered. We will probably not see them on the evening news; however, their good deeds are noticed by others.

Brigham City is fortunate to have an abundance of Everyday Heroes. If you would like to nominate someone you feel deserves to be recognized for this award, please fill out the form on the left.

MAKING LIFE BETTER DAY

On May 20 at Rees Pioneer Park, Brigham City Corporation employees had a great opportunity to demonstrate what they do to make life better for our residents. Each City department/division had displays, examples, games and action events for the attendees. Approximately 800 elementary students from Bunder-son, Discovery, Foothill and Mountain View schools attended the event in the morning. The wonderful expressions on Thank You Cards from the students indicated that a good time was had by all. "Having fun while learning, there's nothing better!", said Discovery Elementary Principal Kim Lynch. Evening attendance was approximately 1200 citizens. Adults also expressed thanks for the event and found the evening informative and fun. The Making Life Better Day was a complete success. Plans are already being made to improve the event. If you have suggestions or comments, please contact the Mayor's Office at 734-6612.



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CITY PRIDE CLEANUP

A big thank you goes to the Neighborhood Pride Council, City staff, volunteers and the citizens for making the City Pride Cleanup a huge success. Neighborhood Pride Council members are **Stan Williams (Chair), Reed Burke, Dick Garvin, Bonnie Germer, Pat Williams and Tammy Reynolds**. Public Works employees contributed 149.5 man hours to monitor, clean up, and dispose of 1,130 tires, 261 of which were still on rims, 100 batteries, 26 refrigerators, and 107.9 tons of general garbage.

The Box Elder County landfill cooperated by allowing us to dump 44.9 tons (three days) free, for a savings of \$1,178.60. The total amount billed by the landfill for the additional 63 tons was \$1,653.75. Total amount taken to the landfill for the entire cleanup was 107.9 tons. 28.8 tons of scrap steel, 11 loads, went to Western Metal for which we were paid \$1,439.50. Les Schwab Tire Center took the tires without rims and batteries at no charge to the City. Bell-X101 took the refrigerators and charged us \$10 each to discharge the Freon for a total cost of \$260.

A citizen commented to one of the Neighborhood Pride Council members that they hoped the City Pride Cleanup continues every year and it would be nice to have it two times a year.

LIBRARY OFFERS WRITING GROUP

The Writing Group has been meeting for over a year. The group has had writing sessions, critiquing sessions, book discussions, and speakers. If you like to write come and join us! All writers are welcome; there are currently beginning writers as well as published writers participating in the group. The Writing Group meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. For more info, please call the Library and ask for Elizabeth at 723-5850.

SIMPLE STEPS TO CONTROLLING ENERGY COSTS

Keeping aware of energy consumption is one way to help lower our utility bill costs. With summer fast approaching and increasing power rates now and in the future, this is the time to do all we can to conserve energy resources.

National average costs of running an air conditioner range from \$2.50 to \$4.50 per day depending on the usage and settings of thermostats. Heating and cooling can account for 45% of a utility bill. For effective costs savings, thermostat settings should be higher in the summer and lower in the winter. Recommended thermostat setting in the summer is 78 degrees and 68 degrees in the winter. Every degree the thermostat is set higher in the summer months and lower in the winter months saves 3%.

One way to ensure our homes are running as efficiently as possible is to conduct a Home Energy Audit. These home energy audits are easy and can be found online at www.energysavers.gov/your_home/energy_audits. However, if preferred, citizens may request Brigham City Corporation's Energy Specialist, Tom Ammons, to make an onsite visit to accomplish this. He may be reached via email at tammons@brighamcity.utah.gov or by calling 435-734-6625.

Awareness of energy habits will go a long way in helping to reduce our utility bills. The use of programmable thermostats, sprinkler system timers, turning off lights and entertainment equipment, shorter showers, use of ceiling fans, etc., are all just a few suggestions. A few simple energy conservation steps really do make a difference!

20 YEARS CELEBRATED AT EAGLE MOUNTAIN GOLF COURSE

It comes as a surprise to many people to hear that the Eagle Mountain Golf Course is celebrating its 20th year. It seems like just a few years ago to many that the golf course was just being built. But, as the saying goes, "Time flies when you're having fun."

When you visit the golf course today you can see that it has grown in many ways. The trees are now big and pose problems for errant golf balls. The turf is very established, saving golfers from having to hit off bare ground and rocks that they saw the first couple of years. The maturity and beauty of the golf course are matched with the programs the golf course provides for the community. Eagle Mountain is known throughout the state for having one of the most elite junior golf programs. It also has large men's and ladies associations for the competitive golfers and instructional programs for adults that are just learning the game. The golf course has many charitable outings, tournaments and events that give back to our community.

If you are a beginner, expert, playing for recreation or for exercise, our golf course has something for you. As the golf course celebrates its "20 years of Fun," keep in mind a few specials that will continue to run through the end of September.

- On the 20th of every month, play all day with a cart for \$20.
- Mondays after 4:00 a family of four may play for \$20
- A 20 round heat of the day punch card is only \$100.

If you want to find out more information about the golf course or receive updates of specials, go to the golf course website at www.eaglemountaingc.com.



SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF SUMMER JUNE 1 THROUGH AUGUST 10

Are you looking for a way to entertain your family without breaking the bank? How about the Sights and Sounds of Summer! Brigham City Recreation has put together a program consisting of 29 events that are all FREE to attend. A complete list of events can be found on the city website at www.brighamcity.utah.gov and weekly in the Box Elder News and Journal.

For each event that you attend you may fill out a green ticket that enters you in a drawing that will be held on August 10th at our End of Summer Bash. That night will boast a concert from the Cadillac's, great prizes, awarding of the photo contest winners and a FREE family swim party. We would like to thank our sponsors: Alpine Transitional Rehabilitation Center, Autoliv and the Brigham City Area Chamber of Commerce for helping us make this summer event schedule possible.

SPOTLIGHT DEPARTMENT (Senior Center)

Department members are: Senior Center Director Nancy Green, Sarah Aldridge, Gary Baron, Iantha Folkman, Jean Johnson, Rocheal Redford, Gail Robinson, Fran Rollins, Angie Ruiz, Kathy Tolman, Patricia Vigil and Vickie Lynn Wright.

Brigham City Senior Center is "The Destination" for area seniors. This department of Brigham City Corporation provides a wide variety of services to ensure that Box Elder County is a caring place to grow old. They boast an on-site kitchen that prepares meals for delivery to the homebound and for participants in the daily congregate lunch. There are no fees to be a member of the Senior Center, just a desire to make new friends and improve your quality of life. Day trips to various locations are planned each month as well as a monthly trip to Wendover. Educational opportunities include Spanish classes, water colors, oil painting, computer training, and creative writing. Fitness classes include Tai Chi, Sit and Be Fit, Sit-n- Dance, Line Dance, Square Dance, Tap Dance, Arthritis Exercise, and open access to the Fitness Room. Opportunities to craft and create include ceramics, stamping, hand bell choir and scrap booking. Other services provided include Medicare Counseling, Alzheimer's Support Group, Grief Group and Caregiver's Comfort Club. Transportation is available Monday, Wednesday and Friday with a handicap accessible bus.

Volunteers are the back bone of the Center. Those interested in volunteering are always welcome and appreciated. More than 200 citizen volunteers delivered meals on wheels to 247 different homebound individuals in Federal Fiscal year 2007-08. These clients were the recipients of 35,526 meals. Almost 1,900 individuals attended 40,066 congregate lunches and enjoyed the programs provided. Over 335 volunteers provided more than 18,000 hours of service to the Senior Center.

Thanks to a \$75,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), we were able to install an elevator which makes access to the lower level of the community center much easier. This level has 2 pool tables for the enjoyment of the seniors, more bathrooms and an entrance to the museum.

Brigham City's 4th Annual Senior Health and Fitness day was held May 27th at Pioneer Park. More than 275 area seniors participated in a wide range of workshops and activities. Participants enjoyed presentations, lunch, the opportunity to fish, walk the Gold Medal Mile Walk, pitch horseshoes, play ladder golf, stamp greeting cards and make flowerpots. Vendor booths and health related services were also part of the day. This annual event is held the last Wednesday of May in conjunction with organizations throughout the United States to promote senior health and fitness. Plan to join us next year!

MUSEUM GALLERY FEATURING QUILT SHOW

Quilts can be viewed Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. The museum will be open July 4 and July 24. The facility is located at 24 North 300 West. The entrance is on the west side.

The sweep of talent in the Brigham City Museum-Gallery's Quilt Festival is enormous. Judith Tomlinson Trager, the festival's Featured Art Quilter, is a world-class quilter with 13 solo exhibitions since 1990. She has also curated 14 quilt shows in the past 20 years with five touring nationally. Trager is from Longmont, Colorado. The museum is also presenting works by four previous Featured Art Quilters: Marta Amundson, Riverton, Wyoming; Kazuko Covington, Irvine, California; Marilyn Fashbaugh, Clinton; and Jinny Lee Snow, Salt Lake City. In addition, pieces by quilters from Northern Utah will be on show.

The Quilt Festival continues through Aug. 1. Admission is free.



UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE SENIOR CENTER

July 10 - Annual Picnic in the Park - "Circus Days at Pioneer Park Bowery

Thursdays from 10:00-3:00 - New ceramic classes are being offered. Check the Senior Center website for dates of each class. New glaze techniques, specialty products and dry brushing are just a few of the classes that will be offered. The cost to seniors is only \$5 per month plus the purchase of your greenware or bisque. Evening classes will be offered to Brigham City residents of all ages in August. Contact Sarah at 723-3303 for more information.

The Senior Center is exploring the possibility of providing transportation to the Utah Symphony offerings at the Browning Center in Ogden for the upcoming season. If you would be interested in joining us, please contact Nancy at 723-3303.

PROACTIVE EFFORTS PREVENT FLOODING

We are pleased to report that we have made it through yet another year of spring runoff without any property damage. Over this past year several projects have been completed that have immensely helped us control the spring runoff collected throughout the Mantua drainage areas. The first project is a new and improved control structure at the head works in Mantua. This control structure allows us to control the amount of water that is diverted into Box Elder Creek and also to the Mantua reservoir. When the highest point of spring runoff occurs we are able to send most of the runoff to the reservoir and the rest to the creek. By splitting the flow to the creek and the reservoir we are able to better manage any flooding that may occur throughout Brigham City. (See picture below)



The second project was completed, with the use of grant monies for materials and the labor completed by Brigham City employees. This project allowed us to access the most vulnerable areas of Box Elder Creek and provide adequate flooding protection, and mitigation to these areas. The third project was the placement of instrumentation throughout Mantua and at the head of Box Elder creek where all the waters gather. This instrumentation allows us to monitor storm events, tributary flows, and reservoir water levels. This information will help us notify Brigham City employees and residents in advance to any flooding event. The fourth project was the strategic placement of snow measuring stations throughout the Mantua drainage areas. These snow stations were monitored closely to help us prepare the Mantua Reservoir water level to accommodate for the spring runoff.

We are extremely excited about these improvements and feel that we are now more than ever able to control and prevent flooding during this sensitive time of year. Special thanks goes to our Brigham City Emergency Service Director, the Brigham City Public Power Department, and the Brigham City Public Works Department who all worked hand in hand and countless hours to help protect, mitigate, and control all potential flooding throughout our community. 75 percent of the funding came from the NRCS with the additional 25 percent being covered by in-kind labor by City crews. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments regarding the Brigham City flood control efforts please contact us at 723-5273. We are happy to help in any way possible.

CARNEGIE PORTION OF BRIGHAM CITY LIBRARY TO RECEIVE SEISMIC UPGRADE

The pre-mitigation grant application has been submitted to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). \$690,000 has been set aside as a congressional earmark, thanks to Representative Rob Bishop. The Library will be funding \$175,000 as a match. Engineering and architectural work has been completed. All environmental testing has been completed and a letter of acceptance of the project has been received from Utah State Historical Preservation Office. FEMA will be out the week of July 21st for an onsite inspection of the project. Following this inspection, requests for proposals will be issued to contractors to do the work. Work will include removing the roof and reattaching the roof diaphragms in a more secure way. The walls will be core drilled and cement pillars will be installed to add stability to the outer walls. Minor work will be done to the inside book cases and ceiling/lights. The chimney will be reinforced to withstand earthquake movements that should occur. All work will be monitored by the State Historical Preservation Office to ensure that the original designs are maintained. It is planned to make the interior of the Carnegie Library portion to reflect the original time period. Then once the project is completed, the citizens will have a refurbished Library.

The project should be completed by November 2009. The public will have some displacement during this construction period. All work and time frames will be made available on the city's web site (www.brighamcity.utah.gov) to give as much notice to the public as possible.

ACADEMY SQUARE PROJECT A "JEWEL"

After many years of careful planning and preparation on the part of Brigham City and many of its residents, construction activity began on the Academy Square project in November of 2008. Phase 1 of this project includes seismic and structural stabilization, exterior renovation, roof reconstruction, and replacement of the elegant arch shaped windows. This work is nearing completion, and what was once an eyesore on Main Street is becoming a jewel.

Funding for the first phase of the Academy Square project was provided in the form of grants from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's Economic Development Initiative. These grants were secured through the efforts of Representative Rob Bishop and Senator Bob Bennett. Subsequent phases of the project, which will include interior rehabilitation, restoration of the historic ballroom, and a building extension to accommodate restrooms, heating and air conditioning, storage, etc., will be funded through grants and donations. The Academy Square Foundation, a private 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation, has already commenced its fundraising efforts. If you would like to contribute, call 435-734-9366. Upon completion, the Academy will become an important component of Brigham City's downtown revitalization efforts and will host dances, concerts, public meetings, conferences, receptions, and other events for which the space is appropriate.



BRIGHAM CITY'S ENERGY FUTURE-ESTABLISHING A POLICY FOR RENEWABLES

Brigham City Corporation needs to establish an energy policy that will guide the City into the future. The City needs to establish an electrical energy policy and plan to protect the advantages Brigham City Light and Power brings to its customers. Renewable energy resources are becoming increasingly available and need to be considered in meeting current needs and meeting increased capacity requirements brought on by growth. The policy should meet the needs of customers, keep the City in compliance with current regulations and address new energy regulations coming in the near future. Recently a report was written by Ben Boyce, Leisure Services Director that details the needs, reviewed the history of the City electrical system, the current power purchase contracts, impact of laws and legislation, climate change initiatives, and potential renewable energy resources that the City should investigate.

Recommendations of the report included the continued funding of the 20 Year Master Electrical Plan, development of appropriate zoning and land use planning ordinance to allow renewable energy development, conducting a feasibility on using natural gas for generation, determining the feasibility on powering City buildings with solar or wind generation, and most importantly the City engaging a professional energy consultant to evaluate the most fiscally responsive course of action to develop renewable energy capacity. That evaluation is funded in the new City Budget and should begin in the fall.

The energy policy of Brigham City is as critical an issue right now for City residents as the development of City water resources in Mantua was over 50 years ago. The course of action will affect Brigham City Light and Power's customers. The goal is for that effect to be positive in the long term and that the professional consultation will provide significant and sufficient data to chart the energy policy of the City for the next 50 years.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT TEAM "EXPANDING OUR FOOTPRINT"

On May 28, 50 members of our community, gathered together to inform, discuss, and plan how our community can continue to expand the prevention footprint by working together to help prevent youth problem behaviors. Dr. Carey Lloyd, chairperson of Brigham City's Youth Empowerment Team, facilitated the meeting. He stated one reason why focusing on preventing problems is a good idea; it saves money in the long run. He shared that Brigham City Hospital spent over \$100,000 on drug related emergency room cases for those under 21 in 2007 alone. This is just one example of the impact of unrecoverable costs to an organization. In addition researchers have conducted cost benefit analyses and have been able to determine that prevention costs less than treatment.

Craig PoVey, from Utah's Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, praised the Youth Empowerment Team for using this system to guide its decision making and its work to lower risk factors and raise protective factors for youth in Brigham to help prevent problem behaviors.

Some key elements of the Communities That Care approach are: (1) Coalition made up of people from our businesses, churches, schools, law enforcement, youth organizations, city leaders, as well as parents, grandparents, etc. working together. (2) Measuring our community's risk and protective factors. (3) Matching our risk and protective factors with proven prevention strategies and programs. (4) Focusing on measured outcomes (like, are fewer youth using drugs or participating in other harmful behaviors?).

"Expanding our footprint" to make a bigger impact by working together as a community to prevent problems and create a better community was the task of Elena Pearce Bear River Health Department Specialist. If you (or your business, organization, etc.) are interested in finding out more contact the Youth Empowerment Team coordinator, Elaine Williams, (435) 734-6647.

Pictured on right are: Denyehl Jones and Tifani Fisher with Discovery PTA give suggestions on expanding their collaboration with the Youth Empowerment Team.



POWER RATE INCREASES WILL BE PASSED ON TO CONSUMERS

Brigham City purchases approximately 73% of its energy from RMP and 22% of its energy from WAPA. The remaining 5% is produced through our own generators located in the mouth of Box Elder Canyon.

Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) recently increased the rate they are charging Brigham City for power by 3.44%. In the City Council meeting held May 7, 2009, the Council unanimously voted to pass 100% of the total rate increase received from RMP on to their electric power users. The decision was made after the City Council heard a presentation from staff members showing the projected cost of the rate increase and the projected costs to maintain the existing electrical grid system and complete critical projects outlined in the 20 year Master Plan showing \$14 million in needed electrical infrastructure improvements. Since we purchase 73% of our power from RMP, the rate increase totaled 2.44% or approximately \$2.01 per month for an average residential user. Users will see an increase in their June or July utility bill depending on the billing cycle. During a meeting in May 2009, the Public Utility Advisory Board supported passing this rate increase on to the users so the power system can be maintained and improved.

The City has entered into a Supplemental Service Agreement with PacificCorp. The service agreement stipulates that an additional rate increase of 5% will be assessed by RMP in June 2009. The City has also been notified by Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) that they will be raising their rates by up to 11% in October of 2009. The Council discussed the increases during their 2009/2010 budget meetings, and have budgeted the increases to be passed on to consumers during 2009. The RMP rate increase totals 3.65% or approximately \$3.00 per month for an average residential citizen, and the maximum WAPA rate increase totals 2.42% or approximately \$2.00 per month for an average residential citizen.

In previous years the City has increased electric rates by an amount equal to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in order to pay for increased costs of operations. The current year CPI was 3.8%. The City Council decided to increase the cost to customers by 3.32% or approximately \$2.72 per month for an average residential citizen. This increase was also supported by the Public Utilities Advisory Board during the May 2009 meeting.

The total increases between May and November of 2009 could be as high as 11.83% or approximately \$9.73 per month for an average utility user. Although energy rate increases are difficult for everyone, Brigham City is very fortunate that it is not purchasing power from the open market which can average nearly double our present costs.

COMMUTER RAIL STATION

Utah Transit Authority (UTA) has purchased property from the Box Elder School District at 200 S. for a future FrontRunner commuter rail station. This action comes after many years of work and study involving UTA, local government, and private individuals to improve the public transportation system in Box Elder County. Building on these efforts, Mayor Lou Ann Christensen established a Commuter Rail Task Force in 2005 with the task of studying commuter rail feasibility. This task force included public and private representatives from UTA, Box Elder County, Cache Valley Transit District, Brigham City, Tremonton, Perry, and Willard. The Task Force efforts led to the Transit Corridor Study which was completed in 2007 and recommended the 200 S. site as the future location of the commuter rail station in Brigham City. Reasons the 200 South 800 West location is the preferred site for the Station:

- UTA has purchased the site
- Best balance of commuter rail functions and needs
- Work and school trips are the largest ridership market groups
- Entertainment, medical, and other trips have a much lower percentage of the total trip purpose
- Balances outbound and inbound commuting
- Close to "center of gravity" of population, well placed to function as the hub of a regional transit network
- Easily accessible from throughout Box Elder County and Cache County
- SR 13 and Forest Street interchanges built and functional
- Multiple access routes from all directions
- Excellent access for snow plowing, maintenance, secondary emergency routes, etc.
- Transportation infrastructure in place and ready to go
- Adjacent to existing and planned industrial and other significant generators of ridership
- Reinforces County seat and accessibility of public services
- Reinforces community building efforts
- Vacant, developable land

In November of 2007, voters in Brigham City, Perry, and Willard overwhelmingly approved a .25% sales tax increase to begin funding commuter rail. In recent months, Brigham City has received support for the 200 S. station site from the Box Elder County Commission, Tremonton City, Bear River City, Brigham City Area Chamber of Commerce, Nucor Vulcraft Group, Autoliv, GEM Buildings, and other public and private entities. Current projections are that commuter rail will reach Brigham City between 2012 and 2015. Additional information on commuter rail can be found on the Brigham City website at <http://www.brighamcity.utah.gov/page.php?n=transit>.

\$100,000 AWARDED FOR ADA CURB CUTS

The city will receive \$100,000 for ADA compliant curb cuts from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. These funds will allow the city to install an estimated 75 to 90 ramps. This will greatly improve accessibility throughout the city to schools, churches, government buildings, parks and assisted living dwellings for the disabled and senior citizens. The project is anticipated to begin in summer 2009.

GOING GREEN! BRIGHAM CITY'S WEST FOREST GREENWASTE/COMPOST FACILITY

Brigham City's greenwaste/compost site located at 1650 W. Forest Street is a busy place! You may have noticed backhoes pushing dirt, loading bark into the back of a truck or people dropping off green-



waste. Crews are busy grinding, composting, screening top soil, leaf mulch, dairy compost, and biosolids compost.

At the site you can purchase sand, river rock both small and large, steel mill slag both small and large, chips fine and coarse, light and dark. Screened and unscreened top soil is also available for purchase.

What is acceptable at the greenwaste site? Trees, tree limbs, cleaned tree stumps, grass clippings, garden greenwaste, shrubs, and untreated wood (free of laminating, staining or paint). What are not acceptable are rocks or concrete. Recycle bins are also located at the site. These bins can accommodate any scrap steel, aluminum or cardboard. Refrigerators, dish washers, computers, styrofoam, or glass are not accepted at the recycle bins.

The community may bring greenwaste 24 hours a day. For added protection cameras are located at the site. Please be aware of what you are leaving as fines for illegal dumping begin at \$1000.

Brigham City staff is on site Wednesday through Saturday 8:30 am-5pm. Questions regarding greenwaste can be directed to the Wastewater Treatment Division at 435-723-3146 or if you have questions regarding the recycle bins you may contact our Street Division by calling 435-723-5278 and of course you may always check us out on the web at www.brighamcity.utah.gov.

PHOTO CONTEST

Calling all photographers! The Recreation Department is looking for great photos of recreation activities in Brigham City to feature on our new website, presentations and brochures. The contest is open to Brigham City residents, students, business people and recreation program participants who are amateur photographers. We are looking for pictures that show our city's unique character and beauty. If you like to take pictures, we invite you to submit your photos. Everyone that enters will receive a free pass to the Brigham City pool.

Class divisions are: 12 and under; 13 to 17 and 18 and over. Categories are: Recreation & Sports, Parks, Special Events, People in Public Places (NO photos may be taken at the Brigham City Pool)

You may submit up to 10 photos per person at the Recreation office by 5 pm by July 10th. Waivers and entry forms can be picked up at the Recreation Department (basement of City Hall) or downloaded from the city website at www.brighamcity.utah.gov.

UTILITY BILLING COLLECTION PROCEDURES HAVE CHANGED

In order to reduce the utility bill amounts being written off by the City due to non-payment and discourage habitual late payment by customers, the Brigham City Council recently approved changes to the utility billing and collection procedures. These changes will not affect customers who keep their bill current, but customers who are in the habit of paying their bill late will need to make adjustments. The primary changes made affect the timing of shutoff notices being sent to customers, and the deposit amount that return rental customers with a poor payment history will pay. Shut-off notices will be sent when an account becomes 30 days past due. The shut-off notices were previously sent at 60 days past due. Shut off notices will now be sent in the mail instead of being hand delivered.

The following is a summary of the changes that will be made to the City's collection procedures:

OLD POLICY

- When a bill was 60 days past due, a shut off notice was hand delivered to the customer.
- When a shut off notice was delivered, a customer had 48-hours to pay the delinquent amount or contact the City Office to make a payment arrangement.
- Courtesy contact was made when arriving to shut off. Customer was given the opportunity to call and make a payment arrangement. Check payments were accepted at the door.

NEW POLICY

- When a bill is 30 days past due, a shut off notice is sent via mail, Returned Service Requested. A \$10.00 tag fee is charged to the account.
- When a shut off notice is sent, a customer has 14 days to pay the delinquent amount. If not paid by the deadline, service will be shut off and restored only after payment is made IN FULL along with a \$50 reconnect fee. It may take up to 2 days to restore service. If shut off, payment must be made with cash or credit card. (No Checks)
- Once the Brigham City employee arrives at the door to shut off, a \$50 reconnect fee will be charged. No payments will be accepted at the door.

The City will continue to offer deferred payment arrangements to customers with good payment histories. The new procedures require a customer to be classified as a "Probationary Customer" if they have defaulted on a payment arrangement, or if their services have been shut-off due to non-payment. Probationary status will continue until customers have kept their bill current for 12 consecutive months. Any customer in a probationary status will not be allowed to defer payment or have their payment due date changed.

Additionally, if a return customer who terminated service while in a probationary status attempts to apply for new service, the amount they will need to deposit with the City will be raised from \$100 to \$300 or any previous billing amounts not paid by the customer that were sent to a collection agency, whichever is greater. The deposit amount for business/industrial return customers who terminated service while in a probationary status will be raised from \$500 to \$1,000 or any previous billing amounts not paid by the customer, whichever is greater.

UPDATE ON WATER AND SEWER LINE CONSTRUCTION TO PROCTER & GAMBLE PLANT

In the fall of 2007, Procter and Gamble announced the construction of their new plant located approximately 12 miles NW of Brigham City. Brigham City entered into an agreement to sell surplus culinary water and wastewater treatment to the P&G plant. This required that a 24 inch water line and a 16 inch sewer line be built from Brigham City to the P&G plant. The pipeline project was named the WAKEGAN pipeline after the name of one of the roads along the project route. Design was accomplished during the winter of 2008 and construction of the two lines began in July 2008. Construction on both the water and sewer lines has been completed from Brigham City to the P&G site. The funding for the project was obtained through a legislative grant and low interest loans from the State that will be paid for entirely (\$24 million) by the tax increment created by the value of the new plant and not Brigham City funds.

RECREATION ACTIVITIES

- **FLAG FOOTBALL** - Registration will be taken during the entire month of July at the Recreation Dept office located at 20 North Main. This co-rec league for youth in grades K-7th is a great way to learn the game of football. Fees for the league are \$25, players that need a blue and white sleeved reversible jersey can pick one up for \$15.
- **YOUTH VOLLEYBALL** - 6th-9th grade youth volleyball will start its third season this fall at the high school gym. Registration will be accepted during the month of July at the Recreation Office. League fees are \$30 which includes a team t-shirt.
- **ADULT SOFTBALL TOURNAMENTS** - End of summer brings adult tournaments to Brigham City.
- **FALL FRENZY** is a Co-Rec tournament to be held on August 28th & 29th the fee is \$195 which includes a two game guarantee. Registration is due at the Recreation office by August 21st.
- **PEACH DAYS MEN'S TOURNAMENT** - long time favorite that attracts teams from Utah, Idaho and Colorado. Registration is \$195 for this double elimination tournament. Don't delay this one fills fast!
- **2-PITCH TOURNAMENT** - September 18th and 19th. Fees are \$195 for a three game guarantee. City 2-pitch league will begin after our regular summer league ends; watch the local paper for league announcements.

Visit the City Web Site at
www.brighamcity.utah.gov

Please take the on-line survey
We want to know what you think.

ELECTION FILING PERIOD

This year there are openings for two four-year term Councilmember positions and a Mayor position. You must state which position you wish to file for at the time of filing. The filing period begins July 1 and ends July 15 at 5:00 p.m. Each person seeking to become a candidate for office must file a Declaration of Candidacy in person with the City Recorder at 20 North Main Street. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., excluding July 3. There is no filing fee. No applications can be received after 5:00 p.m. on July 15.

Qualifications for a candidate are:

1. Be a United States citizen.
2. Be at least 18 years old.
3. Be a resident of the municipality for at least 365 consecutive days immediately preceding the date of the election.
4. Be a registered voter of the municipality.
5. Cannot be a convicted felon.

If needed, the primary election will be held on Sept. 15. Early voting will be available at the Office of the City Recorder at City Hall, 20 North Main, September 1-14, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. excluding Labor Day. The general election will be held on November 3 with early voting October 20-30. A new requirement this year is that all voters must show picture ID. Those without picture ID will be turned away. Polling location for primary and general election will be USU Extension Office (old Fred Meyer building) at 195 West 1100 South.

Questions should be directed to Mary Kate Christensen, 734-6621.

NEW 3RD TRANSFORMER PURCHASED FOR EAST SUBSTATION

In keeping with the 20 year Master Plan for Public Power, a new 138/46kva auto transformer was purchased by Brigham City Corporation's Public Power Department. The slightly larger size will set a new standard for the ultimate replacement of the two existing transformers.

Because the City's electrical system is presently limited in capacity to accept large new loads it became necessary to purchase this new auto transformer. In addition, under a 3% electric growth rate scenario, the City will reach its transformation and transmission line capacity limit, under good engineering planning criteria, within the next four years.

Cost was \$1.1 million and the anticipated delivery date is September 1, 2009. Upon arrival of this equipment public power employees will install the transformer which will enhance the capabilities of expected growth within the City.



FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR NEW CITY HALL AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX

The Brigham City Council is currently studying the feasibility of constructing a new City Hall and Public Safety complex. The City has been studying space needs for about two years. MHTN architects was hired to review current facilities and staffing along with projected growth, and determine what the City will need to do in order to continue to provide the current level of service to the public. The results of this space needs study determined that there are significant unmet needs that can be addressed in a variety of ways. MHTN has worked closely with the Mayor, City Council, and staff to develop a conceptual plan, based on the space needs study.

No determination has been made whether to proceed with a new facility, and the City Council will be studying the issue in order to decide whether or not to proceed. The City recognizes that this is an issue that will need to receive thorough public review and input. Lower construction costs have currently created a window of opportunity in which it is anticipated that the project can be constructed for about 60% of the cost of the same facility two years ago. It is anticipated that construction prices will rise again as the economy recovers, and this window of opportunity will close. If the decision is made to move forward, the City Council is committed to proceeding within current budgets and in a way that will not necessitate a tax increase or general obligation bond. Please watch the News & Journal for more information.

ARE YOU ON THE REVERSE 9-1-1 LIST?

Brigham City is able to take advantage of the City Watch Reverse 9-1-1 program to alert its residents of an emergency situation. In order for that to work, your phone number must be in the Qwest phone directory. Twice a year, the systems database is upgraded with new phone numbers and this is based upon what Qwest has in their database.

If you have recently switched to another service or have voice over IP through one of the providers, you are not listed in the City Watch data base. But you can be, it's very simple, call Brigham City Emergency Services at 723-4071 and give them your phone number and it will be added to the directory. The Reverse 9-1-1 can only be used for alert notification in an emergency situation where critical information must be relayed to you. It cannot be used for commercial notifications and the numbers are kept confidential. The system can only be authorized to be used by senior law enforcement, fire or emergency management personnel.

If you have questions, please give the Emergency Services Department a call at 723-4071 and they can answer your questions.

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY SCHEDULED IN LATE SEPTEMBER



The academy exposes citizens in our community to a 36 hour training event which includes crime scene processing, domestic violence investigation, fire arms safety, drug investigations, K-9 detector and patrol dog, crime prevention and traffic enforcement. Students learn about the duties and abilities of our Police Department. Participants who graduate the academy are invited to join the Citizens On Patrol (C.O.P.) who are a very active group within the Volunteers in Police Service. C.O.P. assists with special events in Brigham City such as Peach Days, 4th of July Celebration, Competitive sports events at BEHS and other special duties as needed. For more information visit our website at www.brighamcity.utah.gov or call the Brigham City Police Department at 734-6650.

"My husband and I took these classes together, it was the best "date night" we have had. We learned so much about what the officers have to go through every day to do their jobs. It gave us a chance to meet the officers as 'people'. We also learned a lot about the laws and how the courts work, how when a 911 call comes in the officers respond and when they get to the call how they handle some of the different and sometimes difficult situations; how they have to be ready for anything. We had a lot of respect for the officers before we took this class but now we have a much greater appreciation for them and what they do for our community. This was a very fun but educational class. We loved it!!" said Suzanne.



INFANT MEMORIAL GARDEN AT BRIGHAM CITY CEMETERY

The Brigham City Cemetery is pleased to announce the completion of the Infant Memorial Garden, located on the east end of Center Street. This special area is designated for infant burials only and is a place for the parents and other family members to heal from their loss. The statue, depicting a mother with her child, was designed by Hildreth, a Utah sculptor. We encourage people to come up and sit on the granite benches and feel the serenity of the area. The garden will be colorful throughout the growing season with perennials blooming continually.

The entrance to the Cemetery on 300 South and 300 East will be closed for renovation this summer. We will be widening the entrance to make it safer and will include a new sign marking the main entrance into the Cemetery. We apologize for any inconvenience this construction may cause, and encourage visitors to use other entrances on 400 East, 500 East, and 300 East and 400 South.

utopia™

CHOOSE • CONNECT • EXPLORE

SIGN UP NOW!!

After many years of work on the part of local governments, organizations, and individuals, UTOPIA (Utah Telecommunication Open Infrastructure Agency) is in its final stages of work to deploy a fiber optic telecommunication network to homes and businesses in Brigham City.

UTOPIA is an open access network, meaning that each home can have a dedicated fiber optic connection with the choice of several private companies competing to provide internet, phone, and video services over that connection. Competition will push prices lower and drive innovation in services and quality.

Brigham City has already made a significant commitment to the network, and we now have the chance to complete this infrastructure investment. Approximately 40% of the network is currently in place and service is available to limited portions of the City. If enough residents and businesses sign up to receive services, the network will be deployed to the remainder of the City this fall. **We must have 37% sign up by July 30.**

One of our local businesses located in the North West area, GEM Buildings, has been connected to the UTOPIA infrastructure for approximately a month. Clint Egli, GEM Buildings IT Administrator said, "I had looked forward to UTOPIA with great anticipation, now that it is finally here, it has not disappointed us. I have been very pleased with the speed of our connection and at the considerable cost savings over a T1. At GEM, we transfer a lot of files; what took hours before, now only takes minutes."

UTOPIA has representatives working door to door in Brigham City, and the UTOPIA "mobile command center" will be located at Rees Pioneer Park each Saturday through the end of July. Information on the network, its capabilities, and the process for signing up for services can also be obtained by emailing service@utopianet.org.

Hugh Matheson of the marketing firm Network Community Services commented at a lunch meeting in December to the chairman of the Utah Taxpayers Association that it was probable the pledges made by UTOPIA members for sales tax revenue would probably be called in. "From the point of view of individual taxpayers, the only good way out of this situation is for UTOPIA to succeed," Matheson said. "To me and every city official I've talked to, the choice is clear; make the network work. Let Brigham City and other UTOPIA cities enjoy the individual and community benefits that will result from an open market for true broadband services. Build a large enough subscriber base to cover the bond payments and make UTOPIA thrive."

One of our local residents said, "I have worked in the electronics business since 1959 and know the capabilities of fiber optics. The City is offering fiber light wave speed through the UTOPIA highway for a minimal cost of no more than \$25.00 per month. Competition from the service providers offering voice, video and data on UTOPIA's highway will ensure the lowest costs to us all. This is key to Brigham City's success and our community's future."

JOIN WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS FOR NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME

On August 4th the Police Department will be hosting the Night Out Against Crime. This event is held at the Lincoln Center with the Boys and Girls Club as co sponsors. Booths will be set up by community service groups to distribute information on crime prevention, substance abuse, anti violence information and other support programs available to our citizens.

