

Cottonwood Heights, UT
February 2017 • FREE

NEWSLETTER

www.ch.utah.gov

Heading in the Right Direction

By Councilmember J. Scott Bracken



At a recent neighbor's funeral, many comments and anecdotes were conveyed about the good things he had done over his lifetime. Helping

discussion about why things are the way they are, or an explanation behind the decision-making process helps considerably. When I don't know an answer off the top of my head, there is a great staff at the city that can help find the answer.

family, visiting neighbors, using personal skills to help others, keeping a clean yard and clear sidewalk - the very things that make our neighborhoods and community a place where we feel at home. We shop, play, talk, and interact with a myriad of people every week - and despite our differences, we typically share that desire to make our homes and communities the best they can be.



A couple months ago, the city conducted a community survey. I took a few minutes to review comments and suggestions that were made. As has been previously reported, the overall feeling in Cottonwood Heights is that the city is going in the right direction, with four times as many agreeing with that statement as those who disagreed. Similarly, it was gratifying to note that 75 percent of respondents approved of how the mayor and council were handling their responsibilities. I take those responsibilities seriously as they are something that I can do to make our city the best it can be.

As I read through many of the comments/concerns expressed by survey respondents, I noted a few places where a bit more information or background would have probably resolved the stated concern. I would like to tackle a couple of them here.

Our new city hall is beautiful, but there was some misconception that the city may have exercised condemnation powers (eminent domain) to acquire the land. This is simply not true. Each of the property owners negotiated in good faith with a third-party agent (to avoid influence in knowing that the city was the ultimate purchaser) to a mutually agreeable sales contract. Another concern was that such a building would significantly impact traffic at the high school, or on Bengal Boulevard and 2300 East. Bengal usually accommodates about 10,000 car trips per day, and the traffic engineer's estimate for an office building of the size/type of city hall shows the impact to be approximately 300-400 extra car trips per day - including police activities.

One of my key responsibilities is answering the questions and concerns of citizens. This can happen virtually anywhere or at any time - shopping, walking, playing, worshipping, and answering the phone or email. I appreciate people taking the time to ask a question or tell me what they think about what the city is doing. I find that in most cases where a complaint or concern is the issue, a short

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Upcoming Cottonwood Heights Events

Feb. 1	Planning Commission Meeting – 6 p.m. – City Hall – 2277 E. Bengal Blvd.
Feb. 20	President's Day (City Offices Closed)
Feb. 20	Photo Contest Entries Due
March 1-31	Photo Contest Display @ City Hall – 2277 E. Bengal Blvd.
March 1	Photo Contest Open House – 2277 E. Bengal Blvd. – 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
April 15	Easter Egg Hunt – Butler Park - 7500 S. 2700 East (more details later)
April 25-27	"Annie" Auditions – City Hall – 2277 E. Bengal Blvd. (more details below)



Annie Auditions Set

Annie auditions will be held April 25-27th, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Cast hopefuls are expected to be dressed in something they can dance in, and come prepared to sing 16-30 bars in a similar musical style to Annie. We ask that no songs from Annie be sung for auditions.

Auditions will be held at City Hall. More information will be available at Arts.ch.utah.gov. ■

Power Pole Art

Cottonwood Heights Arts Council wants to create a pathway of art on the power poles that currently line Fort Union Blvd. This is a contest for artists or groups of artists in the state of Utah to be chosen to paint one pole with the possibility of painting up to three poles. Each power pole will be painted from the ground height up to 6 feet with various styles of painting. There will be a \$1,000 award for the people's choice award.

Artists are asked to submit images of the types of art they would create for the power pole. Artists may apply for up to three poles. Submit art with entry form to artscouncilchair@ch.utah.gov (entry form will be available on Arts.ch.utah.gov). ■



Photo Contest Deadline

Photo Contest entries are due Feb. 24 by 6 p.m. The artist meet-and-greet with public open house will be March 4, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Awards will be given out at the reception starting at 5 p.m. ■

History Question of the Month

Who was one of the first people to homestead the area known as Poverty Flats?

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Heading in the Right Direction, *continued from cover*

We added pull-out and street parking to help traffic flow at peak times (school drop off and pick up).

A number of comments also suggested that

banquets, celebrations, or whatever. The city uses it for training, the holiday and volunteer activities, and it will serve as the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) if the need arises.

Other comments dealt with law enforcement. The overall sentiment was very

area, our property tax assessment for police services would be \$6.2 million (service area tax rate 2016: 0.001925 x CH taxable value - \$3.2 billion). Chief Robby Russo and the CHPD administration work hard to keep costs down and service levels up.

"...Despite our differences, we typically share [a] desire to make our homes and communities the best they can be."

the costs of building our own city hall were excessive. As with home ownership, initial costs are always higher, but over time will be much less than renting space, as the bonds (mortgage) can be paid off, while rent goes on (and up!) forever. We worked hard to contain costs and reduce them wherever possible. In December, Layton Construction even brought us a \$15,000 rebate check because we worked with them to bring the final cost in under the guaranteed maximum price (see below). City Manager John Park and Assistant City Manager Bryce Haderlie deserve a lot of credit for keeping building costs down.

One of the primary objectives for the new building was to create a community gathering space. The public areas of the building are available to citizens to use for meetings,

much in favor of our police department. Their response times are the best in the county – averaging 4.19 minutes for Priority 1 calls. Even four minutes feels like a long time if you are in an emergency situation, so having someone there quickly is imperative. Also, our lower priority calls receive response times to well under 10 minutes. The officers I talk to like to work in Cottonwood Heights. They like the atmosphere and the leadership.

However, there were still a number of people who claimed that such excellent service was unnecessarily expensive, or that other service providers would be cheaper or better. A quick bit of research found that not to be true at all. Our police budget for this year is roughly \$5.4 million (CH 2016-2017 CAFR), while if we were part of the UPD Service

The top issue, according to the survey respondents, is growth – and how we handle it. This is always an area that generates diverse opinions. Should we limit commercial growth or should we focus on it? Should we allow higher density residential housing or keep things as is? How do we plan for the future and ensure the growth that will happen is integrated into what we want our city to be?

We are actively engaged in many long-term planning groups (like Envision Utah) and studies for the long-term Ft. Union plan. The amount of public input and the willingness of citizens to participate in those groups/studies is always appreciated – and typically higher involvement than in other communities.

I very much appreciate the engagement of our citizens. I look at the opportunity to serve, interact, educate, be educated, and to understand what my neighbors want for our city as a benefit of being a council member. I hope it will be remembered someday as part of my contribution to my neighborhood and the city I call home. ■

To the Library!

A love of reading and books starts with pictures, stories and rhymes which even the youngest child can enjoy.

"Take Your Child to The Library Day" is slated for Feb. 4. It's a great excuse to swing by for story time, which begins at 2 p.m. Children can enjoy crafts and other activities all day.

Whatever the age of your child, you will be given a warm welcome. Gone are the

days when libraries were dreary silent places patrolled by grumpy staff. There are special areas for children with bright displays, easy-to-access books and comfortable seating. Nobody will expect your child to remain silent, so no need to worry. Getting a library card is a simple process and the staff are friendly and helpful.

The event is a wonderful way for people in our community to learn about early literacy



programs, educational resources and fun

events that our librarians provide for free every day of the year. The staff will even advise on books for homework assignments, which is good news for any busy parent. ■

New City Hall Comes in Under Budget

Representatives from Layton Construction presented a check to the city, representing \$15,000 in savings from the money budgeted to build the new city hall. Layton Construction partnered with city staff and GSBS Architects to find ways to save money on the project. Construction was completed on the new building in August 2016. ■



Plowing the Plan

By Bryce Haderlie



As Cottonwood Heights continues our first year of snow plowing, we want to thank the citizens for their support and encouragement. While the crews continue to work on improving the service, there are a few items that bear repeating to make snow plowing a united effort.

The Plan - Crews are following the same plan that Salt Lake County used prior to 2013 only with more trucks than before. This plan is managed by Superintendent Danny Martinez who spent 18 years as the county supervisor for Millcreek, Cottonwood Heights and surrounding areas. The plan will be modified during high volume storms to keep main roads, hills and bus routes open. This may mean that lower elevations and cul-de-sacs can get snow packed. The initial goal is to have a plowed road within one to two streets from each home regardless of the volume of the snow. All trucks are tracked with a GPS system that allows supervisors to check and see when and how often a road was plowed.

Snow Packed Roads - Clearing snow packed roads may take longer during cold or cloudy weather. A snow packed street can still be traveled on with proper tires on the vehicle and drivers using caution. The trucks may only be able to remove the top layer of snow when roads are snow packed or they may not have a plow down when salting so that they don't push the salt off. The salt, works its way through the snow pack through chemical action as well as by vehicles driving on the street. Some complain that roads aren't plowed when the once packed snow now appears to be 4 or 5 inches of slush. The slush is pushed off and the process continues until the roads are cleared.

Calling the Snow Plow Line - You can call 801-944-7071 or email snowevent@ch.utah.gov to report an unsafe condition or if you feel a street was missed after a storm has ended. Emergencies should be reported to 911. Trucks will stay on the route to ensure efficiency and

safety. Calling the hotline won't get a plow there sooner, or get a truck diverted to clear a street for a party, gathering, etc. However, all calls and emails are reviewed and followed up on as well as reviewed in post storm debriefing to help improve service.

Citizens Can Help - The biggest challenges hampering snow plow efforts are cars parked on the street, blowing or pushing snow into the street, low hanging branches or items blocking the street. Often parked cars make it impossible to enter some areas, especially cul-de-sacs. While plows are only able to push snow to the side of the road and into open areas in cul-de-sacs, they try not to pile snow in front of mailboxes or driveways if at all possible.

Our Many Thanks - We appreciate those who have communicated with staff and our drivers. The positive emails, waves, and thumbs up inspire us to do better. This is a united effort that we know will only get better as we work together and stick to the plan. ■



Thank You, Officer Galieti!

He's a familiar face to thousands of kids in Cottonwood Heights, and Officer Michael Galieti has been a part of the Cottonwood Heights Police Department since its inception. He's also been the D.A.R.E. officer at our schools for several years, where he's taught kids the importance of resisting the temptations of drugs, alcohol, tobacco

use and bullying. There's a good chance that if you asked any child who attended elementary school in Cottonwood Heights, they'd know Galieti and consider him a friend.

Galieti held his final D.A.R.E. graduation ceremonies in early January, just prior to his retirement from the CHPD. A retirement party was held in his honor at City Hall on Jan. 13.



Galieti has been a police officer in Utah since 1999, and has served with distinction ever since. He's moving on to complete a Ph. D. in organizational management.

We will miss Officer Galieti, and wish him well in his new endeavors. ■

Make February "Security Camera" Month

By Stan Rosenzweig

February is cause for much celebration. There's Groundhog Day, President's Day, Valentine's Day, Mardi Gras and Superbowl Sunday. Also, there are dozens of lesser-known days, such as National Freedom Day, Boy Scout Day, Feed the Birds Day and even Thank a Mailman Day.

Since there never has been a problem adding new recognition days in February, I'd like to propose a new one. I call it "I Finally Got Those Security Cameras Installed Day." Cottonwood Heights residents can join the thousands who've already improved home security by installing video cameras around their home perimeters. Installing them in your home not only prevents crime from happening, but even when bad guys are oblivious to your prevention efforts,

your cameras will help law enforcement bring perpetrators to justice and perhaps recover stolen items.

We have all become accustomed to watching the evening news when crimes are being recorded as they occur. These real-time videos help officers catch and identify thieves more easily than before. When they break into homes or cars to steal valuables, or unguarded credit card numbers and passwords, video images help us fight back.

If you're a "do-it-yourselfer," there are numerous camera systems available at many local retailers, including Best Buy, Home Depot, Lowes, Walmart, Costco and most big box stores, as well as online at Amazon or eBay. If you prefer to have professionals to do the installation, and/or

you'd like 24/7 central station monitoring, ADT, Vivint and many local firms are available and only a phone call away. In fact, with so many choices, there aren't any good reasons not to provide yourself with the modern comfort of video security this month.

So, make February your month to fortify your home against intruders with a new video camera system. You'll sleep better, those bad actors will think twice about giving you trouble, and, if everyone around you does the same, you will have wall-to-wall video surveillance throughout your neighborhood.

Let your new security cameras help you stay aware and enjoy a safer 2017. ■



How Has JRI Affected Crime in Cottonwood Heights?

By CHPD Chief Robby Russo



In 2014, the Utah Legislature passed the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI), which promised to reduce prison and jail overcrowding for those affected by substance abuse and mental illness. The approach was to use evidence-based data to target individuals who shouldn't be locked up for being mentally ill or drug addicts and funnel them into treatment programs.

The initiative seeks to make sentencing more fair and increase opportunities for treatment to reduce stress on bulging prisons and jails. It also reduces the penalties for certain drug crimes. In theory, law enforcement would bring people to jail where mental health and substance professionals would screen them and keep violent offenders in jail while deferring others into treatment programs.

Although law enforcement lobbied against the legislation, this seemed like a great idea with proponents touting, "We are not getting soft on crime but getting tough on criminals." The problem came when the Medicaid expansion and Healthy Utah plans failed, which would have funded the program. If the Legislature would have passed Medicaid expansion or Healthy Utah, many more people currently in jail would be eligible for coverage. In fact, Medicaid expansion in the Salt Lake County Jail alone would go from approximately 20 percent being Medicaid eligible to 87 percent Medicaid eligible.

Utah's JRI doesn't work as it was intended, and has created more crime without sufficient funding for mental health treatment and

drug rehab for offenders. One of the key components of JRI was to reclassify drug offenses for heroin, methamphetamine and cocaine to misdemeanors, thus making it a county problem instead of a state issue.

Since the imposition of the legislation, the Salt Lake County jail has imposed misdemeanor booking restrictions, which means prisoners are refused at the door. Prior to JRI, the jail turned away 625 misdemeanor prisoners a year. Last year, the jail refused 7,900 people at the door, leaving criminals to roam free.

That number doesn't even accurately represent the problem, since law enforcement realizes defendants will be refused on misdemeanor charges. Police departments are not willing to expend the resources when offender are simply turned away. Consequently, crime goes up and arrests go down.

This is mainly a Salt Lake County problem, since the county jail houses more than 40 percent of the offender population. Other counties are still accepting misdemeanor prisoners, but the state and the JRI have effectively de-criminalized hard illicit drugs in the midst of an upward-trending opiate/opioid epidemic. If officers can't book offenders, or serve a subsequent warrant after the defendant fails to appear, there are no consequences.

It's difficult to assign the targeted population to programs where no funding exists, but if the vulnerable population we want to put in alternative programs can't be assessed, how effective is the program? It leaves one to wonder what happens when we let criminals go virtually unchallenged. Offenders often

escalate their behavior, which is evidenced in the higher crime rates for 2016.

What does this look like in Cottonwood Heights? You may remember the panhandler on the I-215/Highland Drive off-ramp. After receiving numerous complaints, officers attempted to arrest the man and get him into mental health and substance programs, yet we couldn't get him into jail. After several attempts and charges, the man eventually overdosed and died.

Another man, a sexual predator who lives in our city has been charged with forcible (misdemeanor) sexual abuse for stalking and performing lewd acts directed at professional women in our community. We have attempted booking him, only to be turned away because of jail restrictions caused by JRI. He will more than likely remain in the neighborhood until he escalates his behavior into a felony.

During the holidays, we had a lot of package thefts from porches committed by offenders later arrested for felony crimes. Ironically, they were already wanted on misdemeanor crimes the jail wouldn't take.

The JRI, although well intended, has failed, and I would argue it has made our community more dangerous. The 2017 Legislature will have some difficult challenges this session as they consider options and alternatives. I'm afraid the problem will continue to grow without some action by the 2017 Legislature, and I encourage them to look closely at their options. ■



CHPD Hosts Citizens Academy

In an effort to educate and connect with the great people of our city, the Cottonwood Heights Police Department offers a special training course called the "Citizens Police Academy."

The program's intent is to allow citizens to gain a better understanding of how and why police officers do their jobs.

The academy will provide insight into police operations, procedures and build better relationships between the public and the CHPD officers.

Attendees will learn about the legal system, firearms along with the use of deadly force, S.W.A.T., K-9, patrol/traffic/DUI tactics, criminal investigation, evidence collection, domestic violence, gangs and narcotics.

This 10-week program will be a combination of classroom and hands-on experiences and tours. All classes will be taught by CHPD officers. The 2017 Citizens Academy will take place from February 22 to April 26 and will be held every Wednesday from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

There is limited space for those who wish to



attend the academy, but if you are interested in joining, please contact Liz Jones at ljones@ch.utah.gov or call 801-944-7100. ■



CH Student Profiles

An Olympic-sized Pep Talk from Former BHS Swimmer



Few swimmers enjoy as meteoric of a career as Brighton High's Long Gutierrez. After breaking 50 individual Utah swimming records, the 16-time prep All-American was recruited to swim on a scholarship for the Cal Golden Bears. This past summer, he realized his dream of swimming in the Olympic Games. But in a pep talk to BHS swimmers while home on winter break, Gutierrez confided that to reach those heights, he had to push through some low points when he doubted himself and considered hanging up his goggles for good. Gutierrez credited BHS Coach Todd Etherington for helping him through those doubts. Etherington started working with Gutierrez when he was about 10 years old. Gutierrez told the young swimmer that it takes training, desire and attention to details to be a winner, and that the same is true for academics. Swimming can open doors, as it has for Gutierrez who enrolled at Cal with a 3.8 GPA where he is studying bioengineering. "Just believe in yourself," he said. "If you think you can do better, you can." ■

Flipping School Lunch: 'Play Before Eat'

Anyone who follows education has probably heard of flipping the classroom, a model that entails having students watch video lectures at home so that they can use classroom time for discussion or group projects. But Canyon View Elementary is taking things a step farther and flipping school lunch — joining a small, but growing number of schools that are sending kids off to the playground before inviting them inside to eat. At Canyon View, the practice has cut food waste in half, because kids work up an appetite and no longer feel rushed to get outside and play, said Principal BJ Weller. "We've found it very beneficial to our students. We're seeing fewer health complaints. They have more energy and seem more focused and willing to learn." Research also has shown that students attending schools with "reverse lunch" schedules make healthier food choices. One study found a 54 percent increase in fruit and vegetable consumption. ■

As Their Garden Grows

With neighborhoods still blanketed in snow, it may seem a little early to be plotting that summer garden. But as the saying goes, we reap what we sow — and Canyon View parents hope with a school garden to cultivate a new crop of educational opportunities. Everything is planned, but help is needed from community members and licensed and insured contractors who are willing to invest their time, resources and knowledge to ensure that the garden meets code and safety requirements. School gardens have been shown to improve eating habits, improve test scores, fight childhood obesity and promote physical activity. Organizers say the gardens are also a great resource for educating children in science and nutrition.

Anyone interested in contributing is encouraged to contact Marianne Zenger at: zengermare@hotmail.com or 801-673-9598. ■



COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS RECREATION CENTER

CHRC News & Events

Apply Now

Are you looking for a fun job with incredible perks (including a FREE Membership)?

We're looking for Customer Service Representatives.

Download an application at www.cottonwoodheights.com.

Sweetheart Skate

Bring your sweetheart (or friends) to our Sweetheart Skate!

On Friday,

February 10 we'll be offering a "2 for 1" Skating Admission from 7pm-9pm.

What's happening in Aquatics

Swim Lessons

Registration is going on now for our Winter Swim Lessons.

Register online at activityreg.com or visit www.cottonwoodheights.com for more details.

Boy Scouts

Swimming Merit Badge

Feb. 4, 10am-1pm

Lifesaving Merit Badge

Feb. 11, 10am-1pm

C.P.R.

Feb. 8, 5:30pm-7pm

Pre-Comp Dates

Session 2: Feb. 6-March 2

Tryouts: Friday, Feb. 3 at 4pm

What's happening in Programs

Flag Football

Register now for our Spring Session of Youth Flag Football. This league is for everyone, grades 1-6 and will begin

April 1. Register in-person

or online at www.activityreg.com

Registration Deadline: March 26.

Sports of all Sorts

This one is for the youngins' and is specifically geared towards 4-6 & 7-9 year olds.

It's a great way to keep children active as they are led through organized sports activities.

Wednesdays: 4pm-4:45pm

\$2.00/class or free for CHRC Ultimate Members

Officer Mann Honored by NAACP



CHPD Officer Mathew Mann was honored by the Utah Chapter of the NAACP with a “First

Responder” award during a ceremony on Martin Luther King Jr. Day in January.

Mann has been with CHPD for three years, and previously played football for Utah State University. Mann has also been assigned to work as a resource officer at Brighton High School.

Congratulations, Officer Mann. Cottonwood Heights is proud of your service to our community. ■

City Council Members

- MAYOR** - Kelyn H. Cullimore, Jr.
- DIST# 1** - Michael L. Shelton
- DIST# 2** - J. Scott Bracken
- DIST# 3** - Michael J. Peterson
- DIST# 4** - Tee W. Tyler
- CITY MANAGER** - John Park

City Office

2277 E. Bengal Blvd
 Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121
 Phone(801) 944-7000
 Fax.....(801) 944-7006

Numbers to Know

Emergency.....911
 Dispatch840-4000
 Fire Authority743-7100
 Animal Control840-4000
 Justice Court.....273-9731

Call Direct

City Manager944-7010
 City Planning944-7065
 Public Works944-7090
 Recorder944-7021
 Finance Director.....944-7012
 Code Enforcement.....944-7095
 Police Administration.....944-7100

City Council Meetings.

Feb. 7 - Work Session 6 p.m.,
 Business Meeting 7 p.m.
(Work session reconvenes after business meeting.)
Feb. 14 - (No Meeting)
Feb. 21 - (Budget Retreat) 6 p.m.
Feb. 28 - Work Session 6 p.m.,
 Business Meeting 7 p.m.
(Work session reconvenes after business meeting.)

Agendas are posted 24 hours in advance of public meetings. For details about the agendas, go to our website: www.ch.utah.gov

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Answer

Question, continued from page 2

Daniel Freeman was born to Nathan Bankhead and Rose Wales Crosby, circa 1854 in Union, Utah. It is said that he was the first African-American baby born after the slaves who came to Utah with Mississippi Saints in 1848 were given their freedom (thus, the name, Daniel “Freeman” was used throughout his life). In the 1870s, Daniel obtained a 160-acre land grant that included the property from about 1500 east to 2300 east and 7000 south to 7200 south. This was part of the area referred to as “Poverty Flats” by the people living in Union and the surrounding communities because

the land was a huge sand bar left by the receding waters of Lake Bonneville and had no easy access to water. Consequently, it was almost impossible for anything to grow there.

When Daniel Freeman first settled on his homestead, there was a two-room adobe house on the property, located near the Stelter property today. No one knows who lived there or how long they stayed, but we do know that Freeman used the building to store his crops. Residents who settled in the area in the early 1900s remember a really small old house and the remains of an orchard near where Target is today. It is strongly suspected that this was where Daniel Freeman lived. Daniel Freeman eventually sold off all of his property and sometime prior to 1900, moved to Corrine, Utah, where he lived until he died. ■

Business Spotlight

Insight Strategic Communications

801-503-6404

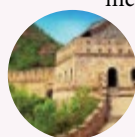
Insight Strategic Communications is the partnership of two of Utah’s best-known professional communicators. Bruce Lindsay and Don Olsen bring insight from decades of experience in media, business, government and politics. They help clients craft their business, organizational or personal identities in the public square and give them necessary tools to speak to key audiences with a clear, persuasive voice. Insight’s consulting services span strategic messaging, branding, marketing, media training, presentation training, and crisis communication. For more info, visit www.insightstrategiccomms.com ■



Shanghai Spring Tour

2825 E. Cottonwood Pkwy. #537 | 801-990-3186

Traveling to China has never been easier! Spring Tour in Cottonwood Heights is a leading travel organization offering tours of China designed to meet your travel needs. Whether it’s business, pleasure, education, culinary, historic or art related, Jimmy Deng at Spring Tour can create the experience of a lifetime. Visit the Great Wall of China, journey along the ancient Silk Road by train or navigate the Yangtze River on a cruise tour. Give Jimmy a call at 801-990-3186 or visit www.wechatravel.com to get started today! ■





CH Community and Economic Development: The Year in Review

In 2016, the Cottonwood Heights Community and Economic Development Department handled a wide range of planning, zoning and business topics. As the city continues to grow, the department issued more building permits than ever before, playing a key role in the development of numerous properties in the city.

At the beginning of 2016, the CH City Council approved a new Planned Development District (PDD). This ordinance encourages mixed-use development in properties near the Wasatch Boulevard Gravel Pit and at select areas along Fort Union Boulevard.

The PDD promotes efficient use of land and public services by allowing projects that enhance the city's economic development and create a balanced community with residential, business, commercial and recreational uses.

Another accomplishment was the completion of the Cottonwood Heights Bicycle and Trails Master Plan that allows for the connection of trails throughout the city to encourage more bicycle and pedestrian-friendly development.

Both the PDD and Bike Plan were nominated for awards from the Utah Chapter of the American Planning Association. The Bike Plan was given an Achievement Award from the organization.

The department works with customers to handle various issues that come up. Staff members set up inspections, review plans, answer questions and create relationships with contractors, builders and residents.

The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) staff created interactive web maps which are now available on the city website. They continue to develop the data, maps, applications, and processes required for the Cottonwood Heights Emergency Management Status project and several new data layers that will assist in the planning and implementation of various programs.

In order to coordinate these responsibilities, the department provided staff support to a number of boards and commissions including the CH City Council, Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment, and the Architectural Review and Development Review Committees.

Cottonwood Heights continues to attract top companies. In 2016, the city welcomed new businesses like Sierra Trading Post, RizePoint and SoFi that contribute to the city's economic strength. The mayor, city council and business development staff attended a dozen ribbon cuttings, celebrating new businesses in the community.

Businesses created connections through the CH Business Association (CHBA) through a variety of luncheons, workshops, networking events and service projects. Some of the community events included the Bites in the Heights restaurant tour and the Recreational Lifestyle Fair.

The city also processed more than 600 residential and commercial building permits, valued at more than \$52 million. More than 50 land use applications were also processed, while more than 190 residential and commercial business licenses were issued.

The Cottonwood Heights Community and Economic Development Department consists of Brian Berndt (director), Michael Johnson (senior planner), Andy Hulka (associate planner), Gina Kirkwood (administrative assistant), Jody Hilton and James Short (building officials), Kevin Sato (GIS), Brad Gilson (city engineer) and Peri Kinder (business development). The planning and GIS interns during 2016 were Zach Smallwood, Sarah Rivera, Stephanie Ainsworth and Trenton Cross. Interns are hired through the University of Utah and Brigham Young University planning programs. ■

Donations

The Cottonwood Heights Business Association is hoping to collect 5,000 diapers for The Road Home Midvale shelter in February.

Bring your diaper donation to Cottonwood Heights City Hall (2277 E. Bengal Blvd.) during February to help the CHBA achieve this goal! ■



Vouchers

Did you know that we provide landfill vouchers to residents? These vouchers give Cottonwood Heights residents up to \$10 off one load of acceptable materials. You can obtain these vouchers if you have the ability to haul your own truck or trailer loads to the landfill. The vouchers can be obtained at Cottonwood Heights City Hall. ■



What a Way to Go!

The city's first Death by Chocolate event will be held on Thursday, March 16, from 5-7 p.m. at Cottonwood Heights City Hall (2277 E. Bengal Blvd.)

Join us as we highlight the favorite chocolate desserts from Cottonwood Heights restaurants, bakeries and catering services. Participants include Market Street Grill, Porcupine Grill, Angel Café, Smith's bakery, Whole Foods, Paradise Bakery and many more.

Tickets are \$10 per person or \$15 for a couple. Visit CHBusiness.org for more information. ■



Broken/Damaged Cans

If your garbage or recycle can is broken or damaged, please call our office at 385-468-6325. Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling will come and repair your cans for free. You can also complete an online service order request on our website (www.wasatchfrontwaste.org/service-request). ■

