

Highland Insider

Highland City Office: 756-5751
Web Site: www.highlandcity.org
Office Hours: MTWTh 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

June, 2007

NOW is the TIME - Municipal Elections

Candidates to File July 2-16

By Mayor Jay W. Franson

Now is the time to begin the process of finding candidates for City Council who will be elected on November 6. This year there will be **three** seats open.

Municipal government is a key element of our quality of life. I believe most of us chose to live in Highland because of the lifestyle we enjoy. This includes good services, a rural atmosphere, and neighbors who value the same environment. I believe two major criteria define a successful city. The first is the desire or willingness of people to move to the town. Our continued growth demonstrates Highland is a place people want to be. The second criterion is that property values are maintained. The current property values in Highland are an indicator of solid concepts and good planning as judged by the impartial real estate markets. By both criteria Highland is a successful city.

The City Council, city staff, and Mayor make many decisions a year which affect the quality of life in Highland. These decisions, include, but are not limited to, **public safety** - fire department, police, emergency services; **public works** - sewer, roads, snow removal, culinary water, pressurized irrigation, other utilities; **planning and zoning** - subdivisions, development, commercial zoning, master plans, zoning; and **parks and recreation** - parks, ball fields, open space, playgrounds, cemetery, trails. In summary, we are all dependent upon city government. The decisions of a city council determine the quality of your city government.

The election process formally begins July 2, 2007 when petitions (Declaration of Candidacy) can be picked up from the City Recorder. These petitions must be returned back to the City Recorder by July 16, 2007. The current city ordinance requires that each petitioner must have 65 signatures in order to qualify for a spot on the ballot. If there are more than 6 petitioners who file with the required signatures, there will be a primary election on September 11, to narrow

the field of candidates to 6 for the General Election on November 6.

As your Mayor, I encourage each and every one of you to be "involved" in your city government by participating in the election process over the next five months. At the minimum, pay attention to who is running for city council, find out their qualifications, vote on **September 11** (if necessary), and again on **November 6**. But, even more valuable would be participating during the next six weeks to make sure we have good qualified candidates. Think about your friends and neighbors who would make good members of the city council. Then encourage and assist them in becoming a candidate.

Based on my 25 years of local government experience a "good" city council member is a person who is a good thinker, does their homework on issues, is willing to listen to all viewpoints, is not easily swayed by special interests, does not have their own individual agenda or special interest, is willing to look at the "Big Picture," i.e. what is best for the city as a whole, and has about 20-25 hours a month to spend in community service. I know everyone is busy and some may not want to become a city council member, but I believe more should be involved in encouraging and selecting "good" candidates for the election.

Based on the current quality of life we enjoy, I believe we should be careful and measured in selecting our elected representatives. Please get involved! Let's find the best candidates we can to stand for election and continue the quality of life we enjoy in Highland. Thank you for your consideration in becoming an involved citizen and participating in the election process.

Election Recap

- **Declaration of Candidacy** - July 2-16
- **Early Voting When a Primary is Held** - August 27 - September 7, 2007
- **Primary Election** - September 11, 2007
- **Write-In Filing Deadline** - October 8, 2007
- **Early Voting** - October 22 - November 2, 2007
- **November Election** - November 6, 2007

- **Registration** - Be sure you are registered to vote! If you have moved, even within the City, it is necessary to re-register. No satellite registration will be held by the County, so you must complete a mail-in voter registration form, which is available at the City Office, go in person to the Utah County Elections Office, or register on line at www.utahcountyonline.com.
- Anyone interested in serving as an election judge may contact the City Recorder, Wini Jensen, at 756-5751, ext. 105.

Planning and Zoning Updates

Decks. If you are planning to add a deck onto your home, be sure to contact the City with any questions. Many Highland residents have had problems with decks falling over or encroaching into the easements and/or setbacks. It is important to be aware of the regulations.

Open Space and Trails. Highland City and our residents take pride in the open space and trails. Together we work hard to maintain the beautiful prestige of our open space and trails. It is essential to know where open space is in relation to your property. Many may be unaware that cases of encroachments are on a rise. Many do not notice that open space is not to be built upon. Trampolines, gardens, retaining walls, etc. are not to be built in this special area, and motorized vehicles should not trespass.

If you see a Highland City employee driving on the trails do not be alarmed. Highland City has appointed an employee to drive the trails of Highland this summer to explore possible misuse of open space and trails. Residents can help by reporting dumping or unauthorized off road vehicles on open space to the City or to the Police; preferably while it is happening. Information is key if you are unable to contact us right away. Take pictures, get license plate numbers, etc. We appreciate the citizens in their quest to work together with the City to keep Highland a beautiful place.

Important Notices. Changes are occurring in the area and it is important to stay involved in what is happening in our community. With growth that affects you and your property, it is your right to be notified of any major changes in your neighborhood. Highland City works hard to notify the residents of public hearings regarding development. Be sure to examine Highland City letters that come in the mail and to keep addresses up-to-date on the county website as this is where the City obtains addresses. Notification is published in the newspaper, and is posted on the City's website and at the City Office.

Did You Know? . . .

- The City Council approved \$3,985 for the City's membership commitment for the Utah Lake Commission and appointed Don Blohm as the City's representative.
- The City Council approved the expenditure of up to \$45,000 for open space funds in Highland Hills for grading, irrigation system, seeding 20' from the north side of the trail on the south side of the open space.
- Entering into the Provo Reservoir Canal Green Way Agreement was approved by the Council.
- Architectural approval was granted for a Checker Auto Parts store to be built in Marketplace Square.
- The City Council finalized the purchase of more than 66 acres of hillside property located at the mouth of American Fork Canyon.

National Trails Day

Saturday, **June 2**, is National Trails Day. Now in its 15th year, National Trails Day continues to inspire the public to flock to their favorite trails to discover, learn, and celebrate trails. Highland City will be offering free maps of the Highland City Trails to residents at the City Office during the month of June.

Highland City Library

Volunteers have determined that approximately 5,500 books, previously used in the Mt. Ridge Junior High Community Library, will be usable in Highland's new library. In order to raise funds for the remaining 19,500 books needed for a fantastic start-up collection, the Library Board and committees are planning some exciting fund raising events this summer. Make note of the following dates and events and plan to join us!

Saturday, July 14: Highland's 30th Birthday Party Carnival

Thursday, July 19: Highland City Night at the Orem Owlz

Friday, August 3: Highland FlyFest with FlyLady Marla Cilley

Friday, August 4: Highland Fling Book Sale and Silent Auction. We will also be accepting financial donations throughout the day.

Appreciation is extended to the library volunteers who have contributed time and effort toward the goal of establishing a library in our city. One great example is Valerie Robbins, a junior at Lone Peak High School, who did a service project and raised nearly \$650 for the library.

Anyone interested in getting involved, please send an email to highlandlibrary@highlandcity.org. Watch for an upcoming survey on www.highlandcity.org regarding the types of items, programs and services you and your family would like to have available in the library.

HIGHLAND ARTS COUNCIL

Website: The Arts Council has a link on the Highland City website. Please visit www.highlandcity.org and click on the Arts Council Homepage.

“Mini” Summer Musical Theater Workshop. The “mini” summer musical theater workshop for ages 6-10 will be held **June 5 - July 14, TWTh, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., at Freedom Elementary.** Cost is \$60 (family discounts available). Registration is **at the City Office Trailer.** The presentation will be **Saturday, July 14**, as part of the Highland 30th Anniversary Celebration. Come join us for an exciting review of Disney, patriotic songs, and other children’s favorites to be taught by Katie Tenney. Call 756-7944, or email sktenney@aros.net for information.

Guys and Dolls. This summer’s musical, “Guys and Dolls,” will be the kick-off activity for the Highland Fling **July 26-30, at American Fork High School.** Please mark your calendars for **Saturday, July 28** for Highland City Family Night at the Theater. Discount tickets will be available at the City Office.

Musical Dance Theater Summer Camp. The Musical Dance Theater Summer Camp for ages 10-14 will be held **June 12-18, TWTh from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m., at Freedom Elementary School,** and will finish with a Musical Theater Review **June 29, at 7:00 p.m.** This will be an intensive workshop focusing on stage presence and performance skills, narrations, microphone technique, costumes, singing and dancing, and will showcase music from great Broadway musicals. Those interested in solos should come prepared to audition. Registration is at the City Office Trailer and the cost is \$70. For information, please contact KeriLynn Lenhart at 492-0590.

Scout Merit Badge Classes. Three merit badge classes will be held in June, one required (Personal Fitness), and two electives (Fire Safety and Dentistry). Registration begins **Friday, June 1**, for Highland City residents, and **Monday, June 4**, for everyone else. Please do not send your scout to class without pre-registering, or he will be turned away. These classes are designed for completion of merit badges for the Boy Scouts of America; however, anyone between the ages of 11 - 17 is welcome to take the classes. Please go to www.higihlandcity.org

and “click” on Community Involvement, then Events, for more information.

Highland Celebrates 30 Years

Highland City will be celebrating 30 years in July. Many events are scheduled at Heritage Park to celebrate our birthday.

On **Friday, July 7**, there will be a 70's Concert in the Park. Please come dressed in 70's attire as there will be prizes for the best dressed.

Saturday, July 14, will be a huge birthday party at Heritage Park. We will have games for the children, pinatas, bounce houses, on stage entertainment, and more.

Bring out your baseball hats and sun screen for Highland City Night at the Orem Owlz on **Thursday, July 19**. Come watch Mayor Franson throw the first pitch as the Orem Owlz battle the Billings Mustangs at 7:05 p.m. Reserved seating tickets will be available at the City Office at a discounted rate of \$4 per ticket. Orem Owlz ticket vouchers, good for any game of the season, will also be available at the discount rate of \$5 per voucher. All proceeds from ticket and voucher sales will go towards the Highland Library Foundation.

Saturday, July 21, will be a Battle of the Bands at the park. Come watch local bands battle it out on stage. If you are interested in competing, please contact Emily Gillingwater at the City Office.

The **30th Annual Highland Fling will be July 28-August 4, 2007.** Many events have been added to this year’s schedule, such as best selling author FlyLady, Marla Cilley, who will have a speaking engagement **Friday, August 3.** Tickets are available by emailing friendsofthelibrary@highlandcity.org.

Also added this year will be Highland Idol, sponsored by the Arts Council on **Friday, August 3**, before the Youth City Council Dance.

Several events will be held at Heritage Park throughout the day on Saturday which includes the BMX Bicycle Stunt Team, food and concession booths, free games for children up to 12 years old, Candy Toss, Fireman’s Spray, and more. We have a fabulous group of entertainers this year who will be performing on the Heritage Park Stage. These include: Jaden Bliss, Cherie Call, Root Beer Reunion, Katie Millar & Shelley Bryson Benthall, Duncan Family & Friends, Stephanie Smith, Party Train, Eric Dodge, and Ryan Shupe & the Rubberband! The evening will conclude at 10:00 p.m. with a spectacular fireworks show south of Mountain Ridge Jr. High School. If you would like to become involved with the Highland Fling, or to nominate the Grand Marshall for our parade, please contact Emily

Gillingwater at the Highland City Offices 756-5751, ext. 122, or email emily@highlandcity.org.

Junior Miss Program

As the summer draws near, the Highland Junior Miss program prepares for another wonderful year of showcasing some of Highland City's greatest young women. The Highland Junior Miss is a scholarship program for 16-17 year-old girls who are currently finishing their junior year in high school. The program is a one night event that gives the girls an opportunity to display their areas of talent. They are judged in five different categories which are: Judge's Interview, Scholastic, Talent, Fitness, and Poise.

What is so incredible about the Junior Miss program is that it gives several young ladies the opportunity to explore who they are and develop characteristics that will help them succeed in life and be rewarded with scholarship money to further their education.

If you would like to learn more about the Highland Junior Miss program or would be interested in donating to the scholarships for these young women, please email: highlandjuniormiss@gmail.com. All donations go entirely to the scholarships for these amazing young ladies.

Anyone interested in participating in this year's Junior Miss Program may contact the Chairman, Kori Ogao, at 768-4063.

The Highland Junior Miss Program will be held **August 3, 2007 at the Lone Peak High School Auditorium.**

Freedom Festival Volunteers

America's Freedom Festival at Provo is seeking volunteers to fill many responsible positions during the Festival. If you are interested in being a volunteer, either individually or as a group, please visit our website at www.freedomfestival.org or contact Melanie Cropper at 471-8588 for more information.

Utah County Child Abuse Presentations

Domestic Violence and Child Witnesses Presentation will be held **Thursday, June 21, at 7:00 p.m., in the Bullock Room at the Provo City Library, 550 N. University Avenue, Provo, Utah.**

Message from the Police Chief Kip Botkin

Another school year has ended and here we are in the Summer again. What a wonderful time of year. Most of us have the opportunity to take vacations, spend more time with the children, have extended recreation opportunities and supposedly be more relaxed. Often because of the extended daylight hours we tend to crowd more activities into given amounts of time. We should remember that due to the nature of summer we have more pedestrian traffic with our students out and about. In that vein there are several things we would like to advise our citizens and visitors.

- We are still experiencing burglaries from vehicles wherein items such as the following are being taken: ipods, checkbooks, blackberries, pdas, mp3 players, purses, briefcases containing personal information, jump or thumb drives, etc.
- Please lock your vehicles, even when they are parked or located in the driveway, or in front of your home;
- We continue to have several thefts from garages while the garage door is left open;
- Be more mindful of your driving habits as children are out of school and will be on the roadways, in the parks, and out and about in the community.
- OHV's (Off Highway Vehicles, 4 wheelers, side by sides, dirt bikes, unregistered motorcycles, etc) are not allowed on the public streets, nor on any of the City Trail Systems;
- No unauthorized vehicle is allowed on any City Trails (authorized vehicle would only include City vehicles, Police or Fire vehicles, contracted maintenance vehicles).

The Police Department has a web site and we would invite you to visit it. It is in the infancy stage now, but we are hoping to use it as a method to provide timely information to our citizens. The website is: www.lonepeakpsd.com

Be Water Wise

As always, citizens should take an active interest in water conservation. The state, as a whole, is a desert and we rarely have **too** much water! In order to conserve this precious resource, try following the recommended watering schedule by watering once every three days during the months of June, July and August. It is strongly recommended that new lawns not be planted during these months.

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Condolences

Sympathy is expressed to the family of Hardy Baum,
a resident of our community who recently passed away.