



BOUNTIFUL CITY NEWSLETTER

The City of Beautiful Homes and Gardens

October - November, 1996

Published for Bountiful City Residents
by Bountiful City Corp., 790 S. 100 East



From the discarded "green waste" (above left) Bountiful Sanitary Landfill crews create a nutrient rich compost (above right) for sale to Bountiful residents

Inexpensive, Effective Compost Now Available At Bountiful Landfill

It begins with green "trash" in the form of old tree limbs and discarded bushes...Add a little "biosolid" from the nearby waste treatment plant...Then moisten the mixture repeatedly to keep the temperature below 165° Fahrenheit.

The result is a compost, a natural and nutrient-rich fertilizer for home gardeners and professional landscapers. And if you buy it from the Bountiful Sanitary Landfill, you can't beat the cost: \$30 per ton (screened) and \$20 per ton (unscreened), or, in smaller quantities, \$1.50 per 100 lbs. of top-quality screened compost.

"It's becoming common for landfills to promote composting," says Dick Duncan, Bountiful City's director of streets and sanitation. "Not only is the compost a good bargain for gardeners and homeowners, but, by recycling the green waste into compost, we are extending the life of our city landfill. Composting is environmentally and financially sound."

Considering that green waste (tree limbs, branches and stocks) account for at least 25% of all waste hauled to the landfill, turning the "green" into compost could add an additional 15-20 years to the

previously estimated landfill life of 50-60 years.

At press time, the landfill had about 1,000 tons of available compost. Residents can buy compost at the landfill Monday through Saturday between the hours of 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. For information on directions to the landfill, call 298-6169.

HONORS

Mayor John Cushing

Mayor John Cushing was recently selected by his peers as Second Vice President of the Utah League of Cities and Towns. The mayors of Midvale and Smithfield are also members of the leadership team formed to represent the needs and interests of local municipalities.

"It's an honor to receive such recognition from elected officials throughout the state," said Cushing.

It's not the first time Bountiful City has been honored by the League. City Manager Tom Hardy received the organization's award as outstanding Appointed Official in 1992.

Head Golf Pro Scott Whittaker

Bountiful Ridge Golf Course head pro Scott Whittaker has been honored as the 1996 Utah Section Professional Golf Association's Professional of the Year.

Whittaker, who serves as one of the PGA's 13 national directors, was previously named the Utah Professional of the Year in 1988. He was hired as the Bountiful course's first head pro 21 years ago, and has worked to make the course one of the most successful in the state (including its being featured on a nationally-distributed golf video software game).



The City has some 1,000 tons of available compost.

City Has Streamlined Process For Residents Requesting Home Occupation Business Licenses

Bountiful City's home occupation firms run the gamut from A (alarm systems) to (almost) Z (yard maintenance), offering a variety of services in residential neighborhood settings.

"Considering the almost 800 home occupation licenses within the City, we receive very few complaints," says Planning and Redevelopment Director Blaine Gehring. "We have tried to make home occupation licenses fairly accessible without the commercial enterprise negatively impacting the integrity of residential area."

Of course, not all businesses can effectively operate within a neighborhood. In one Salt Lake County city, he says, a man requested a business license to conduct "lathe work." The city gave tentative approval until it discovered the man was planning a full-blown tool and die shop complete with four drill presses and numerous other equipment.

"A home business should not create neighborhood disturbance," says Gehring. "A firearms dealer may operate the paperwork sales aspect out of his home, but he can't go out in the back yard and test out his ammunition or black powder. Similarly, the City won't allow late-night welding or any business which entails a steady stream of traffic."

To streamline the request process, Bountiful City residents can receive a home occupation business license without attending

a Planning Commission or City Council meeting (although the Council, after a hearing, may revoke any license for failure to comply with the home occupation ordinance limitations). Among the limitations:

- The business can't detract from the resident and advertising signage is limited to one 1 1/2-square-foot sign.

- The business must operate out of no more than one room or 20% of the home's total space, and shall not involve an attached garage, carport or accessory building or yard space outside the main residence.

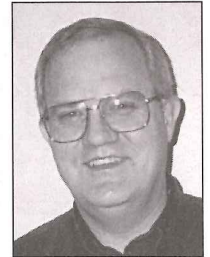
- The business will comply with all fire, building, plumbing, electrical and life/safety/health codes including the prohibition of flammable, explosive or hazardous materials.

- The business will not sell commodities on the premises.

- The business will not create noise, dust, odors, noxious fumes or other nuisances discernable beyond the premises.

The first-year fee for the home occupation license is only \$20, with subsequent annual fees pegged to the sales volume. Despite the low cost and relatively easy access, Gehring knows that some Bountiful residents are illegally operating a business within their homes without proper licensing.

"In case of an income tax audit," he says, "a business owner usually must show that he is legally licensed before he can deduct expenses. Also, in one tragic case in a nearby city, a man's house and home business was destroyed by a fire, but the insurance company refused to pay since the home business had not been declared and licensed by the city. It just makes sense to comply with the rules by requesting an inexpensive home license at City Hall."



Paul Gehring

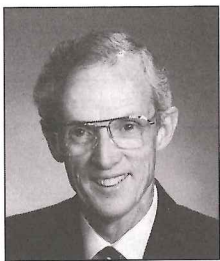
The Most Requested Home Occ. Licenses In Bountiful

- Communication Consultants (37)
- Computers (36)
- Construction (36)
- Yard Maint./Handymen/Painting (35)
- Housecleaning/Janitorial (34)
- Day Care Centers (33)
- Barber/Beauty Shops (32)
- Accounting/Bookkeeping/Tax Prep. (28)
- Decorators/Designers (26)
- Instructional Schools (20)

Mayor's Corner

Cities Challenged By Transportation Needs and Very Limited Funding

By John Cushing



Transportation has increasingly become one of the most paramount issues on the minds of state and local leaders and the citizens they serve. The frustration level of those who live along the Wasatch Front is rising as motorists face more delays and longer lines of traffic. Elected officials continue to emphasize the need for additional revenue to improve roads and highways.

Bountiful City maintains approximately 140 miles of streets. Over the last five years, it has cost Bountiful City \$16.7 million to construct, improve and maintain our streets (including overlays, snow removal, patching, signage, lighting and signalization). During that period of time, the City received \$3.26 million from the gasoline tax, less than 20% of the total expense. The resulting \$13.5 million shortfall was made up from general city taxes via property tax, sales tax and franchise tax. It has been estimated that it would take a gasoline tax increase of 15 cents per gallon *just to fund the shortfall for local roads.*

Street Superintendent, Dick Duncan and his staff are making every effort to see that our streets are well-maintained and safe, and our citizens often compliment them on their efforts with regard to snow removal and street conditions.

We prioritize our streets on the basis of their individual condition. Streets throughout the entire city are collectively evaluated, and substandard roads are repaired first. Over the last few years, the general condition of our streets has improved. Because of the steepness of the roads in Bountiful, our Street Department has adopted a "black road" snow removal policy. This requires a tremendous effort from our personnel and comes at a considerable cost. For example, in 1995 we used 12,722 tons of salt at a cost of \$13.90 per ton (nearly \$177,000). The bottom line, I suppose, is that Bountiful residents have come to expect a high level of service, and the elected officials and city employees would like to continue to maintain or improve this standard. As Bountiful's streets get older, our challenge will be to reconstruct them rather than overlaying them. Reconstruction is a more expensive process, and additional funding will be needed. The Utah Legislature is responsible for giving the cities the authority to raise gasoline taxes to help pay for needed street maintenance. Surveys of our citizens have shown widespread acceptance of this designated increase **provided it is earmarked specifically for transportation improvements.**

The City of Bountiful will continue to work actively with regional planning and state legislative groups to solve the transportation needs in Davis County. The solutions will partially come from major projects (West Davis Highway, the widening of I-15 in Davis County, the extension of Bountiful Boulevard into Salt Lake City, and the improvement of Highway 89), but maintenance of local roads and streets cannot be forgotten. Your input is needed and most welcome.

Bountiful Library Branch Is County's Busiest

The Bountiful branch of the Davis County Library System remains the busiest of the county's four library sites with nearly 33,000 materials being checked out each month amid annually-increasing circulation.

New shelving allowed the library staff to continue adding to the Bountiful library's catalogue of books, videos, cassettes and computer discs. The Bountiful branch now stocks about 96,000 items, some 14,000 more than the next busiest branch in Layton. While the "historical dramatist" Gerald Lund is the most-requested local author, the most popular authors at the Bountiful branch are best-selling novelists John Grisham, Tom Clancy, Stephen King and Mary Higgins Clark. South Davis teens are especially enthused by science fiction, the most requested being the **Dragon Lance** and **Star Trek** series.

Although 95% of the library's materials are books, computer reference sources including Internet access are increasingly used. Some of the recent requests, in fact, have been quite unique. One Bountiful resident asked the media staff to help him find out how he could purchase a discarded school bus; a student successfully found several web sites discussing use of the harmonica; and a young man turned to the Internet to find a ready source of "dumb blonde" jokes.

Residents can log in to the Davis County Library catalog from their home, school or office computer 24 hours per day except on Friday mornings from 6 a.m. - 10 a.m. Information on the dial-in access is available at the Bountiful branch located next to City Hall. The Bountiful branch also sponsors an on-site children's Story Beat reading each Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.



While awaiting the arrival of a new bubble to "top off" the pool, the City scheduled crews to resurface the deck and replaster the structure. The maintenance work—the first replastering since the mid 1980's—has now been completed, and the 500,000 gallon swimming pool has reopened for Fall and Winter recreation. Aquatic director Ron Smith says usage at the Bountiful Bubble pool continues to increase annually.

Youth Council Donates Sign For City Park

The Bountiful City Youth Council has purchased a \$17,000 lighted marquee sign to welcome visitors to Bountiful City and advertise upcoming community events. The money for the sign was derived from fundraising activities sponsored by the past three Youth Councils (1994-96). The marquee was manufactured by Young Electric Sign of Salt Lake City.

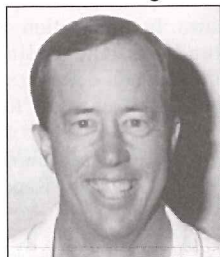
Among other Fall '96 Youth Council activities are volunteer projects at retirement centers, the Halloween Pumpkin Patch for children and families, erection of the Christmas Tree at City Hall, the Teen Welcome Wagon project to introduce new high school students to the area, and a Nov. 5 seminar with Bountiful Police Chief Paul Rapp and campus resource officers.

City Manager's Report

In Critical Editorial, Smoke Doesn't Justify Fire

By Tom Hardy

Recently the **Davis County Clipper** published what I view as an inaccurate and misleading editorial damaging the reputation of the Bountiful City Fire Department and bringing into question fire protection services for your neighborhood. I thought it would be worthwhile to set the record straight.



The editorial focused on the destruction of one home and asserted that "had the fire station just a few blocks from the burning home been manned at the time of the fire, the result would have been much less devastating." The claim is short on the facts. When the emergency call was placed, the house in question was already engulfed in flames; the smoke was visible from City Hall when fire crews were dispatched. The fire crews arrived in 9 minutes, some five minutes longer than if they had been at Station #2 rather than out on another call. However, the damage to the house had already occurred. Unfortunately, like many fires, the house fire in question burned for probably 10-15 minutes before the Fire Department was called. Once the call was received, the response was quick and professional, and every effort was made to save the house and its contents while protecting the surrounding structures.

The editorial then stated, "Bountiful hasn't determined a typical response time, but City Manager Tom Hardy said the time it took to respond in this case was adequate." That statement is false. Over 90% of the fire calls in Bountiful are responded to in 3-5 minutes, a time better than reported by any other city in the valley (including Salt Lake City and Layton which the editorial touts). All the editorial writer had to do was read the study conducted last year by Salt Lake City on response time—something I would have been glad to share with the writer had she asked.

The editorial also stated, "It's time for south Davis residents to demand more money be spent for fire protection." We can always spend more money to hire more people; in fact, contrary to what the editorial alleges, Bountiful City has increased its full-time firefighters more than 50% since 1978 and has tripled the department's budget. The Fire Department budget has increased more than any other department in the entire city, a fact the editorial ignores.

The **Clipper** also editorialized, "If we don't have enough money to run a fire department which is staffed fully enough to save homes, we need to rework the budget." Again, if the writer had bothered to check Bountiful's fire loss statistics for the past eight years, she would have discovered that the City's average per capita loss was \$8.45 compared to a state average of \$16.80 and a national average of \$30.46. In other words, the fire department "that can't get to a fire until the house has burned down" has a 100% better record than the state and a 350% better record than the nation as a whole.

The editorial writer may call this a "five-alarm problem", but I call it an outstanding record that is the envy of Utah and the nation.

Last but not least, the editorial implies that the City Council has turned a deaf ear on requests from the Bountiful City Fire Department. Of course, the writer never bothered to ask what the budget was, what requests had been "turned down" (I don't know of any!), and what equipment has been denied (again, I'm not aware of any!). It's true that when any budget is considered, new programs, projects and equipment have to be prioritized, but Public Safety functions—police and fire—have always been a top priority in Bountiful.

Rather than let the Bountiful Fire Department be sullied by unjust accusations, I wanted residents to understand that where there's smoke, there's not always fire.

Public Safety Complex Nears Completion And Draws Praise From Police Chief

Paul Rapp has two different views of the nearly-completed Public Safety Building.

As Bountiful Police Chief, he sees it as a sorely-needed facility to replace the currently overcrowded and outmoded police and courts building...As a taxpayer, he sees it as a model for cost-effective planning.

"The City was very careful about costs," he said, "but the City Council members and City management staff were also wise to consider security and safety issues. The result is a facility which will not be antiquated by the middle of the next century. The building is not palatial—it shouldn't be,—but it more than meets the minimum standards and anticipates future growth and needs."

The State of Utah is paying 48% of the



Chief Paul Rapp says the Public Safety Complex is a model of cost-effective planning and construction.

The building "anticipates future growth and needs."

estimated \$6.35 million construction cost since the 2nd District Court and local Circuit Courts will occupy the entire second floor. That leaves the ground floor and the basement for police and city prosecutor functions—an area almost triple the space currently available to the 59-person public safety staff. Some of the extra space, says Chief Rapp, is mandated by federal safety guidelines or Americans With Disabilities Act requirements. Among the expanded police areas:

- Adequate office space. In their current building, it's not uncommon to have two or three officers sharing an overcrowded cubicle.

- New training facility. The area can house up to 100 officers, allowing Chief Rapp to conduct expanded training while saving the cost of sending officers to more

costly out-of-county or out-of-state training seminars. Already, for instance, the nationally-acclaimed Reid Interrogation School has scheduled all of its 1997 Utah seminars at the Bountiful site; in exchange for the facility, Reid has reduced the training costs for all Bountiful City officers.

- Elevators and handicapped entrance/exit areas. Architects have made sure the building complies with ADA and federal guidelines including the requirement that, in case of fire, all holding cells can be opened electronically.

- Additional holding cells. The holding area for prisoners awaiting court appearances or transport to the Davis County Jail has been expanded from two to six cells, all of which

meet new federal requirements for in-cell restrooms and video monitoring.

- Enhanced security and space for evidence. Following "fall out" from the O.J. Simpson trial, police departments are bolstering security and limiting access to pre-trial evidence.

- Court transport. A "sally port" on the southwest corner of the building will more safely allow officers to transport prisoners to court appearances.

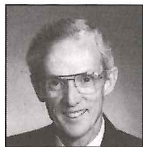
- Exercise facilities. In anticipation of increased fitness standards, the Police Department will have an adequately-sized exercise area and separate locker areas for men and women.

"All of our officers are enthused about moving to the new facility," says Chief Rapp. "The building is an example of how communities can serve the public safety staff and the taxpayers at the same time."

Construction is on schedule for a February, 1997 move-in.

City Council & Committee Chairmanship

The City Council and Mayor Welcome Your Input and Suggestions.



Mayor John Cushing

Finance, Public Safety & Public Relations



Councilman Sam Fowler

Planning & Zoning



Councilwoman Barbara Holt

Streets & Sanitation

Councilman Alan Johnson

Water & Sewer



Councilman Harold Shafter

Power



Councilwoman Ann Wilcox

Parks, Recreation, Fine Arts and Youth Council



New Trees To Bloom At 400 North Site

A handful of hearty trees on the park strip on 4th North above 2nd West will have to be uprooted—but more trees will be taking their place.

The old trees have become safety hazards since they grow straight upward into power lines. Since trimming hasn't solved the problem, the City has no alternative but to remove them. The trees are beautiful but even if the trees were on private property, safety concerns would still mandate that the City take them down.

But the trees will be replaced. For every tree removed, two beautiful blooming trees will be planted in the park strip.