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APRIL 2026 WOODLAND HILLS



Bigtooth

MAPLE FESTIVAL

Saturday April 18th
10am-2pm

Woodland Hills Park
text/call 801-882-1491 for
2-hour volunteer opportunities

**Free Admission & Live Music • Free Parking & Shuttle
Maple Discovery Center • Free Petting Zoo • Syrup Tasting
Local Market • Maple Shop • Free Games**

🍁 Volunteers Needed! 🍁
We're looking for help with our festival! If you have any time to give, we'd love to have you join us.

Ways to help: ♦ Games ♦
Popcorn
• Cotton Candy ♦ • Set-up ♦
Take-down

Event details: ♦ Festival runs from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM ♦
Set-up starts at 8:00–9:00 AM ♦ • Clean-up right after the event

Even an hour makes a big difference—we'll gladly take any help you can offer!



FIREMAN'S APPRECIATION DINNER

OUR FAMILY SERVING YOURS!



DINNER CATERED BY
CAST IRON CATERING
OUT OF EUREKA



FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR!!!!

ALAN WAKEFIELD



EMT OF THE YEAR!!!

ALAN WAKEFIELD



THANKS TO ERIC NELSON
FOR 30+ YEARS OF SERVICE
AS A FIREFIGHTER
HE IS RETIRING AND LIVES IN
SPANISH FORK!



YEAR IN REVIEW
22 FIREFIGHTERS, 15 CERTIFIED, 2 ARE
BRAND NEW, 9 WILDLAND
FIREFIGHTERS, 1 WILDLAND CREW THAT
GOES OUT NATIONALLY
84 DOCUMENTED CALLS
THE MEDICAL CALLS WERE TOUGH
ONES

HONOR THE NATION.
CELEBRATE 250 YEARS OF FREEDOM.
ON JULY 4, 2026, OUR NATION WILL COMMEMORATE AND CELEBRATE THE 250TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

What Does it Mean to be an American?

To me, the United States is less a collection of borders and more a series of debts—debts of honor, of memory, and of blood. Having spent three tours downrange during the Global War on Terror, I've seen the concept of sacrifice stripped of its abstract glory and reduced to its rawest form: a dusty pair of empty boots or the quiet, heavy weight of a folded flag. It is the realization that this country is a gift bought by those who surrendered their youth, their peace, and in many cases, their very lives, so that a child in a quiet American suburb might never have to know the smell of cordite or the sound of a mortar. America is the place worth that cost; it is the sanctuary we guarded with our best years because we believed the foundation was worth the structural strain of our own bodies.

This belief is fueled by selfless service, a concept that exists in the silent, pre-dawn hours of a mission when there are no cameras and no applause. It is the choice to place the mission and the person to your left and right above your own comfort, safety, or ego. In the dirt of distant lands, I learned that the soul of America isn't found in its political rhetoric, but in the quiet professionalism of those who step forward when the nation calls, from small towns to national stages, expecting nothing in return but the knowledge that they did their part. It is a profound, shared humility—a recognition that we are small parts of a vast, enduring experiment that requires us to pour ourselves into it without reservation if it is to survive. If not me, then who? This is the question every fellow American asks themselves when they are needed.

Ultimately, the United States represents the rarest of human commodities: opportunity. It is the land where a person can return from the darkest corners of the world and still find a path to build a life, a family, and a future. We fought to preserve a system where your starting point doesn't dictate your finish line, and where the freedom to dream is protected by the strength of those willing to defend it. America is the promise that after the dust of combat settles, there is a home waiting—a place of infinite potential where the sacrifices made in the shadows allow for a life lived fully in the light. It is the only place on earth where the word "tomorrow" carries the weight of a promise rather than a threat.

Spencer Wells
Sergeant First Class (SFC)



TED TALKS

Roundabout Construction Update

The County has completed the 90% design plans for the roundabout reconstruction scheduled for this summer. This project will widen the roundabout to accommodate future growth and, as a result, impacts the City's current mailbox layout. Residents were invited to share their feedback on whether the mailboxes should be relocated or remain in their existing location. The majority expressed a preference to keep the mailboxes where they are. The city has worked closely with the County to facilitate this request, though the layout will change slightly. As part of the reconstruction, a new roadway will be added to serve future development to the northeast, where the current mailbox entrance is located. The mailbox building will be shifted to the north end of the property, and two access points will be provided: one right-in/right-out entrance from the new development road and a second right-in/right-out entrance from Woodland Hills Drive, north of the roundabout.

Concrete center-median islands will be installed to prevent vehicles from crossing oncoming traffic. This updated configuration allows the mailboxes to remain in their current location while providing safe access for traffic.

Mailbox Planning

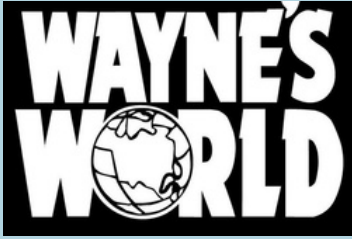
As part of relocating the mailbox building, the city is working closely with the developer and their architect to design and construct a new building that will meet the needs of our growing population and the requirements of the Postal Service for mail delivery. Some residents may recall an initial presentation shared at a City Council meeting a few months ago. The design shown at that time was a preliminary sizing concept intended to illustrate the general scale of the building and did not include architectural details. The next design phase will incorporate architectural elements and will be brought back to the City Council for review. Please stay tuned for updates as this project progresses. During construction of the roundabout and the new mailbox building, a temporary mailbox facility will be provided at the City Center to ensure continued mail service.

Fire Season

As many of you are aware, this year has brought record-low snowpack and unusually dry conditions. As a result, wildfire season has started earlier than normal, and we have already experienced several fire incidents locally and across the country. We ask for your help in keeping our community safe by clearing your property of dead or downed vegetation, tall dry grass, and other flammable materials. City Code prohibits open fires, with limited exceptions outlined in City Code 5.4.4, and includes restrictions related to outdoor smoking.

We are currently planning spring chipper days and will share the confirmed dates once they are finalized with the County. Please also watch your mail for a flyer providing helpful recommendations for clearing and maintaining your lot.

Ted Mickelsen, P.E.
Community Development Director/Fire Chief
works@woodlandhills-ut.gov



Questions often arise regarding having a city Business License. Our ordinance on the topic is found in Title 10.15.5. under the combined subject of Conditional Use Permits and Business Licenses. A Business License costs \$25 and must be renewed each year in the month of January to be valid. This Business License pertains to a homeowner who is conducting business out of their home. There are some restrictions in doing this and I would direct you the ordinance to see whether you should have a business license, Conditional Use Permit, or if one is needed or possibly our city ordinances do not allow the type of activity that your business requires. The business activity should not detract from the residential nature of the city or neighborhood. If you are the owner of the business and you conduct the business from your home, then you would likely need a business license. A Business License is also required for the rental of an Accessory Dwelling Unit, internal or external, if you have one. If you have a business location in Springville, Spanish Fork, Provo, etc. and the work you do at home is just incidental to your work activity, then you probably do not need a Business License for the work you do at home. If you have any questions about this after looking at the City's governing ordinance, contact our city recorder, Jody Stones, who can answer questions you may have about it.

Wayne Frandsen, Code Enforcement Officer

I want to add a post script (PS) to my comments this month. Last week I was prevledged to attend the fireman and EMS appreciation dinner which is held by the city each year in their honor. A time to recognize their past year's accomplishments and activities. They are the ones most responsible for much of the spirit of volunteerism we see in our city. There was a special recognition given to Alan Wakefield, an EMS/Fireman in our city who has been with the department for many years. His talents extend to his own electrical company which he drew upon years ago when it came time to wire the then new City Center/Fire Department and he continues to be called upon from time to time to lend his knowledgeable and helpful hand on any number of projects. It was a wonderful evening and many kind and thoughtful words said by those who were recognizing the work and efforts of some of our volunteer fireman and EMS residents, and even one from Salem who had contributed significantly to our own department. All in all, it made one feel proud to be a resident of the city and know there is medical and fire help for anyone in need. Maybe it is the fact that this year we are celebrating our 250th anniversary and realizing that we are beneficiaries of many acts of courage, bravery and other's service and we do much as a city to pass it along to the up and coming generations. God bless our city and America.

COUNCIL'S COMMENTS



The 2026 Legislative Session ended on March 6 after 45 days of intense negotiations, intentional collaboration, and, at times, frustration. In total, 1,016 bills were introduced, with 540 passing. As a City, together with the Utah League of Cities and Towns (ULCT), we tracked 244 bills that directly impacted Woodland Hills.

This year, we categorized the bills we tracked into nine key areas of municipal focus: Housing and Land Use, Revenue and Taxes, Water, Economic Development, Elections, Homelessness, Public Safety, General Government, and Transportation.

I was at the Capitol nearly everyday meeting with other municipal leaders, speaking with legislators, and, at times, testifying in committee hearings. It was a daily effort to support legislation beneficial to Woodland Hills, as well as to amend or oppose bills that could be harmful. Thanks to the collaboration of cities across the state and to the dedicated work of League staff, 128 (52%) of the bills we tracked did not pass!

Why does this matter for our small mountain community? As a city, we are a political subdivision of the state. Any law or policy passed by the legislature becomes our law and policy as well. Some of these are “unfunded mandates,” requiring us to amend budget priorities, increase staff responsibilities, adjust legislative duties, or modify operational practices. Certain land use laws may also require procedural changes, the adoption of new practices, or even updates to zoning. When a law is passed, it applies equally to all communities—whether a small rural city or a large metropolitan area. I appreciate the calls and messages I receive from residents who share their support or concerns regarding specific legislation. Your input helps inform me and enhances my work as a council member.

I will continue to engage on legislative priorities during the interim. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Kari Malkovich
City Council Member



MAYOR HILLYARD
COUNCIL MEMBER MALKOVICH
COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNS



My experience of becoming an American:

The place was filled with a few hundred people. We went through all the different areas of the process, and the last part was the swearing into becoming a citizen of the United States. The presiding individual spoke words of encouragement—I can't recall it all—but what remains as vivid as if it were yesterday was the moment we were invited to share our feelings about finally becoming citizens. One by one, people stood and spoke of the limitations they had left behind, the corruption they had endured, and the lack of opportunities that once defined their lives. There was a shared sense of gratitude, hope, and quiet pride in the room—an understanding that this moment meant something deeply personal, yet universally powerful.

For me, becoming an American meant a complete change of course. My family came here with the goal of pursuing education and seeking opportunity—but more importantly, to create opportunities through what we would learn and how we would serve. My life is better because of the freedom to grow, to try, to fail, and to try again. No country is perfect, and no system is without flaws, but what matters is what we choose to build with what we are given—and then go beyond that. Here, I have found space to grow, to contribute, and to become a mentor to others who are walking a path similar to mine. I carry gratitude for the opportunities I've been given, while still holding love for the country I came from. It's okay that no place has it all—because that gap is where we come together, learn from one another, and work toward something better.

Carmina Hight

MARCH 2026
STATS

- 911 CELL 6
- ACCIDENT PROPERTY DAMAGE 1
- ANIMAL COMPLAINT 4
- MOTORIST ASSIST 2
- BURN PERMIT 1
- CITIZEN CONTACT 1
- DRUG OFFENSE 1
- FIRE ALARM 2
- FOLLOW UP 1
- INFORMATION 2
- JUVENILE PROBLEM 2
- KEEP THE PEACE 1
- MISSING CHILD 1
- WELFARE CHECK 1
- TOTAL CALLS : 26



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ENTS/?GAD_SOURCE=1](https://www.utahvalley.com/events/?GAD_SOURCE=1)

HAVE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE DISCUSSED OR ADDED
TO THE WH NEWSLETTER?
PLEASE SEND US AN EMAIL
JANET@WOODLANDHILLS-UT.GOV
WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Become a Jr. Ambassador for Why I Love America!
Enter our Essay Contest for America's 250th Anniversary!
Grades 9-12

Please submit a 350 word count essay by February 28, 2026
The subject will be:
"What it means to me to be an American"
No A.I. accepted
Submit entries via email:
info@whyiloveamerica.com

Cash prizes!
1st Place \$1,000
2nd Place \$500
3rd Place \$250

Please include your name, school and grade with your essay submission.
Winners will be notified by March 15th, 2026

www.whyiloveamerica.com

Why I Love America
ONE NATION UNDER GOD

Miss the most recent City meeting?
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