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MARCH 2026 WOODLAND HILLS

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, an American loves their country and does their very best to support it. I am grateful to be born in this country, to have so much available to my family, friends, and neighbors. We are so lucky! As an American, I appreciate the freedom to work hard, develop myself, and follow my dreams. It's so important to be able to worship as we choose, to develop our own ideas, and to speak our minds while still valuing other people's opinions and ideas. As a country, we have contributed so much to the rest of the world because we were allowed to dream and create, something that was discouraged in many cultures and countries for so long! Americans tend to value individualism and encourage all to learn, grow, and work to become the best each of us can be. So many opportunities! But, with all these opportunities also comes the responsibility to work together, be law-abiding citizens, participate in our communities, and serve where we can. Together, we can keep our country great!

Jennifer Adams

WE ARE LOOKING FOR IDEAS OR EVENTS TO
HELP US COMMEMORATE OUR NATION
TURNING 250
ESPECIALLY IN THE MONTH OF JULY

HELP US MAKE 2026 A YEAR OF VOLUNTEER
SERVICE.

THERE ARE MANY OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR
COMMUNITY TO SERVE.

IF YOU HAVE IDEAS OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
VOLUNTEER PLEASE REACH OUT:
JANET@WOODLANDHILLS-UT.GOV



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN AMERICAN?

It means that I have the opportunity to live in the greatest country on earth. I have the freedom to live where I want to live, worship what I want to worship, and go where I want to go. With those opportunities there comes great responsibility. We must always recognize those who died for us so we can have the freedoms we enjoy. We must always put America first.

Dan Lunt

TED TALKS

City Projects Update: Recreational Trails, Pickleball Courts, and EMS Licensing

Over the past several months, the City has been diligently studying and preparing grant applications to enhance local recreational and trail opportunities. We have recently completed a draft trail study that provides detailed engineering, potential alignments, constructability, and projected costs. Additionally, the City is pursuing grant funding for new pickleball facilities at the City Park. Below is a detailed update on these initiatives.

Trail Network Planning In coordination with county and state partners, the City has identified a key trail route that will connect our community to a broader regional network. This alignment is officially recognized in the Utah Trail Network Master Plan. Funded by the Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG), the study evaluates a route extending from the roundabout up Woodland Hills and Loafer Drives to the park, continuing along Summit Creek Drive to 11200 South, with a potential future connection to Elk Ridge in Loafer Canyon. The plan indicates the project is constructible and includes essential improvements to road drainage systems.

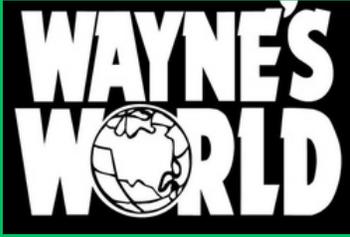
Pickleball Court Development The Parks and Trails Committee is actively pursuing the construction of a new pickleball facility at the City Park. A concept plan has been developed for a site near the pavilion, featuring two pickleball courts and a basketball standard. To ensure the facility is accessible, the project includes paving the existing dirt parking area and installing an accessible pathway from the parking lot to the courts. A grant application is currently being submitted to the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Outdoor Recreation, for project funding.

Fire & EMS Milestones The City is excited to announce a significant milestone in our efforts to secure an independent EMS license from the State. Through the dedicated efforts of EMS Captain Rachel Wallace, the City has officially been assigned its own license number. This achievement is a vital step forward for our community, providing our qualified volunteers with the opportunity to seek medical insurance through the state.

If you have feedback or suggestions regarding any of these community projects, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

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





We have received a number of inquiries and complaints lately regarding trucks using a device in their braking system called a Jake Brake. Actually, it is a Jacobs Engine Brake (Brand Name), shortened to Jakes Brake. Technically, it is an engine compression release system for diesel engines that slows the vehicle by turning the engine into an air compressor, reducing wear on service brakes as well as giving extra braking power to the large trucks which are often loaded with dirt and other heavy material. The brake is activated usually by a switch on the vehicle dashboard. For those technically adept, it operates by releasing compressed cylinder air through the engines exhaust valves, slowing the crankshaft's rotation and providing significant deceleration without relying solely on the friction brakes of the truck. It makes a loud sound like ta,ta,ta,ta, etc. We have had several accidents in the past involving large trucks that have had failing brakes and gotten away from the drivers and ended up going downhill, uncontrolled by the driver, resulting in accidents. In one incident several years ago the driver lost control of his truck down by the traffic circle and was killed in a rollover accident.

If you were driving in front of one of these trucks going downhill, you would likely want the truck driver to employ all of the safety measures possible to protect your life and kids in your car, and others around you. We have spoken with some of the drivers of these trucks and they are doing all they can to be safe in what they are doing as they drive the city roads. We appreciate your concerns, but with this background maybe it will help you better understand what the noise is all about. These trucks are generally not operating after dark, only during the day, so the evenings should be more peaceful and quieter. So, think, when you hear the noise next time, someone is trying to drive safely, particularly if they are behind you going down the road. This is just a fact of life as lots are developed and basements and foundations are dug. While some of the dirt is left on the lot to backfill, much of it is being hauled off in these large trucks. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Wayne Frandsen, Code Enforcement Official



Bigtooth

MAPLE FESTIVAL

SATURDAY APRIL 18TH, AT THE CITY PARK
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW

COUNCIL'S COMMENTS

SHEDDING LIGHT ON WELLNESS & COMMUNITY

OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS, OUR COMMUNITY HAS BEEN BUZZING WITH CONVERSATION REGARDING A POTENTIAL LIGHTING ORDINANCE. IT IS A "HOT TOPIC" FOR A REASON: IN OUR MODERN, ALWAYS-ON WORLD, LIGHT IS MORE THAN JUST A TOOL FOR VISIBILITY—IT IS A PHYSIOLOGICAL NECESSITY THAT DICTATES OUR HEALTH.

"LIGHT HEALTH" FOCUSES ON ALIGNING OUR ENVIRONMENTS WITH NATURAL CIRCADIAN RHYTHMS. A KEY FACTOR IN THIS IS MANAGING KELVIN (K) COLOR TEMPERATURE:

- DAYTIME: HIGH-KELVIN, BLUE-ENRICHED LIGHT (5000K-6500K) MIMICS THE SUN, BOOSTING ALERTNESS AND COGNITIVE FUNCTION.
- EVENING: THIS SAME BLUE LIGHT SUPPRESSES MELATONIN, THE HORMONE ESSENTIAL FOR SLEEP. EXPOSURE TO HIGH-KELVIN LIGHT AT NIGHT INCREASES THE RISK OF INSOMNIA, STRESS, AND LONG-TERM HEALTH ISSUES.
- THE SOLUTION: SWITCHING TO WARM, LOW-KELVIN LIGHTING (BELOW 3000K) A FEW HOURS BEFORE BED ALLOWS THE BODY TO WIND DOWN NATURALLY.

WHILE THE SCIENCE OF LIGHT IS CLEAR, THE CHALLENGE LIES IN BALANCING PUBLIC HEALTH WITH PROPERTY RIGHTS. AS WE DISCUSS THESE ORDINANCES, WE MUST AVOID OVER-REACHING WITH RULES THAT ARE OVERLY RESTRICTIVE OR INVASIVE. EVERY RESIDENT HAS THE RIGHT TO ENJOY THEIR PROPERTY AS THEY SEE FIT, PROVIDED THEY AREN'T CREATING A NUISANCE FOR THEIR NEIGHBORS.

OUR GOAL IS TO PRESERVE OUR STUNNING DARK NIGHT SKIES AS WE GROW, WITHOUT CREATING AN "ENFORCEMENT LIGHTMARE." BY ENCOURAGING RESPONSIBLE USE RATHER THAN HEAVY-HANDED MANDATES, WE CAN PROTECT OUR BIOLOGICAL HEALTH AND OUR COMMUNITY'S UNIQUE CHARACTER.

YOUR FRIEND & NEIGHBOR,

STEVE JOHNS, LEED AP
WOODLAND HILLS CITY COUNCIL
801-783-7012
STEVEJOHNS@WOODLANDHILLS-UT.GOV

UPCOMING EVENTS:

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING
ON THE CITY BUDGET
MARCH 10TH 6PM
AT THE CITY CENTER

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY TRADITIONS
TO BRING YOU GOOD LUCK**

1. Wear Green - wearing green makes you invisible to leprechauns who will pinch you if they see you.
2. The Shamrock - St. Patrick used the three leaf clover to explain the Holy Trinity, it also symbolizes the return of spring. - Good Luck
3. Dying things green - in Chicago they dye the river green.
4. Parades - to celebrate the Irish heritage.
5. Folklore & Leprechauns - mischievous, "small bodied" creatures of Irish folklore.
6. Irish music and dance
7. Eating Irish Soda bread - to bring joy, happiness, and to ward off evil spirits.
8. Carrying a cinnamon stick - to bring good fortune.
9. Hanging a horseshoe - A traditional symbol for good luck and protection from evil.
10. Burning sage - believed to fight off negativity and evil.
11. Kissing an Irish person - A fun way to get the "luck of the Irish."
12. Finding a penny - Carrying a penny is considered lucky in Irish folklore.

**EVENTS IN UTAH VALLEY
EXPLORE UTAH VALLEY
CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW**

**[HTTPS://WWW.UTAHVALLEY.COM/EV
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

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

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

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

www.whyiloveamerica.com



**CALLS FOR SERVICE
FOR WOODLAND HILLS
FEBRUARY 2026**

911 CELL	3
ANIMAL COMPLAINT	1
MOTOR ASSIST	1
BREATH PROBLEM	1
KEEP THE PEACE	1
PAPER SERVE	1
UNCONSCIOUS	1

**Miss the most recent City meeting?
[Check it out on the WH YouTube Channel](#)**

**[CHECK OUT THE UPATED
WH COMMUNITY CALENDAR](#)**

**AS WELL AS THE
[NEBO SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)
FOR UPCOMING EVENTS**

CLICK ON THE UNDERLINED FOR A LINKS