

Farmington News

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A Look Back at 2006
a year of improvements

Citizens Speak
Growth Too Fast

Aaron Richards
Quiet and Constant Dedication

a Look Back

by the Farmington City Council

In this time of rapid growth and development, City officials recognize the urgent need to create and support public policies that preserve the character of Farmington and ensure that change brings progress to our residents. Meeting that need is our goal. Here's a quick look at some of the things we did in 2006 to accomplish it:

City Operation Changes/ Various Studies & Initiatives

Adopted City's Strategic Plan for 2006.
(see farmington.utah.gov)

Appointed new Assistant Emergency Preparedness Coordinators to help Director Paul White: Royd Waters and Daren Regis.

Increased use of new City logo on trucks, uniforms, stationery, etc.

Hired additional building inspector to meet demands of increased growth.

Began discussing development of new neighborhood park with Farmington Ranches HOA. (Preliminary legal work still in progress.)

Retained Edwards-Daniels Architects to design new Police Station, remodel of Fire Station and addition to City Hall.

Implemented new Express Bill program for online payment of utility bills.

Corrected State/County error in allocation of liquor law enforcement revenues. Farmington doubled its liquor law enforcement revenues as a result.

Began performance evaluation on City professional services; namely, City engineer, attorney and auditors.

Conducted street lighting surveys in two residential subdivisions.

Appointed two volunteer Eagle Scout Project Coordinators, Howard Whiteway and Nate Van Hulst, to supervise City-related projects.

The following is a report card summary of actions by the Mayor, City Council and staff during 2006.

Development review and approval, which is always voluminous, is not addressed because of lack of space.

Improved Communications

Enhanced the look and content of Farmington News. The newsletter is now published in color with a net reduction of costs to taxpayers by allowing limited advertising.

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Thank you!

Thank You for your cooperation in observing Farmington's winter off-street parking ordinance. The ordinance, which remains in effect until the last day of February, states that no vehicle may be parked in the street right-of-way between the hours of 1 and 7 am.

David F. White Retires



Dave White, Farmington's Water Superintendent, recently retired after more than 26 years of dedicated service. In addition to working for the City, Dave devoted nearly 20 years to the Fire Department, during the last five of which he served as Fire Chief. Throughout his career, his commitment to Farmington residents was unflinching, and he will be missed. Dave plans to spend more time with his family and grandchildren. Thank you, Dave, and best wishes.

FARMINGTON CITIZENS SAY CITY IS GROWING TOO FAST

by the Farmington City Council



Sixty-five percent of residents surveyed last fall say the City is growing too fast.

The rate of growth was one of many areas included in the Citizen's Survey conducted by the National Research Center of Boulder, Colorado. Additionally, several citizens expressed opposition to rapid growth in their response to the open-ended question in the survey.

As members of the City Council, we want Farmington citizens to understand that our legal ability to contain growth is limited. The United States Constitution allows private property owners broad control over their land. Essentially, constitutional provisions prohibit any government from taking private property without just compensation. Developers who purchase land for development have the right to develop the land as long as such development follows local government laws and ordinances. Consequently, local government can only control and manage growth; it cannot stop or prohibit it.

Davis County in general and Farmington in particular are known

for a high quality of life, high property values, and close proximity to the Salt Lake area. All of these factors, plus the high-demand housing market, makes available land in Farmington a target for development. The City has experienced record-breaking growth during the past three years. However, when compared to other high growth-municipalities in the state, Farmington's growth is moderate.

Natural factors do limit growth in Farmington. Excessively steep slopes, wetlands and wetland corridors, and floodways and flood plains all present significant challenges to developers. Farmington's long, narrow shape and the fact that it is bisected by transportation corridors also affect our development potential.

Over the years, Farmington's officials have made great efforts to be forward-thinking in adopting growth management policies to control the quality of development and to make it pay for itself. These tools include the City's: (1) General Plan, (2) Zoning Ordinances, and (3) Impact Fee Ordinances. The General Plan is comprised of more than just the land use map and text.

There are also a number of companion documents that guide the way development occurs and the quality of public infrastructure that accompanies it. Managing growth begins with various tools in the municipality's toolbox, such as a Master Culinary Water Plan, Master Storm Sewer Plan, Master Park and Recreation Plan, and Master Transportation Plan.

As a City Council, we pay tribute to City Staff and to the Planning Commissions who have been on many battlefronts as they have vigorously tried to preserve and promote good development in Farmington. For the most part, City ordinances with stringent standards result in high quality developments. Traditionally, the Planning Commission and City staff are deliberate and cautious as they consider development applications. The City prioritizes the best interests of citizens when it makes decisions regarding development. ■

The City is seeking interested volunteers to serve a three year term on the City's Historic Preservation Commission. There are a number of vacancies on the Board that need to be filled immediately. Individuals who have a demonstrated interest, competence or knowledge in historic preservation or architecture should submit letters of interest to Mayor Scott C. Harbertson, Farmington City Corp. at PO Box 160, Farmington, Utah 84025.



Decorations on cemetery gravesites will be removed on March 1st. If you wish to save your decorations, please pick them up by February 28th.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

February 2007

Photograph by Scott & Kristen Harbertson

| | | | |
|--------------|-------|---|--|
| Feb 6 | TUES | City Council Meeting 130 North Main Street | 7:00 pm for agenda see farmington.utah.gov |
| Feb 7 | WED | Town Hall Meeting <i>an open forum discussion with Mayor Harbertson and a City Council Member</i> | 7:00 pm no agenda open discussion |
| Feb 15 | THURS | Planning Commission Meeting 130 North Main Street | 7:00 pm for agenda see farmington.utah.gov |
| Feb 14-17 | | "Sweetheart Serenade" Dinner Theater Community Arts Center | |
| Feb 15 | THURS | City Trails Committee Meeting 130 North Main Street | 7:00 pm for agenda see farmington.utah.gov |
| Feb 19 | MON | City Office Closed President's Day | |
| Feb 20 | TUES | City Council Meeting 130 North Main Street | 7:00 pm for agenda see farmington.utah.gov |
| Feb 21 | WED | Town Hall Meeting <i>an open forum discussion with Mayor Harbertson and a City Council Member</i> | 7:00 pm no agenda open discussion |
| Feb 22 | THURS | "Anything Goes" Auditions Community Arts Center | 6:00 - 9:00 pm |
| Mar 6 | TUES | City Council Meeting 130 North Main Street | 7:00 pm for agenda see farmington.utah.gov |
| Mar 7 | WED | Town Hall Meeting <i>an open forum discussion with Mayor Harbertson and a City Council Member</i> | 7:00 pm no agenda open discussion |

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**Swimming Pool Workers,
Youth Summer Camp Leader and Youth
Summer Camp Assistants**

Applications will be accepted from February 1 - 28th. Applications and job descriptions are available online at www.farmington.utah.gov – quick links – jobs, or at Leisure Services.

Applications are being accepted for seasonal maintenance workers. Temporary and seasonal employees are considered at-will employees. Applicants must be 18+ and have a valid drivers license. Starting wage is \$8/hour. Apply at Public Works, 720 W 100 N, or call 451-2624 x 5.

City Information

Scott Harbertson, Mayor
scottharbo@msn.com

City Council Members

Larry Haugen
haugenlarry@hotmail.com
David S. Hale
dave@hale.net
Rick Dutson
rdutson@dutsonbuilders.com
Sid Young
sidyoung1@msn.com
Paula Alder
paula@alderfam.com

City Operations / City Manager

Max Forbush
mforbush@farmington.utah.gov

City Phone Numbers

Main Number.....451-2383
City Manager.....939-9203
Police Department.....451-5453
Fire Department.....451-2842
Public Works Department..451-2624
Storm Water Maintenance..451-2624
Parks451-2624
Leisure Services451-0953
Building Inspection.....451-2383
Water Department.....451-2624
Planning & Zoning.....451-2383
Historical Museum.....451-4850
Animal Control444-2200
Garbage825-3800
Benchland Water District...482-4929
Weber Water District.....771-1677

After Hours Emergency

Davis County Sheriff.....451-4150
Emergency911

Public Meetings

City Council: Generally the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers. Work Sessions begin at 5:30 pm.

Planning Commission

Generally the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers.

Farmington City Hall

130 North Main
P O Box 160
Farmington, Utah 84025

Leisure Services

720 West 100 North 451-0953 extension 4

Farmington Arts Council is proud to present...

February 14 - 17

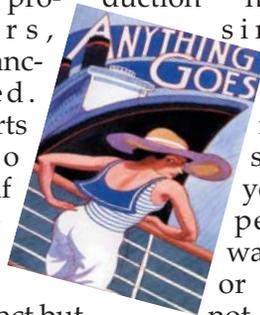
February 22

March 22, 23 & 24

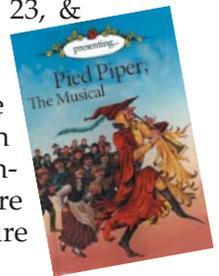
"Sweetheart Serenade" Come enjoy a night of toe tapping entertainment. A delicious dinner will be followed by a Big Band Musical Review. Get your picture taken in the lobby and cut a rug with your sweetheart during the audience dance breaks that are mixed into this fun filled and extraordinary evening. Live music is provided by the Davis High Jazz Band. Tickets are \$15.00 per person and sell out quickly--they must be purchased by Feb 9th. Available at Leisure Services or online.



Spring Dinner Theatre Auditions for Cole Porter's **"Anything Goes"** will be held from 6:00 - 9:00 pm on February 22nd at the Community Arts Center. This show is jam packed with memorable songs and witty dialog. It is a large cast with many fun production numbers. Actors, singers, and dancers are needed. Not all parts require singing, so if you have experience, tap experience, or just want to learn, or if you like to act but not sing, or you love it all, this is the show for you. Men and women age 18 and older may audition. Please prepare 16 bars of a Broadway song. An accompanist will be provided.



"Pied Piper, The Musical" Come enjoy the Spring Children's Theatre March 22, 23, & 24th at 7:00 pm, Community Arts Center. Tickets are \$3.00 per person (two years and under are free), and are available at Leisure Services or online.



Auditions for the summer musical **"Fiddler on the Roof"** are April 12th and 14th. Watch for more info in the March newsletter or check the Farmington website.

Senior Day / Ages: Adult 60 +
Class Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Cost: Free Except Lunch (\$3)
Day: Wednesdays (weekly)
Location: Community Arts Center

Girls Softball
T-Ball - 5 yr olds - \$30
Coach Pitch - 6 yr olds - \$35
Coach Pitch - 8 and under - \$40
Self Pitch - 10 yr olds - \$45
Self Pitch - 12 yr olds - \$60
Fast Pitch - Jr High - \$60
Registration: Open - March 16

Have craft or art supplies laying around collecting dust? Why not donate them to Leisure Services? 451-0953

Leisure Services is offering a variety of fun and educational workshops, classes and sports programs. Don't delay in checking online for registration deadlines, class dates, times and fees. Details are also available by calling Leisure Services.

Anger Management / Ages: 9-13

Arts and Crafts / Ages: 5-13

Beginning Genealogy Workshop

Ceramics (Adult)

Ceramics (Youth) / Ages: 6 and up

Chinese Cooking / Ages: 16 and up

Culinary Arts / Ages: 7-13

Fine Art / Ages: 5-13

Gymnastics / Ages: 5 and up

Handmade Chocolates / 12 - Adult

Karate / Ages: 3 - 10

Karate / Ages: 11 and up

Scrapbooking

Self-Defense / Ages: 14 and up

Partner n Play / Ages: 2 - 5

Play On! Production / PETER PAN

Yoga / Ages: 16 and up

A A R O N R I C H A R D S

Quiet and Constant Dedication

On a wet summer evening in 1983, Aaron Richards parked his car near the old rock house in which he was born and raised and started walking up 1st East. He was concerned about the community he has always called home. By the time he reached 5th North, he could see the mud pushing over fences and through yards, around foundations of homes and then across the street itself. Looking back, he reflects that when nature is driving a situation like that, there's "nothing you can do except get out of the way."

Some of Farmington's history, in the form of landscape and homes, was radically altered in the big mudslide of 1983. That history comes alive in conversations with older Farmington residents like Aaron. The mudslide is only one of Aaron's many memories of a Farmington that is rapidly transforming. He speaks easily of the days before Compton Road, of driving a car across a walking bridge, of his dairy farm that was once located in West Farmington, of five open irrigation ditches that crisscrossed through the Farmington area.

A third generation Farmington native, Aaron's personal history is inextricably intertwined with that of the city. "My grandfather was born here in 1860. My dad in 1899. And except for the time I spent at Logan studying dairy production and the time I spent in the U.S. Army, I've lived here my whole life," Aaron explains. Aaron remembers knowing who lived in each home from Lund Lane to the northern boundary of Farmington. "Now I don't even know everyone on my own street. I've seen so many changes."

Rather than simply watching those changes, in his own way Aaron

has been part of them. For more than 35 years, Aaron has worked with various organizations to ensure that the water available to Farmington residents is distributed efficiently and fairly. Aaron's father was the water master and secretary for the North Cottonwood Irrigation & Water Company. "I used to help my father with open ditch problems and remember thinking I didn't want to inherit the water business. But that was one thing that stayed with me."

It began in the late sixties, when Farmington mayor Dan Gregory called and asked Aaron to help eliminate the open irrigation ditches that created health and safety problems for residents. The project, which involved working with various irrigation companies as well as certain government agencies, came to full fruition in 1977, when Farmington Area Pressurized Irrigation District began delivering water to 658 Farmington, Kaysville and Fruit Heights recipients.

At that time, the agricultural needs for water far outweighed the residential ones. The balance has clearly shifted over the past quarter century. Aaron recognizes that supplying water for residential purposes creates very different demands and skills, but credits the effectiveness of the current system to the "fine work force of long-time workers."

The character of any community really exists in the people who reside there, and people like Aaron Richards help to ensure a way of life that Farmington residents treasure. Aaron's career has been dedicated to the citizens of Farmington in a way that is not loud or obvious, but quiet and constant. ■

a Look Back continued

Mayor Harbertson initiates "Town Hall" meetings twice per month. He, along with rotating City Council members, hear concerns of citizens "one-on-one."

City publishes Public Hearings "Do's & Don'ts" brochure to improve the content and flow of public comments at public hearings.

Website improved to allow citizens to sign up for an email subscription to all public notices.

Farmington City conducted its first "Citizen Survey" allowing citizens to evaluate City services and to express their opinions (see results on City website).

Organized a City citizen-based "Visionary Committee" charged to provide City officials with broad statements of Farmington's present and future character and role. (This is in process and will be completed soon.)

Capital Improvements

Held bond election which approved construction of a new police station, a remodel of the existing Fire Station, and an eventual addition to City Hall.

Increased safety of intersection at Park/Clark and 1100 West Street by installing a traffic signal and improving drainage and street surface.

Constructed new Davis Creek Trail between 200 East and I-15 frontage road.

Used a Federal Community Development Block Grant to begin installing "disability accessible ramps" at 65 intersections.

Completed storm water detention basin in west Farmington adjacent to UTA right-of-way between Glover's Lane and 500 South Street.

Replaced undersized water main lines with new service laterals on 300 East, 200 South, and 700 South to improve fire protection. Thereafter those streets were reconstructed and paved.

Purchased Maxine Schultie's property on south Main Street for possible expansion of Main City Park.

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HELP WANTED

The Arts Council is looking for someone interested in directing or producing the Summer Musical Theatre "Fiddler on the Roof". Please contact Stephanie Paget at 447-4215.

a Look Back continued

Approval of Key City Ordinances & Agreements

Approved Development Agreements for Station Park, a 62-acre commercial area.

Signed agreement with Davis County and with Weber Basin Water Conservancy District to widen and improve fire break road (Weber Basin aqueduct road) from Farmington Canyon to Centerville City.

Completed adjustments to OTR ordinance text after receiving input from downtown citizen representatives. Held hearing on the changes (approval pending).

Adopted Police "General Orders," which is part of their Policies & Procedures Manual to improve training and policy implementation.

Adopted and amended Policies & Procedures & By-Laws for various citizen-based committees and commissions, including Farmington Trails Committee; Leisure Services Board; and Arts Council.

Approved agreement with Glen Leonard to write history of Farmington.

Processed "no hunting" ordinance through State Division of Wildlife Resources.

Adopted federally mandated licensing regulations on sexually-oriented businesses.

Amended development-related fee schedules related to the cost of cleaning streets and the cost of paying for slurry sealing of subdivision streets.

Approved a number of personnel policies and procedures pertaining to overtime pay, use of cell phones, implementation of driver safety policies, etc.

Approval of updated Trail Master Plan pertaining to trail names, use and signage. ■



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