City Manager David Millheim has tendered his resignation, effective mid-November. Great appreciation is expressed to Mr. Millheim for skillfully and devotedly guiding Farmington through the changing of mayors and council members, the pains of new growth, and the endless other challenges that come with managing a city. Watch the December newsletter for more information and for an announcement of his replacement. Following is a letter from Mr. Millheim to Farmington residents.

I have had the honor and privilege of being Farmington’s city manager for the past eight years. As I move into retirement at the end of this year, there are some important lessons I want to pass on to Farmington residents. Many people do not know what a city manager does, and that is how it should be. You elect part-time council members and a mayor who set the policies, rules, budget and overall vision for the city. Their jobs can be a little thankless at times. They absolutely have the best interests of the entire city in their hearts and minds and they are doing the best they can.

The council hires a city manager who oversees all city operations: police, fire, public works, parks, recreation, finance, planning, etc. If city staff are doing our jobs right, no one notices—clean water comes out of the tap, parks are mowed and well maintained, recreation programs work well, streets are plowed, 911 calls get answered quickly and professionally, etc.

In October, the city council approved changes to the city ordinance regarding storing vehicles on the street and parking large vehicles. The revised ordinance, which is now in effect, states that no motor vehicle may be parked on any public Farmington street for more than a continuous 48-hour period. Additionally, the vehicle owner will be considered in violation if a vehicle is parked in one or more locations within the same block for longer than a 48-hour period.

The ordinance also states that it is not allowed to park any vehicle having a total gross weight, loaded or unloaded, in excess of 12,000 pounds or having a total length in excess of 24 feet within a residential zone except when making actual deliveries or doing work at the site where parked.
Please believe me when I say if things are not working right, we hear about those events and work as quickly as we can to correct those shortcomings. A few observations:

Government works best when good people are involved. Your mayor, council members, planning commissioners, citizen volunteers, youth coaches, trail chiefs and many others are involved partners in making Farmington the great place it is. If you care about the city you live in, get involved and provide service in some small or big way. If you cannot do so, please treat with civility those who do. Say thank you to those who work to make your community a great place.

You have a dedicated group of hard-working city employees who care about the services you receive. I have been out with snowplow operators on Christmas morning, keeping our roads clean so you can enjoy your day. I have ridden with police officers on traffic stops at 2:00 a.m. when they approach (unassisted) a person driving erratically. I have looked in the eyes of injured firefighters in hospital beds who were seriously hurt while serving you. It is an absolute blessing to have served with such fine people.

Be careful with social media. I think Russell M. Nelson, President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, was absolutely inspired asking members to take a ten-day fast from social media. I stopped reading anonymous and cowardly, mean posts a long time ago. Pick up the phone, talk face to face with your neighbor or city officials when needed. Personal contacts are much more effective at bringing a positive change than gossip-heavy, uninformed diatribes on social media. Nobody likes bullies, so please do not be a part of that type of mean behavior.

Change is hard but inevitable. We are driving up land and home values by the quality of the work we are doing in Farmington. This is why many of you moved here in the last few years. Growth is not going to stop. No one is going to “build a wall” around Farmington. Property rights really do matter. None of you would even be in Farmington if a previous property owner, developer, builder or past city council had not advocated change. Each of those parties took risk and proposed a change which was accepted. You are the beneficiary of those who came before you. Let’s not be hypocrites, but seek to manage our growth and changing community in a responsible and civil manner.

Most important, I have found most folks are nice to their friends, neighbors, public servants and others. Keep that going. We can choose to live life in a happy way or a negative way. I am so thankful for the quality of people I have been associated with in Farmington. Someday I will likely be buried in our cemetery. I can think of no better place to lay down my head at the end of the day.

Thank you for the privilege it has been to serve you.

Fallen leaf collection continues along State and Main Streets. Residents living on all other Farmington streets are responsible to collect and dispose of the leaves on their own property. For full detail, check the city website or refer to the October newsletter.

City ordinances state that from November 15 through February 28, 2019 no vehicle of any kind may be parked in the street right-of-way from 1:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. Traffic citations will be issued to violators. Also, remember that within 48 hours after snowfall stops, citizens are required to remove snow from the public sidewalks fronting their property. More snowplow information is available on the city website.

Thank you for compliance to these ordinances. Together we can help make this season safe for pedestrians and drivers.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov 1</td>
<td>THURS</td>
<td>Planning Commission Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>160 South Main Street</td>
<td>for agenda see farmington.utah.gov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 6</td>
<td>TUES</td>
<td>Election Day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Be sure to vote!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 11</td>
<td>SUN</td>
<td>Veterans Day Ceremony</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Farmington Cemetery 500 S 200 E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 13</td>
<td>TUES</td>
<td>City Council Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>160 South Main Street</td>
<td>for agenda see farmington.utah.gov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 15</td>
<td>THURS</td>
<td>Trails Committee</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>160 South Main Street</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 15</td>
<td>THURS</td>
<td>Planning Commission Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>160 South Main Street</td>
<td>for agenda see farmington.utah.gov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 22 &amp; 23</td>
<td></td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
<td>all day</td>
<td></td>
<td>City Offices Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 30</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cori Connors Christmas Concert</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tickets on sale now!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 1 &amp; 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 4</td>
<td>TUES</td>
<td>City Council Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>160 South Main Street</td>
<td>for agenda see farmington.utah.gov</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VETERANS DAY 2018**

Sunday, November 11
11:00 am
Farmington Cemetery
500 S 200 East

Come to a Veterans Day ceremony honoring all who served. Organized by Farmington City and American Legion Post 27, the program will include a flag ceremony, speakers, a veteran rifle volley and Taps.
Letters to Santa
when? Nov 26th–Dec 15th
address letters to:
SANTA CLAUS
1 CANDY CANE LANE
NORTH POLE, AK 99705
deliver letters to Farmington Parks & Rec address & phone above

Cori Connors Christmas Concert
when? Nov 30th, Dec 1st & 3rd
7:30 p.m.
who? All ages are invited to attend
limited seating available
tickets on sale now!

Christmas with Santa
when? Fri, Dec 7th 5–8 p.m. & Sat, Dec 8th 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
who? Everyone
cost? Free
space limited
make appointments with P&R
One of the most popular entertainments for Farmington’s first generation was dancing. All you needed was someone who could play a fiddle with a fiddlestick (that is, a violin with a violin stick)—and a wood floor. The first usable site was the two-story adobe courthouse built in 1855. The Deseret Brass Band rehearsed there. And the Farmington Home Dramatic Association, organized in the 1860s, performed plays such as Box and Cox, The Gun Maker of Moscow, and Pocahontas.

The adobe courthouse was demolished in 1890 and replaced by a red brick courthouse. Farmington was already planning for its own hall, but finding a suitable location wasn’t easy. In 1878 Bishop John W. Hess sought Church President John W. Taylor’s permission to use a 50 x 100-foot parcel in the Tithing Lot on 100 East. Permission was not granted, but eventually the bishop found property at 280 North 100 East.

Farmington’s adobe brick Opera House opened in 1885. Large benches lined the walls, and in the center a good-sized pot-bellied stove warmed the room. The hardwood floor was perfect for dancing. Mathias Udy was the caller for square dancing and triangle dances. Couples also enjoyed the Scotch reel, the Two-step Line Dance, and the French Minuet. Special events included masquerade balls, military balls, a Woman’s Suffrage sociable, and fund-raising Missionary Aid Society dances. The building also hosted choir concerts, political rallies, lectures, and old folks’ parties.

The stage in the east end had red velvet curtains. Hand-painted scenery provided backdrops. A basement under the stage had tables, chairs, and a cook stove. The Dramatic Association was known for its fine plays, including The Pope of Rome and The Founding of the Forest. They shared them in Davis, Weber, and Morgan counties. Bountiful’s actors brought Emigrants Daughter, My Partner, and Golden Giant to Farmington. Admission was 10 cents for singles, 50 cents per couple.

The Opera House was not the only place for entertainment. The Lake Park Bathing Resort west of Farmington attracted boaters and swimmers from 1887 to 1893, and Lagoon did so after that. In response, the Opera House offered fewer local programs, among them a Grand Misfit ball and an Elders Quorum’s benefit ball. They scheduled more traveling shows, including John S. Lindsay’s troupe playing Shakespeare’s Othello, the Washington Dramatic Company’s Woman Against Woman, and the Nashville Students (young African-Americans). In 1898 Farmington’s brass band leased the building and offered orchestra, band, piano, and organ concerts.

The Opera House continued in use until 1920. Residents soon called the aging building the “Old White Elephant.” The Forest Service purchased the 0.94-acre parcel in 1937, demolished the Opera House, and built a Research Station. In 1994 the Forest Service gave the property to Farmington City.
Enjoy a night out with the family and support childhood cancer research.

**ELORA'S LIGHTS FAMILY NIGHT**
Monday, November 26th
Heritage Park on 1075 West in Farmington
5–8:00 pm
pictures with Santa • hot cocoa
food trucks • Christmas lights • and more . . .
eloraslightfoundation.org

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**FLAG ROCK:** Always a great hike destination and a good place for contemplation or enjoying a spectacular view. Now a place for getting married—congratulations to the bride and groom!

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jill@bluepebblepress.com or call 801.499.9225