



The Nibley City News

Nibley, Utah—February 2020

Thoughts From Mayor Dustin



Mayor Shaun Dustin

Ron Helstern passed away this month. If you didn't know Ron, then I'm sorry. He is an amazing man. Ron was one of those people that saw how good the world could be and didn't just think about it or talk about it or blog about it. He got out and did stuff that made a difference. He was, at various times in his life, a teacher, a coach, an advocate, a naturalist, and, in the place I got to know him best, a City Councilor. I'm going to tell you how Ron, an apolitical doer, got involved with the City Council, one huge difference he made that impacts all of you, and how your personal decisions will either make what he did even better, or not.

One of our Council members was moving and the way it works is that when someone resigns from the City Council, citizens submit applications to replace them. The Council reviews the applications, and in a public meeting, picks a new council member by majority vote. This has happened two times since I've been the mayor. Both times we have gotten some incredible candidates. One of those candidates was Ron. All the candidates presented their good ideas—ideas about governance, and regulations and better services. It was obvious that they were all plugged in and passionate about this City. Ron's presentation was a little different, and if you know Ron, you know that it was about nature and environment and what an amazing place this valley is. I was humbled by his perspective of who we are, his vision for what we could become, and how that was tied to the land, animals and plants around us.

I don't get to vote much in City Council. I only get to vote to break a tie, so when I do vote it's pretty memorable (to me). This vote was split, 2-2. I remember thinking that both candidates were great, and would serve with distinction, but that I really wanted to live in whatever town Ron was a part of. So I voted, Ron joined us on the council. Even though he wasn't there long, he made an impact that will serve this community for generations. You see, Ron was instrumental in making the Firefly Nature Park a reality. Nibley is home to one of the few known firefly populations in the west.

If you haven't seen a firefly, they are magical. For about four weeks at the end of June and beginning of July, they buzz around the park at twilight looking for a mate. Ron's vision for a preserve defined a space for people to observe and enjoy something really special. I love that a guy like Ron was willing to put a little bit of himself into this community.

So how do we help with this? Nibley is changing and growing. We all came here because this place worked for us. When something works for me, I don't want it to be changed. The fields and springs and ponds and canals and trees are obvious things. Less obvious are the animals—the birds, the marmots, the ermine, the raccoons, the deer, the muskrats, and even the skunks. Fireflies are pretty far down on the list of things we notice. The purpose of Firefly Park is to preserve something that is going away as land develops. Preservation

(continued on page 2)



Dog License Registration & Renewal

Show your love for your pet and get them registered with Nibley City. Dog registration, for all of Nibley City's canine friends, is open from now until **February 29, 2020**. After February 29, a late fee will be assessed. Nibley City requires all dogs within Nibley City boundaries, over the age of 6 months, to be licensed and have a current rabies vaccination. If you know your registration is up-to-date you may call the Nibley City offices to renew your registration. However, there will be an additional \$4 processing fee should you choose this option.

When your "best friend" is registered with Nibley City, it helps the Cache County Animal Control officers and the Cache Humane Society facilitate getting your pet back quickly should it go missing, which may save you costly fees. If you have questions, please contact Nancee or Michelle at the Nibley City offices.



Nibley City Office

455 West 3200 South
Nibley, UT 84321

Ph: 752-0431 • Fax: 753-1510

Hours: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (Mon.–Fri.)

Visit the Nibley City website at

www.nibleycity.com

Nibley City is also on

[facebook](https://www.facebook.com/nibleycity)

Go to www.facebook.com/nibleycity

and our page

To contact Mayor Shaun Dustin
shaun@nibleycity.com

If you have comments, or information that could be included in the newsletter, please contact cheryl@nibleycity.com.

(Thoughts From Mayor Dustin, continued from page 1)

means that we need to give the birds and insects and animals a chance to be born, grow up, and live. That's why dogs are not allowed in Firefly Park, on or off leash. That's why we are asking homeowners to point their lights in their yards down, and not out over the park. If your dog needs to run, the nature park is not the place to do it. Take them to the Logan dog park or let them out in your yard. But please don't take them to the nature park. Nibley is not going to have any shortage of dogs and cats in the coming years. But I sure hope that my grandkids will be able to see a firefly or a weasel.

If I learned anything from Ron, it's that I live in a place that is worth preserving. That it's not going to happen without me taking responsibility for my actions.

Mayor Dustin



Mountain Crest/Ridgeline Young Artist Cup 2020



Would you enjoy a night of beautiful music? Are you looking for a cultural event for your scout or church group? Or perhaps you need an idea for date night?

You're invited to come watch some of the finest talent Cache Valley's youth have to offer at the Mountain Crest/Ridgeline Young Artist Cup music competition on March 25 and 26. You'll see amazing performances, be served refreshments and see top finishers earn cash prizes at this free event. For more details, please visit www.youngartistcup.wordpress.com.



Don't miss out on treating your little princesses or princes to a spectacular event. Come and meet all of their favorite princesses and princes on **Saturday, February 8**. The Family

Place's annual *Princess Party* will have appearances by characters such as Moana, Vanellope, Rapunzel, Flynn, Anna, Elsa, and Kristoff. Castle Manor (170 3900 North, Hyde Park) will be filled with different crafts, activities, and of course dancing. All proceeds will go to The Family Place to continue strengthening families and protecting children. Tickets can be purchased at <https://PrincessParty20.givesmart.com>.



Cache Valley Wildlife Association



On January 3, 2020, Nibley lost one of its most active and respected citizens, Ron Hellstern, to cancer.

Ron and Wendy have lived in Nibley for over 21 years. During that time, Ron worked tirelessly to enhance wildlife habitat in the community. He promoted ways to create and maintain natural environments along our roadways, in our yards, and in our parks; allowing humans and wildlife to coexist.

Ron's many efforts included serving on the Nibley City Council and the Tree Board as part of the Tree City USA program. Ron was instrumental in forming the Cache Valley Wildlife Association under the direction of the National Wildlife Federation. This contributed to Nibley being listed as the first "Certified Wildlife Habitat" city in the state of Utah. As you enjoy Firefly Park, think of Ron who helped name, acquire, and responsibly develop the area as a Nature Park. Ron was Nibley's 2013 Citizen of the Year and was also once the Grand Marshall in Nibley's Heritage Days parade.

Ron left his mark throughout the valley as well. Ron was always involved in environmental issues and educating the public—especially in regards to monarch butterfly conservation. You may have heard Ron on the radio where he was a frequent contributor on *Wild About Utah*, read his articles in the Herald Journal, or visited a booth tended by Ron during Heritage Days.

Ron leaves a void in our great city. His efforts will not be forgotten. The hope is we will all carry on his legacy by using our individual and collective gifts to better serve our City in ways that we are able. Plant trees, shrubs, and pollinator plants; reuse, recycle, reduce; enjoy the birds, bees, and butterflies in your yard; get involved in city organizations; and, encourage others to do the same.

For those who would like to make a donation to help Wendy cover Ron's medical costs, a GoFundMe account has been set up. Visit www.gf.me/u/w8bdvp.

-The Cache Valley Wildlife Association



Recreation Roundup

Nibley Nordic Track

Thanks to some hard work from Rod in our Parks Department and a Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant of the Governor's office of Economic Development, Nibley city now has equipment to groom a cross country ski trail. Luckily, some great weather has allowed us to groom trail that skiers have been able to enjoy with the track open **6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.** Our hope is to continue to facilitate grooming of the Nordic track, however, conditions change frequently, which may effect use of the track. Please respect posted trail signs, which may request participants stay off the track if you sink more than an inch in your skis, or to watch for walkers/runners at the intersections with plowed sidewalks. Up-to-date trail conditions for Nibley's trail and other trails in our area are available on the Nordic United website at www.nordicunited.org.

Nibley Nordic Track @ Heritage Park

NOW OPEN! Made possible in part by: 

2456 S 800 W Nibley, UT | www.NibleyCity.com



Nibley Fit--Love 2

FREE for: Spouse, Significant Other, or Friend



Feb 10th-14th

SHARE THE LOVE 2 for 1 special:
drop in participants and current Nibley Fit Pass holders can bring a Spouse, Significant other, or Friend to class for: **FREE**

SUPER START Soccer

Time's almost up to get in on Nibley's SUPER START soccer program. Registration ends **Friday, February 7**

or until full. Spots are limited. If you missed the opportunity this year, please add your name to the waiting list to be notified about other soccer opportunities. SUPER START is an introductory, indoor soccer program for children aged 3 and 4. It follows an award-winning format proven to maximize a participant's touches on the ball and connects soccer with a fun experience.

NEXT STEP Soccer


Next Step SOCCER



Kindergarten - 2nd Grade 

Players from kindergarten through 2nd grade will get a kick out of this FUNdamental focused program, directed by well-trained coaches. It is available now through Nibley City's Recreation Department. You can plan on the same exceptional, youth sports experience, Nibley's recreation program is known for. Plus, registration includes a FREE mid-season skills clinic. All games and practices will be held in Nibley. If it still fits, players that participated in the SUPER START program may use their Nibley Recreation red/blue, reversible, soccer jersey, saving you \$5.

Baseball, Softball, T-ball Sign Ups

 Registration for 2020 Baseball, softball, and T-ball opens **February 12**. Be a part of this favorite American pastime and enjoy one of our recreation leagues with your whole family. The season runs May-June (approximately) but actual dates depend on the league and there may be post season play for some older leagues. See www.nibleycity.com for forecasted scheduling, outlined by league.



Like and share Nibley City's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/nibley) and website (www.nibleycity.com). You'll find the most up-to-date information on Nibley City recreation events and activities.

Planning Our City

February will be a busy month for the Planning Commission and City Council as they review new developments, an annexation, and some updates to Nibley City Code.

The Nibley City Planning Commission make recommendations to the Nibley City Council. This month they are considering recommendations of the following updates and changes to Nibley City Code:

- Commercial Standards and Zoning Updates
- A proposal to change Nibley City Code to allow homeowners to have detached apartments/guest homes on their property.
- The Planning Commission will create a list of goals and projects to address over the next year.

There are also a couple of land use applications that the Planning Commission and City Council will consider:

- A Residential Planned Unit Overlay Zone of twenty acres west of Firefly Park. This overlay zone would allow the development of single-family housing, town homes, and open space
- A Residential Planned Unit Overlay Zone for 76 acres east of City Hall, and north of 3200 S. This overlay zone would allow the development of single-family housing, town homes, condominiums, and open space. The City Council will be holding a public hearing on the development on **February 13 at 6:30 p.m.**
- Final approval of Nibley Farms Subdivision Phase 2 and 3, located on 1500 W around 3500 S. Nibley Farms is a single-family rural preservation subdivision that has already gained preliminary approval.
- The annexation of over fifty acres north of 2600 S and west of 1200 W. The City Council will be holding a public hearing on the development on **February 13 at 6:30 p.m.**

Finally, the Planning Commission made a positive recommendation for a proposed Water Master Plan and updated Outdoor Lighting Standards to the Council. The City Council will consider these items for adoption to Nibley City policy this month.

You can find full agendas and reports for each City Council and Planning Commission meeting at www.nibleycity.com. Agendas and reports are posted the Friday prior to each meeting.



Stephen Nelson
Nibley City Planner

If you have questions or comments contact
stephen@nibleycity.com
or call Nibley City Hall at 752-0431.

Reminders from Nibley City Staff

We're Closed



Please be aware that Nibley City Hall will be closed on **Monday, February 17** to observe President's Day.

Nibley's Laws Regarding Animal Residents



Most pet owners know that it's common courtesy to take small plastic bags with them when they walk their dogs and to clean up any "deposits" their pup may leave. Please be courteous and pick up after your dog. Doing so helps prevent the spread of parasites and disease between dogs and people.

It is also against Nibley City ordinance (19.02.110 A.2) to allow your animals to trespass on another person's property. Please remember that while you may enjoy the company and caretaking responsibilities of owning animals, your neighbor may feel differently.



Finally, please pay attention to the posted signs at Nibley City's parks. Nibley City Code 16.16.040 reads:

"Dogs are permitted in all parks and on Nibley City Trails unless otherwise posted, except that dogs are not allowed in Firefly Park. All dogs must be under control and on a leash, except for in designated off-leash areas or dog parks as may be designated by the City. All dog owners or person with the dog shall clean up after their dog's waste, and dispose of it in proper garbage receptacle, and must be in possession of a bag for such purposes whenever walking a dog on City property. Retractable and wireless leashes and leashes longer than eight (8) feet are not permitted in Nibley City parks."



Utah Wellbeing Survey

Nibley City is participating in the Utah Wellbeing Project led by Dr. Courtney Flint at Utah State University. Given the rapidly changing landscapes and populations in Utah, this survey will provide key information to city leaders about the wellbeing of residents and issues important to them. All adult residents of Nibley are encouraged to take the online survey by going to this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/yx89Z9yw>

The survey should take approximately 10 minutes. It's anonymous and voluntary. If you have any questions about this survey and the USU project, please contact the project director, Dr. Courtney Flint at 797-8635 or courtney.flint@usu.edu.

—Nibley City Staff