



TOWN OF BRIGHTON NEWS

MAY 2024



"You can observe a lot by just watching." ~ Yogi Berra

Watch for the annual Mountain Goat migration in Big Cottonwood. It's a thrill to see them perched along the rocky purple and grey ridgelines near the big bridge as they travel to their summer pasture in Little Cottonwood.

Mountain goats were brought to Utah from the Olympic National Park in Washington state in the late 1960s and 1970s by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. They were placed in the Cottonwood Canyons, LaSal Mountains near Moab, Tushar Mountains near Beaver, and the Uinta Wilderness. For years they flourished in the Cottonwood Canyons, but disease from domestic sheep have reduced their population to under 100 animals in the Cottonwoods. In summer, they can sometimes be viewed from the upper Park & Ride lot in Little Cottonwood.



SILVER FORK LODGE CHANGES

The Silver Fork Lodge has stood in its original location for almost 80 years. Its rustic charm is reflected by original wood beams from the Cardiff Fork Mine in the dining room, and glass tile from the 1940's still shines behind the bar. Ted and Ethel Glines built the dining room and lodge

addition in the 1950's. Before that it was a one-pump gas station and snack shop with the only pay telephone in the canyon hanging outside the entry wall. The thrifty couple used rugged WWII surplus ammo boxes stacked up like bricks for some of the walls. When the Glines retired, Jim and Avis Light purchased the Lodge and ran it for 25 years. Jim also served as watermaster, and Avis published the Big Cottonwood Newsletter for many years. They sold to Dan Knopp when they retired in 1993.

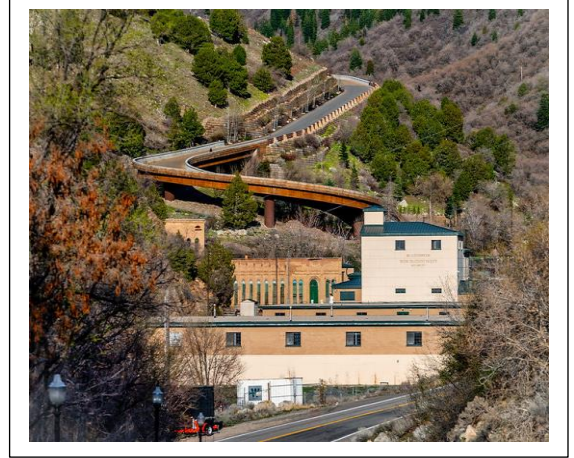
Many renovations later, the Lodge continues to be a popular gathering place for visitors and residents alike. Similar to the Lights, owner Knopp has shown significant support for the community by serving as snowplow master, water company president, and the first mayor of Brighton. The Lodge has a legacy of community hospitality that spans from its mining era roots to the bloom of the recreation era. The famous pancakes made with sourdough starter from the Cardiff mine are still on the menu.

Time has come for another change as Dan makes plans to sell the Lodge after 31 years. There have been offers, some of which included plans to tear down the building. Concerned residents contacted town council members to consider buying the Lodge as a Town Hall. Dan was never involved with the request and was actually surprised by it. He was not present or consulted at any time. Council members engaged engineers and construction experts to help with a decision. The Council finally approached Dan with a proposal, but he was against it because of the conflict-of-interest optics. Nonetheless, Council members proposed to enter into a first-right-of-refusal agreement under terms that are acceptable to Dan. That is, if he receives an acceptable sales offer from someone, the Council could review the buyer's offer and plans, then decide to allow the sale to proceed, or buy the Lodge at the offered price. In addition, the agreement would bind the Town to buy the property if there isn't an offer for the property within a year.

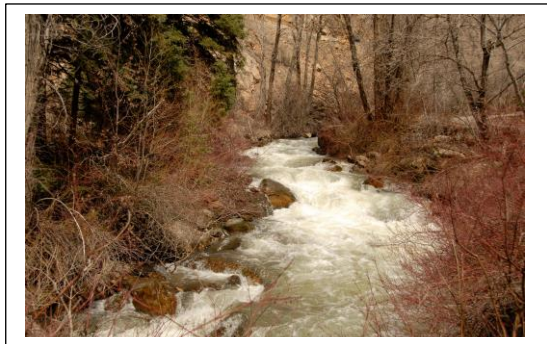
The decision on whether to enter into the right of first refusal for the property will be considered at the next Council meeting on May 14. As always, it is a public meeting and the public is invited to attend. There are pros and cons to using the Silver Fork Lodge as a Town Hall. The Town Council is looking forward to ideas from the community for this historic building.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT REBUILD

The Big Cottonwood Water Treatment Plant (BCWTP), located at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon, is owned and operated by Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities (SLCDPU) and currently supplies about 20% of the drinking water in the valley. BCWTP needs to be rebuilt to improve plant safety and capacity. The first step is the construction of a 36” welded steel aqueduct to divert the water from Big Cottonwood over to Little Cottonwood Water Treatment Plant (LCWTP) before remodeling begins. Ultimately the aqueduct, designed to withstand earthquakes, will enable the transfer of untreated water from either plant to the other plant for treatment, because both plants need updating.



Construction will begin at the crossing of Wasatch Blvd. and Ft. Union Blvd. this spring. This section of the pipeline is expected to be complete before winter. The project will continue southward down Ft. Union later on in the year.



Real Time Stream Flow

Check out the actual flow rates of Big Cottonwood Creek: [Dashboard \(slco.org\)](https://slco.org).

Streamflow this time of year is expected to be high, fast, and cold. Safety is critical around the creek, so please watch out for kids and pets.

According to Salt Lake County Public Works, last winter’s snowpack was 200+% of normal and the soil moisture was extremely low. This year’s snowpack is 130% of normal and soil moisture is extremely high. The runoff is expected to be plentiful, but more manageable this year because of the intermittent cooling and warming trends. Reservoirs are mostly full, so runoff will enter into the Great Salt Lake instead of the reservoirs.

Salt Lake County has free sandbags available at the Public Works facility, 604 W. 6960 South, Midvale. They’re open 7 days/week from 8 am - 6 pm. Bring a shovel in case the ready-made bags are gone. Visit this link for more information (scroll down):

[Runoff Ready - Flood Control | SLCo](#)

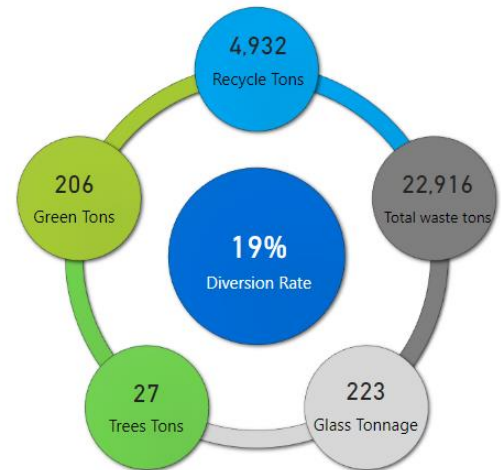
WASATCH FRONT WASTE & RECYCLING DISTRICT REPORT

The WFWRD recycling diversion rate for the first quarter of 2024 (January-March) was 19%, which exceeds our goal of 18%!

The diversion rate is the percentage of residential municipal waste diverted from the landfill through reuse, reduction, recycling, and composting programs.

The Landfills serving the Wasatch Front are filling up! After these landfills fill up, trash will need to be transported out of the valley, increasing vehicles on the road, emissions and transportation costs.

Diverting from the landfill supports the longevity of these landfills and reduces our carbon footprint. WFWRD offers multiple diversion opportunities including recycling, glass recycling, and subscription weekly curbside green waste collection.



SPRING CLEANING AHEAD!

GLASS RECYCLING Glass is 100% recyclable! If you recycle one glass bottle, it saves enough energy to light a 100-watt bulb for four hours, power a computer for 30 minutes, or a television for 20 minutes. Drop off glass recycling services are located at:

- Holladay City Hall 4580 S 2300 East
- East Upper District Park 3650 S Wasatch Blvd.
- Whitmore Library Parking Lot

TRAILER RENTAL PROGRAM

WFWRD offers a one-time free trailer reservation for Brighton homeowners. There are bulk trailers and green waste trailers that you can reserve to help with household clean-up tasks.

These trailers are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Details are available on our website at <https://wasatchfrontwaste.org>. You can also reserve your trailer online or call our offices to make your reservation. Sign up early to ensure you get the trailer on the date you need.



RECYCLING GUIDE Here's a helpful list of places that recycle:

Mattresses

Spring Back Mattress Recycling
1929 S 4130 W Suite D

Salt Lake City, UT 84104
(385) 229-4804

[Contact Spring Back Utah | Mattress Recycling In Salt Lake City](#)

Computers and TVs

Metech Recycling
369 South Orange Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84104
Tel: 801.886.3022 or info@Metechrecycling.com
[Home - Metech Recycling](#)

Tires

Liberty Tire Recycling
1398 N Beck St
Salt Lake City, UT 84116
801-364-7900
[Liberty Tire Recycling - Tire Recycling Services](#)

Major Appliances

Utah Junk Pickup
Call or Text 801-290-8958
[Utah Junk Removal | Junk Haul-Away | Utah Junk Pickup](#)

Got Junk

[Full-Service Junk Removal | 1-800-GOT-JUNK \(1800gotjunk.com\)](#)

Automotive Batteries and Hazardous Waste

Salt Lake Valley Solid Waste
6030 W. California Ave. (1400S.)
Monday-Saturday 7-5PM by appointment only
801-541-4078 or 801-597-0745
[Landfill | SLCo](#)

OR

Trans-Jordan Landfill
10473 South Bacchus Hwy South Jordan, UT 84009-6002
Office: (801) 569-8994 info@transjordan.org

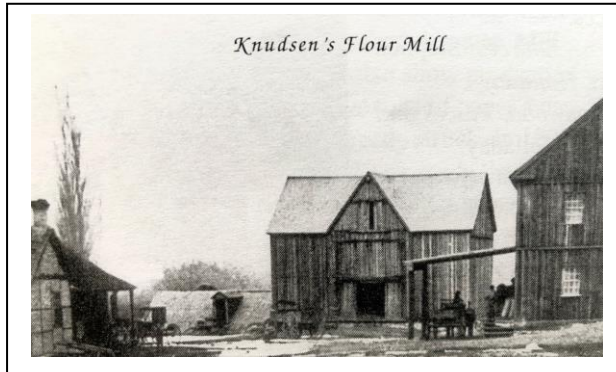
Graffiti

Last month the Graffiti Busters completed 11 hours of work at Storm Mountain and Ledgemere Picnic ground (45 tags removed). If you see graffiti in the canyon, report it to Canyon Patrol (801) 840-4000. They will contact the Graffiti Busters for us.

Tales of the Wasatch presented by the Big Cottonwood Canyon Historical Society

KNUDSEN'S CORNER-THE BEGINNING OF BIG COTTONWOOD CANYON ROAD

The mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon is officially located at Knudsen's Corner, the intersection of 6200 South and Holladay Boulevard, where the Tuscany Restaurant now stands. UDOT marks Knudsen's Corner as Mile Post #1 of Highway 190, Big Cottonwood Road.



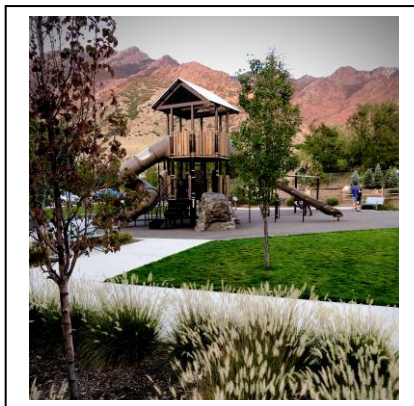
When Rasmus Knudsen of Arlborg, Denmark, immigrated to Utah in 1864, he built several sawmills in Big Cottonwood Canyon. Then in 1871 Knudsen purchased the wooded area around the 6200 South and Holladay Boulevard intersection to build a flour mill on the southeast corner of the property (current site of the Tuscany Restaurant.) It took 5 years to build, and operated for 30 years, winning prizes for its high-quality products, including white flour, cornmeal, hominy, and steel cut oatmeal.

In 1912, Rasmusson Rudolph opened the popular Knudsen's Grove campsite to the southwest of the flour mill in a beautiful stand of shady oak trees. There were 9 little cabins there when Rasmus' daughter Pearl, opened a screened outdoor café that attracted many summer visitors.

In 1919 Rudolph Knudsen opened a small restaurant and store, Knudsen Inn. In 1925, the restaurant was sold to the Dyers family who ran it for many years as a popular country lunch stand famous for its "toasted buttered-bun" hamburgers and ice cream. Misfortune struck when the Knudsen Inn burned to the ground.



The next owner used the same stones to rebuild the restaurant and named it "The Heather". It became a popular gathering place in the 1970s. It was renamed "The Bridlewood Restaurant" when it was sold to new owners. In 1994, Mark Eaton (Utah Jazz player from 1982-1993) bought the restaurant and redesigned it as an Italian Alps chalet. He called it "Tuscany". He also purchased the old Edythe Smith cabin next door and opened a French restaurant, "Franck's House". Both restaurants have received many Zagat and Best of State Dining Awards.



The Cotton Bottom, just across the street, was recently purchased by the Bar X Group. Plans are to preserve the bar area (famous for its garlic burgers) and add a family dining room.

The City of Holladay created a new 73-acre Knudsen's Park, which opened in April 2019. The scenic area along Big Cottonwood Creek, features a playground with a water area for kids, a pavilion, picnic tables, and a hammock garden for hanging around in your own hammock. There's even a bike and hiking trail that connects to the Old Mill Historic Trail.

BIG COTTONWOOD CANYON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This summer, the committee will be working to collect stories, photos and documents about the lower canyon from Knudsen's Corner to Storm Mountain. If you have any information to share, please contact anyone on the Historical Society. Your stories are important! [Historical Society — BRIGHTON INSTITUTE \(thebrightoninstitute.org\)](http://thebrightoninstitute.org)



UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 3** Brighton Resort's Meltdown begins. Crest lift will open from 9 am-2pm with some terrain park features through May 19.
[Events | Brighton \(brightonresort.com\)](http://brightonresort.com)
- May 12** Solitude Mountain Resort closes for the winter season with a fun-filled Closing Day Retro Party.
[Closing Day Retro Party | Solitude Mountain Resort](#)
- Brighton Resort's Mothers' Day Brunch at the Milly. Reservations:
[Milly Chalet | Mountain Dining | Brighton \(brightonresort.com\)](#)
- Solitude Resort's Mothers' Day Flowers and Chocolate Celebration with complimentary chocolate and flowers all across the resort.
- Silver Fork Lodge Mothers' Day Brunch
[Silver Fork Lodge and Restaurant | Brighton, Utah 84121](#)
- May 25 & 26** Beaver Dam Analog Volunteers' Workday. Meet at Willow Heights Trailhead at 10 am.
- June 27** Darren Parry, 5th generation son of Shoshone Chief Sagwitch who survived the Bear River Massacre of 1862 will tell the stories passed down from generations before about his tribe and their relationship to the Wasatch. Thursday, June 27 ▪ Wasatch Mountain Lodge ▪ Potluck Supper at 5:30 pm ▪ Lecture at 6:30 pm. Bring a dish to share if you would like to attend the Potluck portion. Cost: Free

- July 4** Brighton 4th of July Breakfast & Parade ▪ Breakfast at the Milly 8-10 am ▪ Parade 10:30 am ▪ Brighton Loop
- July 13 & 14** Brighton Days & Wildflower Festival ▪ Brighton Loop on July 13 ▪ Solitude Village on July 14 ▪ 10 am – 2 pm
[Wasatch Wildflower Festival | Cottonwood Canyons Foundation](#)
- July 29** Chipper Days begin ▪ To sign up: [Big Cottonwood Chipper Days](#)
- August 8** Kids' Day at Solitude ▪ Noon to 4 pm ▪ Crafts, music, games
- Sept 14** Revel Marathon ▪ Rolling lane closures, slow traffic in canyon 6-11 am.

MEETINGS AROUND TOWN

Brighton Town Council

Second Tuesday of each month – 6:30 pm [Meetings | Brighton Utah](#)

OR www.utah.gov/pmn (You can subscribe to this website to receive automatic notifications.)

Brighton Institute Meeting

Second Monday of each month – 6 pm. Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86508034065>

Meeting ID: 865 0803 4065 Phone Connection: +1-253-215-8782

BCCA Community Council

Second Monday of each month – 7 pm. Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86508034065>

Meeting ID: 865 0803 4065 Phone Connection: +1-253-215-8782

Brighton Planning Commission Meeting

Third Wednesday of each month – 6:00 pm [Meetings | Brighton Utah](#)

RESOURCES

Real Time Stream Flow

Check out the actual flow rates of Big Cottonwood Creek: [Dashboard \(slco.org\)](#).

Wondering how to prepare for flooding? Check out this link: [Flood Control | SLCo](#)

Big Cottonwood Historical Society

Check out stories about Big Cottonwood: [Historical Society — BRIGHTON INSTITUTE](#) If you have pictures, stories, or documents, let us know! Join in the adventure to discover and share canyon history!

Environmental Dashboard

The Central Wasatch Commission's Environmental Dashboard has some great information about our canyon. Access the Environmental Dashboard at this link: [CWC Environmental Dashboard \(utah.gov\)](https://www.cwc.utah.gov/Environmental-Dashboard)