



BRIGHTON DAYS

Brighton Days will be the first annual heritage celebration to honor the natural and cultural history of Big Cottonwood Canyon. Shoshone and Ute tribes, pioneer settlers, loggers, miners, and recreationists have been drawn to this canyon's abundant natural resources. Our goal for the future is to foster an appreciation and stewardship for a resilient forest, responsible recreation, and a sense of place. Free fun for the whole family!

FRIDAY, JULY 23RD SOLITUDE MOUNTAIN RESORT

MOVIE | Apex Express Lawn | sundown

Ice Cream will be available for purchase at the Stone Haus Pizzeria & Creamery

SATURDAY, JULY 24TH BRIGHTON RESORT

BOOTHS, TOURS & ACTIVITIES | Alpine Rose | 1 - 4:30 pm

Food will be available for purchase at the Alpine Rose Lodge on Saturday

CLIVE ROMNEY IN CONCERT | Brighton Branch LDS Chapel | 5:30 pm

Original songs about Big Cottonwood Canyon

PIONEER LINE DANCING WITH SETH REID | Brighton Branch LDS Chapel | 6:30 pm

Many thanks to our wonderful Sponsors!





Solitude
MOUNTAIN RESORT



ENGELMANN MOUNTAIN SCHOOL

MORNING IN THE MOUNTAINS

Saturday, July 10, 2021

9 am – 11 am Come join the Engelmann Mountain School staff for a *Morning in the Mountains*. Groups will be constructed based on age (parents can choose to join their littles if they'd like). Each group leader will guide participants through the mountains to hike in the wilderness, reflect in nature, and experience first-hand the beauty of the mountains during the famous *Wildflower Festival* weekend. It's FREE and OPEN to all ages!

11 am – 1 pm Afterwards, gather in the Wasatch Mountain Lodge Main Dining Room to enjoy the wildflowers, mountain air and scenery as you eat brunch during the first annual fundraiser event. For more information: <https://engelmannmountainschool.org/events/>



BRIGHTON GENERAL PLAN

Let's keep the celebration going! Join your neighbors for the Brighton General Plan Kick-Off Community Workshop! Give us a bird's eye view of your thoughts and ideas about challenges and opportunities facing the Town of Brighton. All are welcome. No prior planning experience is required.

DATE: Thursday, July 22, 2021

TIME: 6-8 pm

PLACE: Brighton Branch of the LDS Church (8171 Brighton Loop Road)

You'll be impressed about what has been done so far, but we need to hear from you. What do you want the Town of Brighton to look like in the future? For more information go to: <https://brighton-general-plan-gslmsd.hub.arcgis.com/>

BRIGHTON EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN UPDATE

By Jane Martain, Brighton Emergency Management Planner

New Emergency Notification System

The Town of Brighton has initiated a new emergency notification system to connect with residents in an emergency. In the event of an emergency, you will receive a text message and email with information and updates.

Please make sure we have your most up to date contact information by emailing Jane Martain: janemartain@brighton.utah.gov.



Living in Bear Country

There have been several bear sightings recently in Brighton (Forest Glen, Pinetree, Redman, Silverfork). Although bear sightings are rare in Big Cottonwood Canyon, this is their native habitat, and because of the drought, some may come into neighborhoods to find food. As with other large wildlife that frequent our area...moose, deer, coyotes, etc., we hope that any bear will be given the distance and respect that is necessary. Feeding or chasing the bear will cause problems in the future, possibly requiring its relocation or destruction.

Please remind children what safety procedures to follow. One of the best comes naturally for children - make lots of noise when you are in the forest! And for adults, be sure to keep all trash inside. For those with bird feeders, it would be best to keep them in a high place where a bear cannot reach them.

Here are a few bear facts:

1. Once a bear finds food, that food source location is passed to three generations of their offspring.
2. Once a bear finds food, the bear will return to that location even if the bear is transported by DWR to a far off distant canyon. A couple of years ago a Mt. Haven resident had a bear rolling in the liquid

hummingbird solution on his deck. Then the bear opened the resident's door lever and sat in his living room eating peanuts kept in a storage barrel for feeding the birds. DWR transported the bear to the Strawberry area but the bear returned a few weeks later searching for more of that yummy hummingbird solution that had been restocked.

3. Some bears can get so used to human food and garbage that they know how to twist open peanut butter jars and even know how to open car doors. Residents in those areas have to keep their lower windows closed at home because bears know how easy it is to push open a screen.

4. The National Park Service says anyone coming face-to-face with a bear is advised to “move away slowly and sideways; this allows you to keep an eye on the bear and avoid tripping. Moving sideways is also non-threatening to bears.”

If you encounter a bear:

- Stay calm. If the bear sees you, talk in a low, calm voice.
- Back up slowly. Never turn your back on a bear, or run.
- Do not stare.
- Give it space.
- Do not run!
- Use your bear spray as it approaches.

Wildfire and Drought

Given the heightened drought this year, it's critically important to know how we can help prevent wildfires. You can visit utahfireinfo.gov for information about how to prevent wildfires. Defensible Space is helpful also. This year's Chipper Days event begins July 26. For more information about how to sign up for this free service click here:

http://users.neo.registeredsite.com/4/4/6/22978644/assets/Chipper_Days_Article44740.pdf

Additionally, each of us can take steps to help conserve water. For more information on how you can help save water this summer [Click here](#) .



UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 10 ▪ Engelmann Mountain School *Morning in the Mountains* ▪ 9-11 am ▪ Fundraiser Brunch 11 am.

JULY 10 ▪ Geology Hike ▪ Solitude Village Pond ▪ 9-Noon ▪ Free

JULY 10 ▪ Stargazing ▪ Moonbeam Lawn ▪ 8:30 pm ▪ Free

JULY 10-11 ▪ Wasatch Wildflower Festival at Brighton (July 10) and Solitude (July 11)

JULY 13 ▪ Brighton Town Council Meeting ▪ 6:30 PM ▪ Zoom
Zoom Link, Agenda, and Meeting Packet: <https://www.brighton.utah.gov/meetings>

JULY 22 ▪ Brighton General Plan Kick-Off Workshop ▪ 6-8 pm ▪ Brighton LDS Chapel ▪ Free AND Fun!

JULY 23-24 ▪ Brighton Days ▪ See article above for details.

JULY 26 ▪ Chipper Days begin!

JULY ▪ No BCCA Meeting

THURSDAYS ▪ Sunset Cinema ▪ Apex Express Lawn at Solitude ▪ Sunset ▪ Free

SATURDAYS ▪ Sunshine Yoga ▪ Solitude Village Green ▪ 10-11 am ▪ Free

SUNDAYS ▪ Big Cottonwood Canyon Flea Market ▪ 10 am- 5 pm ▪ Brighton Parking Lot

▪ Sunday Concert Series at Solitude Village ▪ 4-6 pm ▪ Free

AUGUST 9 ▪ Public Comments Deadline for the Little Cottonwood Transportation Study.
Please respond! Check the website for Open Houses and Virtual Meetings.
For more information: <https://littlecottonwoodeis.udot.utah.gov/>

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

WATER RIGHTS AND KNIFE FIGHTS

by C. Brooklyn Derr

In 1903, Richard Maxfield Sr. and Neri Butler had an altercation because Butler and an accomplice tried to “claim jump” Maxfield land. Both Butler (age 56) and Maxfield (age 72) were elderly, had known one another as neighbors for 40 years, attended the same LDS ward and were upstanding members of their community. The outcome, however, was an argument resulting in an old-west style fist fight. Richard Maxfield was stabbed in the back by Neri Butler.

Richard spent time in the Murray Hospital and Neri spent a couple of weeks in the county jail. The May 10, 1903, edition of the *Deseret News* says that “...the cause of the trouble between the two men was an altercation over the title to land held by Maxfield in Big Cottonwood Canyon and which it is said had been taken possession by an adverse claimant (David Branson Brinton) with whom Butler was in some way connected.”

Who were Richard Maxfield, Neri Butler and David Brinton? What does this dispute tell us about land and water rights battles in lower Big Cottonwood at the turn of the century?

MAXFIELD

Richard Dunwell Maxfield immigrated to Utah from Prince Edward Island, Canada, in 1851. The Maxfields were lumber men and Richard’s father, John, was commissioned by Brigham Young to estimate the potential of canyon lumber for building in the valley. Richard and his brother, Robert, discovered silver ore in Mill A Gulch in 1870. They sold their claim, later known as the Maxfield Mine, for a wagon, a team of mules and \$80 cash. That mine produced about 22,000 tons of silver ore between 1879-1905 and yielded over \$1million in profit.

Eventually Richard and his son, “Dick” or Richard Jr., homesteaded land about 3 miles up the canyon in the Mule Hollow area, where they mined, had a summer home (finished in 1887), and worked as miners and carpenters. Richard then opened a picnic site and lodge for travelers, about half-way between Salt Lake City and Brighton. It later became the Maxfield Lodge.

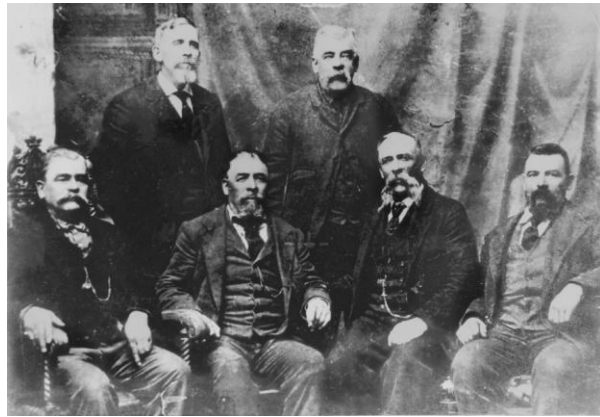


The Maxfield Family

L-R: Lois, Richard D., Josie, Ellen, Kenneth, Mary Hunt Maxfield, Irene Julia Maxfield, Alice Phelps, Jennie Thorstesen

BUTLER

Neri Butler’s parents immigrated to Utah from Indiana and after Neri’s mother died of complications during child birth, his father took the new daughter to California and abandoned his six sons. The boys somehow survived and went on to live successful lives. The eldest son, Philander, ended up owning a sawmill and brewery near Big Cottonwood Canyon. Leander owned and farmed land at the mouth of the canyon. Alva, the third son, moved to Bountiful. Neri owned a steam mill which later became the “Old Mill” and Eri was a blacksmith. Alma, the youngest son, was a farmer and a prominent member of the community. Because the Butler brothers owned so much land and were so influential at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon, the town there became known as Butlerville. That name was changed to Cottonwood Heights in 1950.

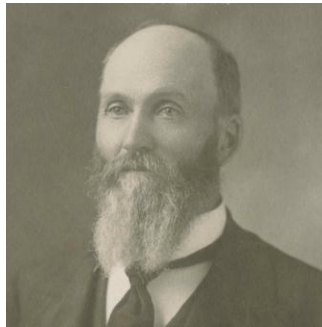


The Butler Brothers.
Standing Alva, Neri
Seated L-R: Alma, Leander, Philander, Eri

BRINTON

David Branson Brinton would have been 53 at the time of the knife fight. He was a blacksmith who owned a large family farm at 48th South and Highland Dr., where he also maintained a general mercantile store and a blacksmith shop. This complex was known as Brinton's Corner. Additionally, he was the county postmaster and delivered mail in Big Cottonwood Canyon.

Brinton was energetic and entrepreneurial. In addition to his general store, blacksmith business, farm and postal work, he became a contractor for large dam projects and helped build the Utah Central and Salt Air Railroad. He was a key figure in clearing farmland in the nearby foothills along what is now known as Wasatch Boulevard.



David Branson Brinton
Pioneer and Holladay Leader

LAND AND WATER DISPUTES

Richard Maxfield's homestead establishes his land claims and extensive water rights, but these rights were somewhat fluid in late-19th century Utah and it was less common to settle claims using attorneys. Stories of that period include men defending their property with fists and guns.

Water was critical for any development, especially in a densely-populated area. In early-Mormon Utah, LDS Bishops were often watermasters who oversaw the maintenance of ditches, construction of new canals, and apportionment of irrigation water. While this became a county government function in 1896, the Bishops were still influential. David Brinton served as Bishop of the Big Cottonwood ward from

1877-1902 and Neri Butler's brother, Alma, was the Bishop of the Butlerville ward. These facts alone do not implicate Butler and Brinton as "claim jumpers" but they suggest the two might have had "insider" information and influence in water matters.

During the late-1880's, a key developmental period in Salt Lake County, the upper canal was built at the 4600 foot level and extended from the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon to present-day I-80. The water coming from Big Cottonwood Creek was critical in the development of Holladay City, for example, and it permitted fruit and other farming in the foothills. The Upper Canal Irrigation Co. was formed in 1901, and David Brinton was one of the prime movers behind developing farmland using upper canal irrigation water.

Brinton knew both Butler and Maxfield, of course, from his postmaster work and probably knew about Maxfield's water rights. Butler had the reputation of being an opportunist.

It's also easy to assume that Richard took his bottle of whiskey and went to visit Neri at his home hoping to have a few drinks and talk things over. Maxfield had been visiting family in central Utah and had recently returned to Big Cottonwood. Their conversation might have unexpectedly turned sour. Someone was said to overhear Maxfield call Butler "a liar," and Neri may have lost emotional control. The news article also reports that while both men had been drinking, they were not intoxicated.

The story seems to have ended well. Richard Maxfield and Neri Butler are buried in the Murray Cemetery about 40 yards from one another. Richard Strong, a descendent of David Brinton, married Jan Mulvay, a descendent of Richard Maxfield, and they have been happily together for 50 years.

REFERENCES

Leonard J. Arrington, *GREAT BASIN KINGDOM: Economic History of the Latter-Day Saints 1830-1900* (1958)

Brinton Family Organization, *HISTORY OF DAVID BRINTON: Utah Pioneer and His Descendants* (1978)

Stephen L. Carr, ed., *HOLLADAY-COTTONWOOD: Places and Faces* (1987)

DESERET NEWS, May 10, 1903 (story of the knife fight)