



## TOWN OF BRIGHTON NEWS

OCTOBER 2023



"It's autumn! Time for hot chocolatey mornings and toasty marshmallow evenings."

~ From Winnie the Pooh's Grand Adventure



**The Tie Vote.** The September 5 Primary Election returned a surprising tie vote between Gavin Gnung and Heidi Westfall. The tie was broken by a legal roll of the dice in the County Clerk's office, an exciting finish for the entire group of capable candidates. Thus, the candidates for the General Election include Adrienne Aldous, Jeff Bossard, Lise Brunhart and Gavin Ganung.

Brighton had a 41% voter turn-out (compared with a 29% voter turn-out for the rest of Salt Lake County). Brighton has 322 Registered Voters; 132 voted. Two Council members will be elected in the General Election in November. Mayor Knopp and Council members Carolyn Keigley and Keith Zuspan are not up for election this year. They will continue to serve on the Town Council for two more years.

**Proposition #12 - .5% Additional Resort Communities Sales Tax.** On May 9, 2023, the Town Council of the Town of Brighton approved a [resolution to place a .5% Additional Resort Communities Sales Tax increase](#) question on the November ballot.

This sales tax increase would be an additional .5% tax on the sale of all goods and services within the town. It is anticipated that this sales tax increase would generate between \$550,000 to \$650,000 per year in additional revenue for the Town's operating and capital needs. The purpose of the Resort Communities Sales Tax is to provide additional revenue to help the Town mitigate the impacts that the resort economy places on town resources like roads, parking, trails, etc. The current total general sales tax rate in the Town of Brighton is 8.35%, if this sales tax were approved, the total general sales tax rate would increase to 8.85%.

This is a sales and use tax on the sale of goods and services - this is not a property tax increase.

An argument [FOR the sales tax can be found here](#). No arguments against the sales tax were received.

General Election Ballots will be mailed on October 31. The ballot will include Proposition #12 and the four candidates up for election (we can vote for two). If you are not yet registered to vote, you can sign up here: <https://slco.org/clerk/elections/voter-registration/>  
The deadline to vote is November 21. Remember to return your ballot. As you see, every vote counts!



HAPPY TRAILS TO YOU

So long summer! It's been a wonderful ride, especially if you've been riding a mountain bike. Both Big Cottonwood Resorts have added a substantial number of miles to their collection of bike trails.

**BRIGHTON.** This summer Brighton Resort broke ground on their first mountain bike trail off the Majestic Chairlift. It's the first trail in a series that will span across the entire Brighton Resort. The Majestic lift was open this summer to inaugurate the first lift-served bike trail.

**SOLITUDE.** Solitude opened four new downhill mountain bike trails on September 8, which adds 6 miles of new bike trails to the resort. Gravity Logic is the team that has been designing and building the trails, using sustainable build practices and teaching the Solitude team how to maintain the trails for years to come. All four trails will be accessed via Moonbeam Express.

There is a green freeride trail, a blue freeride trail called Cobalt Cruise, and a black technical trail called Holy Schist. Green trails are generally wider (three to four feet wide) and smooth with mellow berms. The black technical trails are steeper and hand-built.

E-Bikes are not permitted on mountain bike trails. Rental bikes and lessons are available. For more information, check here: <https://www.solitudemountain.com/things-to-do/mountain-bike>



## US FOREST SERVICE NEWS

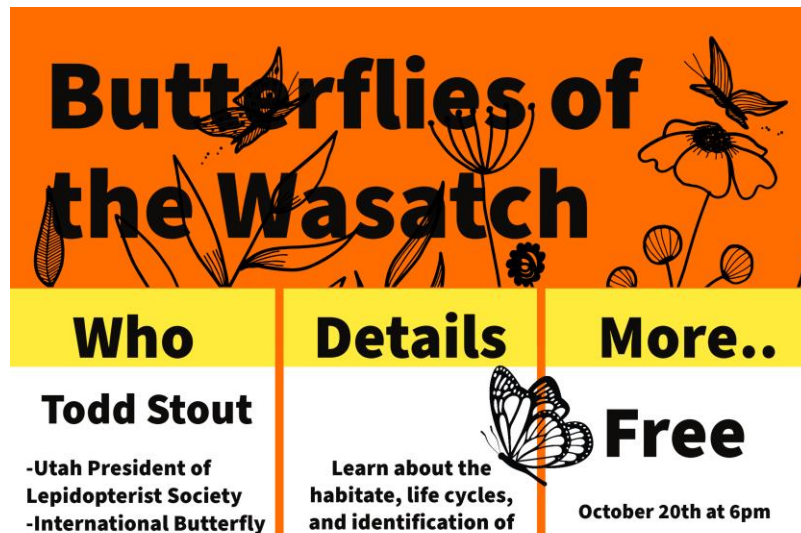
**WILDFIRE MITIGATION PROJECT.** Notice any smoke on the range lately? It's part of the Central Wasatch Watershed Restoration (CWWR) Project, with firefighters burning slash piles between Jordan Pines Campground and Spruces Campground. Reducing excess fuels cuts the risk of catastrophic wildfire. Many thanks to the Forest Service for their valuable work on our behalf!

Fire fighters are asking the public to find other locations to hike. For closure orders and a map, visit (under Special Orders): <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/uwcnf/alerts-notice>


**FOREST PASS PROGRAM.** Starting December 1, 2023, a Forest Pass will be required in several managed recreation sites in Big Cottonwood, including: Cardiff/Mill D, Donut Falls, Mill B Trailhead (north and south), Silver Lake, Spruces Winter Trail, Birches, Dogwood, and Ledgemere Picnic Sites.

The Forest Pass will cost \$10/vehicle for 3 days; \$20/vehicle for 7 days; and an Annual Pass for \$60/vehicle. There will be 11 free days throughout the year. Individuals and families can volunteer their hours to earn an Annual Pass. Most of the revenue from Forest Pass sales goes directly back to the place it was generated. There is no word yet on how this pass requirement will be enforced.

For a complete list of Forest Pass sites, visit: [Microsoft Word - Comm Doc Table Final \(usda.gov\)](#)



**Butterflies of the Wasatch**

<b>Who</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>More..</b>
<b>Todd Stout</b> -Utah President of Lepidopterist Society -International Butterfly	Learn about the habitate, life cycles, and identification of 	<b>Free</b> October 20th at 6pm

Please join the Brighton Institute (BI) for this exciting event! Todd Stout, Utah President of Lepidopterist Society, International Butterfly Breeder Association, and member of the University of Florida Research Association will be speaking to us about the habitats, life cycles, and identification of local butterflies! Everyone is invited!

- Friday, October 20 ▪ 6 pm ▪ Fire Station ▪ Free ▪





## Greg Dollhausen & Avalanche Safety

Greg Dollhausen works for the UDOT Avalanche Safety Program. He started in 1992 and is currently the Station Supervisor in BCC. Greg and his two colleagues keep the road safe from snow avalanches during the winter months. It can be very stressful at times but he still says “it’s the best job in the world”. He will speak to the Brighton Institute about the UDOT Avalanche Safety Program while trying to give folks some helpful hints on driving, working, playing, and living in the canyon during the winter. Everyone is invited!

▪ Thursday, October 26, 2023 ▪ 6:30 pm ▪ Fire Station #108 ▪ Free ▪

## MEETINGS AROUND TOWN

### **Brighton Town Council**

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month – 6:30 pm [Meetings | Brighton Utah](#)

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

### **Brighton Institute Meeting**

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the 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**

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the 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**

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month – 6:00 pm – Fire Station #108 or virtually at

<https://slco.webex.com/meet/wgurr> [Meetings | Brighton Utah](#)

## RESOURCES

### Environmental Dashboard

The Central Wasatch Commission's Environmental Dashboard has some great information about our canyon. Access the Environmental Dashboard at this link: <https://cwcedb.utah.edu/>

