

**MAYOR:**  
DEAN S. ALLAN

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**  
LORI ALLEN  
BENJAMIN D. CARD  
FRANCIS D. GIBSON  
RYAN P. PARHAM  
KEITH H. STIRLING



## Mayor's Message

# City Newsletter

August 2005 Edition

### Celebration

First of all I would like to personally thank both Mapleton LDS Stakes and the many volunteers for the Celebration on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. This celebration is the high light of our community each year and you people make it all happen. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

### Fire Works

May I caution all citizens to be especially careful with any type of fireworks? Our community has many areas where a fire would be a disaster. Be a good neighbor and help us get through a dry hot summer without a problem.

### Electrical Power Conservation

During the month's of July and August Utah Power has a difficult time meeting the energy needs of our Community. May I encourage you to turn off all unnecessary electrical use, especially during the hours of 4:00pm to 6:00pm? This will prevent a brown out or worse, a loss of electrical power to our City.

### Donation Committee

To the Donation Committee led by Gayle Gammell. I express my gratitude to those of you who have given so generously of your time during the week of Jun 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>. You have truly made a difference for the City of Mapleton and our new Library. From your collection and donations that continue to come in, we have received more than \$22,000. Unfortunately some residents even oppose the efforts of the donation committee. It's important for such people to understand that a citizens committee, not city officials, decided early in the planning stage to use donation money for the building and furnishing of the Library.

### Mapleton Coalition Newsletter – Fact or Fiction

Dear residents, over the past two years I've resisted responding to the inaccurate criticism made about the Mayor and City Council's policies in providing local government services in this city. However, the accusations made by the coalition's editorial staff in demeaning the tremendous efforts of the volunteer citizens as a means of helping to pay for the cost of the new City Library, compels me to set the record straight.

I should preface the following remarks by saying that as a Mayor and City Council we honestly welcome and value constructive criticism and contributions from citizens. At the same time the council members and I accept that sometimes in resolving complex issues, we make difficult choices and not all citizens agree that they are the best ones in every instance. I would assure you however, that we willingly serve the community with honesty and integrity and genuinely try to do our best with the limited municipal resources available.

### The New Library

#### *Coalition Statement:*

"The vast consensus of Mapleton Residents.....are in no mood to make additional donations to fund a Library of dubious need in this internet era."

#### *City Fact:*

Most fair minded, forward thinking people, recognize the unlimited value and importance that the Library facilities can provide to people of all ages in our Community, but particularly for children. The Community spirit of the volunteers involved in promoting the "Make a Difference in Mapleton" week succeeded in raising an additional \$22,000 in Library donations. These residents have expressed their own views on the Mapleton Coalition comments on page 5 of this newsletter.

### Contracting Policies

#### *(I) City Park*

It is a fact that for over two years a portion of the parks maintenance work was undertaken by a private contractor. Being prudent, the City initiated a market testing process to evaluate the standards and costs of direct staff maintenance with similar costs applied by private contractors. The Council

itself sought the involvement of student from the BYU School of Management for the study. Acting on its findings of cost effectiveness, as well as additional information and comments, we decided not to renew the outside contractor.

#### *(II) Community Center*

The contract document for the construction of the new Community Center building follows the normal standard approved by the American Institute of Architects (A.I.A.), and is the format used by many other municipalities in a project of this nature. All the various components of the building; cement, framing, roofing, tiling, electrical, steel work, windows, brick work, etc., went through a publicly advertised bid process, a process which the law requires a city to observe. The selection of the architect and of the contractor followed competitive bid processes advertised in the local press.

The approach adopted in choosing the standard A.I.A. form of contract in preference to a "design and build" contract was in fact recommended to the Council by the City's Citizen Advisory Committee on the basis that this would enable locally based companies to donate materials to the City. Examples of this include the donation from Clyde Co. for the concrete rebar, estimated at a cost of \$25,000, a \$10,000 donation from Geneva Rock for cement, and others.

As to the guarantee of the cost of the building, the City Council, Staff, and myself carefully monitored the budgeted cost for each element of the contract – a process which was observed strictly at regular meetings between the contractor, myself, and the City Administrator. The contractors for this project discounted their construction fee by \$75,000. The \$2.1 million total cost was the result of the City's subsequent decision to locate the Police Department in the basement area (allowing close proximity to the Court), as well as making the building more earth quake safe. The building measures 28,000 square feet in size, and works out at approximately \$75.00 per square foot, which at today's values represents a very competitive building cost.

The City held an Open House in September 2004 to enable all citizens to view the proposals and express their views. The citizen's comments were positive and encouraged the City to go forward with the building.

## City Calendar

Aug 1	7:00pm	Evening in the Park
Aug 3	7:00pm	City Council Meeting
Aug 6	7:00pm	Mapleton City Talent Night
Aug 11	2-5:00pm	Museum Tours
Aug 13	7:00pm	Blue Grass Music and Merrill Finlayson as the Cowboy Poet
Aug 17	7:00pm	City Council Meeting
Aug 18	7:00pm	Planning Commission Meeting
Aug 20	7:00pm	Concert in the Park w/Q'd Up
Aug 25	2-5:00pm	Museum Tours

Meetings are held at the City Hall, 35 East Maple Street, unless otherwise indicated. For more information about City Meetings contact 489-5655. Agendas, minutes and the newsletter are available on the City website at [www.mapleton.org](http://www.mapleton.org).

# Mayor's Message Continued

## Financing

The City's use of Impact Fees is closely regulated by State Code and the Council's independent auditor. Such Impact Fees are carefully regulated and must be expended on new facilities. The amount of sewer and water Impact Fees identified in the Coalition Newsletter relate specifically to the cost of bringing sewer and water to the Community Center. It is misleading to suggest that the City is diverting funds away from expanding infrastructure required to meet the future growth of the City. The \$600,000 unallocated Capital Projects balance was achieved over a period of the last 3 ½ years during which the Council has reduced its administration and service expenditures, thus freeing up resources without diluting the standard of services provided to the public. The accumulation of this fund is the direct result of prudent financial management in providing cost effective services to our community.

## Criminal/Civil Litigation Costs

The Coalition's view of this litigation is unsupported. To say that the City's emergency vehicles can access the Bonneville Shoreline Trail and deal with any emergency is misleading. The City's Fire Chief has confirmed that it would be impossible for any of the City's Fire Vehicles to negotiate the deep furrows that have been plowed through the service road of the former Shoreline Trail. As to the legal costs of the City, the graph prepared by the Coalition says it all. By publishing this factual information, it shows how much property tax the City has been compelled to pay in legal costs to require the owner to comply with the law. However, we hope to reach a mutual agreement on this issue soon.

## Government Records Access Management Act (G.R.A.M.A.) Requests

Mrs. Gibby's exchange of correspondence regarding information on the City's legal costs reveals:

- A. Her request seeks information containing privileged client attorney documents. For this reason the City is not obliged to provide it. Mrs. Gibby must pay for the City's Staff costs to extract the requested information from privileged documents.
- B. Mrs. Gibby's flurry of G.R.A.M.A. requests (we have received 12 from her in the last batch) are consuming a disproportionate amount of Staff time and resources in researching detailed information going back over the past 5 years. This overload on our limited Staff resources has been to the point where operating the City's other services are being strained.
- C. Over the past month I have been obliged to provide Mrs. Gibby with over 80 pages of documents at a charge of \$.10 per sheet – the fixed cost over past 7 years. The City's recent decision to increase the charge to \$.25 per page is simply to help recover some of the City's costs, staff time, photocopying materials and is the standard cost applied by other Utah cities.

## Litigation Cost

### 1. Ensign-Bickford

No attorney costs have so far been incurred in the litigation against Ensign-Bickford – The Attorney prosecuting this case for the contamination of the water supply operates on a purely contingency basis, which means that legal fees become payable only if the lawsuit is successful. However, the City has incurred in excess of \$100,000 over the past 2 ½ years for expert witnesses researching gathering the information necessary for the upcoming litigation.

### 2. Shoreline Trail

It is regrettable that the City has had to spend a large amount of money in prosecuting the land owners for blocking off the use of the trail, and their unauthorized excavation of the trail. The City is obliged to respond to actions that are in breach of City Ordinances. The City cannot sit on its hands and do nothing while a landowner causes the surface of a historic fire break road to remain impassible for emergency rescue vehicles that are unable to drive over a deeply furrowed trail. The landowner has twice been convicted for his misconduct and is presently appealing the court's decisions. If the land owner had left the trail intact and open, the surface condition as it was when it was purchased relatively recently, none of this litigation would have been necessary.

As the Mayor of Mapleton I'd like to give all residents my personal assurance that the Coalition's "accurately presented and substantially argued" criticism of the City's governance are a misrepresentation of the City's operations based on suppositions. Of course the Coalition Members are clearly not happy with some of the City's policies and decisions, but it is ludicrous to make statements such as departments are "operating in a climate of fear and intimidation", which is a distortion of the truth. All departments work together in a spirit of professional teamwork, in partnership with the City Council and myself. I began this note acknowledging that although we do our very best as Mayor and City Council, we do not claim to be perfect. As an elective municipal government, we are extremely sensitive to our commitments in deciding issues that are designed to help our Mapleton Community to live in harmony.

In the forth coming elections I would hope that candidates would come forward to serve on the City Council, to uphold the City's goals, to help Mapleton continue to function as a healthy, secure, and dynamic community where differences are respected and embraced, rather than feared and exploited.

**Foot Note:** The Mayor and City Council met with Mr. & Mrs. Gibby Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, to see if we could resolve the differences out of court. We are hopeful that a resolution can be reached that will satisfy both the Gibby's and the City.

## Public Works

SUVSWD (South Utah Valley Solid Waste District) has compost facilities at Spanish Fork and Provo Cities. This is available to all District residents, of which Mapleton is a member, for drop-off of yard waste. Hours and locations are the following:

- Spanish Fork-- Summer Hours Mon-Fri 8-6 & Sat 8-5 at 1100 East Expressway Lane.
- Provo-- Summer Hours Mon-Fri 8-6 & Sat 8-5 at 1400 South Industrial Parkway.

Compost, mulch and landscape rock is also available to be purchased. You can get additional information on the SUVSWD website at [www.suvswd.org](http://www.suvswd.org) or by phone at 489-3027.

Please help to keep the curb and gutters free of grass clippings and debris this summer. This will help keep our City looking clean and our storm drains from being clogged with debris.

Please help keep your water meter lid and other utilities from being covered with grass or other landscaping. This will provide for faster service in taking utility readings and provide quicker location and access if the need arises for repairs or emergencies.

Please check your sprinklers for proper coverage. For more information about a monthly lawn watering guide visit "Slow the Flow" at [www.conservewater.utah.gov](http://www.conservewater.utah.gov), sponsored by the Governor's Water Conservation Team.

Small water leakage can lead to large amounts of water loss. The following chart shows the amount of water loss versus pipe leak size based on a pressure of 60 psi:

Pipe Leak Size	gal/day	gal/month
3/32"	360	11,160
1/8"	3,096	95,976
7/32"	8,424	261,144
1/4"	14,952	463,512

As you can see, small leaks can lead to large amounts of water loss. Leaking toilets and taps can also waste water. Place a few drops of food coloring in the tank of a toilet. Watch for it to appear in the toilet bowl. This will help to identify a possible leak. If this occurs, usually a slight adjustment to the valve in the tank will correct the problem. If this method still will not stop the leakage, a new valve may be required.

## Library

The Bookmobile Library has been busy this summer with many city residents checking out books and using the computers. We are very fortunate to have this library in this city and to also have a great Summer Reading Program for children along with a Parent Resource Center and a Family Literacy Center. We are excited that the Library will move into a new facility after the Community Center building is completed, enabling us to give even better service to the community. Thanks goes out to all who have contributed to the building of a new Library facility.

We have several needs for volunteers at the Library. If there is someone in Mapleton who is good with computers and has a little time to spare, please call to volunteer your expertise. We need to install new computers at the Literacy Center. A retired person, college student, a high school student might just fit the requirement. Call the Library at 489-4833. We also need tutors who can help children with their reading. Many of our high school tutors will not be able to help when school starts and we need others to step forward. It is a wonderful experience to open the world of books to children who need to increase their ability to get a good education. Call the Library number above, Elaine Carlson at 489-6584, or Debbie Neilsen at 489-3959 to volunteer.

## Summer Reading Program

We would like to thank all of those who helped with the Summer Reading Program. Below are some pictures from the activities that took place during this program.



*Young Women Puppeteers*



*The enthralled children*



*Dragon, Dreams, and Daring Deeds*

## Concerts in the Park

Below are some photos taken from the Concerts in the Park activity that will take place throughout the month of August. See the 2005 Calendar on the first page of this Newsletter for dates and times.



*The Moonlight Serenaders Concert in the Park*



*Jeff Carter "mixing" the sound with daughter and Daren Turley*



*Some Mapleton residents enjoying the Concert in the Park*

## Mapleton Chorale

The Mapleton Chorale has about 40 members and an outstanding director, Cory Mendenhall. Until the new Community Center is completed, the Chorale will be meeting at the Mapleton West Stake Center at 7:45pm.

Rehearsals will start on Thursday, September 8, 2005. Anyone who is over 18 and likes to sing is encouraged to meet with us.

# Mapleton's My Town

Contributed by the Mapleton Library Volunteer Committee

## Response to Coalition Newsletter article – July 2005 “Library Contribution Anyone?”

*“Which brings us to our final point regarding the new facility. Why is the city out with a tin cup in hand asking for library contributions? According to their statements, the community center seems to be adequately financed. Furthermore, the vast consensus of Mapleton residents is that because they are already paying the highest utility rates in the state, the highest impact fees in the state, and their property taxes have been soaring as a result of escalating property values, they are in no mood to make additional “donations” to fund a library of dubious need in the internet era.”*

On behalf of the Mapleton Library Fund Committee, we want to thank the many volunteers who helped “Make a Difference in Mapleton” by contacting the citizens in a door-to-door campaign. Many volunteer hours were put into this endeavor and the community will greatly benefit from having a library in our new city building. In the event you were missed and would like to contribute, please take or mail your contributions to the city. Again, we thank all who participated and those who contributed in make a difference in Mapleton.

We feel the need to respond to the negativism written in the Mapleton Coalition letter about “The city out with a tin cup in hand asking for library contributions.” “The city” was actually a group of concerned, dedicated volunteers who were willing to visit every home in our community for the benefit of a new Library.

We have read every issue of the “Mapleton Coalition” newsletters. We can see nothing good, uplifting or positive coming from such a publication. We only see ill feelings in our community, divisiveness and self-serving attitude among the critics. If all of the efforts and funds expended to collect data, write articles and produce the newsletter were put into the betterment of the city, what an amazing difference could be made. To quote Doug Brinley, author of America's Hope, “For this nation to move ahead in the coming years, we need citizens and statesmen to put country above personal advancement.”

Oscar Whiting served as mayor of Mapleton in the days when there were no TDR's, zoning ordinances, sewer problems, personnel complaints or unhappiness over secondary water. His greatest challenge was irrigation water disputes! He served at the beginning of city government in Mapleton. It would not be a bad idea to return to our roots and take the high road on challenging and difficult city issues. We recommend reading the words to a wonderful Mapleton song from the past, keeping in mind that by working together, not against one another, we can make this a better place for all.

Article continued on the next column

# “Mapleton's My Town”

*You may wonder why I have this special feeling,  
Why to me this dear old town is so appealing.  
I have thought about it too, why I feel the way I do,  
Well, it's more than heart; it's more than head,  
I suppose it simply can be said that...  
Mapleton's My Town, Mapleton's for me!  
This is the place to be.  
In the shelter of her mountain I'm content to spend my days,  
The atmosphere for living here could win a poet's praise!  
Oh, I like the people,  
They are my folks and friends.  
I am bound to them by love a loyalty.  
Oh, our orchard hills were blessed,  
With the most of heaven's best.  
And it all adds up to “Home Sweet Home” to me!*

Mapleton is our town and it is your town. It's a wonderful place for all of us to live. Let's begin to work together to build and maintain the atmosphere we all enjoy so much! “If you want to learn to live, you have to learn to give!”

Respectfully,

“The City”

(Make a Difference for Mapleton Library Volunteers): Gayle Gammell, Diane Butterfield, Sharon Gomez, Hope Crandall, Mary Lynne York, Karla Hjorth, Sue Wiscombe, Laurel Lopez, Judy Walters, Anne Gappmayer, Marian Larsen, Sharon Nelson, Dawna Jeffers, Kathy Brinkerhoff, Geri James and Shauna Peterson.

## Legal Department

In a recent publication by a group calling themselves the “Mapleton Coalition”, there were two articles that stated that the Planning & Zoning Director “perjured” himself on the witness stand during the recent 19 hour trial of Wendell Gibby. Although these statements were made as a matter of fact, they were in reality, a matter of opinion, and not fact. The fact is that no City Employee perjured themselves or has been charged with perjury in relation to the particular case mentioned in the article. In order for someone to emphatically state that someone has “perjured” themselves on a witness stand, there would have to have been a perjury trial and conviction. This was not the case. It is also important to understand that the individuals who asserted perjury would had to have been present with the City Employee on the day he conducted his investigation in relationship to the case mentioned in the publication. Even more disturbing was that the allegations came from individuals who were either not present at the trial, or were not present for the entire trial. Most of the testimony given by the City Employee they accuse of perjury was submitted so many hours after any member of the public was present. Therefore, such accusations are simply unfounded and are quite slanderous.

# Notice of Election

Notice is hereby given that the City of Mapleton will hold a non-partisan municipal general election on November 8, 2005 to elect a Mayor and two (2) City Council Members to serve four-year terms of office. If more than twice the number to be elected file for candidacy, a municipal primary election will be held on October 4, 2005. To qualify for candidacy, a person must be a United States Citizen at time of filing; be a registered voter of the municipality and be a resident of the municipality or a resident of a recently-annexed area for a period of 365 consecutive days immediately preceding the date of the election. A candidate must file a Declaration of Candidacy in person with the City Recorder, or have a Nominating Petition filed in his or her behalf. These documents are available in the City Recorder's Office at 35 East Maple Street, Mapleton, UT 84664. The filing period will begin at 8:30 a.m., Friday, July 15, 2005, and end at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 15, 2005. Office Hours are week days from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For further information please contact the City Recorder's Office at (801) 489-5655.

(s) City Recorder

## Contact Numbers

Mayor:	489-5655	Library:	489-4833
City Council:	489-5655	Public Works:	489-6253
City Administration:	489-5655	Emergency:	911
Planning & Zoning:	489-6138	Dispatch Police,	
Building Inspection:	489-6138	Fire, Ambulance:	851-4100
Court:	489-7445	Non-emergency:	491-8048
Recreation:	489-7752	Newsletter:	489-6138

The Mapleton City Newsletter can be viewed at our website up to three days prior to receiving it in the mail at [www.mapleton.org](http://www.mapleton.org).



**The Charles  
Monroe  
Bird Home**  
795 South Main Street  
Mapleton, Utah

In 1892 they built a new brick home with a stone cellar and a rock foundation, also a back porch which was used later as a wash room. This home had a kitchen, two big bedrooms and two large front rooms. The ceilings were high and the rooms were lathed and plastered. Over each doorway was a transom which was used for ventilation. In the new home on December 20, 1892 another son, Freeman C. Bird, was born and two and a half years later a son, Merrill W. Bird, was born August 25, 1894. This was the last child born to them.

Two big evergreen trees were planted in front of this home. Charles had dug a well and they had water for their use, which was a great blessing to them. In 1899 Charles had the misfortune of losing his right leg just below the hip, due to bon infection. This really inhibited Charles' activity. He finally decided to sell his farm and build another home. In 1919 Charles built a new home on West Maple Street, and Elmer and his family moved into the old home on south center street. Elmer and family lived in this home until 1955 when he sold the home and farm and moved to Provo.

I remember of spending time in this home with grandfather and grandmother. How happy they were. Grandfather would hop around on his one leg to build the fire in the cook-stove to start breakfast. We would sit on the front porch and look at the mountains. He would tell me stories of the old days. How I wish I could remember them all. He died in this new home on May 26, 1926 very suddenly in his bed.

Compiled and Written  
By Erma Hjorth, Granddaughter and Camp Union DUP



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