



The Richmond Record – May 2020

Thoughts from the Mayor

It has been an interesting couple of months.

I have been involved in more meetings during this time than probably the prior year combined.

I have watched as we as a community, state, and nation go from one of the best projected years of growth and income in history, to one of the potentially worst on record.

I have watched family and friends go through all levels of emotion possible.

I share a house with my in-laws who are in the highest bracket of risk for health. At the same time, I own a small business that has watched over 30% of its revenue vanish overnight due to C-19. I have felt the love of extra time with my immediate family at home being reminded of what matters most. At the same time I am worried if my company will be able to bear the heavy weight now on its shoulders to support and care for the many employees that I hold as dear friends and family.

I have felt the stress from my four kids as they live in an environment of change, unknown, and worry. I have watched my wife day after day giving all that she can for them. She has worked with them, loved with them, cried with them, and held them. Even knowing things will be ok, we are not immune to the effects of our current circumstance. Simply put, these times are difficult and hard.

I have watched neighbors and friends argue about what is right or wrong, whether to stay in or get out of the house, whether to work or stay home, and whether or not the virus is a farce or something terrible unlike anything we have ever seen.

I have watched good people backed in corners with anxiety, fear, frustration, determination and many other emotions. There are just so many unknowns at this time.

I have been invited to be involved in all types of groups during this time on a personal, business, and

city level. Fast and prayer, Stay Safe Stay Home, don't risk, go back to work, save America, etc. I have found myself being understanding and sympathetic to many of these thoughts.

During this time, we need to be able to express feelings, anxiety, stress, thoughts and concerns no matter which side we are on. We need to listen more than at any other time in our lives what others are feeling and saying.

Let people be true to themselves. At the same time be true to yourself. It's ok to have freedom of thought while at the same time being understanding of others.

I love the small city that I live in!!! I love my neighbors and friends. I want my in-laws and those at risk to be protected and safe. I want my family to go on that cross-country vacation we have been planning for four years. I want my business to be back to normal and a safe place for my employees to come to. I want my business to survive. I want local, state, and national leaders to not prove who is right or wrong but to work on what is right and helpful in these difficult times.

We need to balance freedom, health, wealth, and safety. Each has its place, one not taking too much from the other. Not everyone will get what they want but surely, we can be reasonable and still keep the standards and values that have been the fabric of our communities.

Now is our time to rise to the challenge.

As George Washington said, "Truth will ultimately prevail where there is pains to bring it to light".

As Mayor and a city council we are doing our best to make the decisions based on the information we are provided by the local health department, state officials, and federal officials. At the same time, we are very concerned with the state of our community's ability to work and provide. There

have been and will be many discussions on the right balance to work through this.

Something like this has not happened for over 100 years, and there is no book on how to guide us through this time or information on what is best or right.

In order to get through this, all of us need to support our family, friends, neighbors, and community. There is no reason to argue who is right or who is wrong. I don't think anyone is completely right or completely wrong.

Let's find ways to work together and show why we choose to live in the community that we do.

We got this!

Mayor Jeff Young

Richmond City & COVID-19

The Richmond City mayor, council, and staff have had (and are continuing to have) numerous discussions on how we as a city can help slow the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease 2019).

The safety of our residents and staff is our top priority and our most important responsibility as a city. None of us are experts in this field, and we are relying on Bear River Health Department, the State of Utah, CDC (Centers for Disease Control), and the federal government for guidance.

Following are the actions we began taking on March 17th that will continue for 60 days from then. Keep in mind that this is a constantly evolving situation and guidance will likely change. Visit the city website, city Facebook, or sign up with our community response program to keep up-to-date.

Website: City website at <https://richmondutah.org/> for information on council meetings, public safety, resident info (utilities, licenses, permits), and much more.

Facebook: The city has an official Facebook page at www.facebook.com/richmondcityutah.

Community Response System: Richmond City can send messages via text or email to let people know of road or infrastructure work, office closings (or openings), etc. If you're interested in joining the city's community response system, please send an email to communityresponse@richmondutah.org. If you'd like information on the system, send your request to the above email address.

Status as of April 28

1. The **Community Building, Park Community Center, Library, and Black & White Building** remain closed to public access until further notice.
2. All **Playgrounds** are closed although the city parks are still open.
3. The **Library** has made a few changes to their operations; see their news on page 4 for more information.
4. The **City Office** is closed to public access. Call to make an appointment if you absolutely must meet in person; otherwise, use email, phone, or other digital means to submit applications, etc.
5. **Monthly utility bills** can be paid [online](#) or by utilizing the drop box at the Park Community Center. ****Please do not put cash in the drop box.**** To sign up for, transfer, or disconnect city services, contact the city office at (435) 258-2092.
6. **Cemetery:** to schedule a burial or make a grave plot purchase, call (435) 258-2092 to make an appointment.
7. **Zoning or Building Related Questions:** Call (435) 258-2092 to schedule an appointment for subdivision reviews, drop off building plans, or pay impact fees.
8. **Justice Court:** The only cases being handled in the Justice Court will be domestic violence or incarceration. No other hearings will be held until further notice. Please pay citations via the [online portal](#), over the phone at (435) 258-2092, or by mail (PO Box 9, Richmond, UT 84333).

We appreciate your patience as we all work through this disruption to our normal routines. We hope you will assist us and those in the area from spreading the COVID-19 virus.

Questions can be directed to (435) 258-2092 or by emailing communityresponse@richmondutah.org

County-wide Information

Due to the restrictions in place, many businesses and public offices are either closed, operating under reduced hours, or have additional requirements. Please call ahead.

Law Enforcement

For emergencies, continue to dial 911.

For non-emergency issues or when needing to speak with a law enforcement officer, call dispatch at (435) 753-7555.

Black & White Days

The city made the difficult decision to cancel Black & White Days activities typically held on Saturday: breakfast, Cowabunga race, booths, parade.

The Western Spring National Holstein is *tentatively* scheduled for August 30th-September 4th with the draft horse pulls on September 5th.

Sewer Reminder

Please do NOT flush wipes or paper towels even if the manufacturer says they are flushable. Numerous wastewater treatment plants around the country are dealing with some massive plugs in their systems due to this.

Youth Sports

No word on when youth sports might resume.

Utah Coronavirus Updates

The governor and the Utah Department of Health are holding daily briefings on the status of COVID-19 in the state. As this newsletter is being prepared, some of the restrictions on public gatherings, businesses, entertainment, and recreation areas will be partially lifted as soon as May 1st as Utah moves into the stabilization phase.



People are still encouraged to keep 6 feet away from others, wash hands frequently, and wear face coverings or masks. High-risk groups (over 65, underlying medical conditions, or immunocompromised) should still follow the guidelines under the red, or high-risk, protocol.

Visit [Utah's Coronavirus website](#) for more information.

From the City: Dogs and Kennel Permits

Many dog owners are not aware that the city has required anyone owning 3 or more dogs to obtain a kennel permit as well as a license for each dog. This has been in our city code since 2003. The city council recently approved a change in the space requirements for a kennel.

A conditional use permit for the kennel needs to be obtained through the Planning Commission. A minimum of 15,000 square feet, including buildings, is required for a kennel of three (3) dogs. For 4-6 dogs, the minimum area is 20,000 square feet.

Full details of this section of the code can be found online at [Part 13-260 Kennels](#).

Dumpsters

Remember that the green waste and garbage dumpsters will be gone May through September.

Green waste can be taken to the Logan City Landfill for free while garbage will be charged a [fee](#) depending on the type of garbage.

Logan City does offer a program where individuals can sign up for a green waste can. In order to provide this service in Richmond, though, a minimum of 250 utility account holders would need to sign up.

Cost for the cans is \$5 per month, year-round (\$60/year). The cans will be picked up weekly from the last Friday in March through the second Friday in November.

If you are interested in using this program, please email communityresponse@richmondutah.org to let the city know.

ATVs on City Streets

As the weather warms, we are seeing more ATVs in use on city streets. As a reminder, there are a few rules that need to be followed when riding on or operating an all-terrain vehicle on our streets.

Richmond Code [Part 11-390](#) contains the ordinance governing ATVs on city streets. If you are an operator, please familiarize yourself with this.

Harvest Market at Rockhill

The Rockhill Cheese Store in the Granary (563 South State Street) will be open for business the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month from 10 am til 2 pm. However, our local Harvest Market at Rockhill

will NOT be held this year due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The cheese stand opens June 6th. In addition to the tasty Rockhill cheeses, products from Bees Brothers Honey, Spirit Goat Soaps & Lotions and Butchers Jams will be available.

No farm produce or craft booths will be set up this season nor will live music be offered.

The Richmond Library

Our mission is to bring people, information, and ideas together to enrich lives and build community.

Check our [website](#) regularly for updates on our hours and services during COVID-19



The Library Book Drop is now open!



Put books on hold through our library catalog at <https://destiny.smithfieldcity.org/>, by phone (258-5525) or email library@richmondutah.org.

Not sure what you want? Call our librarians and they can pull some titles for you.



Curbside pickup times are Monday-Friday from 2-4 pm and Thursdays from 6-7 pm. If these times don't work for you, call to make an appointment.



If you need to send a fax or print from our computers, call to make an appointment.

Book Buzz for May & June

Martha Hall Kelly celebrates the unbreakable bonds of women's friendship, especially during one of the darkest times of history during WWI.



"Not only a brilliant historical tale, but a love song to all the ways our

friendships carry us through the worst of times."—
Lisa Wingate

Summer Reading 2020



Although we will not be able to gather weekly for summer reading during COVID-19, we will have a reading program with fun social distancing activities and reading rewards. Watch for an email in May detailing all the exciting plans!

Remember, our summer reading program is for everyone from birth to adult. Don't get left behind, join the fun this summer.

Census 2020

The Census self-response period is now live and residents are able to complete their census form at my2020census.gov. However, due to the coronavirus outbreak, field operations have been delayed and many rural counties may not receive their invitation and pin numbers until after April 1st.

Please use the online portal, call, or mail the form. The information gathered by the census is used to determine the number of seats our state has in the U.S. House of Representatives and also to distribute hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funds to local communities.



The Family Place is here for YOU! If you find yourself having more family time and looking for resources and fun things to do at home, please visit TheFamilyPlaceUtah.org or our [Facebook Page](#) for parenting resources, activities for children, and mindfulness videos for the whole family.

Utah Family Month is May 10th - June 21st; be sure to stay up to date with all the activities happening during that time by visiting our website.

Newsletter Submissions

Send to terlou38@gmail.com by the 25th of each month.



Fats, Oils, and Grease Educational Kit



When you think of "**Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG)**" you might say "yuck". Well the real yuck comes when FOG is not disposed of properly.

FOG comes from meats, cooking oil, butter, gravy and many other sources. This stuff can clog your sewer pipes, which can cause untreated wastewater (the stuff from your sinks, washing machine and even toilets) to overflow into your house, into your yard or street, and into storm drains that lead to creeks and rivers and ultimately to the ocean. These sewage spills are not only gross, they're unhealthy for you, your family and friends, and the environment. It costs a lot of money to clean up sewage spills.

The best way to stop FOG from building up in the sewer is by keeping it out.

At home, you should never pour FOG down the drain. Also, never pour FOG into the yard or into a storm drain. Cooking oil can be reused or recycled. Place small amounts of oil and grease into a small sturdy sealable container and dispose of into the garbage. All food scraps should be disposed of into the garbage -- not the sink.