Mayor’s Message

What happened to our winter?

As I write this month’s newsletter towards the end of January, we still haven’t had much of a winter. Last year, I was wearing out my snowmobile or going ice fishing; I feel for you. I guess we will see what February brings, but it shapes up to be one of the mildest winters on record. We shall also see what the lack of snow pack does for our reservoirs this coming watering season, but I can only assume that things aren’t looking good.

February is known for a couple of things; first we have Valentine’s Day on the 14th which is followed by Presidents’ Day on the 19th (a day which is often just remembered because of special sales and a long weekend). But why do we actually celebrate Presidents’ Day? Like Independence Day, Presidents’ Day is traditionally viewed as a time of patriotic celebration and remembrance. In its original incarnation as Washington’s birthday, the holiday gained special meaning during the difficulties of the Great Depression, when portraits of George Washington often graced the front pages of newspapers and magazines every February 22nd. In 1932, the date was used to reinstate the Purple Heart, a military decoration originally created by George Washington to honor soldiers killed or wounded while serving in the armed forces. Patriotic groups and the Boy Scouts of America also held celebrations on this day, and in 1938 some 5,000 people attended mass at Saint Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City in honor of Washington. In its modern form, Presidents’ Day is used by many patriotic and historical groups as a date for staging celebrations, reenactments, and other events because it is now seen as a date to honor all U.S. Presidents, past and present. A number of states also require that their public schools spend the days leading up to Presidents’ Day teaching students about the accomplishments of the presidents, often with a focus on the lives of Washington and Lincoln.

February also gets us a little bit closer to spring, which is the start of the construction season. Towards the end of the month, we will once again see the construction on 2000 West start up. It will be so nice when this is all behind us, but I am going to warn you that the 2000 West traffic from 470 North to 1800 North is going to be a nightmare. Fortunately, relief is coming: our local legislators were instrumental in obtaining the necessary funding for the widening through that section, but we will still have a few years of some pretty frustrating traffic patterns until that project is completed. Work on this portion of 2000 West (470 North to 1800 North) is expected to start in 2023.

On a better note, we are excited to welcome Culver’s to town with their expected opening date on February 19th! Those who are familiar with this chain are very excited to have this company come to our City and those of you who haven’t had a chance to eat there will be pleasantly surprised. When I was in Kansas a couple of months ago, I went to lunch at a Culver’s in Kansas City and the food was great.

Last but not least, I would like to invite anyone who is interested in what is going on in West Point to come to our City Council meetings held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. The meetings generally start at 6:00 PM with an Administrative Session in a room just east of the Council Chambers. This session is usually where we get into the in-depth discussions of items and issues in the City. This meeting is open to the public and we encourage any of you who want to attend to come to this meeting. This session is followed by the General Session at 7:00 PM and is the one that more residents usually attend, but both the Administrative Session and the General Session have their own purposes and are very valuable as we try to take care of City business. We are required by State Law to have public hearings when we do certain things, and unfortunately, more often than not we have very little attendance at most public hearings. Please know that we encourage and welcome your involvement!

So how do you find out what is on the agenda and if there are any public hearings? Our website has all of the agendas, item information, past meeting minutes, and public hearing notices posted. I invite you to make a habit of visiting the website often to see if there is an issue that you might want to be involved with or find more information about.

Also make sure you are staying up-to-date on what is going on by following the City on Facebook. This is updated as needed to pass important information to our residents. So if you haven’t had a chance to follow us yet, please do. Besides being full of important information, our posts pass along this information in a very creative, and sometimes humorous, way.

As always, please contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns you might have.

- Mayor Erik Craythorne
The West Point Youth Council was so grateful for the opportunity to help with the annual Cemetery Luminary held each year on the Friday before Christmas. This year, the Luminary was held on December 22nd. The YC filled white bags with candles and sand, placed them on each headstone, and then lit all the candles inside. The cemetery was beautiful! The next morning, they cleaned it all up in the fresh snow.

Upcoming Events:
There will be a WPYC meeting on February 21st.

T.E.A.M
Together
Everyone
Achieves
More

“I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things.”
-Mother Teresa

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COMMUNITY AFFAIRS & EVENTS
If you would like more information about the activities listed on this page please contact Jolene Kap @ 801-614-5347 or email jkap@westpointcity.org

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February 2018

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Senior Lunch

Each month West Point City holds a lunch for Seniors 55 and older. The cost is $2.00 per person and both residents and non-residents are welcome!

This month’s lunch will be held on: Monday, February 12th @ 11:30 am.

The menu for this month is: Soup, French Bread and Cake.

YOU MUST RSVP TO RESERVE A SPOT
Please call City Hall by February 9th 801-776-0970

To view the 2018 Senior Lunch Calendar, visit the City Website under the Community Affairs Page.
**Why I Love West Point City** Essay Contest

This contest is sponsored by the West Point City Youth Council to encourage all West Point Residents to recognize how fortunate we are to live in our town and to express their appreciation for and pride in West Point City! Contest guidelines and applications are posted on the City website and available at City Hall. Essays are due to City Hall by February 20th by 5:30 PM. Winners will be notified by phone and announced at the City Council Meeting on March 6th at 7:00 PM.

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**Kindergarten Pre-Registration**

As Lakeside Elementary School prepares for the 2018-2019 school year, they need your help to identify each of next year’s Kindergarten Students. If your child will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2018, and lives in the Lakeside Elementary School boundaries, please contact the school office.

Lakeside Elementary: 2941 W 800 N 801-402-2900

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**Kindergarten Round-up**

West Point Elementary will be holding their Kindergarten Round-Up on March 9th at 2pm. Packets can be printed from the WPE website or picked up in the office during Round-Up. Registration will be March 19th - 30th in the office 9am-2:30 each day.

West Point Elementary 5788 W 300 N 801-402-2750

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**Pruning Demo**

Saturday, March 24th
9 AM - 11 AM
112 S 3000 W
West Point

Come and learn how to prune trees, grapes, and raspberries. Contact Boyd Hansen at 801-825-9200 with questions.

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Please remember to leash and clean-up after your dogs in our parks and on our streets. We have received complaints from residents and we want our animal-friendly City to remain a place where residents respect their neighbors and their parks!

For those with chickens, please also remember to keep your chickens contained on your property!

Looking for a Family-Friendly Volunteer Opportunity? The Community Garden has provided over 5,000 lbs of food to local shelters and those in need. Volunteers have served in planting, cultivating, harvesting, and then donating. If you’re interested, you can call 801-663-8884, or just show up anytime and weed away! At harvest time, fill up a bag and donate as you see fit! This is YOUR garden! 470 N 2150 W

Do you have a Secondary Water Meter at Your House?

Get “COOL” this summer by drinking a Jamba Juice courtesy of The Davis and Weber Counties Canal Company! The Canal Company will be drawing 20 names of those who provide them an email address and have secondary water meters. Each name drawn (one per household) will receive a $10 gift card to Jamba Juice! Please email meters@davisweber.org with your name and address to enter the drawing. See details on the Canal Company’s website at www.davisweber.org

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**Basketball Standards in Streets**

During the early spring months, especially when the snow starts to recede from the streets, we see an increase in the number of basketball standards set out on curbs in order to use the City street as a basketball court. This practice presents a serious danger both to the young people playing basketball and to the vehicles driving there.

West Point City Code Chapter 12.05.30 states: “It shall be unlawful for any person to erect, construct or maintain any building, structure or obstruction, any part of which shall extend on, over or beneath the property platted or dedicated to the city for street or sidewalk purposes, or to obstruct travel thereon in any manner, except as herein provided.”

Please be aware of this dangerous practice and help keep West Point a safe and pleasant place to live. Should you have any questions, please contact Code Enforcement Officer Bruce Dopp at 801-776-0970.

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**Finger Printing Info:**

Clinton Police Department will do finger printing on Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It is $15, payable by cash or check. Please call before you go to verify someone is available to assist you: 801-614-0800

Syracuse Police Department will do finger printing on Mondays from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
The “War to End All Wars,” which as we all know did not, ended with the signing of the Armistice on November 11th, 1918. It is widely thought that the signing of the Armistice was at 11 o’clock on that date, but that is not true; the actual signing took place in the railroad car of the French military leader, Marshall Foche, at 5:00 am in the forest near Compienge, France. The document stipulated that “all firing from both sides would end at 11:00 am.” This is where we get the time that is normally commemorated:

“the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.”

It is significant to note that when France capitulated Germany on June 22, 1940, Germany erased the stigma of its defeat twenty-two years earlier by compelling the French to sign the surrender in that same railcar, moved to that same location.

Just short of five years later, Germany would again sign an agreement of unconditional surrender in a French forest, but this time at six minutes after midnight near Reims. The date of this event would become known as ‘Victory in Europe Day’ (VE Day), May 8th, 1945. On August 15th, 1945, ‘Victory over Japan Day’ (VJ Day) was announced: on this date Japan agreed to an unconditional surrender and the cessation of all hostilities was declared. The surrender was formalized onboard the battleship USS Missouri on the 2nd of September, 1945.

I hope you noticed the significance of the first armistice mentioned above. This year, November 11th, 2018, will mark 100 years since that signing. Our West Point Military Memorial will also celebrate its 2nd dedication anniversary on that date. The Committee is planning a gala event to commemorate the Centennial of the Signing of the Armistice, and will provide more details as the date approaches.

With that history lesson finished, I will move onto a different subject: the Committee has completed and delivered the second printing of the formal publication of the West Point Hero’s scrapbook. If demand is sufficient enough we will do a third printing. If you would like a copy, please contact a member of the Committee (listed above). We acknowledge that the book is expensive, but it is a treasured keepsake and the amount charged is simply the publication cost.

If you have a name still needing to be added to a Military wall at the Memorial - PLEASE tell us NOW! We want all to be included.

Thank you again for your support.
Marv Drake, Committee Co-Chair

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**RECREATION**

Most recreation sign-ups can be done online at www.westpointcity.org or stop by City Hall to fill out a registration form. Some activities require in-person registration at City Hall.

Contact Kelly Ross for more information on recreation activities and sign-ups @ 801-529-3352

**Spring Soccer**
Registration for spring soccer will begin January 29th and run to March 5th.
Registration is for Pre-K thru 6th grade, boys and girls.
Registration cost is $40.00

**Baseball**
Registration for baseball will run from March 1st to April 3rd.
Registration for Pre-K thru 2nd Grade is $40.00 and 3rd Grade thru Jr. High is $50.00