Mayor’s Message

Memorial Day 2018

I thought it would be interesting to share a little bit about our popular three-day weekend, aka Memorial Day weekend, that has become the unofficial start of our summer. Each year Memorial Day is celebrated the last Monday of May and is a U.S. Federal holiday celebrated to honor the men and woman who died while serving in our Military. The custom of honoring ancestors by cleaning cemeteries and decorating graves is an ancient and worldwide tradition, but the specific origin of Memorial Day, as it was first known, are unclear. In early rural America, this duty was usually performed late in the summer and was an occasion for family reunions and picnics. After the Civil War, however, there became a need for America to have a specific holiday to honor its military dead. After the Civil War, monuments to fallen soldiers were erected and dedicated, and ceremonies centering on decoration of soldiers’ graves were held in towns and cities throughout the nation. After World War I, the day expanded to honor those who have died in all American wars. So what is the difference between Memorial Day and Veterans Day? Many people confuse Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Memorial Day is a day for remembering and honoring military personnel who died in the service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle. While those who died are also remembered, Veterans Day is the day set aside to thank and honor ALL who serve or have served—in wartime or peacetime and whether they died or survived.

So along the same lines of Memorial Day and the unofficial start of summer, I thought I would share some information about some summertime activities and information. Do you know that you can reserve boweries at each of our three parks? These are great for family get-togethers to enjoy the shaded picnic tables while the kids and adults play at the park. As an added convenience, all park reservations can now be done online if you just head over to the City’s website. Last year we also started the very popular Movies in the Park series and we will be doing it again this year. Along with the movie we will have food trucks who will be there to make it a great family activity this summer. The dates for the Movie in the Park for this year will be June 15th, July 13th, August 10th and September 10th so be sure to mark those dates in your calendar! We are expecting this event to grow and become more and more popular as the word gets out.

Construction of the new splash pad at the Loy Blake Park expansion will start soon. We are excited for this new splash pad and think it will add just one more amenity to Loy Blake Park. These splash pads have become very popular in surrounding communities for those hot summer days. More information about when it will open, hours of operation, etc. will be forthcoming. Also, if you haven’t had a chance to drive by the new Park expansion, it is starting to come together and look really nice; you can see that this will be a great addition to our largest park in the City.

Last but not least, I would invite all of you out to our annual Take Pride Day on May 12th. The project this year will be laying sod at our cemetery. We have been working on the cemetery expansion and while I know the area has been a mess, we are hoping to have it all done and completed by Memorial Day on May 28th. Many hands make light work, and I encourage you to come and spend a couple hours helping out at our beautiful cemetery.

We are blessed to live in such a great place. We do however, have people who live among us who are in need of help, lonely, and who could use a visit from time to time. Please be aware of your neighbors and don’t hesitate to reach out and offer to help out in any way you are able to. It is all part of being part of a community wherein individually we can’t do it all, but collectively we can make this a place we are all proud to call home.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me by calling City Hall and leaving a message. You can also come to our City Council meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, beginning with an Administrative Session that is open to the public at 6:00 pm followed by the General Session at 7:00 pm.

- Mayor Erik Craythorne
The West Point Youth Council loved helping with the City’s Easter Egg Hunt this year! They stuffed the eggs at their monthly meeting, spread them out the morning of, and cleaned up everything after. Shout out to Bridger Gordon for being a great Easter Bunny!

We have extended the deadline for this year’s YC registration. If you are still interested in being part of this year’s YC, applications can be picked up at City Hall. All applications must be turned in by May 8th.

May 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, May 21st @ 11:30 am.

The menu for this month is:
Tacos, chips and ice cream

YOU MUST RSVP TO RESERVE A SPOT
Please call City Hall by May 17th @ 801-776-0970

To view the 2018 Senior Lunch Calendar, visit the City Website under the Community Affairs Page.

Marching Muskrats

West Point City is currently seeking members for this year’s Community Marching Band! This group is one of the highlights of our Independence Day Celebration on July 4th. If you are interested please email Jolene at marchingmuskrats@westpointcity.org

Please include the instrument you play, the years played, your name, and phone number!

And be sure to share this info with all your friends and family who may be interested too!
West Point’s Annual Community Service
“Take Pride Day”
Saturday, May 12th at 8am
Meet at the West Point Cemetery at
40 N 4000 W.
Please bring gloves! We will be laying sod in the
new cemetery expansion area.
For questions, please contact
Jolene Kap @ 801-776-0970

PRINCESS FOR A DAY!
Attention all girls ages 4-10!
Come and join the fun and be a
Princess for a Day!
Registration dates:
May 1st - May 29th
Cost: $10.00 per girl
Date: Tuesday, June 5th
Time: 10:00 AM - Noon
Place: West Point Fire Station
All the girls will be learning a short
dance that will be performed on stage at the
Miss West Point Pageant on Saturday, June 9th.

Summerfest International Art
and Folk Festival
Our international performers need
places to stay during Summerfest!
If you think you might like to host
international visitors in your home
from Sunday, August 05, 2018 to
Sunday, August 12, 2018 contact:
James:
801-295-3618 or james@bdac.org;
www.bdac.org/summerfest

GARAGE SALES
Spring time is a popular time to clean out
basements, garages, sheds, and closets to get
rid of unwanted or no longer needed clothing,
furniture, appliances and other household
articles. One popular method to accomplish
this task is to hold a garage sale. Here are a
few reminders to help you complete your
garage sale in a safe and appropriate manner:
WPCC 17.50.20H states: “Garage, basement,
yard, or other similar sales shall be permitted
not more than twice a year, and each sale shall
not last more than two consecutive days.”
You are also reminded that if you are using
directional signs to direct customers to your
home, the signs need to be removed
immediately after the sale is over.
Please help us keep West Point City a beautiful
and safe place by doing your garage sale within
the Code requirements of the City.
Please call Bruce Dopp, West Point City Code
Enforcement Officer at 801-776-0970 or use
the City website at www.westpointcity.org with
any questions.

PARKS
If you are interested in
using one of the City’s
three parks you can now make
bowery reservations online at
www.westpointcity.org
All parks are open from
8:00am to 10:00pm.
Dogs are permitted on a leash.
Owners are responsible for
animals, including cleaning up
after them.

Cemetery Spring Cleaning - May 3rd!
Thursday
May 3rd
Join us for a Garden Social at the West Point Community Garden,
470 N 2150 W, West Point.
On May 18th from 6-8
An overview of the garden responsibilities will be discussed followed
by a pot luck dinner. This is a great opportunity for families to volunteer together, so
please come out and learn more about our garden!

“Party At The Point”
Planning is well underway
here at City Hall for this
year’s Independence Day
Celebration! If you are
interested in being a vendor
or if you would like to
volunteer at this year’s
event, please contact Jolene
@ 801-776-0970 or
jkap@westpointcity.org
Last month I lamented the seeming fact that nobody seems to be reading these inputs from the Memorial Committee, as attested by the real fact that submission of the names for the Military Walls have been woefully late in coming to us, or have not come at all. So, in a sort of subliminal way, a challenge was issued to readers promising that the first to arrive at City Hall and solve three riddles would be given a cash reward. We determined to allow one week for responders. After the predetermined week, it would seem my concerns were correct as a total of one person came in. When no others accepted the challenge, we decided that the one responder deserved receiving the envelope, so it was delivered to her.

ANOTHER SUBJECT:

In the United States of America, the third Saturday in May is observed as Armed Forces Day. This year that will be on the 19th. It is only fitting that inasmuch as West Point City does not normally hold a planned special commemoration, we need to be cognizant of the day and maybe each have our own. Let me add to your recognition of the day with a short telling of its history:

On August 31, 1949, Louis Johnson, the United States Secretary of Defense, announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace the separate Army, Navy, and Air Force Days. The event stemmed from the armed forces unification under one department, the Department of Defense. The Army, Navy, and Air Force leagues adopted the newly formed day. The Marine Corps League declined to drop support for Marine Corps Day but supports Armed Forces Day also. The first Armed Forces Day was celebrated on Saturday, May 20, 1950 with the theme “Teamed for Defense.” The day is a day to honor and acknowledge Americans in the armed forces and is celebrated nationwide. We will have displayed in front of the City Hall that day a row of service flags.

From the Memorial Committee, hopefully speaking for all West Point veterans, to citizens of West Point:

thanks for your support of the Military!!

**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