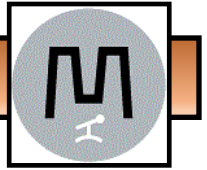


City Council Message



February 2021



Brett Hales

Just do your best. That's all anyone can ask of us. Let's just keep on keepin' on and love one another. I promise you there are great days ahead. We can move forward with hope or we can move forward with despair. Either way we will move forward. I am hopeful that 2021 will be a wonderful and prosperous year for everyone.

In February, there are some annual events that we can always look forward to.....

The 2021 Legislative Session begins on January 19, 2021, consumes us all in February, and runs through March 5, 2021. Some of the issues the Legislature will be discussing during the 45 day session this year include: outdoor advertising, emergency management, local government building regulation, and metro townships. There are already over 70 bill files on public safety, so keep an eye on that

important issue. Your legislators want to hear from you. To find out who your representatives are, visit the Utah State Legislatures webpage at www.le.utah.gov.

There are two other days in February that are special to me and are definitely more fun than the legislature. This year, they happen to be one right after the other.

Valentine's Day! Yea, sweethearts and candy! We will celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14. Valentine's Day is also known as St. Valentine's Day. I was doing some research on this "love-filled" holiday when I came across some fascinating Valentine's Day facts. For instance, did you know there was more than one St. Valentine? There were at least two men named Valentine that could have inspired the holiday. I also learned that the first valentine was sent in 1415 by a French medieval duke named Charles to his wife. And what about those conversation hearts? Those were invented by a pharmacist named Oliver Chase who invented a machine to simplify the way medical lozenges were made. He then switched his focus to making candy and founded the New England Confectionery Company (NECCO), and voila, wafer hearts were born. In 1866, his brother, Daniel Chase, started printing sentimental messages on the conversation hearts. The first messages were long phrases such as, "How long shall I have to wait?" Also, would you believe that more than eight billion conversation hearts are manufactured each year? Well, it's true.

The other holiday that is celebrated in February is President's Day. The federal holiday was established in 1885 in recognition of George Washington. In 1968 the Uniform Monday Holiday Bill was passed by Congress. During the debate on that bill, a proposal came forth to change the name of the holiday from Washington's Birthday to President's Day so it could honor both George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. When the bill went into effect in 1971, the holiday became commonly known and President's Day and is intended to honor all American presidents. President's Day is always celebrated on the third Monday in February, which falls on February 15th this year.

While there are many views on the current situation at hand, my hope is that you will again, do your best. It's all any of us can do.

Brett Hales

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