



ALPINE

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CELEBRATING 175 YEARS

A Message from the Mayor

A favorite activity I am privileged to participate in as mayor is helping hand out Christmas dinners to families at Tabatha's Way food pantry. During the first year I participated, I met Michael Carter, a co-founder of Tabatha's Way, and he said something that has stayed with me ever since. He told me, Alpine is a beautiful city with beautiful homes, which I certainly agreed with. He then told me that, "Tabatha's Way serves families from Alpine." This statement surprised me and reminded me of a story the mayor of Lehi told me about a young woman who demonstrated the spirit of giving more than 30 years ago. Her charitable act of selflessness left an imprint on him that he hopes to never forget.



Mayor Carla Merrill

Cathy was a single mother with two young children, and her financial situation was quite bleak. He had not paid close enough attention to recognize just how hard her life had become for her because she never complained or drew attention to her struggles. In hindsight, he felt he should have been more aware and considerate of her situation.

It was only days before Christmas when Cathy admitted to him that a miracle that had taken place in her life. She had not been able to purchase any gifts for her children and decided to go to Walmart with the hope that she could find something, anything, to give to her children on Christmas morning. Since she only had five dollars in her wallet, this would seem to most of us to be an unattainable task. But she had hope and, I believe, faith that somehow it would be enough. It was not long, of course, before she realized she simply could not get anything with that small amount of money and decided to leave the store.

On her way out and just beyond the automatic doors, she passed the Salvation Army stand and paused. She admitted that she had reached into her wallet, pulled out that small amount of cash, and slid it into the donation pot. He couldn't remember her exact words, but she said something like, "That money was not enough for me to do any good, but it may help someone else."

The first lesson here is that there are people around us who have far less than we do. Some have very little, and we may never recognize it unless we pay close attention. Both faith and charity are extremely important tools to help us see the need of others.

There is, of course, more to this story. A short time later, before Christmas Day, Cathy found an envelope tucked in the doorframe of her apartment. When she opened it up, it was filled with the cash necessary to provide a very happy Christmas morning for her children. Neither the mayor nor Cathy had any idea as to who may have put that envelope in Cathy's door jam. He had often felt humbled that he was not the one to recognize her situation and respond.

The second lesson is this: don't let opportunities slip by. They are not going to be obvious most of the time. We must work to find those who need our help and be prepared to offer the assistance needed.

My hope is that we all take opportunities to be charitable and supportive this holiday season, that we take care of those in need, and look for opportunities to love and care for others. May we all remember the true spirit of Christmas and love our neighbors as Christ would. Thank you all for the many acts of charity that happen throughout our community each day. Each of you is what makes Alpine great. I wish you all a truly Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



December Calendar Events

- 11 – Last Day for Santa Letter
- 13 – Wreaths Across America
- 14 – Joyful Christmas Sounds Performance
- 19-20, 22-23 – Luminares Pick-up

City Hall

Holiday Hours:

- Dec 19 — open until noon
- Dec 24 — open until noon
- Dec 25 — closed
- Dec 26 — closed
- Jan 1 — closed

Community Events:



ASSOCIATION FOR LIFELONG LEARNING (A.L.L.)

We wish you a Merry Christmas and thank you for your enthusiastic support this last year! Please join us in January as we launch the next year.

Jan 8th Conquer Clutter FOREVER—Get on TOP of Your Life!
 10:30am By *Alice Osborne & Chrisann Patch*

And watch your email for our incredible 2026 Calendar—classes are ALWAYS FREE for A.L.L.!

Bookmobile Schedule & Info:



Dates: Dec 2, 16, 30; Jan 13, 27; Feb 10, 24

10:30-11:30 River Meadows Senior Living (137 Red Pine)
 12:00-2:30 Creekside Park (455 Village Way)
 3:00-5:30 Alpine LDS “Red” Church (165 N 100 E)

Friends of Library Activities

New location: 491 Alpine Hwy (north of Burgess Orchards)

Weekly Programs:

- Story Time: Tuesdays 11:00 am
- Jr. Librarian Program: Tuesdays 3:30 – 4:30 pm
- Music With Me: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 10:00 am
 ⇒ for toddlers and their caregivers
- Sip and Stitch: 1st Saturday of each month 10:30 am
 ⇒ knit/crochet club

December Activities:

- Story Time with Santa: **December 9** at 11:00 am
 ⇒ hosted at the Workshop
- Linda's Gingerbread Tea Party: **December 22**
 ⇒ 11:00 – 12:00
- Service Project: Glove and Sock Drive

Visit www.friendsofalpinelibrary.org for hours, information, event registration and volunteer opportunities.

Made possible through a partnership with Burgess Orchards, thousands of book donations, and strong community support, the Alpine community library is operated by a nonprofit organization and run day-to-day by trained volunteers. We offer free access to books, cozy reading areas, and welcoming spaces for children, teens, and adults to read, study, and connect. We invite you to stop by, get a library card, and explore the shelves. Open to all residents!

December

HIGHLAND CITY
 LIBRARY

Closed Christmas Eve - Dec 24
 Closed Christmas Day - Dec 25
 Closed Early New Year's Eve - 4pm Dec 31
 No Programs - Dec 15-Jan 2

0-5*

Baby Storytime

Every Mon, 11am-11:45am
 Ages 0-2*
 Read, sing, and play with your baby

Storytime

Every Mon, 11am-11:45am
 Ages 3-5*
 Read, sing, learn, and craft
 HCL card required for craft

Tweens (9-12)

Teens (13-18)

Combined Christmas Party

Thu, Dec 11, 4pm-4:45pm
 Pizza, fun, and games!

Adult

HSH

Fri, Dec 12, 6pm-7pm
 Join us as we launch our new programs for Highland's senior citizens and older adults. Rotating Friday programs will include dance and movement classes, crafts, games, technology classes, health and wellness workshops, book clubs, and more.

Family*

Family Craft Night

Wed, Dec 10, 6pm-7pm
 Choose to decorate a gingerbread house craft or make an ornament together at this all-ages craft night.

*Children under 9 must be accompanied by an adult

Help Protect our Trails

As we enter the winter seasons, please stay off wet and muddy trails. **Remember — if you leave a mark, it's time to turn back.**

Muddy hoof, shoe, or wheel tracks cause lasting damage and require significant time and money to repair. Please help protect our trails!

Your cooperation helps keep our trails safe, beautiful, and usable for everyone.

Wreaths Across America—Dec 13th, 10:00am

Join us in honoring our veterans at Alpine City Cemetery, Saturday Dec. 13th at 10:00am, with a wreath-laying ceremony emulating those at the Arlington Cemetery in Washington D.C. Color Guard Scout Troop Unit 10G and the Alpine Youth Council will place seven wreaths—one for each branch of the military as well as the POW/MIAs. These wreaths come to us through volunteer groups of veterans, truckers, and the Pony Express Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). Guest speaker Cortney McCray, widow of Major Terry McCray and lifelong military daughter, will represent the families of Veterans. Councilman Brent Rummeler will also provide remarks. Nationally, similar ceremonies will occur at the same moment as part of the National Wreaths Across America Day. Everyone is welcome to bring their own wreath to lay following the ceremony.



The Color Guard Scouts Troop Unit 10G will honor America's 250th birthday as participation will help earn one of six special patches. Other scout units are also welcome to contact the City to participate. Through the sponsorship of the Pony Express Chapter of the Daughters of American Revolution, Alpine has participated for several years in the national program whose mission is "To Remember the Fallen, Honor Those Who Served, and Teach the Next Generation the Value of Freedom."

Write Your Letter to Santa

Don't forget to send your letter to Santa! His bright red mailbox is set up outside City Hall, ready to receive Christmas wishes from children throughout Alpine. Be sure to drop your letter off by **December 11th** to make sure it reaches the North Pole in time for Christmas. Santa loves hearing from our young residents, and he does his best to write back—so don't forget to include your return address.



Joyful Christmas Sounds Choir Concert

Mark your calendars for this 40+ year tradition of a community choir concert at Christmas time on **Sunday, December 14th**. This free concert begins at **7:30pm** at the church by the roundabout (98 E Canyon Crest).



Luminaires—Light Up the Night

Our town is getting ready to shine for the **34th anniversary** of a cherished community tradition, and everyone is invited to take part! The **Luminaire Committee** and the **Lone Peak Color Guard** are once again offering luminaire kits as a fundraiser, giving families and neighbors the opportunity to light up their homes and streets in a radiant display of unity and goodwill.

This long-standing tradition is a simple yet meaningful way to come together, support our local students, and carry forward the spirit that has made our community so special for more than three decades.

Each **luminaire kit** includes:

- 20 long-burning candles (8–10 hours)
- 20 white, weather-resistant sacks
- Enough sand to anchor each sack

When placed and lit on **Christmas Eve**, these luminaires create a breathtaking glow—a symbol of **love, peace, and hope**—sentiments especially meaningful in today's world.

Cost: \$25 per kit—All proceeds directly benefit members of the **Lone Peak Color Guard**.

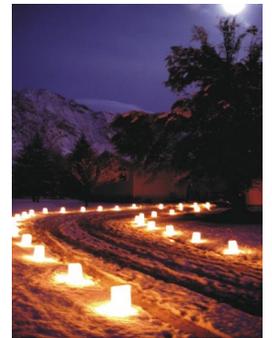
Residents are encouraged to order early to ensure availability.

You can pre-order by:

Mail: *Luminaires*, 88 North 200 East, Alpine, UT 84004 *Please include a check made out to *Luminaires* if mailing your order.

Online Reservation: Visit alpinelights.org to order your kits online. Navigate to the store and select the number of kits you would like. New this year, we are now able to accept PayPal to enable you to both order and pre-pay for your kits before our sales dates.

Please feel free to contact **Joni Wootton** at **801-787-7110** for more information or to learn how you can help keep this heartwarming tradition shining bright.



Pre-order deadline: December 15

Kit pick-up location: Alpine City Hall
Pick-up times:

- December 19 | 4–6 pm
- December 20 | 10 am–2 pm
- December 22 | 4–6 pm
- December 23 | 4–6 pm

Cemetery Corner—Holiday Decorations

During this season our thoughts turn to loved ones, those who are with us and those who have gone ahead. The cemetery lady has seen many attractive and appropriately sized displays on family plots through the years. As you purchase decorations, keep in mind the helpful Latin phrase: *Fa la la la la, la la la la*, which translates to, “Less is more.”

Case in point: Imagine yourself as a city worker after 6 long hours of plowing snow, carefully steering your truck up Cemetery Hill in the pre-dawn darkness. Suddenly, you are confronted by a giant light-up motion-activated snowman singing “*Feliz Navidad*.” This may or may not have happened last year, and the driver may or may not have spilled cocoa and Pop Tarts all over his truck. This type of excitement is not helpful to our public works crew, who are prone to high blood pressure anyway.

We urge you to choose your decorations wisely. Anything larger than your sofa or with lighting that could distract low-flying aircraft is best installed elsewhere. Cemetery visitors, snowplow drivers, and José Feliciano will thank you.

For questions, plot purchases, or hot cocoa recipes, contact DeAnn at dparry@alpineut.gov or call 801-756-6347 x 3.

Winter Parking & Snow Removal

The winter parking regulation is in effect from now until March 31. It is **unlawful for any person to park** any motor vehicle, non-road, non-motorized or junk vehicles **on a city street from between the hours of 12:00 AM to 8:00 AM or any time of day** when it is snowing or snow is present on the street. (*Alpine Code 11.346*)

We know it is tempting, but please do not push snow from your property onto the street. This snow freezes and damages plows when they run into it. **Please keep your sidewalks and driveways clear, but do not push the snow into the streets.**

Snow Plowing Priorities: Snow removal is prioritized by transit and public safety. The arterial and collector streets are given first priority. These roads include, but are not limited to: Main Street, Canyon Crest, Westfield/200 North and Grove Drive. Next are the main residential streets, such as Ridge Drive, Healey Blvd, Long Drive, 300 North and 400 West. Local residential streets are next, with cul-de-sacs plowed last. Remember, if cars are parked on the street, plows may not be able to access your road safely.



Alpine Youth Council (AYC) Update

This past month, Alpine Youth Council had the honor of hosting our First Responders Appreciation Dinner, a heartfelt event dedicated to the firefighters and law enforcement officers who serve our community every single day. It was a warm and meaningful evening filled with good food, good company, and genuine gratitude. Seeing our community come together to thank the men and women who keep Alpine safe was a powerful reminder of how much their service means to all of us.

We were also on-site elves when Santa arrived in Alpine! This beloved tradition kicked off the holiday season with joy, lights, and plenty of holiday cheer. Families were invited to gather, meet Santa, snap photos, and enjoy the start of a festive month in Alpine.

Children can send their Christmas wishes directly to Santa! A special Santa Mailbox has been placed at City Hall for kids to drop off their letters until December 11th. Be sure to include your return address so Santa can write back!



PARC Tax at Work

During the 2024 election, Alpine City residents voted in favor of the Parks, Arts, Recreation, and Culture (PARC) Tax and we are already seeing the benefits of that decision. We estimate that the PARC tax will generate approximately \$120,000 per year that will be allocated by the City Council for improvements to parks throughout the city.

Look for this logo around the city to spot PARC-funded projects in action!



Work has officially begun on the “new” Burgess Pavilion. Once completed, it will offer a refreshed, functional gathering space and will be ready for public use and reservation in the spring of 2026. In addition, several much-needed benches have been installed along the pathway, giving residents a



comfortable place to rest during walks, enjoy community activities, or simply take in the beautiful mountain views that make Alpine special.

Visit our website regularly to view PARC tax allocations and the great ways these funds are being used to enhance life in Alpine.

www.alpineut.gov/PARCtax

Good Landlord Program

Alpine City continues with our Good Landlord Program which provides financial incentives to landlords who actively implement the objectives of a landlord training course, keep their properties free of criminal activity, and maintain their properties free of code violations. While a landlord maintains a current certification, **the city will waive the annual Accessory Apartment registration fee** (currently \$50 per year).

Program requirements: Landlords must complete an initial training course through an approved program that teaches them to avoid discrimination; comply with the Fair Housing Act; identify criminal activity; observe zoning laws; screen tenants through background and credit checks; and maximize the use of rental applications. Once the initial training is completed, a shorter refresher is required every two years to maintain certification.

For more information and links to qualified programs, see <https://www.alpineut.gov/GLP>

Chief Gwilliam Receives Utah Department of Public Safety Partnership Award

Lone Peak Police Chief Brian Gwilliam was recently honored with the Utah Department of Public Safety (DPS) Partnership Award for his contributions to the state and his ongoing commitment to enhancing public safety.

Chief Gwilliam received the award at the DPS Awards Banquet on October 30, recognizing his support of the department in his role as President of the Utah Chiefs of Police Association. He has been a steady, collaborative leader and an impactful advocate for positive change, building trust among public safety agencies across Utah.

Chief Gwilliam's legacy of partnership, professionalism, and dedication will benefit communities throughout Utah for years to come. "It is truly an honor to receive this award, as the continued partnership with the Utah Department of Public Safety allows our department to foster a collaborative approach to safety and policing throughout the state," said Chief Gwilliam. Congratulations, Chief! We are lucky to have you!



Colonel Michael Rapich, Deputy Commissioner Hillary Koellner, Governor Spencer Cox, Police Chief Gwilliam, Commissioner Beau Mason, Deputy Commissioner Tyler Kotter (left to right)

Accessory Apartments Permits

It is soon time to renew your accessory apartment permit. Renewal letters will be sent out at the end of December. If you have already registered your apartment, please send in the renewal form with the \$50 fee. If you are part of the Good Landlord program and have an active certificate, provide a copy of the certificate in place of the fee.

If you have an accessory apartment and have not registered it with City Hall, please contact Marla or Jennie in the building department at 801-756-6347 ext 4 or 5. Applications and information are online at alpineUT.gov > Departments > Planning & Zoning > Accessory Apartment 101. The city's building inspector will need to approve the apartment and there is a \$101 fee (\$50 registration + inspection fee).

ADA Ramps

You may have noticed ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) ramp upgrades taking place at several intersections along Main Street and 100 West. Over the past two years, Alpine City applied for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding through the Mountainland Association of Governments to help bring a number of ADA ramps into full compliance. The City was successful in both application cycles and received grants each year, including \$70,000 awarded for use in 2025, which requires a 33% local match.

With this funding, the City will be able to replace approximately twenty ADA ramps, improving accessibility and safety for all residents. Work is currently underway and is anticipated to be completed by the middle of December.



Christmas Tree Pick-up—Jan. 10

ACE Disposal will be picking up Christmas trees on **Saturday, January 10th**. Please have your tree (free of all decorations) on the curb before 7:00am.



A Message about our Alpine City Stormwater *Jason Goodfellow, Stormwater Specialist*

Stormwater might not be something we think about every day, but it plays a major role in keeping our homes, roads, and natural environment safe. As storms move across our hillsides and neighborhoods, rainwater and snowmelt pick up everything in their path (soil, debris, fertilizers, chemicals, and trash) and carry it into our storm drains and waterways.

To protect Alpine, we maintain detention basins, ditches, storm drains, and other systems designed to reduce flooding and keep our water clean. But these systems only work when all of us do our part.

Here's how you can help protect our community:

- **Keep gutters and drains clear** of leaves, dirt, and debris.
- **Pick up pet waste** and dispose of it properly.
- **Limit fertilizers, pesticides, and household chemicals** that can wash into the storm system.
- **Sweep, not spray, driveways and sidewalks** to keep pollutants out of the gutter.
- **Report drainage problems** or illicit dumping when you see it.

Stormwater doesn't get treated like sewer water. Everything that enters our storm drains flows directly into our natural waterways and affects our neighborhoods, wildlife, and drinking water sources.

By taking simple steps at home, you help reduce flooding, prevent pollution, and keep Alpine's waterways and landscapes healthy. Thank you for doing your part to protect our community.

Code Compliance Corner: Trees & Trailers *Don Quigley, Code Compliance Officer*

TREES: With the leaves now fallen, this is an excellent time of year to trim tree branches or remove any dead trees and limbs. Healthy, well-maintained trees greatly enhance the beauty and vitality of our city. However, when branches become overgrown to the point of obstructing a city street or public sidewalk, they create a code violation.

City code requires the following clearances (Alpine City Code MCA 11.06.060):

- Tree branches over streets must be trimmed to no lower than **14 feet**.
- Tree branches over sidewalks must be trimmed to no lower than **8 feet**.
- Trees within a sight triangle on a corner lot must also be trimmed so no branches hang lower than **8 feet**

These standards are in place to ensure public safety.

Additionally, City Code **DCA 3.13.055** requires property owners to maintain the landscaping in their front yard, park strip, and along fence lines. If a tree has died or contains significant dead or unsightly branches, the property owner must remove the tree or prune the dead limbs. Such trees are not only unattractive—they may pose a fire hazard (especially pine trees) or create a safety risk if a large branch breaks and falls. We encourage residents to review the trees on their property and complete any necessary maintenance to remain in compliance with city code.

Thank you to everyone who has taken time to rake and properly dispose of leaves, helping prevent them from collecting in street gutters and storm drains.

TRAILERS: As the RV season winds down, residents are reminded that no trailer or vehicle may be parked on a city street for longer than **48 hours** (MCA 11.06.040.D).

Beginning **December 1st**, no vehicle or trailer may be parked on the street **overnight** or **when snow is present**. This winter parking ordinance remains in effect from **December 1st through March 31st** (MCA 11.06.040.F).

As winter weather approaches, we also thank you in advance for your efforts to promptly clear ice and snow from public sidewalks. Please remember that snow may not be pushed or blown into the street.

Wishing you all a safe and happy holiday season.

Find Alpine City on Social Media for the latest updates and information



Cityofalpineut



Alpine City



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