

Mark and Debra Thompson:

A Legacy of Service in Highland City

Thank you for participating in the Fling! We would like to extend special recognition to this year's Grand Marshal.

As Highland City reflects on the legacy of its community leaders, few names carry as much history and heart as Mark and Debra Thompson. With roots reaching back to the 1920s, the Thompson family has been part of Highland's foundation—literally and figuratively—for nearly a century.

Mark's father, Reed Thompson, helped establish the Highland Water Department in 1958 and played a key role in forming the city in 1977. That spirit of service was passed down to Mark, who was raised on the same Highland land that his ancestors once farmed. Debra, born and raised in nearby American Fork, met Mark during their youth, and shortly after marrying in 1973, they moved to Highland—a place they've called home ever since.

Together, they raised four sons—Reed, Thad, Clint, and Raff—all brought up in Highland, taught the same values of faith, family, and service that have long defined the Thompson name.

Over the years, Mark Thompson has worn many hats in service to the city he loves:

- Employee of the Highland Water Company
- Volunteer Firefighter
- Lehi Irrigation Board Member
- City Councilman
- and Mayor of Highland (2014–2017)

Yet his service wasn't confined to city meetings or water lines—you could almost always find Mark out on the baseball field. Whether coaching his sons, maintaining the grounds, or simply enjoying a game, Heritage Park became a second home.

Debra Thompson also served Highland in her own quiet, steady way, working as a meter reader for the water department and supporting her family and community every step of the way.

Now retired from public office and city work, Mark and Debra remain deeply connected to Highland. They continue to care for their land, serve in church, and spend time with their grandchildren—many of whom now run and play on the same pastures their grandpa once did.

The Thompsons' story is one of legacy—of building, serving, and belonging. For Mark and Debra, Highland isn't just where they live—it's who they are.



HIGHLAND CITY

CALENDAR

September 2: City Council Meeting
6pm, City Hall

September 8: Senior Appreciation Dinner
5pm, Veteran's Pavilion at Highland Family Park

September 16: City Council Meeting
6pm, City Hall

September 23: Planning Commission
7pm, City Hall

PHONE NUMBERS

City Offices: 801-756-5751

Library: 801-772-4528

Justice Court: 801-772-4525

Police Department & Animal Control: 801-756-9800

Fire Department: 801-763-5365

After-Hours Public Works Emergency: 801-420-2553

Waste Management (pick-up & can repairs): 888-496-8824

ONLINE

Report a concern, pay a bill, reserve pavilions, request alerts, etc. at: highlandut.gov
Or you can text us with any questions or concerns at **385-421-9045**

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@highlandcityutah



Highland City

City Council Meeting Brief

For full agendas, minutes, & audio, visit <http://bit.ly/HC-agendas>. For video, go to our YouTube channel @HighlandCityUtah or visit bit.ly/HC-citycouncil.

August 5, 2025

- **Daycare:** The City Council approved construction of a daycare on Highland Boulevard.
- **Veterinary Clinic:** A proposed plan to build a vet clinic on North County Boulevard was approved.

Municipal Election Update

The 2025 Municipal General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. Highland City voters will be electing a Mayor as well as two City Council Members. Voters will have the opportunity to vote for two (2) City Council Members and one (1) Mayor. The two City Council candidates with the most votes in the General Election will be elected to serve a 4-year term for City Council. School District Board Members will also be on the ballot and voters may vote for one (1) School District Board Member.

City Council Candidates:

Ron Campbell
Wes Warren
Liz Rice
Scott L. Smith

Mayoral Candidate:

Brittney P. Bills

Candidate Debate and Request for Questions

Please join us for a Candidate Debate on Thursday, October 9, 2025, at 6:00 pm at Highland City Hall. The debate will be streamed on the City's YouTube Channel, <http://bit.ly/HC-youtube>.

Please submit debate questions to elections@highlandut.gov by Sunday, October 5, 2025.

Cemetery Cleanup - Monday, October 6th, 2025

Highland City seeks to offer families and friends that visit their loved ones in the cemetery a clean, beautiful, and peaceful environment. Please help us with this goal by keeping your site clean. On Monday, October 6th, the cemetery will be cleared of ALL grave decorations, real or artificial, including trinkets, ornaments, lamps, shepherd hooks, etc. Please make every effort to remove decorations from your loved one's grave prior to the cleanup, as remaining decorations are typically discarded. Questions? Please call (801) 772-4505.

Protecting Highland's Public Property—Encroachment

Highland City is fortunate to have beautiful public lands—parks, trails, open spaces, and landscaped areas—that belong to all residents. Unfortunately, some of these areas have been subject to **encroachment**, which occurs when a private property owner extends their use or improvements onto City-owned land without authorization. Examples include fences, sheds, trampolines, gardens, landscaping, or irrigation systems placed beyond private property lines.

Encroachments are **not allowed** unless approved through a written Maintenance Agreement with the City. These agreements ensure that any private use of public land benefits the community as a whole, not just individual property owners. Unauthorized encroachments can increase maintenance costs for taxpayers, limit public access, and conflict with the City's long-term land-use goals.

If you think you may have encroached—intentionally or not—please check your property boundaries using the Utah County Parcel Map at maps.utahcounty.gov/ParcelMap. Residents who have encroached must either remove the improvements and restore the land or apply for a Maintenance Agreement.

Together, we can preserve Highland's open spaces and keep our community beautiful for current and future generations. For questions about encroachment or Maintenance Agreements, please contact **Highland City at (801) 756-5751**.

City Budget Overview

The City has published a document that gives a brief overview of the City's budget for fiscal year 2026. This document is called the "Citizens' Budget" and can be found on the City's website at <https://bit.ly/HC-citizensbudget>.

The Citizens' Budget covers:

- Interesting statistics and demographics about Highland
- How property and sales taxes are shared
- City revenue sources and expected amounts
- Anticipated budget expenditures by department
- A look at a number of projects that have been funded for the next year

The Citizens' Budget is meant to help our residents better understand where the City's funding comes from and how it is used to improve our community, so check it out!



Shauna Larson, President
801-891-7183

 @highlandcityarts  Highland City Arts Council

Contact

Visit our website!
highlandcityarts.info



All of the following events are held at the Highland City Community Center unless otherwise stated.

Sew 'n Sews will be meeting on Friday, September 19, from 9:00 am — 4:00 pm. Bring your machine or hand project to work on something for Sew and Tell. Hope to see you there. Contact Carol at cwhadlock@gmail.com or 801-400-8727 for more information.

Now Enrolling! Highland Children's Choir Registration is NOW OPEN for the Highland Youth Choir (ages 12-23), Highland Children's Choir (ages 8-11), and Young Singers Preparatory Choir (ages 5-7). Spots are limited and reserved in the order registrations are submitted. We would love to have you join us. Register at highlandchildrenschoir.com. COME SING WITH US!

Timpanogos Ringers It's back to Bell time! If you have ever wanted to try handbell ringing, come try out. For more information contact Paige at super.paige.erick@gmail.com.

Highland Choral Arts

Go to highlandchoralarts.org to see dates of upcoming Christmas programs.

Friends of Art Get ready for another exciting year! Our first meeting starting fall of 2025 will be Thursday, September 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Our guest speaker is Larissa Johnson demonstrating how she does Collage. A luncheon will follow. Hope to see you all there. Everyone is welcome.

After School Art Club Pre-registration is required. First class is September 15, 4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. Ages 8-11. For more information and to pre-register, contact Linda at 717-368-6924.

Visual Arts Institute Check our website for more information to come on fall programs.

Friends of the Library The Friends of the Highland City Library sent a cavalcade of books out into the world in August. The journey began at the library's giant book sale. Clover the Cow was there for the sendoff, and hundreds of books were purchased and sent home with dozens of area residents. Some books went to neighboring areas, and others will travel as far as Ghana. Many thanks to those who donated, sorted, picked up, organized, stacked, stored, and bought these beautiful wandering books. All profits from the sale will be used to support library programs and needs.

Senior Appreciation Dinner

Join us for a night of delicious food, live music, and bingo! This year's Senior Appreciation Dinner will be held at the Veteran's Pavilion at Highland Family Park on Monday, September 8th from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Dinner will be served promptly at 5:00 p.m. and bingo begins at 6:00 p.m. RSVP by calling 801-756-5751. We look forward to seeing you there!

A Community of Care

The Food and Care Coalition is a nonprofit organization dedicated to alleviating poverty and homelessness in Utah County. Since 1988, we've provided 3 million daily meals, transitional housing, medical, dental, and mental health services, employment support, to individuals in need. This is made possible by the generosity of our community. Most of our funding comes from public donations.

Highland residents, churches, businesses, and schools can play a role in supporting our mission. Please consider donating or hosting a collection drive. Together, we make a difference! **Current Needs in Addition to Financial:** Shampoo & Conditioner, Deodorant, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Heavy-Duty 33-Gallon Trash Bags. Learn more at foodandcare.org or email: volunteer@foodandcare.org.

Tell Us What Matters: Annual Resident Survey

Highland City invites all adult residents to share their opinions in the annual survey. Your feedback helps guide City priorities and future projects.

The survey is available online at <https://bit.ly/HC-annualsurvey>.

If you cannot take it online, two paper copies are included with your utility bill. Extra copies are available at City Hall. Return paper surveys with your utility bill or directly to City Hall by **Tuesday, September 30**.

Questions are optional, and responses are anonymous. Don't miss your chance to help shape Highland's future!



September 2025

Closed September 1st

Library Closure for Labor Day

Monday, September 1st

Craft Club

Wed, Sep 3 at 4pm

Ages 6-11

Children under 9 must be accompanied by an adult.

Make a bendy snake or lizard out of beads.

Highland City Library card required.

Craft & Chat

Wed, Sep 10, 6pm-7pm

Teens & Adults

RHINESTONE ANYTHING.

We'll supply the thing, you supply the bling.

Find community and creativity
at this free craft class.

STEM Lab

Wed, Sep 17 at 4pm

Ages 6-11.

Children under 9 must be accompanied by an adult.

Learn about Newton's Laws of Motion and design
your own marble maze.

Hora de Cuentos

Viernes 19 de Septiembre a las 11am
¡Lee, canta y crea una manualidad
con la Señorita Sonia!

Fri, Sep 19th at 11am

Read, sing, and craft with Miss Sonia!
Spanish speakers of ALL levels welcome.

Baby Storytime

Every Mon at 11am

Ages 0-2 with a grown-up

Read, sing, and play with your baby at
Miss Sonia's baby storytime.

Storytime

Every Tue, Wed, and Thu at 11am

Ages 3-5 with a grown-up

Read, sing, learn, and craft with Miss Mel.
All are welcome to Storytime!

Highland City Library card required for craft.

Young Writers

Every Thu at 4pm

Learn creative writing skills, eat snacks, and
meet other young writers.

Hours

M-Th: 10 AM-8 PM

F: 10 AM-4 PM

Sat: 12 PM-4 PM

Closed Sunday

Contact Us

library@highlandut.gov

(801) 772-4528

highlandut.gov/1160/Library

5400 Civic Center Dr. Suite 2
Highland, UT

