# Davis Correspondence

The purpose of this publication is to provide accurate current information about actions of government at the city, county, state and federal levels which affect citizens of Davis County Utah. We welcome the free sharing of our articles by all readers on any media so long as the publication and author are recognized. If you would like to volunteer to report on an organization of government, please email our editor at DavisCorrespondence@outlook.com.

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# A Tax Increase in Davis School District for Essential Services

By Jennifer Brooks

Davis County taxpayers were informed that a property tax increase is proposed from the Davis School District Board of Education. All residents were encouraged to attend a Truth in Taxation hearing on Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. at the District Administration Building in Farmington.

According to an official statement made on the Truth in taxation site "Davis School District Board of Education is considering a property tax increase to maintain essential services and address long-term financial challenges." You might think that "services essential to education" must include teachers, administrators, janitors and curriculum materials. You would be wrong. The district states computers for every student, digital curriculum, upgrading video security systems and behavior specialist are essential to education. Funding these unsustainable, non-education agendas is a problem for taxpayers.

Davis District leaders and the school board bring little evidence of focusing resources and attention on the essentials of effective education. Instead, they have diverted tax funds meant for education to non-education activities. The district loves to use your money to build fancy school facilities. Are these essential? School board members and district leaders have marketed and driven the implementation and full funding of many non-education activities while constituents have had little

to no input. But school board members should represent their constituents. Truth in taxation requires a school board to be truthful about the use of taxpayer dollars to serve the will of taxpayers.

Diverting education dollars from taxpayers to fund non-education agendas comes at the cost of every child's education and every teacher's success. The number of District positions and salaries have dramatically increased in the past five years. Are all those district level positions essential to the education of students?

Instead of establishing and leading with behavior expectations the school board and superintendent, created the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO), costing taxpayers \$1,390, 000 in salaries last year. This was done to satisfy the provisions of a consent decree pressed by the Federal Department of Justice. The OEO focuses resources on the worst behavior, while students, parents and teachers police behavior by filing complaints. Is the OEO essential to education when we could have district-wide behavior expectations to improve behavior so teachers can teach?

Is a district department for mental health essential to education, or is mental health the responsibility of parents? Should education dollars pay for full-time teen center staff in high schools and family advocates in every elementary school. A GRAMA request showed education dollars being sent to the district nonprofit foundation to fund teen centers so it would look like the teen centers are funded by the non-profit. Should a social and emotional learning specialist be considered essential to education or should teachers and parents teach how to interact socially and control personal emotions. Should our education taxes pay for Multiple Behaviors specialists in every school, focusing on the worst behavior? Is that really essential service for education?

Is it essential for Davis District to buy computers for every student at a current cost of \$450 per computer and replace them every four years? Is this sustainable for taxpayers? Big Tech cannot bring evidence that computers improve academic outcomes. The district has never proven computers are improving academic outcomes, especially given the large investment. Our elected School board representatives have never asked parents or taxpayers whether they wanted computer-based learning. Parents have never been asked whether they wanted personal computers sent home with their children preloaded with YouTube, Spotify with explicit lyrics, access to chat rooms and pop-up ads. Requiring computers in every classroom makes Big Tech wealthy and increases their influence, control and data collection of minors while taxpayers fund this "essential service." Classroom technology, including learning platforms and digital curriculum is not more effective than a good teacher. Computers are not essentials for education! Computers are part of the Big Tech Agenda for our children and that cannot ever be considered essential. Let's speak to the truth of what is essential in our schools.

# What's Important Enough to Insure?

By Bob McEntee

USAF Veteran (Pilot, Navigator, Nuclear War Planner)

We pay insurance to protect very valuable things: Our homes, our vehicles, our businesses, our lives, our health, and for some, even our pets.

Is there anything else we should insure? What would we miss if it were gone?

I'd assert there is one more thing that should be insured and is definitely worth some amount, but no State, County or City in the US has paid for this.

If we continue to fail to insure this one thing, all the others are in jeopardy: Our homes, our lives, our health, certainly our businesses and probably our pets are at risk too. I'm speaking of the one machine we all share: Our electrical power grid.

There are two risks to our grid which we should insure against. First is the solar threat from solar storms or CMEs (Coronal Mass Ejections); the second is man-made EMPs (Electro Magnetic Pulses). All war planners like myself know EMP is a key side effect of the use of any nuclear weapon, as well as some non-nuclear weapons. We have the technology to harden our electrical grid against the effects of both CME and EMP, but that hardening is not free. I propose a ½ percent user fee (0.5%) on electricity would do the job over time, if applied reasonably.

The threat has been established. NASA estimates there is a  $\frac{1}{8}$  chance every decade that the US could be hit with a massive solar storm that could cause our large transformers to melt down (as happened in Canada in 1989).

If Iran, who calls us "The Great Satan" had enough nuclear weapons, they have said they would attack the US with 2 nuclear EMP weapons on each of our 3 power grids. Their clerics have already told their military leaders that an EMP attack does not violate Sharia law, so they have been cleared to attack us in this manner. I believe we are decades past the time we should pay a small fee to protect our power grids from these established, looming threats. If you agree, it's important to let your Utah State House & Senate Representatives know you support insuring our power grid, and you are willing to pay a modest user fee to do so.

Although electric utilities would literally be the first ones out of business, they don't want to pay to have the grid hardened against solar and EMP threats. The funding must come from either State or Federal Governments or a user fee. I think a modest user fee (½%) with a sunset is the most fair option, but I'm open to other ideas. Ideally, the Federal government would have taken the initiative since they've known about the problem since the 1970s, but they have only hardened the TRIAD of our bombers, tankers, ICBMs, nuclear submarines and the communications to harden them. The Utah Legislature has already *unanimously* passed a Resolution to Harden the US and Utah Power Grids, HJR014 in 2019, but has taken no further action to protect our grid from solar and EMP threats.

It's time to insure our power grid—*it's time to act*. Please let your Utah Senators and House Representatives know you support a hardened grid.

HJRO14: JOINT RESOLUTION TO HARDEN THE UTAH AND UNITED STATES ELECTRICAL GRIDS: https://le.utah.gov/~2019/bills/hbillint/HJRO14.pdf

Utah EMP Task Force White Paper on Hardening the Grid by Director, Bob McEntee. <u>Hardening Utah's Electrical Power Grid 2025 White Paper EMP Task Force</u>

# Illegal Immigration and Utah - Updates

By Ronald Mortensen, Ph.D.

## Illegal Aliens Commit Serious Crimes in Utah.

The Deseret News recently ran an <u>article</u> downplaying the incidence and seriousness of illegal alien crime. The most glaring error in the piece was its failure to explain that had the borders been secured, none—zero—of those crimes would have been committed because the illegal aliens committing them would not have been in the United States. In fact, if illegal aliens had not been in Utah, none of the victims of the <u>charged</u> crimes in Utah County (table) would have been harmed and left to suffer the consequences. Likewise, in 2023, over 200 Utah kids 0 to 12 years old would not have had their social security numbers used for employment purposes by illegal aliens and Utah employers would not be paying wages to 8,000 or so stolen social security numbers that are being used by three or more people.

Charges - Ice Holds - Utah County May 2021-March 2024	
Possession Controlled Substance, Drug Paraphernalia	95
Child Sex Crimes Including Rape, Sodomy, Kidnapping, Battery,	
Exploitation, Endangerment, etc.	50
Domestic Violence in Presence of a Child	20
Operating Vehicle Without a License or Insurance	60
Assault/Aggravated Assault	51
DUI/Controlled Substance	46
False Identities	43
Theft/Burglary/financial fraud	40
Distribution/Production Controlled Substance	38
Weapons Violations	14
Violation of a Protective Order, Unlawful Detention, Stalking	14
Riot, Criminal Trespass, Criminal Mischief	11
Rape and Forcible Sexual Abuse	10
Robbery (Aggregated) and Arson	9
Witness Tampering/Obstruction of Justice/Failure to Appear	8
Money Laundering	7
Manslaughter/Murder	5
Disorderly Conduct/Unlawful Activity	3
Voyeurism	1
	525
Note: 234 total individuals with ICE holds; some individuals	
had multiple charges filed against them.	

## DOJ Goes After States Providing In-State College Tuition for Illegal Aliens

The United States Department of Justice (DOJ) is going after states that provide in-state tuition for illegal aliens since this discriminates against American citizens. First, it was Texas. Then suits were filed against Kentucky and Minnesota. Given that Utah was one of the first states to offer in-state tuition to illegal aliens, will either our governor or legislative leaders call a special session to repeal Utah's in-state tuition for illegal aliens, or will they wait for the Justice Department to file suit?

Texas <u>agreement comes hours after</u> Justice <u>Department filed complaint challenging two decades-old laws</u> (Filed June 4, 2025, Settled June 5, 2025)

"The Justice Department commends Texas leadership and AG Ken Paxton for swiftly working with us to halt a program that was treating Americans like second-class citizens in their own country," said Attorney General Pamela Bondi. "Other states should take note that we will continue filing affirmative litigation to remedy unconstitutional state laws that discriminate against American citizens." Federal law prohibits institutions of higher education from providing benefits to aliens that are not offered to U.S. citizens. The Texas laws were in direct conflict of federal law and the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

The Justice Department Files Complaint Challenging Kentucky Regulation Providing Reduced In-State Tuition for Illegal Aliens (June 17, 2025)

The United States is challenging a Kentucky regulation that provides reduced in-state tuition for illegal aliens. This law unconstitutionally discriminates against U.S. citizens, who are not afforded the same privilege, in direct conflict with federal law. Federal law prohibits public institutions of higher education from providing benefits to illegal aliens that are not offered to U.S. citizens. This regulation blatantly conflicts with federal law and thus is unconstitutional under the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

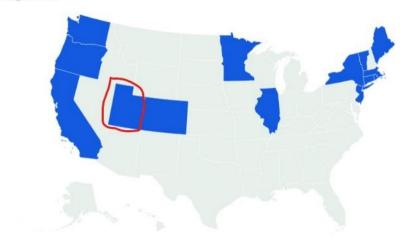
Suit filed against Minnesota (June 25, 2025)

The United States is challenging laws in Minnesota that provide reduced in-state tuition for illegal aliens. Federal law prohibits institutions of higher education from providing postsecondary education benefits to aliens that are not offered to U.S. citizens. These laws blatantly conflict with federal law and thus are unconstitutional under the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

## Health Insurance for Children illegally in the United States

On February 19, 2025, President Trump signed an <u>executive order</u> that directs federal departments and agencies to identify all federally funded programs currently providing benefits to illegal aliens and take corrective action. In addition, it mandates improvements in eligibility verification to prevent benefits from going to individuals unlawfully present in the United States. Finally, it requires federal agencies to refer any improper receipt or use of federal benefits to the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security for appropriate action.





Source: KFF

Since Utah provides <u>State CHIP</u> health and dental insurance to <u>children unlawfully in the United States</u>, will the governor and legislature continue to put millions of dollars of Utahn's taxpayer money into that program or will they rescind it? Will Utah share information about enrollees in State CHIP and their parents with ICE? Will the state of Utah continue to grant CHIP insurance to the children of illegal aliens when their parents are committing multiple felonies to get a job as required by Utah law in order to qualify for State CHIP (document forgery, perjury on Form I–9 and identity theft)?

## "Amnesty" for Agricultural and Hospitality Workers and Their Employers

President Trump has stated multiple times over the past several months that his administration will allow employers in the agricultural and hospitality sectors that rely heavily on illegal alien labor to keep their illegal workers. Most recently he denied that this was amnesty but if these employers are allowed to continue knowingly employing their illegal alien workers, many who are committing felony identity theft by using American men, women and children's unlawfully obtained social security numbers, it is hard to argue that this is something other than amnesty for both the workers and their employers.

# **Accountability BEFORE Tax Liability (Part 1)**

By Paul Roubinet

When candidates run for office, many claim they'll be transparent. Transparency is only a starting point; We the People should insist on **accountability**....accountability in every action the government takes. Often, in an unaccountable bureaucracy, promised transparency becomes opacity and obfuscation. Over time, elected officials begin to behave like the bureaucracy; this is why we need term limits.

## A Tax Increase is Coming - oh, but it will be small

Let us start with a paraphrased parable from India.

A peasant performed a great service for a king. The king, grateful, offered the peasant anything he desired. The humble peasant requested a simple reward: one grain of rice on the first square of a chessboard, two grains on the second, four on the third, and so on, doubling the amount for each of the 64 squares. The king, amused by the seemingly modest request, agreed. He soon realized the staggering scale of the reward. By the 64th square, the total grains required would be 2<sup>64</sup>, an astronomical number, far more than all the rice in the kingdom or even the world. The parable illustrates the power of exponential growth and the **deceptiveness of seemingly small be ginnings.** 

After listening to Davis County Commission meetings, I believe a tax increase is coming to support expanded Animal Shelter services. At this point, the county is projecting a \$2,000,000 cost overrun which implies a lack of sufficient management by the County. As a resident of Davis County, I expect our elected officials to be accountable and more than a visionary that spends our money.

https://www.daviscountyutah.gov/docs/librariesprovider14/default-document-library/new-animal-services-building-web-page.pdf?sfvrsn=b896eb53 3

**Note:** This document is severely lacking in detail, depth, and rigor.

Discussions about building a new animal shelter in Davis County have been ongoing since at least 2020. A feasibility study for the project was completed in January 2023. The following information suggests the project is moving forward:

- Davis County commissioners and city managers discussed the idea of a new facility in 2020 after the current one was deemed insufficient.
- The Davis County Commissioners have set the project budget at \$16.5 million.
- Funding will come from the county's capital fund, without a bond or tax increase for residents specifically for the building itself.
- Groundbreaking was expected to occur near the end of 2024 but has not yet begun.
- A meeting on May 27, 2025, discussed the project's funding and the potential impact of delaying it.

The new facility will be approximately 32,000 square feet, more than doubling the capacity of the current shelter. The new shelter will include larger kennels, a state-of-the-art veterinary clinic, and spacious corals for livestock. The shelter has transitioned to a no-kill facility, meaning fewer animals are euthanized, potentially resulting in longer stays for animals as homes are sought. The project is planned to be built on the same 12 acres as the current facility in Fruit Heights. Construction is expected to begin later in 2024 and the project was estimated to cost around \$15 million as of May 2024, according to KSLTV.com

The Davis County Commission is considering a possible tax increase to cover the cost of increased operations at a new <u>Animal Care</u> facility that will replace the current building that is almost 40 years old and bursting at the seams. A tax increase would amount to approximately \$11 a year on an average priced home.

https://www.davisjournal.com/2024/06/20/495340/possible-tax-increase-would-fund-operational-needs-at-new-animal-care-facility

The following is from a O2/18/2O25 Work Session:

"The first option would be to eliminate the multipurpose room. Removing it would save 268,951.00.

The final cost-saving option was to reduce the clinic size by 50%, eliminating a surgery room, a prep table, and other rooms, which would save 593,803.00.

Director Young emphasized that, in its current design, the clinic is large enough to serve both shelter animals and provide some low-cost spay/neuter services for the public. If the space is cut, it would only accommodate Davis County Animal Care animals, eliminating any future public services

Currently, private procedures cost nearly 1,000.00 in the area, while the only local low-cost provider offers services for around 125.00."

The county is going to compete with local Veterinarians for business. Also, the average cost to neuter a dog is well below \$1,000. This needs more scrutiny.

"Commissioners unanimously agreed to move forward with the facility as planned and seek the following additional funding solutions:

Architectural and engineering plans will proceed to avoid delays and cost increases.

The County Controller will be consulted regarding possible funding options.

The Commission will review the County's donation policy to consider allowing Animal Care sponsorships.

The project is expected to go out for bid within six to seven months."

# Summary

How did the Commission come up with the \$16,500,000 number?

Are they sure they only need another \$2,000,000?

The new animal shelter should be revisited with more public input. If commissioners feel it would not pass a ballot then maybe there is another solution. We elect officials to represent us. They must make difficult decisions –

How about cutting back on the scope to bring costs in-line?

Having the county excavating equipment etc. available in a more secure location in the event of an emergency like an earthquake serves the public good more than a new animal shelter building. Expanding the existing shelter into the shop buildings just might be a win-win. Please consider it.

We need accountability before a tax increase.

I welcome more information which I could include in a follow-up article.

# Reflections on NACo: Inspiration Amid Political Imbalance

By John Crofts, Davis County Commissioner

The National Association of Counties (NACo) recently hosted its annual conference, bringing together county leaders from across the nation to discuss emerging issues, funding challenges, and shared solutions. As a representative of Davis County, I attended to ensure that our community's needs and perspectives were heard.

One major takeaway from the conference was clear: the federal government is reducing funding to states and counties. This ongoing trend will continue to put pressure on local communities to do more with less. The impacts of these cuts will be felt directly in our neighborhoods, and we must prepare ourselves for difficult budget decisions ahead.

While NACo serves as a national voice for counties, I found the tone of many sessions and presentations to be noticeably left-leaning. The organization is undeniably slanted in that direction, and at times, the meeting felt ideologically unbalanced. Despite this, I remain hopeful that NACo can rebalance itself and foster a more thoughtful and collaborative approach to solving the real challenges counties face.

One of the most memorable parts of the conference was a general session featuring former NFL player Jon Dorenbos, who played for the Philadelphia Eagles and the New Orleans Saints. He opened with high-energy magic tricks and joked that he found football to be "geeky" compared to his love of performing magic. At first, I wasn't sure what to make of it—magic isn't really my thing—but the presentation quickly took a powerful and unexpected turn.

Jon shared the traumatic story of his childhood: his father murdered his mother when Jon was just 12 years old. He was placed in foster care and later adopted by relatives. What followed was a long, personal journey of healing and self-discovery. He spoke candidly about the importance of resilience, saying, "You can't always control what happens to you, but you can control how you react to it." That message hit home.

He also shared how magic became more than a hobby—it became therapy. It was a way to process grief and trauma through creativity and focus. It gave him an outlet to keep moving forward when it felt like the world had collapsed around him.

What moved me the most, though, was Jon's message about forgiveness. He ultimately chose to forgive his father—not to excuse the crime—but to free himself from carrying the weight of that pain for the rest of his life. "Forgiveness isn't about forgetting; it's about letting go," he said. It was one of the most sincere and powerful expressions of personal strength I've ever heard.

Despite all that he's endured, Jon radiated gratitude. He encouraged everyone in the room to see their struggles not as permanent barriers but as stepping stones toward growth. I'll admit, I had to wipe away a few tears. His story was more than inspirational—it was transformational.

He closed by showing a photo of his mother... followed by a photo of his father. That moment reminded us that even in the darkest of personal tragedies, growth, compassion, and healing are possible.

While NACo may not always align with my values politically, Jon Dorenbos' presentation transcended ideology. It reminded me why we serve: to help people, to grow from adversity, and to keep moving forward with purpose and humility.

# What is the Role of City Government

By Paul Roubinet

## What Do You Expect from Your Mayor and City Council?

Local elections are approaching. How will you choose your candidates? Are you swayed by the number of campaign signs, a catchy slogan, a candidate's website, or perhaps a conversation with them? To make an informed decision, consider the values and priorities candidates bring to the table. Below, are common attributes associated with conservative and progressive candidates to help you evaluate their platforms. While these perspectives differ, both aim to serve the community in their own way. Does the distinction matter to you?

Conservative candidates often prioritize the following principles:

- Fiscal Responsibility: Advocating on balanced budgets, low taxes, and minimal government spending. They may reduce unnecessary projects or explore privatization to improve efficiency.
- **Limited Government**: Emphasizing smaller government with fewer regulations, focusing on core services like public safety and infrastructure.
- Managed Growth: Supporting slow, deliberate growth by ensuring rezoning proposals align with resident input and preserve the city's character.
- Infrastructure Priority: Maintaining roads, parks, and utilities while enforcing city codes.
- Support for Police and EMS: Ensuring adequate funding for police, firefighters, and emergency medical services.
- **Community Engagement**: Encouraging volunteerism and partnerships with local organizations, such as churches or charities, to address social issues.

Conservative candidates typically favor limited government to keep taxes low, uphold the rule of law, and maintain the city's infrastructure and character.

Progressive candidates often emphasize the following priorities:

- Social Equity: Promoting affordable housing, equitable access to services, and programs for marginalized communities.
- Environmental Sustainability: Advocating for climate action through green infrastructure, renewable energy, or public transit expansion, such as bike lanes or urban green spaces.
- **Expanded Public Services**: Supporting robust services like local healthcare access, subsidized childcare, or enhanced social safety nets, even if it requires increased taxes.
- Inclusive Governance: Prioritizing diversity and inclusion, amplifying community voices, particularly from underrepresented groups, through public forums.
- Economic Equity: Advocating for policies like raising the local minimum wage or implementing rent control to support low-income residents.
- Criminal Justice Reform: Exploring alternatives to traditional policing, such as decriminalizing minor offenses or reallocating budgets to mental health services.
- Innovation: Embracing forward-thinking policies, such as smart city initiatives or sanctuary city protections, to address modern challenges.
- **Community Activism**: Collaborating with grassroots movements to shape policy, often through town halls or participatory budgeting.

Progressive candidates typically seek to expand government's role to address social, economic, and environmental challenges, often with a focus on rapid change.

A Local Example: Kaysville City's Gym Proposal

A recent Kaysville City meeting discussed a proposed public gym, which reflects progressive priorities like expanded public services. However, I feel core infrastructure, such as a fire station, should take precedence. This difference illustrates the tension between differing visions for city government. Please listen to the discussion from the link below, it lasts six minutes, worth your time.

## https://citizenportal.ai/results?-em5575566-b59430e4-Clip-1

In my view, a public gym is not a priority compared to essential services, but the proposal raises questions about how cities allocate resources. Should funds go toward community amenities like a gym, or should they focus on fundamental needs? As a conservative, I believe the city should not tax residents to build a gym.

## **Balancing Priorities and Avoiding Factions**

James Madison, in *Federalist 10*, warned of factions—groups of citizens united by a common interest that may conflict with the broader community's needs:

"By a faction, I understand a number of citizens, whether amounting to a majority or a minority of the whole, who are united and actuated by some common impulse of passion, or of interest, adverse to the rights of other citizens, or to the permanent and aggregate interests of the community."

The Kaysville gym proposal highlights how factions can form around specific projects, potentially prioritizing narrow interests over the city's long-term goals. When voting, consider whether candidates' priorities align with the community's broader needs.

All tax increases are usually permanent, over time a little here and little there; soon you've doubled your taxes.

#### Be an informed voter

As you prepare to vote, reflect on your candidates' core values. Do they prioritize fiscal restraint and core services, or do they advocate for expanded programs and social change? Additionally, consider structural reforms to keep local government responsive. For example, term limits could ensure fresh perspectives. Personally, I would like to see a civic duty model—where citizens are randomly selected to serve, like jury duty—might reduce entrenched agendas and encourage broader participation.

Your vote shapes the future of your city and county. Choose candidates whose values reflect your vision for its growth and governance.

# **OPINION**

# Why Davis County Needs Term Limits

By John Crofts

Across the nation, voters are increasingly frustrated with career politicians who seem more focused on protecting their positions than representing the people who elected them. This frustration is not new — it's rooted in a simple truth: public service was never meant to be a lifelong occupation.

In Davis County, we are blessed with a strong economy, vibrant communities, and engaged citizens. But even here, the absence of term limits can lead to stagnation, complacency, and decisions that prioritize political survival over the public good. Over time, the lack of fresh perspectives in elected office can erode public trust and make government less responsive to the people it serves.

#### The Case for Term Limits

## 1. Preventing Power Consolidation

The longer someone stays in office, the more influence they accumulate. This concentration of power can discourage open debate, silence opposing viewpoints, and make it harder for everyday citizens to have a meaningful voice. Term limits help ensure no one becomes so entrenched that they see the office as theirs to keep rather than the voters' to grant.

## 2. Encouraging New Leadership

Our county is full of talented, capable people with fresh ideas — but many hesitate to run because they feel incumbents are unbeatable. Regular turnover opens the door for new leaders to bring innovation, energy, and fresh solutions to our most pressing challenges.

## 3. Reducing Conflicts of Interest

Long-term incumbency can create unhealthy relationships with special interests, donors, and political insiders. Term limits reduce the incentive to cater to those relationships over the needs of voters.

## 4. Keeping Public Service a Service

Serving in elected office should be an honor and a duty, not a career. Term limits remind us that public office is a temporary stewardship, and that leaders should focus on leaving things better for the next person, not on securing the next election.

## Examples of Integrity in Leadership

I commend my colleague, Commissioner Bob Stevenson, for his decision not to seek a third term. I also recognize my predecessor, Randy Elliott, for making the same commitment during his time in office. In both cases, these decisions demonstrated integrity and an understanding that healthy turnover in leadership benefits our county.

#### When Term Limits Are Needed Most

I am alarmed at Commissioner Lorene Kamalu's run for a third term. I believe she has lost touch with the voters. I was aghast at how she smeared, slurred, and disregarded engaged citizens of Davis County, playing games in the media that further maligned our residents. I publicly apologized to the engaged citizens of Davis County for her slurs toward them.

I was also aghast when she went against the clear wishes of the public and asked the Legislature for funding for a brick-and-mortar homeless shelter in Davis County — something we know from experience in other communities brings blight, crime, and devastating repercussions to neighborhoods.

I also strongly disagree with her decision to prioritize animals over people by pushing for an unnecessary \$16 million animal shelter, coupled with a tax increase to support veterinary services that now directly competes with private businesses. This goes against even the most basic Republican principles and reflects socialism — not even meeting the minimum standards of the Republican Party. For a Republican to raise taxes and then use those taxes to compete with private enterprise is, in my view, completely disrespectful of the free market and minimal taxation.

Beyond these policy disagreements, I have been deeply disappointed that she ended my effort to hold regular evening commission meetings — meetings designed to give the public more access to their commissioners, foster transparency, and encourage open dialogue. I've been shocked not only by her lack of transparency with the public, but also by the lack of transparency she has shown me as a fellow commissioner.

Commissioner Kamalu's conduct and decisions are a prime example of why Davis County Commissioners should have term limits.

#### My Commitment

If the voters want me to serve a second term, I will — but I will never seek a third. I believe in limiting my time in office so that fresh leadership can continue to represent the people effectively.

#### What It Means for Davis County

In my view, term limits are not about punishing elected officials — they're about strengthening our republic. We can respect the hard work of those who've served while recognizing that healthy turnover benefits everyone.

By adopting term limits for county offices, we can:

- Increase transparency and accountability.
- Keep our government responsive to voters, not insiders.
- Protect against the gradual erosion of public trust.

The message is simple: no one owns a public office — it belongs to the voters.

It's time to put voters first and make term limits part of Davis County's commitment to open, accountable, and responsive government.

# **Local Government Meeting Information**

By Peter Cannon

We highly recommend an Artificial Intelligence (AI) website called Citizen Portal.

#### https://citizenportal.ai/

Citizen Portal AI is the ultimate tool for staying informed and holding leaders accountable. Get direct access to what elected officials say and do—no spin, just facts. Empower yourself with clear, reliable information straight from the source and make smarter decisions with confidence.

Citizen Portal AI turns long public meetings into clear, easy-to-read summaries so all citizens can stay informed with convenience and clarity. Every article includes a link to the full meeting video, giving you the power to see the facts for yourself, understand the full context, and trust the details behind every summary.

Al summaries are based on the meeting's raw content, giving a more unbiased and consistent view than human note-takers or journalists. It helps you skip the long hours of footage and get straight to the key points, saving time and boosting productivity, especially when covering multiple meetings.

You currently can have a free CitizenPortal membership with access to all the content from your home state including city councils, county commissions, school districts and legislative hearings.

We encourage our readers to visit the site and write an article for publication here about your city, our county or school district.

# **Upcoming Events**

County Commission Meetings -8/19, 8/26, 9/2, 9/9, 9/16 2025 at 10:00 AM

Commission Chambers Room 303 - 61 S. Main St. Farmington

County Commission Work Sessions – Same days as regular meetings at 8:00 AM in Room 306

Some agenda items may be held in closed session not open to the public.

Davis School Board Meetings - Tuesday 8/19 at 6:00 pm Truth in Taxation and board meeting

Tuesday 9/2 at 6:00 pm Board Meeting

Tuesday 9/16 at 4:00 pm Board Workshop

Auditorium at 45 E State Street, Farmington, Utah

Davis County Conservatives Community Forums -









<u>Freedom's Light Festival</u> is a fun, free, engaging event to celebrate America, our Constitution and the people who created it. There are over 40 interactive & engaging activities. Meet the heroes of America face to face.

Bountiful City Park (550 N 200 W)

Schedule:

#### Thursday Sept 18:

9:00am ~ 6:00pm ~ Reenactors & interactive events

10:00am - Declaration of Independence by Founding Fathers

10:00am ~ 12:00pm ~ 2pm Live Cannon firings

12:00 noon - Flag Etiquette - Student and citizen participation

1:00pm Declaration of Independence

#### Friday Sept 19:

9:00 am ~ 7:00 pm Reenactors and interactive events

12:00 noon – Flag Etiquette – Student and citizen participation

4~7 Family festival - additional family interactive events & activities

3:00pm stage show



8:00 Dance with instructions

## Saturday Sept 20:

Sat 9~3 Reenactors and interactive events

12:00 ~ soldier march & flag memorial ~ citizen participation invited

3:00 stage show

4:00pm ~ Help Clean Up

#### Advertisement



95 N. Main Street Bountiful, UT 84010

Phone: (385) 202-3753

email: admin@libertyhills.org

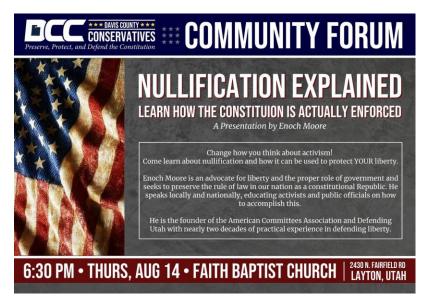
Private School Kindergarten – 12th Grade

#### Restoring God, Family, and Country to the Classroom

Liberty Hills Academy seeks to prepare students to fulfill their own divinely appointed potential by creating an atmosphere where the Spirit of the Lord enlightens minds and hearts. We strive to empower students to master self-governance, achieve personal academic excellence, foster a love of God and country, and develop their own Christ-like character. We believe a strong collaboration with parents, teachers and students promotes optimal student development.

#### Advertisement

# **Recent Events**



# Platform Plank of the Month

#### THE PROPER ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

Government exists by the consent of the governed and must be restrained from intruding into the freedom of its citizens. The function of government is not to grant rights, but to protect the unalienable, God-given rights of life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness. Law that governs the people should be made by their elected representatives and not by courts or government agencies. We urge all citizens to understand government actions more fully and to seek ways to improve government's performance.

We support the right of citizens to petition government and to use the initiative and referendum processes to control taxes and budgets at all levels of government as provided in the Utah Constitution. We oppose the use of public funds, or personnel, acting in the capacity of their office, using facilities, supplies, or school children, organized by virtue of being school children, to promote or oppose petitions or referenda.

Davis County Republican Party Platform

# Constitutional Clip of the Month

#### Article III Section 2 Clause 2 - 3

In all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be Party, the supreme Court shall have original Jurisdiction. In all the other Cases before mentioned, the supreme Court shall have appellate Jurisdiction, both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.

The Trial of all Crimes, except in Cases of Impeachment; shall be by Jury; and such Trial shall be held in the State where the said Crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the Trial shall be at such Place or Places as the Congress may by Law have directed.

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