MAY 2023 | SPRING ISSUE

SPRING CITY FRIENDS Friends of Historic Spring City, Utah





Heritage Day 2023

MAY 27, 9AM-3PM

Welcome Back!

This year, our Home Tour will feature 17 historic structures! Some of these homes have not been on the tour for some time-- so this will be a great opportunity to see inside some rare historic homes (partial list on page 2).

Also, come and enjoy:

- Vittles (see list to the right)
- Live music at locations around town
- Taking a leisurely stroll with our new updated map with various points of interest!
- Crafts vendors at Farm Spring
- Visiting artists in their studios (many will be open for visitors)

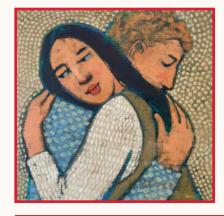
If we're lucky, we'll get a visit from our historic friend, Ishmael Johnson. He always has a good story to tell!

*These paintings by Kathleen Peterson will be for sale! TICKETS for Art in Barn Tours Purchase online at: <u>friendsofhistoricspringcity.org</u> up to the day before the event (wagon ride included in the price of the ticket).

Same-day tickets will be available at the Old Firehouse on Main Street and at the Old School.

Online ticket purchases: WE WILL HAVE YOUR TICKETS ON HOLD AT THE OLD FIREHOUSE ON MAIN STREET





Art Squared Auction

Art, painted by artists with a connection to Spring City, will be on display at the Old School on the 2nd Floor.

Art viewing: 9:00am - 2:00pm Saturday May 27, 2023.

- All bids are in person only.
- Cut-off time is 2:00 p.m.

• Winning bidders should pay and pick it up at the event. If you don't, the art will go to the next highest bidder!

Each piece is painted on a 12x12 board and is signed, but remains unframed, to keep it more affordable. Good luck with your bids!

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SPRING CITY FRIENDS



Friends of Historic Spring City, Utah

2023 Heritage Day Home Tours

This year, we will have 17 historic structures on the Home Tour! Some of these homes and buildings have not been on the tour for some time-- so this will be a great opportunity to see inside some rare historic homes. By coming and buying a ticket, you can visit some or all of these homes and see inside. Below are a few featured homes that will be on the tour this year.



Jacob Johnson House, c. 1875, 1896

390 South 100 West This is the largest historic house in Spring City and consists of two distinct styles.

The south half of the building was the original stone structure, a classically inspired two-story, hall-parlor plan. Its exterior has been stuccoed and scored to imitate ashlar masonry. In 1896 the large Victorian addition was built to the north complete with a circular corner tower and conical roof. Johnson and his mother arrived in Utah in 1854 from Aalborg, Denmark. He left for California as young man and eventually studied law. He returned to Utah and decided to practice in Spring City, later serving as City Attorney. He served in several Judgeships and in 1912 was elected to serve a term in the United States Congress. He was not a member of the LDS Church. He lost his first wife Margaret Anderson shortly after childbirth and later married Matilda Justesen. The small stone building to the north of the house was the Judge's office. Note the large stone granary and carriage house/barn.

The house and outbuildings were acquired and restored by Chris and Alison Anderson in 2000, their four year restoration of the Historic Judge Jacob Johnson House was recognized by the Utah Heritage Foundation and the Andersons presented the Utah Heritage Foundation Award for the superior workmanship.

Andrew Olsen House, c. 1884 90 South 100 West

This substantial one and one half story hall-parlor house was built for Andrew Olsen in the mid 1880s. It also has a rear wing. Olsen, a Danish immigrant, came to Utah in 1854. He was a farmer and had two wives. The Olsens later moved to Canada. The front facade has five downstairs opening topped by a threesome above. The upstairs door and windows are spaced either directly above or exactly between lower openings to preserve a very sophisticated sense of bilateral tripartite symmetry. The window heads are pedimented. It is one of the most pleasing examples of late 19th century vernacular buildings in Spring City. In 1890 the house was sold to Jane Beck. In the late 1990s the house was acquired and restored by the Mitch Burton family. Current owners, Paul and Donna Penrod, continue to preserve and add to the collection of buildings on the property.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends of Historic Spring City,

As I write to you, we are just about a month away from Heritage Day, 2023. There is so much work going on right now by the membership in preparation for Saturday, May 27th. As your new president of six weeks, I can't thank you enough for your willingness and abilities to making this event a big success. I also can't blame you enough for voting me into this office unopposed with little ability. Haha! I am honored, but seriously just trying to keep my head above water.

In our last monthly meeting, I shared with the board members the priorities for The Friends of Historic Spring City (FOHSC) for the remainder of this year. For the sake of reinforcement, I will reiterate these.

1. Heritage Day: This is the big one right now and we are marshaling all our human, technical, organizational, and muscular resources to pull this off. We have focused on defining responsibilities for each board member. The next monthly meeting on May 13th will involve everyone reporting back on the status of these responsibilities. I appreciate so much the work going on behind the scenes by phone, text, and email.

2. The Spring City Activity Center: This is the new name of the old junior high school located next to City Hall. We have a committee of board members that is tackling the restoration of this building. This involves grant writing, funding, blueprints, and construction and renovation. You will find a separate article in this newsletter that provides much more detail oh this project.

3. Small Grant Applications: As agreed to by the board last year, Friends will grant up to \$5,000 in a matching contribution to Spring City homeowners who want to help preserve eligible projects on their property and submit a written application. We have formed another committee that has established clear guidelines for potential recipients. This committee then reviews the grant applications and makes final recommendations to the board for funding.

4. Candlelight Christmas Home Tour: This year will be our third rendition of the December tour. Last year, it was 8 degrees for this event, yet the positive feedback we received from the patrons warmed up our hands and hearts. We are in the planning process now and already have the promotional artwork complete and ready for printing.

There are many other irons we have in the fire in addition to the above four priorities. We will tackle these as well in due time. Again, I thank you now and in advance for your commitment and unselfish work in making Spring Town's past come alive, its present vibrant, and its future ensured for generations to come.

Scott Newman, President, Friends of Historic Spring City





2023 CALENDAR!

May 27: Heritage Day

June 11: Old Car Show

July 22: Pioneer Day Festivities

August 5: Spring City Bluegrass & Folk Festival

September 2: Spring City Arts Plein Air & Studio Tour Events

December 16: Candlelight Christmas --Home Tour, Art & Craft Sale

For more details visit: friendsofhistoricspringcity.org

A viable neighborhood is a community: and a viable community is made up of neighbors who cherish and protect what they have in common. --Wendell Berry

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Annual Call for Donations!

Visit our Donation Page at friendsofhistoricspringcity.org to support our efforts to preserve the Most Beautiful Town in America!

Remember: as a visitor on Heritage Day, May 27, you can look forward to:

- --Home Tours
- --Food: food trucks behind the DUP Museum and Firehouse
- ==Don't forget Das Café, and Roots 89 Grill
- --Live music at locations around town
- --Leisurely strolls with our updated map with points of interest!
- --Visiting artists in their studios (many will be open for visitors)

New Project: Restoration of Spring City Junior High School Building

The Friends are excited to announce that we're working hand in hand with Spring City Corporation to rehabilitate the 1916 Spring City Junior High School. The building is typical of schools that were built all over Central Utah about 100 years ago. It is a simplified art deco building of yellow brick, has a gymnasium on the back, and has seen many years of service in Spring City.

The building was constructed for junior high students within two decades of the more iconic 3-story Spring City Elementary next door, restored in 2017 and now our city hall and community center. In the late 1950s, when the population of the town was at a low point, the 1899 Elementary School was derelict enough that when junior high students began to be bussed to Moroni, the elementary students in town moved into the Junior HS.

A few young families began to move to Spring City in the late 1970s; the Paulsens', Winonas' and the Bennions' children made enough difference in the school population that the new Spring City Elementary was built. Following their move to the new school, Spring City Corporation gained ownership of the building from the North Sanpete School District and City Hall was relocated to the building. The volunteer Fire Department followed in the 1990s.

Currently, the city uses the building a great deal; our youth sports teams use the gymnasium, a consortium of home school families gathers there for joint classwork, physical education, etc. The Hispanic community in town rents the building on many weekends for quincinearas, family parties, and anniversary celebrations, and there are occasional community events there. The building is a great and necessary asset to our town, and it is showing significant signs of deterioration.

The city is very interested in preserving and improving the building, and the Friends is cooperating on grant applications, advising the city, and helping to finance the rehabilitation. We've received a \$50,000 grant from the CCE to do a preliminary study, which has been completed, so we understand the scope of work for the project. Friends will match the CLG grant of \$20,000 that will finance new bathrooms and repair some foundation and brick damage on the west end of the building initially; we've also applied for 3 additional grants which we hope to apply toward seismic upgrades, general repairs to walls, exterior finishes, and windows. Representative Steven Lund has offered to help us find State funding. Eventually we may assist the city in petitioning the Community Impact Fund Board, which financed much of the restoration on the large 1989 Spring City Community Center. Within the next 5 years, we hope to see significant improvement to the building so it can continue to serve our city.



Breaking News: We just received a \$50,000 grant from the Mormon Heritage Area (funded by the National Parks) towards rehabilitation of the JHS!



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