



News from 10,000 Feet!

September 2015

Brian Head Town News

Volume 19

The Meadow at Brian Head – Preserve or Not Preserve? (Survey Results)

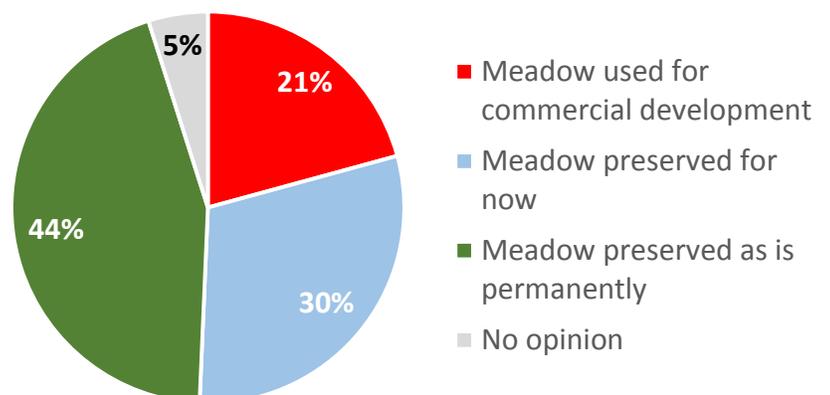


For much of the past year, the Brian Head Town Council has been wrestling the concept of preserving the Meadow area, formerly known as “Bear Flat” meadow, in Brian Head (the parcel of property bounded by Steam Engine Drive on the north, Village Way on the east, the mall access road on the south, and Highway 143 on the west). This is a complicated issue requiring a significant amount of study and understanding. The Council opted to pro-actively seek public input by sending out a survey to all Brian Head property owners. Just under 1,800 surveys were mailed to property owners as listed on the property tax rolls obtained from Iron County. Additional surveys were made available on the Town website and at Town Hall. The Town received over 900 responses to the survey.

There were four choices listed on the survey -

- 1) *I would like to see the Meadow used for commercial development*
- 2) *I would like to see the Meadow preserved for now but future residents and Town Councils should be able to change their minds about the use of the meadow*
- 3) *I would like to see the meadow preserved as is permanently and irrevocably by giving the development rights to a land conservation trust that will never develop the property*
- 4) *I have no opinion either way*

Survey Results



Results of the survey are shown at right:

Town Meadow Survey Results

(continued from page 1)

Many of the survey responses included open-ended comments clarifying the respondent's position on the matter. These comments were summarized and delivered to the Council. A couple Council members also took the time to read each and every comment.

A public hearing was held on August 11, 2015, at which dozens more residents and business owners provided input. Following the public hearing, the Town Council discussed the issue at length. Ultimately, a compromise position was put forth which was supported by a majority of the Council. Town staff was instructed to assemble a committee which would study the possibility of drafting a management plan which would allow for limited restaurant-type development in the Meadow.

We are very proud of our community for the way we've come together to discuss this issue. The response to the survey was tremendous, and the public discourse at the hearing on August 11th was respectful and informative. Thank you to all who have taken the time to make your voice heard, and we hope to continue drawing on the collective knowledge of the community when faced with difficult decisions in the future. In the meantime, the Town Council will continue to move towards a final decision regarding the potential preservation of the Meadow.

Remember to Vote



Reminder! There will be a municipal general election on Tuesday, November 3, 2015. There are 3 people running for 2 open Council positions. They are (in alphabetical order): David "Sky" Bourne, Larry R. Freeberg (incumbent), and Jim Ortler (incumbent). Please be sure to mail your ballots in by the due date of November 3rd.

Brian Head Events (September, October, and November, 2015)

September 11 – Annual Red Rock Relay. Teams of 12 run relay style through 187 miles of southern Utah's most stunning landscapes in a journey that starts on Friday morning at Brian Head ski resort and ends sometime the following day at the base of Zion National Park. Visit www.redrockrelay.com for more information.

September 19 & 20 – Roktober Fest (and Car Show). Need one last party before your summer ends? Brian Head Resort's second annual Rocktober Fest is a sure way to end your summer with a bang! Come out and experience autumn colors like you've never seen while enjoying great food, awesome drinks and incredible music from Salt Lake to San Diego! This weekend is a weekend you can't miss! Rocktober Fest starts at Noon each day! Admission Fee - \$15.00 (Includes 16oz. Mug and 1 Drink Ticket). Limited Addition Stainless Steel Beer Stein - \$30.00 (Includes 34oz. Mug and 2 Drink Tickets). **Live Music Provided By** "SWAGGER", "SAFETY ORANGE", AND "WIRELEFANT". Beer Garden will be open from 12 p.m. until 10 p.m. Saturday night (with possibility of staying open until Midnight). Sunday open from 12 - 5 p.m. only. Lifts Open Until 5 p.m. (sun will be setting by 6:15 come September 20th)! Activities open until 6 p.m. on Saturday and 5 p.m. on Sunday. Activities include: Cliff Hanger Climbing Wall (\$10 - Two Climbs); Peak Shot Bungee Trampoline (\$10 - Three Minutes); Ridge Runner Zip Line (\$12 - Two Runs); Avalanche Tubing (\$10 - Three Runs); Crooked Arrow Archery (\$10 - Thirty Minutes); Family Adventure Trail (Adults - \$12/Kids - \$8); Bike Lift Pass (All Day - \$29/Single Ride \$12.50); Bike Rental (Adult \$35 - \$60/Kids - \$20); Navajo Vistas Disc Golf Course - 9 Holes (\$10 - does not include discs); Navajo Vistas Disc Golf Course - 18 Holes (\$12 - does not include discs); Disc Rental (\$5); Scenic Lift Ride (Adult - \$12/Child or Senior - \$8)

September 26 & 27 - Cedar Breaks National Monument Fall Nature Festival. The fall season brings bursts of color and energy to the high mountain country. USA Today described Cedar Breaks National Monument and the surrounding area as "one of the top ten places to experience fall colors" in the United States. Special events include activities, workshops, and more. We will also celebrate National Public Lands Day, a fee-free day, on Saturday, September 26, with a volunteer service opportunity. Call 435-586-0787 for more detailed information.

November - Ullr celebration. Come join the local residents for the annual Ullr celebration. This celebration is a sacrificial ritual to Ullr (the Nordic mythological God of skis and snow) asking for snow! If you have any old wooden skis or snowboards you would like to sacrifice in the bonfire, please feel free to bring them. Event date to be determined (this event usually happens in November the week or two before Thanksgiving). Go to www.brianheadtown.utah.gov for more information!

November 20 – Brian Head Ski Resort Winter Operations Opening Day (tentatively).

November 26 - Brian Head Resort will be open Thanksgiving Day!

Brian Head Town Employee Team Building Event

The 2nd annual Brian Head Town Employee Team Building Event took place on Thursday, August 20, 2015. This was for Town employees and Council members. The three main departments in our Town (Administration, Public Safety, and Public Works) each prepared an event for the employees/Council members to complete.

The Administration Department played a mock Town Council and the employees/Council members were given 3 scenarios to present to the Council. The Public Safety and Public Works employees and Council member gained a deeper appreciation of what the Administration staff goes through on Council matters (i.e. preparing staff reports, presenting facts, and following up on issues). The Administration employees got to feel what the Council goes through when deciding on important matters for the Town.

The Public Safety Department (whose duties consist of Police, Fire, and EMT issues) timed the employees on suiting up for a fire, hooking up hoses and pushing a crate across the parking lot with the water from the hoses. Although this was a fun activity, the Administration and Public Works employees understood that, when attending to a fire, speed AND safety are important.

The Public Works Department had the employees run a backhoe and track-hoe. The employees were required to separate a pile of rocks and wood. This took some coordination and the Administration and Public Safety employees got to experience a little of one of the Public Works crew's job duties.

One more event took place. Three employees volunteered to be tased by the Public Safety Department – Aaron Gurr (Seasonal Public Works Worker), Molly Cosby (Marketing & Events Coordinator), and Bret Howser (Town Manager). This event helped the employees learn not to break the law – it was a painful experience!

This Team Building event took place within a 3-hour time period (from 9 am to 12 noon). All in all, the Team Building Event made the employees' understand each other's roles in the Town's dynamics.

After work (and off the clock), the Team Building continued. There was an ATV ride and barbecue for the employees and their families. Jared Burton, Deputy Town Marshal, led the ride from the Public Safety Building to Flanigan's Arch and back. It was beautiful!

Even though this day was full of fun, it made us all realize that it takes a TEAM to make a Town run to the best of its ability. We all have to work together. Thanks to everyone that participated in our Team Building Event. GO TEAM!



Molly Cosby (Marketing & Events Coordinator)



Aaron Gurr (Seasonal Public Works Worker) directs Council member Jim Ortler on how to run the backhoe



Dan Guymon (Town Sergeant) outlines his plan to the mock Council while Chris Leigh (Public Works Technician) offers his support

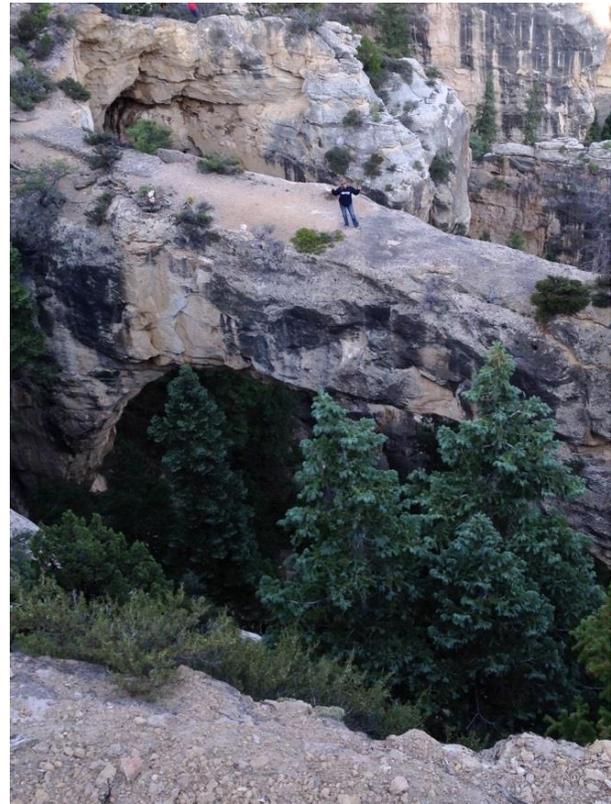
Brian Head School Bus is Back

Just before the new school year began, Brian Head Town residents received a notice from the Iron County School District informing them that bus service to the Town was to be discontinued. Several residents with children, concerned about how they would be able to transport their children to school in Parowan while maintaining their work schedules, contacted their Town Council members who flew into action.

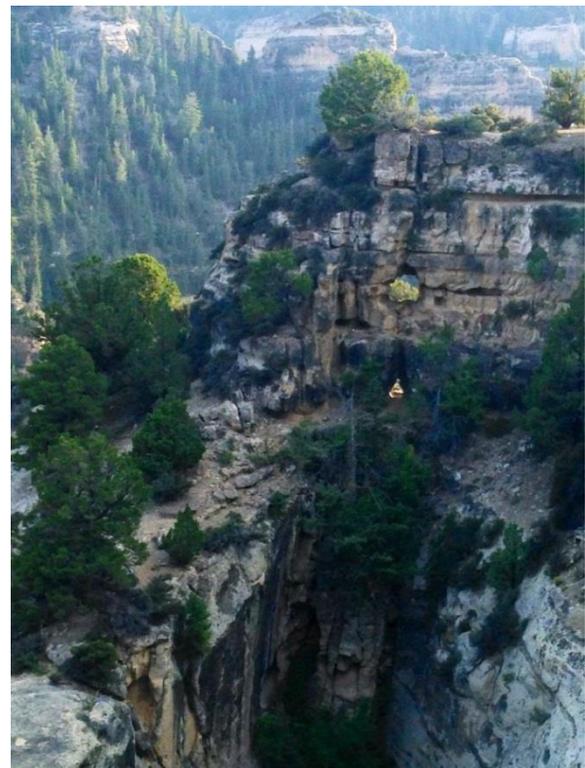
At the request of the Town Council, Town staff got the Brian Head School bus put back on the agenda for the School Board on August 25. That afternoon, about a dozen residents led by four Council members packed the work session chambers of the Iron County School District. Following a cordial conversation with the School Board, the decision was made to reinstate bus service to Brian Head. Congratulations to the Brian Head Community for coming together on such an important issue and affecting positive change – and thanks to the Town Council for their leadership.



Employees getting tased with a taser gun! From left to right: Aaron Gurr (Seasonal Public Works Worker), Molly Cosby (Marketing & Events Coordinator), Bret Howser (Town Manager), Dan Benson (Town Marshal); behind them - Jeff Morgan (Part-Time Public Safety Officer)



Flanigan's Arch - located southwest of Brian Head (photo courtesy of Brian Johnson)



Another view of Flanigan's Arch (photo courtesy of Cecilia Johnson)



Trees to be Planted in Honor/Memory of Loved Ones

Do you have a loved one (deceased or living) that you would like to honor in Brian Head? Brian Head Town is accepting tree donations to be planted around Bristlecone Pond. We will be planting Bristlecone Pine Trees, Quaking Aspen Trees, Blue Spruce Pine Trees, and Vanderwolf Pine Trees. We are willing to try other trees that can grow in our elevation too.

If you choose to plant a tree in honor of a loved one, Brian Head Town will hang a plaque in its Council Chambers listing honorary names and donors, the type of tree planted, and the year the tree was planted.

The tree planting will start June 2016. Please pick up a donation form at the Town Hall – 56 North Highway 143, Brian Head, Utah or print off a donation form from our website at www.brianheadtown.utah.gov. We will have a list of trees and the cost for each tree at the Town Hall and on our website also. After the form is filled out, please mail it, along with your donation, to: Brian Head Town Hall, P.O. Box 190068, Brian Head, Utah 84719-0068.

What a great way to honor a loved one!



One lucky Bristlecone Pond fishing contest winner - posing with his new fishing pole

Bristlecone Pond a Success

Brian Head’s Bristlecone Pond has been a fun added feature to our community! The first year has been a success, with residents and visitors enjoying the hiking trail and the fishing at the pond.

On the 4th of July we started our 1st annual fishing contest for children ages 16 and younger. Eleven fish were tagged (in pink) and three prizes have already been awarded. The contest is still open until all the tagged fish are caught!

Brian Head Town is now preparing a landscape plan consisting of trees and wildflowers. Through grants and donations, we hope to receive enough help to plant 40 trees by next spring! With our awesome community we are sure we will meet our goal.



A fun fishing day at Bristlecone Pond

UDOT Asphalts Highway 143 through Brian Head Town

The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) has completed its asphaltting project of Highway 143 through Brian Head Town. What a big improvement (especially the section of road located west of the new Bristlecone Pond)!

The new asphalt has not been chip-sealed, which means the highway might be a little slicker than normal this winter. This means we all need to be a little more careful when snow and/or ice are present. Chip-sealing will be completed next spring.



Daniel Allen - Urban Forester

New Urban & Community Forester for Southwest Utah

Meet Daniel Austin Allen, the new Urban & Community Forester for Southwest Utah! He was born in Layton, UT on 27 March 1985. His mother often commented that he must be part monkey because he was a much 'fuzzier' baby than the others, not to mention the fact that in his youth, he would climb trees as often as occasion would permit.

Daniel grew up in nearby Kaysville, Davis County, UT where he attended Davis High School. A key influence in his life at this time was his oldest brother, Michael, who, in conjunction with the Boy Scouts, instilled in Daniel a deep reverence for nature. At 18, Daniel was awarded the Eagle Scout Award.

After high school, Daniel served a two year service mission for his Church in Western Virginia, where he developed a strong love for the Appalachian mountains and culture. Thus it was that, six months after his mission, Daniel completed a 'thru-hike' of the entire 2,175 mile Appalachian Trail.

Not more than 48 hours after standing atop Mount Katahdin, Maine (AT's northern terminus), Daniel began his college career at Weber State University in Ogden, UT. This is where he met his wife, Laura. They were married on 09-09-09.

In 2010, Daniel finished his A.S. in General Studies at Weber State, and Laura finished her B.S. in Sociology at Westminster College. Daniel heard about an exciting branch of ecology called Permaculture, and decided to attend one of the best College of Natural Resources in the State at Utah State University (USU). However, the Allens' decided to pay off their student loans first. Daniel worked 1 ½ jobs and got this goal accomplished within 1 year. Also in 2010, Daniel's oldest brother and best friend Michael tragically drowned while the two were on a Scout High-Adventure camp-out in Havasupai, Grand Canyon. This difficult experience taught Daniel to always strive to fully appreciate the moment, and the people we know and love.

Fall 2011 was the first semester working towards a degree in Forestry at Utah State University. 2012 brought the opportunity to sell pest control on the East Coast. By Graduation in 2014, Daniel and Laura had two colorful children; Maelee Sage and Leif Michael. The Allens' enjoy spending time outdoors, especially in their Permaculture garden.

While at USU, Daniel learned that people can actually get paid to climb trees. So from the spring of 2013 to the spring of 2015, Daniel enjoyed the distinguished opportunity to 'apprentice' under one of Utah's two ISA Board Certified Master Arborists; Ben Harris (former UCFC president), and his company Branch to Bud Tree-care. During this time, Daniel became an ISA Certified Arborist, and in two short years, enjoyed a remarkable diversity of tree-care experiences.

Leaving Branch to Bud was a difficult decision to make but, with hopes for an increased ability to advocate the proper care of the under-appreciated resource that trees are, Daniel recently joined the Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands as an Urban and Community Forester.

Welcome to Southern Utah Daniel!



**"Someone is sitting in the shade today
because someone planted a tree a long time
ago."**

-Warren Buffett