

## Mayor's Holiday Message 2011

### "Why I Love Holladay at Christmas Time"

I always love winter mornings after it snows. It's quiet and peaceful. And it's a welcome respite from the hustle of hectic holiday schedules.

Such winter mornings are a good time to go for a walk, to stop by on friends in the community. It's a good reminder of just how truly special this community is:

Did you know that within our small town we have congregations of Greek Orthodox, Catholics, Jews, Mormons, Unitarians and Lutherans? And many of their buildings serve as community centers, pre-schools, and places for the elderly to gather.

In Holladay we have great schools. Our students continue to score well nationally on standardized tests. More importantly, they take an active part in their community.

We have ball fields and gymnasiums for competitors of all ages.

Dedicated policemen and firemen keep us safe while serving throughout surrounding cities.

Groups of volunteers clean up neighborhoods, parks and schools and serve at the Holladay Healthcare Center. The garbage is picked up on time. The streets are cleared after big snow falls.

We have the traditional Carmelite Fair every year. We enjoy art festivals, concerts, recitals and farmer's markets. And our famous 4<sup>th</sup> of July firework celebration is the envy of the Salt Lake Valley.

We have boy scouts and girl scouts and cub scouts and the bridges and parks they built and maintain. We have a new Junior High School, and a soon-to-be new High School.

There are bike trails, walking trails and hiking trails that take you from city life to wilderness in no time at all.

We can be proud of our children and grandchildren in the neighborhood. They see us reaching out, especially during this time of year, to lend a hand to a neighbor. Already they emulate our efforts in what small, but significant, ways they can.

At Christmas time, it feels like every activity is going at once, from the churches to the schools to the stores to the ball fields turned into gathering places for snowmen. Yet carolers, local shop keepers and restaurant owners, and neighbors who put up lights and decorations help spread Christmas cheer. It is truly a season of goodwill and I love talking to friends and neighbors about all the good things going on.

This season, let us all reach out a little further to those around us. Let us look for those who might need that helping hand. Let us thank the veterans and the volunteers for their service, the elderly for their examples, the young children for their hope and optimism, and friends for just being friends.

On behalf of the City of Holladay, I extend my warmest regards and best wishes to everyone in our City. May the spirit of this wonderful season be with you and your loved ones throughout the holidays and many blessings in the New Year.



Merry Christmas from Mayor Webb