# **SPRING CITY FRIEN**

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FRIENDS OF HISTORIC SPRING CITY • MAY 2024

## **HERITAGE DAY 2024 IS ALMOST HERE!** Saturday, May 25

he annual Spring City Heritage Day Celebration is right around the corner. Ring in spring by joining the fun touring the inside of over a dozen historic homes, plus another 15 or so historic sites around town.

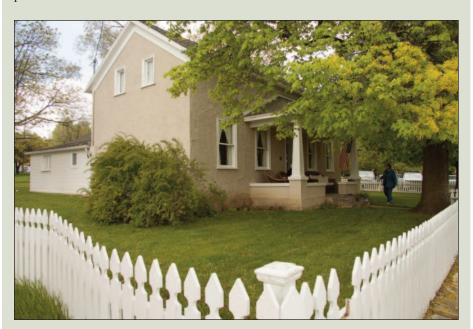
Gobble up scrumptious food at our local eateries and a collection of food trucks at the Old School. Browse the antiques and crafts from local and regional artisans. Stroll the shops and galleries.

Bid on original art at the renowned Art Squared auction, featuring new 12-inch by 12-inch oil paintings. Purchase framed artwork on display in the Old School and the Art Gallery, now located in the new Spring City Activity Center. Gawk at a collection of antique cars.

Enjoy musical concerts that run the gamut from opera to bluegrass. And don't miss the famous old settler, Ishmael Johnson, tell mostly true stories of life back in the early days of "Spring Town."

Tickets for the Home Tour are \$10 per adult, \$5 for youth ages 3-16, and children under 2 free. Buy them on the day of the event on the second floor of the Spring City Hall (Old School) at 45 S. 100 E., or the Old Firehouse at 46 N. Main. Ticket sales begin at 9:00 am and end at 2:00 pm. Or, purchase tickets online before Heritage Day on our website, friendsofhistoricspringcity.org.

Proceeds from ticket and art sales go to local restoration efforts, sponsored by the Friends of Historic Spring City (FOHSC), a non-profit organization. We are over 130 members, dedicated to the mission of helping our town's past come alive, keeping its present vibrant, and its future ensured for generations to come. If you would like to become a member of FOHSC, or learn more about how you can support its mission, please visit our website.



The Rasmus and Sarah A. Justesen Home, c. 1875, located at 12 N. Main in Spring City. Owned and beautifully restored by Susan Gallacher.



Tom Allred, Cynthia DeGrey, and Perry Dve visit the restored junior high.

#### **Spring City Natives Recall Junior High Days**

om Allred, Cynthia DeGrey, and Perry Dye are natives of Spring City and long-time residents. They attended the old junior high school, which is currently being renovated as the new Spring City Activity Center. Recently, each one reminisced about their junior high days.

Tom attended the school from 1950-52, and played basketball for coach Roger Allred. Tom loved being on the team, in large part because he could use the school showers; his family didn't have indoor plumbing at home. He also played the tuba in the school band, though he only knew two notes. His band teacher told Tom that was okay because he could march better than anyone else!

Years later, Tom returned to the Junior High, not as a student, but to do needed construction work on the building.

Perry was at the school for only one year, 1951, before his family moved north. Still, he recalls his time in the band. He couldn't read a note of music, so the band teacher asked him to grab two sticks and beat the snare drum. It worked! At the end-ofyear band concert, Perry performed a drum solo consisting of four notes!

Perry moved to Salt Lake and attended Murray High School. He played on the football team, won the state championship, and was named to 1st Team All State.

**Continues** 

### **NEW SPRING CITY ACTIVITY CENTER**

Restoration of the Old Junior High School Takes Shape



FOHSC members gift another \$20,000 to the City at the April, 2024 City Council meeting. So far, FOHSC has contributed \$40,000 directly and helped raise another \$120,000 through grants for the junior high restoration.

ne of Spring City's grand old buildings has been getting an extensive face lift over the last year. The Friends of Historic Spring City (FOHSC) has partnered with the City to save the Junior High School, built in 1916. The goal is to make it an activity center, where residents can enjoy social gatherings, an art gallery, exhibits, and athletic events, such as indoor pickleball.

The Junior High sits at 150 E. Center, just to the east of the Spring City Hall. Restoration began in early 2023 with a \$50,000 grant from the state, which helped fund

the initial construction. FOHSC then helped the City obtain another \$70,000 in grants for new windows, electrical fixtures, and the refinishing of hardwood floors.

Last September, FOHSC contributed \$20,000 to the project out of its proceeds from sponsoring the annual Heritage Day and the Candlelight Christmas Home Tour. Just weeks ago, FOHSC contributed an



New windows at the Spring City Activity Center.

additional \$20,000 to keep the restoration work going.

Now, the Activity Center is ready for occupancy. Spring City Arts, which operates the art gallery and sponsors music and art events, recently moved out of its long-time home on Main Street. In April, 2024, it relocated the art gallery into renovated space in the new Activity Center.

## JUNIOR HIGH DAYS CONTINUED

Cynthia attended from 1961-64. Her favorite teacher, Roger Allred, was a veteran of World War II, who loved to tell stories of his war experiences. One such story helped Cynthia learn fractions. Mr. Allred was in a foxhole with another soldier who had an apple. The soldier shared the apple by first slicing it in half, then fourths, and then eighths.

One day, Cynthia got angry at a classmate and hit him over the head with a baseball bat. She was sent to the principal's office, where her explanation for hitting the boy was, "I think the sun just got to me."

Tom, Perry, and Cynthia are grateful that the FOHSC is leading the renovation of their former school. Thanks to you three for the memories!

#### HISTORIC HOME SPOTLIGHT

#### The Griffiths/Larsen House

190 West 200 North

am Laura Beck. My great grandparents came from Europe to settle in Spring City. My grandparents were born in Spring City, my dad was born in Spring City, and I live in Spring City.

My grandparents lived their married life in the home at 190 W. and 200 N. As kids, my siblings and I woke up atop feather beds, under hand-stitched quilts, and to the scent of fresh-baked bread and sizzling bacon. Afterwards, Grandpa would pack a lunch pail and we would be off adventuring through pastures, watching pollywogs, and drinking the velvety water from the spring fountain.

When Grandpa returned from his chores, he'd load us into his '52 pickup and take us for ice cream at John Baxter's shop. In winter, Grandpa would hitch one of his horses to a sleigh and take us for sleigh rides.

Time passed and so did people. The old homestead was sold. Then, in 2013, Jim and artist Eileen Guernsey Brown discovered Spring City, and fell in love with a one-acre lot with beautiful trees and an historic home and outbuildings. The Brown's went to work, repairing structural and mechanical problems, while trying to maintain the original charm. During this process, Jim discovered the dining room was actually a 14x16 ft. log granary, hauled to the current location by a team of oxen around 1900.



Spring City preservationists Jim and Eileen Brown in front of their home.