



*More to*  
**“TALKABOUT”** Chris Hart, Mayor

We have three significant issues facing us that warrant us getting together to talk about them. The first is fire, fire risk, fire risk mitigation and the volatility in insurance markets that has some of our residents facing much higher Homeowner’s Insurance premiums and others losing it altogether.

Our Fire Chief Dan Cazier recently, at the request of the Council, conducted a fire risk assessment of both Ivins and Santa Clara Cities. He reported his findings to our Council a month ago and we’d like to share that information with you our residents in a Talkabout forum on Wednesday the 7th of May at 7:00 PM. Once again it is graciously being hosted by Rocky Vista University. Our panelists will include Fire Chief Dan Cazier who will review his Fire Risk Assessment Study in detail, our Fire Marshal Con Fulde who will cover fire risk mitigation or the things we can do as individual homeowners and as a city to reduce the threat of fire, and Jon Pike, former Mayor of St. George City now serving as the Utah State Insurance Commissioner who will be addressing the state of the insurance industry and how we can navigate it in our own individual situations. We will structure the forum to maximize the time available for questions and answers.

The second will be on the topic of Truth in Taxation. As the Council begins its 2025-2026 budget discussions it is apparent that the time has come to go through the process of Truth in Taxation with the intent of modestly raising our local property taxes.

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**Meeting Dates:**

**Planning Commission:**  
(5:30 p.m.)  
May 13, 2025

**City Council:**  
(5:30 p.m.)  
May 1, 2025  
May 15, 2025

**Blucan Dates**

May 5  
May 19

**Dumpster Dates:**

May 10  
May 24



It has been over ten years since we did that and inflation has finally caught up to us. The current property tax structure requires that the tax rate be changed each year to yield relatively the same amount of revenue. There are no provisions built into the system to adjust property taxes for inflation, so eventually every municipality is faced with having to make an adjustment through the Truth in Taxation process. Currently, any additional property taxes received by the City each year are due to growth with the addition of new taxable properties to the tax rolls. To further adjust the amount of local property tax revenue available to the community, the State Legislature has enacted

the procedure known as Truth in Taxation that requires extensive disclosures of information to you our residents and eventually a Public Hearing on the request. We want to begin the discussions in the more casual setting of a Talkabout forum where questions can be answered in a less formal environment. I will announce the date and panel of experts in an upcoming newsletter.

It is important to note that this applies only to the portion of one's property tax that goes to the city, not the entire property tax bill. Thus the increased amount any resident is required to pay is very low when compared to an across the board increase that would include Washington County and the Washington County School District.

The third topic that will be addressed in a Talkabout most likely in September is Affordable Housing in Ivins. This subject has required considerable attention over the last several years as the housing affordability crisis in Utah has escalated. Our Ivins City Affordable Housing Task Force has poured endlessly over ideas and information trying to come up with solutions that will comply with increasing requirements imposed by the State Legislature and allow us to maintain the character of our community. We think we're zeroing in on some actual solutions that we'd like to share with you in a Talkabout forum. Once again the date and panel of experts have not been selected but will be announced in a future newsletter.

The final subject I'd like to mention for those of you who missed it is that Ivins City was recently featured as the Spotlight City at the Washington County Fair. As such we were invited to create a significant display showing the past, present and future of our beautiful City. Several contributed with ideas and technical skills to bring the display about, but ultimately it was turned over to Michele Adams from the Ivins City Arts Commission to create, and create she did. With invaluable support provided by Black Desert's REEF Media Department, photography by Elizabeth Fortney and Tim Gillespie, displayed on our Arts Commission's recently acquired art display panels, Michele put together a beautiful photo collage telling the story of Ivins City from its humble beginnings to the present day and beyond.

The display remained in place throughout the County Fair, but when the Fair ended, at my request, it was transported to the lobby of City Hall where it will remain until Heritage Days in September. I invite you all to come and see it. I hope you'll find it as impressive as I did.

## MAY AGENDA ITEMS



The following are some of the topics that may be discussed at the May Planning Commission and City Council meetings. This is not a complete list and the complete agendas will be posted on the website, [www.ivinsutah.gov](http://www.ivinsutah.gov), a few days prior to the meetings. Agendas may be amended up to 24 hours prior to a meeting. Check the website the day before the scheduled meeting for the final agenda items to be discussed. If you have questions regarding agenda items on the Planning Commission, please call or email Sharon Allen at 435-628-0606 or [sallen@ivinsutah.gov](mailto:sallen@ivinsutah.gov). If you have questions regarding agenda items on the City Council, please call or email Kari D. Jimenez at 435-628-0606 or [kjimenez@ivinsutah.gov](mailto:kjimenez@ivinsutah.gov).

### Planning Commission, May 13, 2025

- Discuss & consider Circle Cliffs Amended Preliminary Plan.

### City Council, May 1, 2025

- Public hearing, discussion & consideration of Planning Commission's recommendation to approve a Zoning Amendment from RA-1 (Residential Agricultural 1 acre) to RE-15 (Residential Single Family, lot size 12,500 square feet) on approximately 9.52 acres located at approximately 755 West Center.
- Discuss & consider tentatively adopting the Tentative Budgets to Complete Fiscal Year ending (FYE) 2025 and the Tentative Budgets for Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) 2026 and set a Public Hearing.
- Discussion of Utah State Code 71A-8-102 regarding employees in military service and pay allowance for time spent on duty.
- Discussion regarding possible regulations for Short-Term Rentals.
- Discussion regarding possible regulations for Home Occupation Businesses.
- Continued discussion to consider approval of Ordinance No. 2025-06, an Ordinance of Ivins City, Utah, Granting an Electrical Utility Franchise and General Utility Easement to Rocky Mountain Power.
- Discussion regarding April 17th Shake Out Drill.

### City Council, May 15, 2025

- Public hearing, discussion & consideration of Planning Commission's recommendation concurrent land use and zone change application from Low Density Residential, RA-5 to High Density Residential, R-1-5 on approximately 10.69 acres located at approximately 800 West Hwy 91.
- Possible public hearing and/or continued discussion on proposed budgets for FYE 25 and FYE 26.
- Presentation & discussion on Tentative Budgets for FYE 25 and FYE 26.

## SCHOOL UPDATES

### RED MOUNTAIN ELEMENTARY

JENNIFER LEAVITT - PRINCIPAL

We will be having a retirement open house to celebrate the retirement of Kara Perry and Cheryl Hutchings on Friday, May 2nd from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

May 22nd is the last day of school. Office staff will be limited during the summer. We will be checking phone messages and responding at least once a week.

Kindergarten and new student registration is now open. Registration needs to be done online. You can access it from our website [rmes.washk12.org](http://rmes.washk12.org) or the district website [washk12.org](http://washk12.org). Early registration helps us build our staff appropriately for the upcoming year.



# HEALTHY IVINS

## Taking Care of Your Mental Health

By Darcie Chamberlain, APRN, Rocky Vista Health Center

It's important to take care of your mental health, especially as we get older. Anxiety and depression can affect anyone, but there are ways to feel better.

- **Breathing Exercises:** Deep breathing can help you feel calm. Try taking a deep breath in through your nose, hold it for a few seconds, and then slowly breathe out through your mouth. Repeat this a few times.
- **Stay Connected:** Talking to friends and family can make a big difference. Try to call or visit someone every day.
- **Find Joy in Hobbies:** Having hobbies and interests can help you feel happier. Whether it's gardening, reading, knitting, or playing a musical instrument, doing something you enjoy can boost your mood and reduce anxiety. Try to spend some time each day on a hobby you love.
- **Build Social Connections:** Social connections are important for mental health. Join a club, take a class, or volunteer in your community. Being around others can help you feel supported and less alone.

Remember, taking care of your mental health is just as important as taking care of your physical health. Use these tips to help manage anxiety and depression, and don't hesitate to talk to a healthcare professional if you need more help.



THE HEALTHY IVINS COALITION



## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

JOIN US....

MAY 8, 2025 AT 7:00 P.M.

**GRAB AND GO - 72 HOUR KITS**

NEXT UP....

**JUNE 12 - EARTHQUAKE: BE READY!**




**GRAB AND GO**  
**72 hour kits**

Ivins City volunteer Emergency Preparedness Committee organizes these seminars for the second Thursday of each month in an ongoing citywide initiative to better prepare its citizens and neighborhoods for any emergency or disaster. For more information, email [ivinsutahcert@gmail.com](mailto:ivinsutahcert@gmail.com).

Upcoming events are announced in the Ivins City online newsletter.

 **MAY 8, 2025**

 **AT 7:00 P.M.**

 **85 N MAIN  
IVINS UT 84738**

FREE SEMINAR

TO JOIN OUR TEAM CALL:  
(559) 731-3952

### Ivins Inspired Technology Seminar

Want to feel more confident using technology to stay connected in Ivins? Whether you're curious about finding city updates or hesitant about using social media, Ivins Inspired invites you to a welcoming, hands-on seminar designed for residents of all comfort levels—especially those who feel a bit unsure or nervous about asking for help.

This free event is a safe, supportive space to learn at your own pace. No question is too small, and no prior experience is needed. Our goal is to help you feel more informed, more connected, and more empowered to engage with our beautiful community.

You'll learn how to:

- Navigate the Ivins City website & newsletter to access meeting agendas, city services, and event updates.
- Use Nextdoor and Facebook safely (or decide if they're for you): Learn how to protect your privacy, find reliable information, and connect meaningfully.
- Stay informed without relying on social media: Discover other easy ways to stay in the loop.
- Explore the new Ivins Inspired website: Your go-to resource for wellness events, volunteer opportunities, and community news.

**When: Tuesday, May 21st**

**Time: 9:30–11:00 a.m. (Q&A and individual assistance begin at 11:00 a.m.)**

**Where: Ivins City Hall Chambers**

**Cost: Free to Ivins residents**

**Bring your own fully charged device** (phone, iPad, Kindle, laptop) if you have one—but if not, you're still warmly welcome.

**A team of friendly volunteers will be available during and after the seminar to assist you one-on-one.**

Whether you need help navigating your screen, adjusting settings, or simply want someone to walk you through the steps, we're here for you every step of the way.

This event is for everyone—especially if you've ever said, "I don't want to bother anyone with my tech questions." Let's grow together, strengthen our community connections, and shine.

**We hope to see you there!**

# Now Hiring!



Code Enforcement Officer  
(Part-Time)

Animal Shelter Worker  
(Part-Time)

**APPLY NOW**

# Parks & Recreation

## Youth Summer Tennis Camp

A fun and organized tennis camp that offers youth the opportunity to explore skills and fundamentals of tennis in a nonjudgmental, positive environment.

Come join us! Taught by local tennis pro Stephanie Judd.

Dates: Monday, June 2 – Thursday, June 5

Little Ace: 8am-8:45am (for ages 5-9)

Big Ace: 8:45am-9:30am (for ages 10-13)

Advanced: 9:30am-10:15am (for ages 14+)

Location: UNITY Park Tennis Courts

Fee: \$65/participant

Register online at [ivins.recdesk.com](http://ivins.recdesk.com) under PROGRAMS or in person at City Hall



## Flag Football Registration - For ages 6 to 12

Registration will be open May 19th through August 8th for our youth flag football leagues! You can register online at [ivins.recdesk.com](http://ivins.recdesk.com) or in person at City Hall (85 N Main St).

Registration Fee: \$30

Season begins mid-September.

Games will be played on weekday evenings.

The age divisions for this league will be as follows:

Ages - 6 to 8 Coed (Mondays & Wednesdays)

Ages - 9 to 12 Coed (Tuesdays & Thursdays)

Ages determined as of October 31, 2025

No teammate requests.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

### **Teen Summer Foam Blast**

Wednesday, July 9th at UNITY Park (400S 400W)

FREE!

### **Day Trip to Bryce Canyon**

Tuesday, August 5th from 7:30am – 6:30pm

Registration will open online at [ivins.recdesk.com](http://ivins.recdesk.com) under PROGRAMS

### **Heritage Days 2025**

Heritage Days will be here before you know it! Look out for registrations opening the end of May!

Activities will be on different days throughout the week with the BIG day on September 13.



**FREE!**

IVINS CITY  
2025  
**CONCERT  
IN THE PARK  
SERIES**

Ivins City Heritage Park (100N 100W)

**FRIDAY MAY 2ND**  
6PM - SLOTHATHLON FINISH LINE EVENT + FOOD TRUCKS  
7PM - CONCERT STARTS  
**FAST EDDIE**

**FRIDAY MAY 9TH**  
6PM - YARD GAMES + FOOD TRUCKS  
7PM - CONCERT STARTS  
**RUNAWAY FIRE**

RUNAWAY FIRE



**GOLF  
CLASSES**

Register at  
[golfinstituteofamerica.com](http://golfinstituteofamerica.com)  
Contact Arnie Billingsley  
Golf Director 916-412-8606  
for questions/concerns

## Bicycle Safety Month

The month of May brings warmer weather, more outdoor activities, and additional events to our community. May is also recognized as Bicycle Safety Month. As a community, let's work together to keep everyone safe.

### 8 Safety Tips for Bicyclist

1. Ride in a straight line, single file, with the traffic flow.
2. Ride on the right in the same direction as cars.
3. Obey all traffic signs and signals.
4. Ride with both hands on the handlebars except when signaling a turn or stopping.
5. Stop and look left-right-left for traffic before entering a street. Walk your bike across an intersection.
6. Stay alert – use your eyes to look for things that could make you fall, like potholes, cracks, pebbles, or wet leaves. Use your ears to listen for traffic. Don't wear earphones while riding.
7. Watch for parked cars and cars pulling out or into parking spaces or driveways.
8. Check your equipment. Make sure your bike tires are properly inflated and that the brakes work. Don't forget your bicycle helmet. Wear it flat on your head and buckle it!

### 8 Safety Tips for Drivers

1. Look out for pedestrians everywhere, at all times.
2. Use extra caution when driving in hard-to-see conditions, such as nighttime or bad weather.
3. Slow down and be prepared to stop when turning or otherwise entering a crosswalk.
4. Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and stop well back from the crosswalk to give other vehicles an opportunity to see the crossing pedestrians so they can stop too.
5. Never pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk. There may be people crossing where you can't see.
6. Never drive under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.
7. Follow the speed limit, especially around people on the street, in school zones, and in neighborhoods where children are present.
8. Be extra cautious when backing up and look for pedestrians.

### 8 Walking Safety Tips

1. Follow the rules of the road and obey signs and signals.
2. Walk on sidewalks whenever they are available.
3. If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible.
4. Cross streets at crosswalks or intersections. Look for cars in all directions, including those turning left or right.
5. If a crosswalk or intersection is not available, locate a well-lit area where you have the best view of traffic. Wait for a gap in traffic that allows enough time to cross safely; continue watching for traffic as you cross.
6. Watch for cars entering or exiting driveways or backing up in parking lots.
7. Avoid alcohol and drugs when walking; they impair your abilities and your judgment.
8. Embrace walking as a healthy form of transportation - get up, get out and get moving.

For more information visit <https://highwaysafety.utah.gov> and <https://www.nhtsa.gov/>

## Animal Control

ADDRESS:  
474 N 200 W  
IVINS, UTAH 84738 | PHONE: 435-628-1049  
ANIMAL CONTROL/ SHELTER MANAGER:  
MACKENZIE PETERSON

We're excited to introduce three adorable puppies looking for their forever homes! These sweet pups are about five months old and are a charming mix of Poodle and Border Collie. Each has been spayed/ neutered and is up to date on vaccinations. Please remember that adopting a puppy is a wonderful commitment that includes ongoing potty training and obedience training. If you're ready to welcome a loving companion into your life, these pups are ready to meet you!

Reminder: Leaving a dog at the shelter without notifying our staff is considered abandonment. Please do not leave your pets outside the shelter or release them in the hope that someone will find them. If you need assistance rehoming your dog, please call us—we're here to help you as much as possible



## Governor Declares Drought Emergency – What It Means for Ivins

By Charles Gillette, P.E., Public Works Director and City Engineer

On April 24, 2025, Governor Spencer Cox issued a state of emergency declaration for 17 Utah counties, including Washington County, due to persistent and worsening drought conditions. This declaration acknowledges the significant water supply challenges facing much of the state, particularly in the southern region, which includes Ivins.

While Utah's overall snowpack reached average levels this year, the southern part of the state fell far short. The snowpack in our region was just 44% of normal, and warmer-than-usual winter temperatures have contributed to earlier snowmelt and reduced runoff. Fortunately, local reservoirs have stored water from previous years of excess, but they will remain stressed.

### How This Affects Ivins

Ivins relies heavily on limited local water resources along with everyone else in Washington County. Continued drought conditions put pressure on our water supplies, all of which depend on a stable water outlook.

It is clear from the water use data that the lack of rain for the past several months has translated into increased water usage from residents. It is an unfortunate truth that when it doesn't rain we are naturally inclined to increase our usage.



### What You Can Do

Governor Cox urged all Utahns to be extremely mindful of their water use, and Ivins City supports that call to action. Here are some simple but impactful ways you can help:

- Adjust irrigation timers to reduce unnecessary watering.
- Fix leaks in faucets, hoses, and irrigation systems promptly.
- Avoid daytime watering, which leads to high evaporation.
- Limit car washing and other nonessential outdoor water use.
- Report water waste or irrigation runoff when you see it.

Also, let's not strive for perfect green grass in our yards this year, instead let's take some pride in letting our landscapes endure some stress from the drought. Even better, consider this to be the year you remove your grass.

Water is one of our most precious resources in the desert southwest. Let's work together as a community to preserve it for future generations.

For more conservation tips, visit [www.slowtheflow.org](http://www.slowtheflow.org) or contact Ivins City Public Works at 435-634-0689.

Help the City reach its goal to reduce water use by 10% over the next 10 years.

**Outdoor Tips:** In May, don't water more than twice per week unless it gets really hot. Remember to not water between 8am and 8pm. Use a broom to sweep driveways and sidewalks instead of hosing them down

**Indoor Tip:** Turn your water off while brushing your teeth or shaving.

For more tips go to: [Slowtheflow.org](http://Slowtheflow.org)

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

**Old Highway 91 – Phase 2:** Construction continues on the second phase of the Old Highway 91 project from Kwavasa Drive to Fire Lake Park. This phase includes resurfacing the existing roadway, adding bike lanes on both shoulders, completing the remaining sections of the trail from Phase One, installing a sewer line, and upgrading intersections at Anasazi Road, Kayenta Parkway, and Fire Lake Park.

The project is expected to continue through August 2025. While some mild to moderate disruptions are anticipated, efforts will be made to minimize impacts. At times, traffic may be reduced to a single lane, but delays are expected to be brief and kept to a minimum.

Significant disruptions to the trail and bike access are anticipated along this section of the corridor. For safety reasons, both the trail and bike lanes will likely remain closed for the duration of the project.

**Pavement Maintenance Project:** Street pavement maintenance is scheduled to finish up the beginning of this month. The following areas will be receiving treatment, if they haven't already:

- Old Highway 91 from 400 East to Kwavasa Drive
- Center Street from 200 West to 200 East
- Taviawk Drive from 200 North to Wintook Drive
- Kwavasa Drive from Paiute Drive to Kayenta Parkway
- Streets in and around the Unity Village subdivision

Residents in these areas may experience brief access limitations or minor delays during this time. Thank you for your patience as we work to improve our city streets!

### Accessible Sidewalks and Trails

By Charles Gillette, P.E., Public Works Director and City Engineer

Each year, Ivins City works to make our community more accessible for everyone. One of the key ways we do this is by installing and upgrading sidewalk ramps at intersections so people of all abilities can navigate our sidewalks safely and independently. A properly constructed sidewalk ramp includes several important design elements (we'll try not to get too technical here!):



- **Slopes and Cross-Slopes:** Ramps must not be too steep. The maximum running slope is 1 inch of rise for every 12 inches of distance (an 8.3% slope). The cross-slope—across the width of the ramp—must be even gentler, no more than ¼ inch per foot (or a 2% slope).
- **Width:** The ramp must match the width of the sidewalk it connects to. For example, if the sidewalk is a 10-foot-wide trail, the ramp must also be 10 feet wide.
- **Landings:** There must be level landings at both the top and bottom of the ramp, allowing someone using a wheelchair or walker to stop and change direction safely.
- **Detectable Warning Surfaces:** These are the textured plates (usually red in color) you see at the bottom of the ramp. They help visually impaired pedestrians recognize that they're transitioning from a pedestrian-only space to an area where vehicles may be present.

If you look around Ivins, you'll notice that many ramps already include these features—particularly in areas built or improved in the last 20 years. However, some of our older neighborhoods may still have ramps that are missing one or more of these elements.

You may have noticed that the Ivins City Public Works crew recently rebuilt many of the non-conforming sidewalk ramps along the east side of Red Mountain Boulevard (200 East) to bring them up to current accessibility standards. This was especially important because this corridor includes a SunTran bus route, making it a priority area for accessibility upgrades. There are a few more along the route that still need improvement, and we are working on them.

We plan to continue improving sidewalk ramps throughout the city in the coming years. If you or someone you know is affected by a ramp that's difficult to use—or if you've noticed any sidewalks where the concrete has heaved or settled, creating a trip hazard—please let us know. We want to prioritize the areas that are most in need.

You can contact Public Works at 435-634-0689 or by email at [publicworks@ivinsutah.gov](mailto:publicworks@ivinsutah.gov). If you choose to email us, photos are always helpful!

Thank you for helping us make Ivins a safer and more accessible place for everyone.

# Explore The Arts In Ivins

WEBSITE:  
<https://www.ivinsartscommission.com>  
EMAIL:  
ivinsartscommission@ivinsutah.gov



## CONGRATULATIONS

*to the 2025-2026 Ivins City  
Art on Loan Recipients*

**Cheryl Collins and Trent Ripplinger**  
Walk Lightly  
Steel and Bronze Sculpture

**Women's Work**  
Adele Greenleaf  
Transparent Watercolor

**Robert Corsetti**  
Moonlight Marauders  
Acrylic on Canvas

**Red Mountain Boulevard**  
Judith Hutcheson  
Oil Painting

**Elizabeth Fortney**  
Turbulence Ahead  
Photography on Canvas

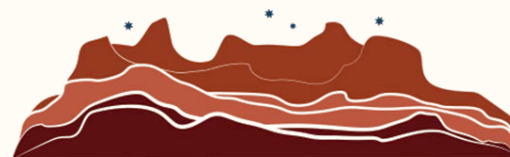
**Skyline View Overlook**  
Charley Moore  
Photography on Metal

### Ivins City Artist Registry

Welcome to "Living Artfully in Ivins." Artists living and working in Ivins City are encouraged to join the Ivins City Artist Registry, participate in the Art on Loan Program, and exhibit their work at the annual Heritage Days Art Exhibit. Register online and upload a photo of your artwork at [www.ivinsartscommission.com](http://www.ivinsartscommission.com).



THANK YOU TO LIZ FORTNEY  
FOR HER DONATION OF THE  
SIGN FOR THE IVINS  
COMMUNITY GARDEN



IVINS CITY ARTS COMMISSION

(Vision Statement, Ivins City Arts Commission Master Plan)

Living Artfully – Ivins City is a recognized and welcoming arts and cultural community that builds on its natural landscape to inspire, connect, and enrich the lives of our community.

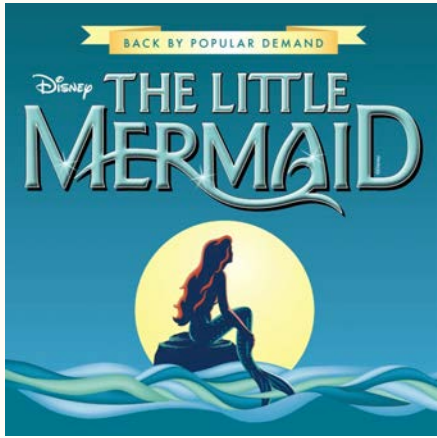
# EXPLORE THE ARTS IN IVINS



**CENTER FOR THE ARTS  
AT KAYENTA**  
**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**  
[kayentaarts.org](http://kayentaarts.org)  
435-674-2787  
BOXOFFICE@KAYENTAART  
S.COM




**TUACAHN  
AMPHITHEATRE**  
FOR TICKETS  
CALL THE BOX  
OFFICE:  
800-746-9882  
FOR EVENT  
DETAILS VISIT:  
TUACAHN.ORG



**TUACAHN  
MARKET**  
Free to the Public  
**SATURDAYS**  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

