

00:00:09:00 - 00:00:09:18
Welcome, everybody.

00:00:09:18 - 00:00:10:20
I'm Ogden City Mayor Ben Nadolski

00:00:10:20 - 00:00:16:22
and I am here at the Ogden Way Podcast where we tell Ogden stories
by telling the stories of Ogden???s people.

00:00:16:22 - 00:00:19:03
And boy do we have a special guest today.

00:00:19:03 - 00:00:23:14
His name is Ron Pippin,
but some of you might know him as the Skeleton Man, right?

00:00:23:14 - 00:00:26:17
Well, the Ogden skeleton man.

00:00:26:17 - 00:00:28:13
Yeah, not just any skeleton man.

00:00:28:13 - 00:00:33:16
I mean, don't confuse Ogden Skeleton Man with other town
skeleton men, right?

00:00:33:16 - 00:00:35:17
This is our Ron Pippin.

00:00:35:17 - 00:00:37:00
Thanks for being here today.

00:00:37:00 - 00:00:42:07
Thank you for having me. Yeah. Of course. Don't let that
thank you in the face. You're welcome. Move it around.

00:00:42:07 - 00:00:43:06
Okay.

00:00:43:06 - 00:00:50:12
For those of you that don't know what that means,
I think there's probably a, a chunk of people that know Skeleton Man.

00:00:52:03 - 00:00:53:07
Tell us who you are and why.

00:00:53:07 - 00:00:56:09
That's a big deal in Ogden.

00:00:56:09 - 00:00:58:03
So it was during.

00:00:58:03 - 00:01:00:21
You want me to tell the story? Sure. Okay.

00:01:00:21 - 00:01:08:03
So I started this back in 2020 when Covid was, you know, big thing.

00:01:08:03 - 00:01:10:10
Covid was going on, bro. Shut down.

00:01:10:10 - 00:01:15:08
I was really bored and I know that I've heard many stories
about people who are really depressed.

00:01:15:08 - 00:01:19:01
And so I thought, well, I kind of do that one maybe.

00:01:19:01 - 00:01:23:09
Let's see.

00:01:23:09 - 00:01:27:19
And maybe, you know, hopefully, maybe I can,

00:01:27:19 - 00:01:28:15
look mine as well.

00:01:28:15 - 00:01:34:09

So I started planning out and I got, I think I had six skeletons total.

00:01:34:09 - 00:01:38:02

I went to Home Depot.

00:01:38:02 - 00:01:42:08

Picked up some of their skeletons and started setting up scenes in there.

00:01:42:08 - 00:01:45:23

I think the very first one I did was just two people.

00:01:45:23 - 00:01:50:23

Two people, two skeletons sitting in the yard waving,

00:01:52:23 - 00:01:57:03

on chairs. One wearing a ball cap, wearing a big brim like a lady's hat.

00:01:57:03 - 00:02:00:23

And that was the statue I was started. So it was just really simple.

00:02:00:23 - 00:02:04:12

And then I just changed everything. Okay, so there you go.

00:02:04:12 - 00:02:07:13

This is starting to ring a bell for anybody.

00:02:07:13 - 00:02:09:17

Ron is skeleton man of Ogden.

00:02:09:17 - 00:02:17:14

He sets up an entire scene of skeletons in his front yard for
every October and every single day for the month, he changes the scene.

00:02:18:05 - 00:02:23:02

And it's become a little bit of a cult following,
I guess you could say people drive.

00:02:23:02 - 00:02:25:04

Drive by to come see what you've done for the day.

00:02:25:04 - 00:02:29:05

Yeah. To be, you know, I just
I didn't advertise or do anything anywhere.

00:02:29:05 - 00:02:34:05

I just started setting it up and started driving by
and people started driving by.

00:02:34:05 - 00:02:38:00

And, you know, the first year, there's quite a few people.
I think it just got around more than

00:02:39:11 - 00:02:39:22

anything.

00:02:39:22 - 00:02:42:19

And the next year

00:02:42:19 - 00:02:48:09

they're gearing and TV stations and newspaper items

00:02:48:09 - 00:02:52:20

and people telling me they're sending it
not only to the family in other states and other countries.

00:02:52:20 - 00:02:55:15

It just kind of got.

00:02:55:15 - 00:03:04:13

You know, and, you know, after three, four years, it was like, kind of
like a chip away, drive in, you know, the drive thru got a big been.

00:03:04:22 - 00:03:05:14

It's just been fun.

00:03:05:14 - 00:03:11:00

It's going to be like the Christmas lights

with all the arranged music. Right, right.

00:03:11:00 - 00:03:15:20

Haven't got that. Okay,
but the lines of people that are coming by tune in to radio.

00:03:15:20 - 00:03:16:13

See the skeleton man.

00:03:16:13 - 00:03:19:14

But anyway, the the funny thing is that.

00:03:19:14 - 00:03:23:17

So art is made up of so many eclectic personalities and people, and,

00:03:23:17 - 00:03:29:04

and that's really what makes Ogden such a beautiful place
is just the beautiful people and the beautiful personalities and the

00:03:29:04 - 00:03:32:14

that that just sort of collectively
makes up the spirit of our city. Right?

00:03:32:14 - 00:03:32:21

Yeah.

00:03:32:21 - 00:03:40:13

And, I love the way you talk about because the whole it sounds like
the why that started this for you was about uplifting people's spirits.

00:03:40:23 - 00:03:45:01

Right? To lift people's spirits at the time
where people were down, including maybe yourself a little bit. Right.

00:03:45:01 - 00:03:49:19

We're all going through it, right? At that time.
And there's this human tendency to

00:03:50:19 - 00:03:53:22

to try and like, if you read the headlines and stuff.

00:03:53:22 - 00:03:57:14

And this is something that I combat in this job,
is there's always somebody that wants to put you down.

00:03:57:14 - 00:03:59:21

There's plenty of people tearing each other down.

00:03:59:21 - 00:04:02:20

There's plenty of critics out there
and the work that I'm doing or not doing,

00:04:02:20 - 00:04:08:17

and they're not looking at what we're doing to lift
and to build and to create and to impact, you know what I mean?

00:04:08:17 - 00:04:14:12

So I love that you have that mindset of
what could I do to help lift others, because in lifting others, I can

00:04:14:12 - 00:04:18:09

I think I could lift myself to, you know,
and it gets back to this mindset in the Ogden way.

00:04:18:09 - 00:04:24:23

Frankly, it's about service and service to others, and service
to God has served its most selfless, selfless service to others.

00:04:24:23 - 00:04:29:21

A selfish service for yourself.
You know what I mean? It's a cycle. It's a cycle. We rely on each other.

00:04:29:21 - 00:04:31:19

But that's how we become community.

00:04:31:19 - 00:04:36:12

And you've made this into such an important community thing
that it it's something people look forward to, right?

00:04:36:12 - 00:04:42:04

Yeah, I hope so.

I'm I'm really trying to get the community involved. I try to,

00:04:43:10 - 00:04:44:20

ask for

00:04:44:20 - 00:04:51:03

the people I had to set up and dig down
and give me an idea about this time of year.

00:04:51:03 - 00:04:55:15

I start getting lots of texts and social media and messages.

00:04:55:15 - 00:05:01:22

You know, people that there's other people around the country
that set up stuff in their yard, skeletons until,

00:05:02:14 - 00:05:06:08

I get lots of those pictures and and some of,
some of them I've already seen.

00:05:06:08 - 00:05:10:03

And every once in a while, there's one like that that's really good.

00:05:10:03 - 00:05:15:14

And so I'll integrate one of those and so on.
Sometimes I steal ideas, but no, I take that back.

00:05:15:14 - 00:05:18:12

Sometimes I borrow somebody. Borrow inspiration.

00:05:18:12 - 00:05:20:07

To like mine.

00:05:20:07 - 00:05:23:05

I got, I got some that have kind of went a little viral

00:05:23:05 - 00:05:28:00

and I don't know that other people do the same thing, but,
you know, it's like they were only borrowing from somebody else.

00:05:28:00 - 00:05:31:13

And once it's it's like everybody's lifting somebody else up, like

00:05:32:12 - 00:05:33:12

why not?

00:05:33:12 - 00:05:36:20

Yeah, right. So are you making any money doing this? No.

00:05:36:20 - 00:05:41:12

Okay. I just had to ask because, you know,
there's people wondering and. Being like, I've had money.

00:05:41:12 - 00:05:44:21

People say, like, you know,
where do you want to go using this in Indian society?

00:05:44:21 - 00:05:48:03

Let me just that that would just be fun. Exactly the fun.

00:05:48:03 - 00:05:54:03

And I think it it brings on a different vibe
when you're saying, well, sponsored by, you know,

00:05:54:13 - 00:05:59:09

and, and, and I don't know the business
that's gone through my mind many times,

00:05:59:09 - 00:06:05:09

but it's just like, you know, what if they
if they want to know what I do, they can go to my social media.

00:06:05:11 - 00:06:09:16

So for I knew the answer to the question,
I didn't ask it because I'm personally skeptical.

00:06:09:16 - 00:06:14:17

I asked it because that's the first thing people are not maybe not the first thing, but it's something that people are going to ask.

00:06:14:17 - 00:06:18:06

And it really gets to the point that it defeats the purpose for you.

00:06:18:06 - 00:06:24:06

It does because the purpose is the giving and the lifting, not the making of the money.

00:06:24:10 - 00:06:25:02

Right.

00:06:25:02 - 00:06:30:16

And it's not it's not just, if it's supposed to meet what is the purpose for beginning.

00:06:30:16 - 00:06:33:16

Right? Because now it's like, oh yeah, it's just trying to make some money off of this.

00:06:33:16 - 00:06:39:04

You know, you always hear the, the being of like, why is somebody doing something with all the money?

00:06:39:04 - 00:06:44:11

Well, sure, there is no money to volunteer. It's just like, I'm just doing it for the fun most of the time.

00:06:44:11 - 00:06:46:03

And yes.

00:06:46:03 - 00:06:47:00

Most of the time.

00:06:47:00 - 00:06:52:02

Yeah. Okay. But if you defeat the purpose for others, it's defeating the purpose for you to.

00:06:52:02 - 00:06:56:19

Because serving others and helping lifting others is your purpose, right? Right.

00:06:56:19 - 00:06:58:18

If everybody else. Everybody.

00:06:58:18 - 00:07:03:23

If I got that this is the most stupid thing I've ever seen. And that's all I got. I want you to.

00:07:03:23 - 00:07:08:07

But once in a while I do get that. And so the way you do this and, and,

00:07:09:21 - 00:07:11:22

I. I never hear that in this job.

00:07:11:22 - 00:07:12:06

Right.

00:07:12:06 - 00:07:14:04

But I,

00:07:14:04 - 00:07:15:23

I'm a different

00:07:15:23 - 00:07:20:06

if you know what. You know what you should do, you skeletons.

00:07:20:06 - 00:07:23:19

Sounds like sounds like I won't have time of knowing how much work you put into this.

00:07:23:19 - 00:07:27:09

I don't know if I have time to do that. Yeah. It's like. Yeah, it starts.

00:07:27:09 - 00:07:29:06
It's it's really an all your project.

00:07:29:06 - 00:07:35:06
And, I think last year I, I built a big which is about a six foot

00:07:35:07 - 00:07:41:15
elephant head that goes that I put on my knees
and I made the arms and that I.

00:07:41:15 - 00:07:46:05
Oh, but I didn't get the arms up,
but I got the hands up on the, on the edge of the roof.

00:07:46:05 - 00:07:50:13
So I'm hoping I can maybe figure out how to get them to work this year.

00:07:50:13 - 00:07:56:00
But like that. That was about a two month project just called The Head.
I finally ended up having to take it.

00:07:56:00 - 00:08:01:09
I made a chainsaw and I carved the head with the chainsaw.
So I want to be a chainsaw.

00:08:01:09 - 00:08:03:11
Styrofoam or some like a block styrofoam.

00:08:03:11 - 00:08:07:03
Styrofoam blocks. Yeah. So you.
So you're learning new things along the way.

00:08:07:03 - 00:08:08:14
Okay, so but let's unpack this.

00:08:08:14 - 00:08:10:11
It's a this is a year round endeavor

00:08:10:11 - 00:08:14:07
that you're putting thought into this year around you're preparing
and thinking about your themes and your ideas.

00:08:14:07 - 00:08:17:20
You, sounds like you have a schedule for every day

00:08:19:03 - 00:08:20:03
of the month.

00:08:20:03 - 00:08:28:23
I have a schedule every once in a while, especially like when it rains
or it's windy, you know, and then the schedule has to melt.

00:08:28:23 - 00:08:35:02
And so sometimes there are times when either
what I have to get over that day will work,

00:08:35:19 - 00:08:42:22
or I didn't get the forms built,
or I don't have the the costumes or something to go with it.

00:08:43:07 - 00:08:50:06
And so I get up and I get my life and what I'm doing this.

00:08:50:06 - 00:08:57:09
I was to actually talk to my wife the other day about, throwing stuff
together, and she goes, you know, sometimes those are the most fun ones.

00:08:57:09 - 00:09:00:21
You do that. So usually when I have something

00:09:01:21 - 00:09:06:01
planned and she what I have originally in my head

00:09:06:01 - 00:09:12:01
is not what it ends up at because I'm going to start setting things up,
like the creative juices flowing in to change it.

00:09:12:01 - 00:09:17:02

And I always try to put a little something in there
that has one issue in it.

00:09:17:02 - 00:09:23:01
So sometimes you have to look for it, like sometimes
it's just a little of one of the small skeletons somewhere or something.

00:09:23:01 - 00:09:29:01
Not all the time, but like but probably the 50% of the time,
there's something with a little humor.

00:09:29:10 - 00:09:32:20
Somewhere there so that you get to sit and stare at it for a while.

00:09:32:20 - 00:09:38:04
Okay, now that I know that, I'll stop longer. Okay.
You don't live very far from me, so I see your stuff

00:09:39:03 - 00:09:43:11
routinely, but, maybe I'll stop and spend more time.

00:09:43:11 - 00:09:45:17
So remember that.

00:09:45:17 - 00:09:50:23
But you've got a set of kind of guidelines or rules for yourself.

00:09:50:23 - 00:09:56:23
Things that you believe in, like not magnetizing it,
but you, you stick to them, right?

00:09:57:04 - 00:09:59:20
Are you? Well, at the very beginning.

00:09:59:20 - 00:10:01:17
So I have three rules.

00:10:01:17 - 00:10:05:18
One is nonpolitical, although I kind of broke that once.

00:10:05:18 - 00:10:13:10
And that was, I think, when you were, in the election
and I just like, yeah, I like totally disparaged it.

00:10:13:16 - 00:10:17:02
Okay. Well. Getting alignment

00:10:17:02 - 00:10:20:03
Like what I did was I got, I got,

00:10:20:03 - 00:10:26:11
I got signs that, vote signs and for each candidate
and I put it out there with a skeleton next to it.

00:10:26:19 - 00:10:31:00
Okay. But it was each candidate was it was. Even, like, completely.

00:10:31:00 - 00:10:31:08
Yeah.

00:10:31:08 - 00:10:37:04
Both sides of the fence, even some independents,
I had like, everybody out there that I could get the signs for.

00:10:37:04 - 00:10:40:13
And so I put that out. And just to remind people, there you go.

00:10:40:13 - 00:10:43:07
That was that was the closest I got to.

00:10:43:07 - 00:10:47:05
That's about that's about as apolitical as you can get in politics,
I think. Right, right.

00:10:47:05 - 00:10:50:06
I actually think of a lot of things that I could use and but.

00:10:50:06 - 00:10:53:01

Oh yeah. So I, I don't do that.

00:10:53:01 - 00:10:56:06

So because I want, I want it to be like I want it to be all inclusive.

00:10:56:06 - 00:11:02:08

So sure like they're, they're being,
you know, discriminated against or, or disparaging.

00:11:02:20 - 00:11:06:06

Sure. This is not a this is not a does against them. Right.

00:11:06:06 - 00:11:09:09

Which you might find surprising that I feel like way a lot in politics.

00:11:10:08 - 00:11:15:20

It's this is more about common
sense and solutions than it is about us against them.

00:11:15:20 - 00:11:18:17

So yeah. Anyway, so that's the first rule.

00:11:18:17 - 00:11:22:01

The second rule is I don't want any signs.

00:11:22:01 - 00:11:32:01

And when I say signs like I see some other places that have put
some stood up and they kind of explain what the, what this scene is.

00:11:32:12 - 00:11:39:12

And I just figure that if I have to explain what they did
and they didn't do it right, so I have to do something different.

00:11:40:16 - 00:11:44:07

So I just so that's just another one. I just don't like signs.

00:11:44:07 - 00:11:48:01

I think I mentioned that there is,

00:11:48:01 - 00:11:53:03

I had a couple sponsors, but they did not get paid
for by a couple people and sponsors and businesses.

00:11:53:03 - 00:11:57:12

And so I did let them put up a sign with like a QR code sponsored by.

00:11:57:12 - 00:12:00:12

So that's the closest I have to breaking that one.

00:12:00:12 - 00:12:03:12

And when you say sponsored, basically you let them help you. Yeah.

00:12:03:12 - 00:12:07:11

And that and then they, they built in their theme some of their.

00:12:07:11 - 00:12:07:22

Okay.

00:12:07:22 - 00:12:14:10

So like so one was in a restaurant
and they came out and got some thoughts about some, some branded stuff,

00:12:14:12 - 00:12:17:23

you know, and actually went on the skeletons
and all the branding for them.

00:12:17:23 - 00:12:23:10

But it was still restaurant scene
and it turned out pretty cute. So cute. There you go.

00:12:23:10 - 00:12:24:10

And my third rule

00:12:25:11 - 00:12:28:21

is if they give me.

00:12:28:21 - 00:12:31:13

So I might throw it. Might not be that important, right?

00:12:31:13 - 00:12:36:15
It must be that important. Oh see no signs, no political.

00:12:36:15 - 00:12:38:01
No money.

00:12:38:01 - 00:12:42:02
Well, no money,
but it also has to be, family friendly. Oh. Family friendly.

00:12:42:02 - 00:12:47:13
There you go. Family friendly.
There you go. The family friendly is like G. Maybe PG.

00:12:47:13 - 00:12:48:04
There have been.

00:12:48:04 - 00:12:50:21
And I try not to do like really gruesome.

00:12:50:21 - 00:12:55:01
Like once in a while
I'll do some Halloween type themed but nothing like really gruesome.

00:12:55:01 - 00:12:58:07
So like if it's R-rated stuff like that, I wanted to watch it.

00:12:58:07 - 00:13:02:05
So I've had it where they discount like,

00:13:02:05 - 00:13:06:04
one more or a and snowboarders anyways.

00:13:06:04 - 00:13:10:20
And then there's stuff shooting out of the, out of the snowboarder, and,

00:13:11:20 - 00:13:12:04
he's a

00:13:12:04 - 00:13:18:13
skeleton around, you know, but I don't have, like, any blood and guts
and, you know, shirts spraying out.

00:13:18:13 - 00:13:26:04
I it's just like, I want it to be so kid friendly
so people can go by and enjoy it and, All that. And

00:13:27:06 - 00:13:31:09
then technically, there is no blood and guts when it comes to skeletons,

00:13:31:09 - 00:13:32:15
so. Right.

00:13:32:15 - 00:13:37:00
I mean, if we're being a realist here.

00:13:37:00 - 00:13:38:14
Okay. So what are some of the themes?

00:13:38:14 - 00:13:44:14
What are some of the the themes or props
or that you've done in the past that have been the most popular.

00:13:44:18 - 00:13:48:23
Probably the most popular, is myself, the dead.

00:13:48:23 - 00:13:50:16
And I did that on a whim one day.

00:13:50:16 - 00:13:53:16
I think it was one of those days, and I couldn't figure out what to do.

00:13:53:16 - 00:13:58:01
And so I got out a chair a little, just broke this line. Or this,

00:13:59:02 - 00:14:02:15
put a sign on the chair that said, you sit in, selfie day.

00:14:02:15 - 00:14:03:16

You sit here.

00:14:03:16 - 00:14:11:08

And I thought, I just skeletons around in, like, their arms,
around the chair and around the person and had a bunch of, oh.

00:14:12:09 - 00:14:17:00

But so you're giving a little instruction for some for anybody
that maybe came by it to sit there and take a selfie with them.

00:14:17:00 - 00:14:18:09

Sit here and take a selfie.

00:14:18:09 - 00:14:19:23

Okay. So that got really popular.

00:14:19:23 - 00:14:24:06

And so then I've made a bigger.
So I've got even a bigger plan for this year ever since. Yeah.

00:14:24:06 - 00:14:29:05

And I might have to just end up advertising
that's going to give you some money.

00:14:29:05 - 00:14:31:00

So that's been really fun.

00:14:31:00 - 00:14:40:13

I had one, that went that went a little viral
on, on social media that I have, it's about a 5 or 6ft dog

00:14:41:06 - 00:14:47:19

and the my giant 12ft skeleton had a, had a rope
on, on it, like thinking for dog.

00:14:48:06 - 00:14:50:05

But in its other hand, it had,

00:14:51:10 - 00:14:55:12

in a cellophane bag so you can see through it.

00:14:55:12 - 00:14:59:02

The image of.

00:14:59:02 - 00:15:02:10

I made out of,

00:15:02:10 - 00:15:03:01

styrofoam.

00:15:03:01 - 00:15:08:00

Okay, that I styrofoam picked it up and it looked great.
Not just like the emoji thing.

00:15:08:00 - 00:15:13:08

And then I put a song behind it
that I think really helped it. There's something about dog poo.

00:15:13:08 - 00:15:17:14

And it was. And it was really.
It was really funny song that that one too.

00:15:17:14 - 00:15:22:05

So that one, a really popular one of the ones that I really like is
my wife has a 71 Ford

00:15:22:05 - 00:15:27:22

truck, and I posed the big one like it was lifting
the truck up, and I had the front of the truck.

00:15:27:22 - 00:15:30:23

Yeah. And other skeletons that were underneath the chimney.

00:15:30:23 - 00:15:35:16

And so that was my personal favorite.
I really enjoyed that one because I like that.

00:15:35:16 - 00:15:38:08
You have some jacks underneath it just in case. Okay.

00:15:38:08 - 00:15:42:23
Yeah I had Jack just just checking. Yeah. That's why the light up.

00:15:42:23 - 00:15:44:09
Yeah. Exactly.

00:15:44:09 - 00:15:48:14
So it sounds like these are very serious content that.

00:15:48:14 - 00:15:52:13
I mean, what did your wife think when you came home? You're so there. carving in the house. For how many hours?

00:15:52:13 - 00:15:59:04
Well, don't do it in the house,
because if you pass, if you pass, styrofoam, like it's everywhere.

00:15:59:07 - 00:16:04:08
All right. You're right. The last time I carved a poop in my house, it was very messy. You're right. Oh, I recall that now.

00:16:06:04 - 00:16:07:13
Okay, good.

00:16:07:13 - 00:16:09:01
Good to know.

00:16:09:01 - 00:16:10:02
So now I don't do my.

00:16:10:02 - 00:16:14:07
I do that in the garage or outside. And,

00:16:14:07 - 00:16:15:04
can't say.

00:16:15:04 - 00:16:16:12
Because I think she is she.

00:16:16:12 - 00:16:17:15
She's very, very simple.

00:16:17:15 - 00:16:20:20
How many years is has been going on 66.

00:16:20:20 - 00:16:25:19
This will be your six year
and your wife's in on this. She's supportive and all in supportive.

00:16:25:19 - 00:16:27:12
She's she's very busy.

00:16:27:12 - 00:16:29:02
She's,

00:16:29:02 - 00:16:34:19
and busy in her career, and, so she does
she does help she collaborate with me.

00:16:34:19 - 00:16:36:06
I want you to have early morning meetings.

00:16:36:06 - 00:16:44:06
You have to set up, to dig down, and,
she helps you with ideas and it's really nice to bounce ideas off

00:16:44:06 - 00:16:47:12
to somebody
because there's been one that I wanted to do for a couple of years.

00:16:47:12 - 00:16:51:17
And she kept telling me, but you the rules and it breaks.

00:16:51:17 - 00:16:54:03

It breaks one of the rules. And like this year, I took it off.

00:16:54:03 - 00:16:57:14

So I keep a running list of all new ideas.

00:16:57:14 - 00:17:01:02

And so every, every year

I'll go through it and add some to it and take it off.

00:17:01:02 - 00:17:03:13

And that one because it broke a rule and it would like.

00:17:05:14 - 00:17:11:06

So you've got these rules you've talked about instances where you've broken them, but is it breaking them.

00:17:11:06 - 00:17:15:09

They actually helped reinforce and create the rules in the first place.

00:17:15:09 - 00:17:16:00

Does that make sense?

00:17:16:00 - 00:17:18:15

Yeah it does.

00:17:18:15 - 00:17:22:09

Like I think I don't it doesn't it doesn't explain.

00:17:22:09 - 00:17:28:09

So the thing is, is the rule that that I made here originally was

I wanted to make sure that,

00:17:29:00 - 00:17:36:03

that I didn't have to explain the scene, but sometimes it was like, if I'm telling people to sit here and take a selfie

00:17:36:20 - 00:17:40:03

because a lot of people are very respectful, which is been really nice.

00:17:40:03 - 00:17:44:03

I've been really respectful.

I haven't had anything broken, I haven't had anything stolen.

00:17:44:03 - 00:17:48:16

I do have multiple cameras around.

So I'm sure you're thinking about like a good picture.

00:17:48:16 - 00:17:50:04

But,

00:17:51:22 - 00:17:54:13

so it's been really respectful.

00:17:54:13 - 00:17:59:15

Other than somebody doing an inappropriate scene change for me.

00:17:59:15 - 00:18:04:07

Right.

But I got that in a couple in a couple about an hour or two. Did you.

00:18:04:07 - 00:18:05:21

Did you catch him? Who did it?

00:18:05:21 - 00:18:10:16

I yeah, I could see him on the camera, but, like, it was, it was like like, this is kids.

00:18:10:16 - 00:18:11:18

This is kids.

00:18:11:18 - 00:18:15:12

Probably something I would have done when I was a kid, you know? I didn't say anything. All right?

00:18:15:12 - 00:18:17:00

I just need to do.

00:18:17:00 - 00:18:17:08

Okay.

00:18:17:08 - 00:18:22:08

But I think I think other than that, I've had.

00:18:22:08 - 00:18:22:22

I don't.

00:18:22:22 - 00:18:28:13

And I think what I've done helps reinforce the rules.

00:18:28:13 - 00:18:31:18

But it sort of bends them a little bit. But I'm trying.

00:18:31:18 - 00:18:35:11

I'm trying not to get outside of the original thing.

00:18:35:11 - 00:18:39:17

Okay, so since we're talking about your wife too,
I got to ask is one of the rules.

00:18:39:17 - 00:18:41:14

No vacations in October.

00:18:41:14 - 00:18:43:15

It is now vacations in October.

00:18:43:15 - 00:18:49:13

She literally, had she's done this,
I think twice where she was under the occasion in October.

00:18:49:13 - 00:18:53:21

She had one for next year. And then what I told her is I can't go.

00:18:53:21 - 00:18:56:00

And she goes, seriously?

00:18:56:00 - 00:19:00:14

I go, yeah, seriously,
I got it. She goes, you know, skeletons. I said, yes.

00:19:00:14 - 00:19:05:15

And so we've talked about
maybe getting some people to help in lieu of me being there.

00:19:07:08 - 00:19:11:14

I think if I had the right help and enough
help, maybe we could make that work.

00:19:11:14 - 00:19:15:06

But I'm sure, like, I'm. I'm tied to the house in October.

00:19:15:06 - 00:19:20:20

Tied to the. House and tied to the. House
even during the day to get to monitor things and.

00:19:20:20 - 00:19:24:14

Check ins, check ins. You got your
you got your camera system. You probably check in on it.

00:19:24:14 - 00:19:28:16

Is it it's it's at 100 at the police station.

00:19:28:16 - 00:19:30:13

Ogden police.

00:19:30:13 - 00:19:31:15

Oh, really?

00:19:31:15 - 00:19:34:00

For sure. I didn't know this.

00:19:34:00 - 00:19:37:13

Okay, that's good to know. I'm not I'm not criticizing it.

00:19:37:13 - 00:19:46:05

I it's funny because I was actually thinking about when, Well,
first of all, when you had the kids rearranging them, but, I was like,

00:19:46:16 - 00:19:49:05
if you've ever done, like, a police or fire theme or anything like that,

00:19:51:04 - 00:19:56:09
No. Have I done a police or fire thing?

00:19:56:09 - 00:20:03:11
No, because I, I need, like, I've done a pilot and done military,
but I haven't done a police or fire team.

00:20:03:12 - 00:20:07:20
The thing which I'd love to because my,

00:20:07:20 - 00:20:13:00
my dad was, a sheriff in Los Angeles

00:20:13:00 - 00:20:16:05
and back in the world,

00:20:16:05 - 00:20:19:23
and, I have a daughter that's a fireman.

00:20:19:23 - 00:20:24:03
And, so I and I went. There you go.

00:20:24:03 - 00:20:27:00
Where she a firefighter at

00:20:27:00 - 00:20:31:04
the. Yes.

00:20:31:04 - 00:20:32:01
Okay. It's funny.

00:20:32:01 - 00:20:33:03
It's.

00:20:33:03 - 00:20:38:09
Well, sorry for the audience,
but we had met before, and we were both, like, who introduced us?

00:20:38:09 - 00:20:41:23
And it was our mutual friend Nate Caulford that introduces.

00:20:41:23 - 00:20:44:23
And anyway, it was a fun. It's a fun.

00:20:44:23 - 00:20:49:11
We're, like, supposed to be the big city of northern Utah,
but is it really a small town when you break it down?

00:20:49:11 - 00:20:51:14
Yeah. And it's it doesn't take long.

00:20:51:14 - 00:20:55:23
You know, the the rule
when you say you're only seven, seven people away from

00:20:55:23 - 00:21:01:13
just about anybody in the world,
if you're ever going on to your party, you're having a 1 or 2.

00:21:01:13 - 00:21:06:08
Right? You're like 2 or 3 degrees separation
from Skeleton Man at all times, right?

00:21:06:08 - 00:21:07:06
Yeah.

00:21:07:06 - 00:21:13:06
So when you say you went viral or how viral
are we talking here like a million views.

00:21:13:20 - 00:21:14:07
Really?

00:21:15:06 - 00:21:17:01

That's incredible.

00:21:17:01 - 00:21:18:03

That's viral. Yeah.

00:21:18:03 - 00:21:22:01

And that's why I say I kind of went a little.
You're being modest, of course. Right.

00:21:22:01 - 00:21:23:19

But most of them don't go that viral.

00:21:23:19 - 00:21:32:04

When I do get thousands of views and it's, you know,
it's like it's it's views.

00:21:32:05 - 00:21:33:08

It's, you know.

00:21:33:08 - 00:21:34:01

Yeah.

00:21:34:01 - 00:21:35:10

Don't want to ties my channels.

00:21:35:10 - 00:21:40:11

I don't want to take anything. So just like,
you know, just want to just want to say.

00:21:40:11 - 00:21:42:03

People enjoyed this. Yeah.

00:21:42:03 - 00:21:43:21

And I try to comment on most everything.

00:21:43:21 - 00:21:49:21

But on that one, like I had tens of thousands of comments
and I actually had to hire all my daughters,

00:21:50:17 - 00:21:53:08

because I was getting the only on on that one.

00:21:53:08 - 00:21:58:21

But on some other things in the, in the business
that was getting some viral videos and just I couldn't, I couldn't I.

00:21:58:21 - 00:21:59:20

Couldn't keep up.

00:21:59:20 - 00:22:04:21

I had to keep
I had to have somebody help me. So I paid her to help me out. Gotcha.

00:22:04:21 - 00:22:06:18

So and you talked about your other business.

00:22:06:18 - 00:22:11:13

You're in real estate, in mortgage, mortgage broker. Or mortgage.

00:22:13:05 - 00:22:15:23

And you also have an office across the street, right?

00:22:15:23 - 00:22:19:20

Right across the country street.

We look at this wonder that you're you're gonna see my.

00:22:19:20 - 00:22:20:07

There you go.

00:22:20:07 - 00:22:27:01

So on the east side of Washington Boulevard, you you purchase
one of the buildings you in did a lot of work to revitalize it.

00:22:27:06 - 00:22:29:12

Right? A lot of work really amazing.

00:22:29:12 - 00:22:31:17

It does. It's beautiful. About it.

00:22:31:17 - 00:22:36:05
And I bought that during Covid as well. And so during,

00:22:36:05 - 00:22:41:08
during the, during the skeleton staff, I.

00:22:41:08 - 00:22:46:16
Was you are obviously a, a you're big personality.

00:22:46:16 - 00:22:50:02
You're an eclectic guy in your own way, but you're an organ guy.

00:22:50:02 - 00:22:55:01
You you it's clear to me how much you love the city.
I am graduating every day.

00:22:55:01 - 00:22:56:21
Right. So there you go.

00:22:58:13 - 00:23:01:09
I do do, but so.

00:23:01:09 - 00:23:02:23
So to my wife.

00:23:02:23 - 00:23:05:05
So with me and my wife,

00:23:05:05 - 00:23:05:21
that's where we met.

00:23:05:21 - 00:23:10:10
But I love the how you.

00:23:10:10 - 00:23:12:19
You just love the city and the things that you do.

00:23:12:19 - 00:23:16:18
You're inspired and driven by your love and passion for our community.
That's.

00:23:16:18 - 00:23:18:19
I mean, that's why you bought that building.

00:23:18:19 - 00:23:24:12
You saw an opportunity for a building
that's old, has old bones, but a beautiful story and history.

00:23:24:12 - 00:23:29:19
And you wanted to save it, and you want to work in that space, right?
And you wanted you wanted to be in a downtown, right?

00:23:29:19 - 00:23:31:13
And so you did.

00:23:31:13 - 00:23:35:12
Exactly what I. Did. That's exactly.
You knew what you wanted. You went and you did it.

00:23:35:12 - 00:23:39:19
And then the same thing applies to the skeletons.
You knew what you wanted to do.

00:23:39:19 - 00:23:45:11
You want to lift your spirit and lift other spirits. And you went
and did it. Yeah. Yeah. Didn't intend for it to to get, like, the

00:23:46:15 - 00:23:48:11
I was thinking, you know.

00:23:48:11 - 00:23:49:03
Sure.

00:23:49:03 - 00:23:55:18
Well you know, we'll we'll call it God
but you know, as, as it grew, the people started

00:23:55:18 - 00:24:01:23
asking me to do this next year, you know, and they just like our kids,
we can't get here.

00:24:01:23 - 00:24:03:20
I literally had this the other day.

00:24:03:20 - 00:24:08:15
We can't get our kids to go up again after school, except in October.

00:24:08:15 - 00:24:11:15
They can't wait to get up and walk that church.

00:24:11:15 - 00:24:12:12
So it's like.

00:24:12:12 - 00:24:14:23
There you go, I guess. Yeah.

00:24:14:23 - 00:24:17:11
So somewhere along the lines of helping somebody.

00:24:17:11 - 00:24:22:03
Yeah. So they're probably on their way to Polk Elementary. Yeah. Right.

00:24:22:03 - 00:24:26:07
Maybe some coming to Wasatch,
but I think it mostly flow in toward Polk.

00:24:26:07 - 00:24:29:20
I think they're flowing more toward Polk. Kind of funny.
There's even high school, so Ogden.

00:24:29:20 - 00:24:31:05
Yeah, sure.

00:24:31:05 - 00:24:36:04
I have school busses that reroute a little bit,
and they don't see him normally come past my house.

00:24:36:04 - 00:24:39:12
I have at least two school busses that come past.

00:24:40:14 - 00:24:41:19
Slow down.

00:24:41:19 - 00:24:46:12
Gotcha. So the kids can see in. And that's that's cool. That's great.

00:24:46:12 - 00:24:50:05
All right, so what's the what's the plan for this year,

00:24:50:05 - 00:24:52:04
or is that a secret?

00:24:52:04 - 00:24:54:22
You got to you got to tune in to find out. Drive by to find out. Right.

00:24:54:22 - 00:24:58:13
Pretty much like yeah, we're still we're still fine tuning.

00:24:58:13 - 00:25:01:19
I'm still building.

00:25:01:19 - 00:25:03:04
Okay.

00:25:03:04 - 00:25:05:18
It's October 1st. The first day. October 1st, the first day.

00:25:05:18 - 00:25:09:16
Sometimes I'll put one out and put one out. You know,
they just kind of go.

00:25:09:16 - 00:25:14:10
Wheel. Theater or something, just so that, Oh, it's on the way.

00:25:14:10 - 00:25:16:15

Okay, well, teaser.

00:25:16:15 - 00:25:19:03

All right. So,

00:25:19:03 - 00:25:24:16

what's the what's the long term plan
or is there one you just you just you just roll with it.

00:25:24:16 - 00:25:34:02

When I, I think when the, when the momentum stops
and when it just becomes old, or I become old and.

00:25:36:21 - 00:25:38:23

Then,

00:25:38:23 - 00:25:43:05

I don't know, often they turn the range of activity else.

00:25:43:05 - 00:25:47:00

Okay. So let's make sure that doesn't happen.

00:25:47:00 - 00:25:52:03

I mean, we, we've got a responsibility in the city
to make sure that doesn't happen to you. Right?

00:25:52:03 - 00:25:54:12

But, you know, I get older, I'm all.

00:25:54:12 - 00:25:59:11

Well,

I think it has a an effect of making sure that your spirit doesn't age.

00:25:59:11 - 00:26:01:18

Right. Remember getting back talisman spirits?

00:26:01:18 - 00:26:04:17

It's more than just our physical health, right?

00:26:04:17 - 00:26:06:12

I 100% agree.

00:26:06:12 - 00:26:08:20

Yeah. So let's.

00:26:08:20 - 00:26:12:23

How long have you been in Ogden?

00:26:12:23 - 00:26:18:06

Not as long as you would think, but I think I've been in Ogden for.

00:26:18:06 - 00:26:22:05

10 or 12 years. Yeah.

What brought you to Ogden?

00:26:22:05 - 00:26:24:23

We lived in North Ogden.

00:26:24:23 - 00:26:27:09

I lived there for bit from 15 years.

00:26:27:09 - 00:26:32:04

Moved out to be away for five years, and it was just time.

00:26:32:04 - 00:26:34:04

We had a big house and I had to downsize

00:26:35:03 - 00:26:41:03

quite often, and she kind of knew about the areas you want to do,
and you started driving around the neighborhood.

00:26:41:04 - 00:26:46:01

Neighborhood, and people are talking and walking their dogs.

00:26:46:01 - 00:26:50:23

And were like, it was just very, very friendly. And she goes,
this is where I want to be.

00:26:50:23 - 00:26:56:08

And, and she found the house we're in. She, she walked up,
she saw the house.

00:26:56:08 - 00:26:59:05

We actually looked at a house down the street from us.

00:26:59:05 - 00:27:03:11

And we went back for a second time in this house
now house for sale sign.

00:27:03:11 - 00:27:08:08

And she told the realtor, I want to see that house. And he goes, oh,
let me see if I can get it right.

00:27:08:08 - 00:27:09:20

And she says, I need it.

00:27:09:20 - 00:27:11:11

And so

00:27:11:11 - 00:27:18:01

we went in and saw that house and she walked the first stage walked up,
and there's a, there's like a covered porch.

00:27:18:17 - 00:27:21:19

And she walked up and she saw the hooks for the porch swing.

00:27:21:19 - 00:27:26:21

And she looked out and she saw the unobstructed view. And she was,
this is it was. You haven't even seen the house.

00:27:26:21 - 00:27:29:13

And the garage had a little tiny one car garage.

00:27:29:13 - 00:27:34:03

And I'm a car guy.
I like to rebuild cars. And I but that's not going to work for me.

00:27:34:03 - 00:27:39:05

She was this is a house
and this is you want to see the inside with her. I see the guy socks.

00:27:40:05 - 00:27:41:01

Great.

00:27:41:01 - 00:27:45:15

And so I you know a couple years later
we become bigger. So you're you're on film.

00:27:45:15 - 00:27:47:04

We're in 20.

00:27:47:04 - 00:27:52:04

Out of almost a quarter of 20th, just north of the corner of 26th and Filmore

00:27:52:04 - 00:27:56:13

Okay, now, if you won't go up to 26th and Filmore in October,
you're going to see the skeletons.

00:27:56:13 - 00:28:00:22

There you go. Well, I, we used to live on Maryland Drive,
which is, which is 2750.

00:28:00:22 - 00:28:02:22

So we were pretty close.

00:28:02:22 - 00:28:06:04

You're into cars. Okay. Car. You rebuilding?

00:28:06:04 - 00:28:09:04

Once when I did was,

00:28:09:04 - 00:28:10:17

73 Corvette

00:28:10:17 - 00:28:15:14

So. 327

00:28:15:14 - 00:28:20:00

Or is it a three-

Yeah. No. Actually,

I think it was a 350

00:28:20:00 - 00:28:23:23

Okay to rebuild the engine. Had to do a little bit on them.

00:28:26:10 - 00:28:29:15

Bought out at all or bought out when you rebuilt it.

00:28:29:15 - 00:28:31:06

No more.

00:28:31:06 - 00:28:36:12

Now I just just left it stock. Well, I, well I put a little bit of a cam and it's a wonderful word.

00:28:36:12 - 00:28:41:07

Run it and I. Oh yeah I get the low right. Yeah.

00:28:41:07 - 00:28:43:13

You know, brought car by, carburetor.

00:28:43:13 - 00:28:47:14

I just left the stock. Stock. Okay.

00:28:47:14 - 00:28:49:13

The hydrogen.

00:28:49:13 - 00:28:52:22

So I've done, I've done a 66 Chevelle.

00:28:52:22 - 00:28:59:23

I've done a, a 66, El Camino.

00:28:59:23 - 00:29:01:12

I did a Porche.

00:29:01:12 - 00:29:04:15

I done,

00:29:04:15 - 00:29:07:09

the 55 Chevy.

00:29:07:09 - 00:29:08:22

I've done quite a few Bel Aires

00:29:08:22 - 00:29:13:19

So fun. So you besides the Porsche or Chevy guy, though?

00:29:13:19 - 00:29:17:09

I mean, El Camino. What did you say?

00:29:17:09 - 00:29:22:11

The Chevelle, that and a Bel Aire and,

00:29:22:11 - 00:29:26:07

these all shafts.

So you didn't know you're Chevy, right? No, I know. Oh, okay.

00:29:27:09 - 00:29:29:05

I just didn't think you drive that good job

00:29:29:05 - 00:29:35:17

at those lines, but, yeah, yeah, I, Porsche was fun, but I didn't manage on another one of those ones.

00:29:35:17 - 00:29:37:16

I didn't love it.

00:29:37:16 - 00:29:38:20

You know, this one.

00:29:38:20 - 00:29:42:22

And I don't know if, you know, I got a 19 year.

00:29:42:22 - 00:29:44:05

Yeah, 11.

00:29:44:05 - 00:29:48:23

On the tail end on the toilet with the big, fin scoop.

What do we call it?

00:29:48:23 - 00:29:49:15

Scoop on the back.

00:29:49:15 - 00:29:50:22

Yeah, yeah.

00:29:50:22 - 00:29:56:02

As an individual, it's pretty, really fun. Really fast car. I bet.

00:29:56:02 - 00:29:58:22

My first car was a 64 Ford Falcon.

00:29:58:22 - 00:30:02:01

My dad had a 63 Ford Falcon.

00:30:02:01 - 00:30:05:12

He had this, it wouldn't be a super sport.

00:30:05:12 - 00:30:09:17

That was a Chevy thing,
but it was the sport model with the floor shifter.

00:30:09:17 - 00:30:14:18

That was our family car when we were little.
And then mom made him sell that and get a station wagon.

00:30:14:18 - 00:30:19:18

He's held it against her ever since, but.
So I got my mom, my grandma's 64 Ford Falcon with a three on the tree.

00:30:19:18 - 00:30:22:11

So it was the straight six though single barrel car.

00:30:22:11 - 00:30:26:00

I had to fix the carburetor constantly screaming.

00:30:26:00 - 00:30:29:00

My mother's dream. Topped out at 45 comfortably.

00:30:29:00 - 00:30:31:13

You could get it to 53, but it rattled a lot to me.

00:30:31:13 - 00:30:37:22

Three days of driving here from Phoenix
when I moved up here for college for the flawed, flawed,

00:30:37:22 - 00:30:43:22

took me three days to drive it here, going 45
the whole way, and I slept on the hood all three days, so.

00:30:44:01 - 00:30:46:13

Yeah, that's. Those are the days, right? Not fun.

00:30:46:13 - 00:30:47:12

It was a blast.

00:30:47:12 - 00:30:48:01

Those are.

00:30:48:01 - 00:30:53:17

Yeah. I, Ritz crackers, canned cheese, and sardines. The whole.
The whole trip.

00:30:53:17 - 00:30:58:18

Yeah. That was the the day, right? That was a. Life back in the day
when you wouldn't worry about it. Right. Anyway. But it's not about me.

00:30:58:18 - 00:31:00:01

It's about, you know what?

00:31:00:01 - 00:31:05:00

I love my was always like that.
I could tell that all that. Oh, I know what we're talking about. Just.

00:31:05:00 - 00:31:10:00
I love to talk about the people of the city. It's
just fun to understand what makes people tick.

00:31:10:00 - 00:31:10:21
You know what I mean?

00:31:10:21 - 00:31:17:16
And so you've got a lot of passion and an interest, whether it's cars,
whether it's the mortgage industry or old buildings downtown.

00:31:17:20 - 00:31:21:15
What is it about Ogden that just does it for you?

00:31:21:15 - 00:31:24:20
Like what grabs you about the city? You know, I think

00:31:26:00 - 00:31:26:09
it's very

00:31:26:09 - 00:31:32:09
diverse, and and I have very diverse friends,
and I try to keep my, my views

00:31:32:16 - 00:31:39:08
kind of a little closer to my, to myself
just because I have very, a very diverse friendship.

00:31:39:12 - 00:31:40:02
Sure.

00:31:40:02 - 00:31:50:00
And I just don't want to, you know, and do these, environment like,
you can just they know you mean one way or the other, they can like you.

00:31:50:01 - 00:31:53:22
And so I just like I just love my friends
and I just don't want invasion.

00:31:53:22 - 00:31:56:10
I just kind of keep everything else.

00:31:56:10 - 00:31:58:00
And unfortunately, that's that's it.

00:31:58:00 - 00:32:01:20
We're just, I mean, I love the people.

00:32:01:20 - 00:32:06:19
I love the, I love the downtown down here. Yeah.

00:32:06:19 - 00:32:07:17
The people.

00:32:07:17 - 00:32:09:21
BattleBots to all the people.

00:32:09:21 - 00:32:15:06
Oh, I think I just mentioned
that is like walking around and people waving at you right.

00:32:15:06 - 00:32:21:14
And, and by the way, my wife is one of the jokes that my wife
and I said, and just to day is like,

00:32:22:00 - 00:32:28:08
we have more friends than we ever thought we had in our home,
because in October, like people waving at us and oh yeah,

00:32:28:08 - 00:32:35:02
guess and and dog and their horns and and a little bit into November
and then after that it's just like back to, you know, just just

00:32:36:01 - 00:32:38:03
just regular but just even the regular.

00:32:38:03 - 00:32:41:02
It's just like very, very funny.

00:32:41:02 - 00:32:45:09
To bring it one of the neatest things about Ogden,

00:32:45:09 - 00:32:51:09
when you're the mayor, you get to, host
a lot of people that are coming here for certain things. And,

00:32:52:12 - 00:32:54:14
that I had a guy that was in this chair.

00:32:54:14 - 00:33:00:00
He was a kind of a world renowned, he's an economist,
but he's also a sustainability guy.

00:33:00:00 - 00:33:03:06
And, he mentioned it. People mention it all the time.

00:33:03:06 - 00:33:06:12
We just landed the, Raindance Film Festival,

00:33:06:12 - 00:33:12:09
and they mentioned that when they came looking for a site
that they wanted to do in the United States,

00:33:12:09 - 00:33:17:20
they first narrowed it down by state, and then they narrowed around
my cities, and they toured a number of states in a number of cities.

00:33:17:20 - 00:33:23:04
And when they came to Ogden, they felt different.
They felt welcomed. They felt the kindness from people.

00:33:23:04 - 00:33:29:14
They felt like a genuine enthusiasm,
a sense of place, a sense of purpose, some sense of togetherness.

00:33:30:03 - 00:33:36:04
And I think that's kind of what you're describing
is there's this kindness in our people that we're very warm

00:33:36:04 - 00:33:37:22
and welcoming and embracing people.

00:33:37:22 - 00:33:38:17
Yeah, right.

00:33:38:17 - 00:33:44:20
I've heard other people like, like on other social media platforms,
and they kind of kind of, I think aren't really gets a bad rap

00:33:44:20 - 00:33:47:00
from stuff from a long time ago. Correct.

00:33:48:01 - 00:33:53:17
You know, and I think they just it just carries over
and people just say, oh, you know, one of the more been has on this,

00:33:53:17 - 00:33:56:00
it's happened there and it's and we just don't have that.

00:33:56:00 - 00:34:01:07
I have
a, I have a son that lives just one block off of Washington Boulevard.

00:34:01:07 - 00:34:03:19
You just have the his general issues. Right.

00:34:03:19 - 00:34:06:16
And I know they say, oh, you were down in the downtown area. Oh, man.

00:34:06:16 - 00:34:09:18
What kind of problem you have? You.

00:34:09:18 - 00:34:14:02

Got, you know, so it's just it gets a bad rap.

00:34:14:02 - 00:34:15:07

I. Just.

00:34:15:07 - 00:34:17:06

I just, I really love what I do.

00:34:17:06 - 00:34:20:07

And just this morning, me and my police chief, Jake Soupy,

00:34:20:07 - 00:34:23:23

sat down with the board, the Standard Examiner,
and we were talking about, police work.

00:34:23:23 - 00:34:27:22

They it was an over an hour interview,
and they're just hitting those with all kinds of questions.

00:34:27:22 - 00:34:32:05

And we love that setting
because we just have so much that we want to share. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

00:34:32:05 - 00:34:36:22

We don't have anything to hide. So there's no questions
that are off, out of bounds, you know what I mean?

00:34:36:22 - 00:34:44:20

And, and, and the topic came up about Ogden???s reputation, and there's
a totally different reputation for the people that live in the state

00:34:44:20 - 00:34:51:02

of Utah versus the people that come from outside of the state
to visit or to, to see us and people that come from outside of Utah.

00:34:51:02 - 00:34:54:04

I have no idea about this, this quote, reputation.

00:34:54:04 - 00:35:00:06

And it kind of drives us nuts that people think that we're this,
quote, crime capital of of Utah or something.

00:35:00:17 - 00:35:04:00

And we can vouch for the reductions that we've shown.

00:35:04:00 - 00:35:07:18

So since 2016, we're 55% reduction in type one crime.

00:35:07:18 - 00:35:12:18

And in just in this year
alone, we're a 12.2% reduction so far, year to date.

00:35:12:18 - 00:35:17:14

If that trend continues, we might even be pushing 20%.
You know it's funny you bring that up. It's good.

00:35:17:14 - 00:35:26:04

I can just the other day was one of these big magazines in there,
and they were showing the, green areas in each, in each,

00:35:27:11 - 00:35:28:20

state.

00:35:28:20 - 00:35:31:17

And you don't wonder was never met with anyone that.

00:35:31:17 - 00:35:38:00

So did you know that our type one crime rate, which is a good way
to describe violent crime, is the same as Sandy city.

00:35:39:03 - 00:35:45:02

So that's not something that people would have ever thought was the case
from where we came from.

00:35:45:02 - 00:35:48:06

You know, our our reputation is based on the past, right.

00:35:48:06 - 00:35:54:14

It this I know, but as you know, and as you're living and experiencing, it's not that's not what we are anymore.

00:35:54:19 - 00:35:57:22

And we want to be known for what we are and who we are.

00:35:57:22 - 00:36:01:19

But at the same time, it's like, fine, if you don't believe in us, it's fine. We believe ourselves.

00:36:01:19 - 00:36:06:05

You can bounce and we'll. We'll. Make this work ourselves.

You just stay out. We got this.

00:36:07:18 - 00:36:11:17

But you know, places to live generally.

00:36:11:17 - 00:36:14:00

Yeah. If you want to come and visit, we'd love to have you.

00:36:14:00 - 00:36:16:03

Well, we'll embrace you. We're very warm and welcoming people.

00:36:16:03 - 00:36:20:10

But if you don't want to stay home, enjoy our greatness by ourselves.

00:36:20:10 - 00:36:25:01

Right. Like it's just an amazing town and it's people like you that make an amazing.

00:36:25:01 - 00:36:29:00

I really appreciate your spirit, your drive to

00:36:29:00 - 00:36:31:08

just your prioritization of others,

00:36:31:08 - 00:36:37:08

your sense of service and to giving and to help lift and make other people happy, to bring joy to the world.

00:36:37:22 - 00:36:40:14

Right?

00:36:40:14 - 00:36:41:21

Joy to. Yeah.

00:36:41:21 - 00:36:46:18

Should be a ride at Disneyland or something, right?

00:36:46:18 - 00:36:49:04

Anyway,

00:36:49:04 - 00:36:51:10

that's the difference between Ogden and everywhere else.

00:36:51:10 - 00:36:56:09

I think that that just makes us special. It makes us more community.

00:36:56:09 - 00:37:00:23

And it's fun to have that sense of community and that fabric in a city setting.

00:37:00:23 - 00:37:04:06

You know, we're not Chicago, really.

We're not that size. Thankfully, we're not those.

00:37:05:13 - 00:37:05:23

No offense.

00:37:05:23 - 00:37:08:20

Your dad was a sheriff, the LA County Sheriff's Department.

00:37:08:20 - 00:37:12:00

But I mean, without that. Right.

00:37:12:00 - 00:37:13:22

But we have

00:37:13:22 - 00:37:19:22
we just have something really special here, and and I appreciate that
you recognize it and that you're adding to it, right?

00:37:20:07 - 00:37:22:21
Whether it's in your work and your

00:37:22:21 - 00:37:26:12
reclaiming a building and restoring it and helping it

00:37:26:12 - 00:37:30:22
survive to what you're doing to lift people's spirits. Thanks.

00:37:30:22 - 00:37:35:18
Now thank you. On behalf of Ogden City
and the 90,000 people who live here, thank you.

00:37:35:18 - 00:37:38:10
That's one of the things I get to do.

00:37:38:10 - 00:37:39:10
Yeah.

00:37:39:10 - 00:37:39:19
Yeah.

00:37:39:19 - 00:37:41:06
Thanks for thanks for being great.

00:37:41:06 - 00:37:46:13
And, we like to wrap up our shows with a call to action, I call it.

00:37:46:13 - 00:37:53:08
And I think it's really appropriate for our call to action that,
on October 1st, all the way through October 31st,

00:37:54:08 - 00:37:59:02
they just swing by about 26th Street and Filmore
and check out the theme each day

00:37:59:02 - 00:38:04:04
and make sure that you stop for a little while and look at the detail,
because there might be a little bit of a hidden gem in there.

00:38:04:04 - 00:38:09:09
They're not always there. Some days there will be,
some days are will be right, but they're often.

00:38:09:09 - 00:38:16:14
Yeah, but instead of just driving by and having a chuckle and leaving,
let's not forget to remember the work that went into it.

00:38:16:21 - 00:38:23:05
Let's honor the gift that's being given to us by driving,
by enjoying it, and then recognizing the effort that went into it.

00:38:23:05 - 00:38:24:20
Pay attention to the detail,

00:38:24:20 - 00:38:30:12
see if you can figure out the story and the joke and the humor
that might be built into it, and recognize that that was the work

00:38:30:12 - 00:38:34:01
that's done by somebody. And remember that we don't just

00:38:35:07 - 00:38:37:04
communities aren't just created out of nowhere.

00:38:37:04 - 00:38:41:02
They're built. And we're in the business of building community.

00:38:41:02 - 00:38:43:18
I'm not in the business of Washington DC. Partizan, this,
that of the other.

00:38:43:18 - 00:38:46:09

We're in the business of building a community and building a city.

00:38:46:09 - 00:38:50:21

And that is made to happen. It's made to happen by people.
It's made to happen by you.

00:38:50:21 - 00:38:52:10

It's made out by you.

00:38:52:10 - 00:38:54:20

So thank you, skeleton man. Ron Pippin.

00:38:56:01 - 00:38:59:08

Thank you for everything you do to show up for Ogden every day.
Thank you.

00:38:59:08 - 00:39:01:21

Okay, that is our episode of the Ogden Way Podcast

00:39:01:21 - 00:39:09:02

I'm Ogden City Mayor Ben Nadolski sitting with skeleton man, Ron Pippin,
our friend, our neighbor, our member of our community.

00:39:09:23 - 00:39:12:01

Until next time, do great things.