

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

#### Chair's Message for September

#### by Laura Cushman

September. A month that typically signifies the end of summer and the return to work and school. Well, as we have seen, so far, nothing about 2020 is typical. Public schools in the Avenues have delayed the start of school until September 8th, and even then, instruction



will be 100% online through the end of the first quarter on October 30th. How do I feel about this? I honestly don't know. On the spectrum of Send Them Back and Keep Them Home, I find myself in the middle, edging towards either end depending on the day and news cycle. Most days, I feel like there is a way to send kids back in a safe manner if the following three items occur: First, school and government leadership get on the same page to implement and maintain necessary protocols that are scientifically proven to reduce virus transmission. Second, we can trust people to do the right thing. Third, our schools are funded adequately to allow for both basic instruction AND preventative risk measures.

On July 21st, I watched in disbelief, I'm sure with many of you, as leaders of our local schools could not agree on most issues regarding the start of school, which in and of itself is not surprising or bad. Most alarming was that it looked like many of them had not done their homework to understand the biggest obstacles facing teachers and administrators this coming school year, or offer research-based solutions to guide the discussion. Some even appeared shocked at the notion that school was not happening per usual in August, causing me to shriek at my computer screen incredulously, "Where have you been for the last FOUR months?!" Meanwhile, our Governor is sending the hugely mixed signal that kids and adults will be required to wear masks in schools, but at the same time, has failed to issue a statewide mandate on masks. Like parenting, when there are disputes with or amongst children, an outward united front is most productive in serving to mitigate the issues and deliver a message of agreement to the kids involved. Like it or not, it is more difficult to argue with individuals who present the same stance and have clearly made the effort to learn what the options are, discuss the pros/cons, and finally implement a single, clear directive. If parents are the children in this analogy, they are now throwing tantrums and demonstrating regressive behavior because their Adults, i.e. politicians and local leaders, can't get on the same page. There is so much information out there now, things we didn't know at the onset of COVID-19, in addition to misinformation. Sadly, what should be cut and dried like seatbelts save lives, has been politicized, and therefore, what plays out in schools and classrooms will likely reflect

#### www.slc-avenues.org

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Representing the Avenues and Federal Heights neighborhoods of Salt Lake City, Utah

# GACC September 2nd Virtual Meeting

7:00 to 7:05	Welcome, Announcements.
7:06 to 7:45	Reports: Library, Police, Fire, City,
	School Board, Legislative, LDS
	Hospital, Committees.
7:46 to 7:50	Upcoming GACC Elections, Jill Van
	Langeveld, GACC past-Chair.
7:51 to 8:45	Mayor Mendenhall, Updates from the
	City.
8:46 to 8:50	Open Announcements.
8:51 to 9:00	Adjourn and Virtual Chat with
	Neighbors.
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Details will be posted at the GACC website https://slc-avenues.org/. The password and meeting ID will be posted at https://slc-avenues.org/ at 5 p.m. the day of the 7 p.m. meeting.

# We have increased our Zoom subscription so that more than 100 can attend.

the political views of those directly administering those schools, not scientific data.

Asking people to do the right thing, for the safety of themselves and for others, should not be difficult, but again, it is 2020, and nothing can be that simple. People are either outright refusing to wear masks, or claiming that it is too hard to expect children to do so. I don't have an answer for the former, I am at a loss for trying to figure out how to make people listen to science or care about others, but for the latter, to the parents and teachers who think it will be impossible to make children wear masks, I disagree. Both my husband and I work full-time, and our 3 children have been attending full-time childcare since June. They are required to wear masks for the majority of the 8 hour day, unless outside and 6 feet apart. Do they like it? No. Do they do it? Yes. In fact, and this probably won't surprise most people, masks are the new "it" accessory and kids are loving a new way to express themselves. Just like all the other rules children adapt to and teachers need to reinforce, children will get it...maybe even faster than their parents.

The fatal flaw in this perspective, and perhaps the item that makes all other issues moot, is the lack of funding





**Community Meetings** 

If you have questions please contact GACC Chair Laura Cushman at gaccchair@slc-avenues.org. All are welcome!

# GACC Council Virtual Meeting

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https://slc-avenues.org/. The password and meeting ID will be posted at https://slc-avenues.org/ at 5 p.m. the day of the meeting.

We have increased our Zoom subscription so that more than 100 can attend.

# **GACC Board Virtual Meeting**

GACC Board Virtual Meeting will be on September 9th at 7 p.m. If you wish to participate send a message to the chair Laura Cushman at gaccchair@slc-avenues.org.

# **Community Life / Resources / Free Stuff!**

Sweet Branch Library, 455 F Street, 801-594-8651 www.slcpl.org/branches/view/Corinne+and+Jack+Śweet.

Sweet Library is offering hold pickup and prints to-go from noon to 5:45 Monday - Saturday.

**Print to-go**: You can now submit documents for printing by Library Staff! Send an email with your document attached and include your contact information and print preferences. More information is found on the City Library website slcpl.org.

Look for new content for all ages such as storytime, book reviews for teens, and exploring the world on Biblioboard.

Biblioboard is located on the City library website www.slcpl. org.

Neighborhood Avenues Exercise Class, Federal Heights Ward Building, 278 North Alta Street, East Entrance.

Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 9:40 a.m. FREE!

Everyone Welcome! Questions? Renate Nebeker, 801-534-1443, renatenebeker@gmail.com.

City Academy, 555 E. 200 S., www.cityacademyslc.org, Tuition-free 7th-12th grade public charter school.

Personalization, Schedule flexibility, Real-world learning. Visit our website call 801-596-8489. Board Meeting Sept. 16, 4:15 p.m.

Call for details or email info@cityacademyslc.org.

#### The Agenda

Publisher's Statement The monthly Greater Avenues Community Council newsletter "The Agenda" is mailed free to all residences in the Avenues. This publication is created to conduct the business of the Greater Avenues Community Council. Mail correspondence to P.O. Box 1679, Salt Lake City, UT 84110. For advertising call 801-859-5858 or email newsletter@slc-avenues.org.

GACC 2020 Officers and Publisher Contacts: Chair: Laura Cushman, gaccchair@slc-avenues.org. Chair-elect: Dave Alderman gaccchairelect@slc-avenues.org. Treasurer: Michael Hughes, gacctreasurer@slc-avenues.org. Secretary: Craig Provost, gaccsecretary@slc-avenues.org. Newsletter Editor: Martina Nesi, newsletter@slc-avenues.org. The GACC web page is www.slc-avenues.org.



Tenth East Senior Center, 237 S 1000 E, Drive-thru lunch is now served from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm Monday-Friday. You can pick up weekend meals on Fridays along with your Friday lunch.

Salt Lake County is pleased to announce the development of a Virtual Senior Center!

Aging & Adult Services: new Virtual Senior Center will offer programming for Seniors in the safety of their own homes! These programs will include online, video conference, telephone, and self-guided activities. You can pick up the self-guided activities at the Center; they don't require a phone or a computer. The classes include support groups, exercise classes, education, arts & crafts, and even self-guided tours of local areas.

The development is ongoing - we have exercise classes and wellness videos on our YouTube page from the Health Promotion program and are working every day to create new opportunities.

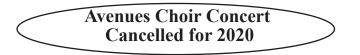
Virtual Senior Centers combat loneliness and isolation among older adults, many of whom are still actively socially distancing and starting to feel the impacts of prolonged isolation.

Connect with Aging & Adult Services' social media pages at https://slco.org/aging-adult-services/ and check for more Virtual Senior Center content and opportunities in the coming months!

#### Warm Springs Alliance Update: Urgent Action Needed!

The SLC Parks Dept. is looking to proceed with a plan to remove 16 established trees from Warm Springs Park (some planted by early settlers) in order to enlarge the existing field for a regulation soccer field. The Salt Lake Valley already has 74 soccer fields, and only one Warm Springs. If you'd like the hot spring and historic building to be brought back and the park to highlight the history of this one-of-a-kind place, please submit a comment ASAP. Visit WarmSpringsAlliance.org/savethetrees.

Sylvia Nibley, Com. Builder | Board Chair, WarmSpringsAlliance.org, 801-486-8444 home/office, 801-588-9367 cell.



#### **Avenues Scouts Registering New Youth**

Long-time Avenues Scout Troop 34 and Cub Pack 3034 are registering new youth. We are an all-denomination youth group active for over 100 years with a great tradition of camping, outdoor activities and community service. Troop 34 is for ages 11 to 17 and meets Wednesday nights from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian church on C Street at South Temple. Cub Pack 3034 is for kindergarten through 5th grade and meets Tuesday nights from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Adult leaders are needed for the Cub Pack also. Girls, if you like being in the outdoors and enjoying outdoors activities like camping, hiking, canoeing, etc., we have something for you. We are looking to start up a girls Troop. Please contact Dan Zaharias at DanZaharias@gmail.com or call 801-808-6683.



# Are you interested in The City Cemetery?

Did you know that the Salt Lake City Cemetery was permanently established in 1851, covers an area of



approximately 120 acres between 4th and 11th Avenue and N and U streets, is the largest municipal cemetery in the nation, and captures a rich history of the area? Did

you also know that there are over eight miles of roads in the cemetery? And that some of the retaining walls were built by the Works Project Administration (WPA) and are in need of restoration?

Or that many of the historic markers that dot the cemetery are in need of restoration?



Are you interested in learning how you could be involved? Or do you have specific ideas on how to recognize the



cemetery as a living, historical asset? If so, please email Jenny Hewson (jenny. hewson@gmail.com) to express your interest and ideas.

#### Chair message contined from page 1......

necessary to make going back to school safe. As far as education goes, nothing new here! Utah schools have historically ranked in the lowest tier for per capita funding, and now we are asking already underpaid teachers to go back to overcrowded classrooms that require more material, but there is less money. Should and could Utah schools reopen are two very different questions, one of which carries too much financial baggage for it to be an actual option.

So here I am, still teetering on this school opening spectrum. I want children, not just my own, to return to schools because I believe the mental health impact and already present education gaps will only increase, leading to irreparable lifelong effects on children and families who cannot create learning pods, hire tutors or afford full-time childcare. I also know that our schools have not, and are not currently funded at a level that would allow them to make the modifications necessary to have schools open inperson safely. Typically, I would trust the elected leaders to make a plan, expect individuals to adhere to best-practice guidelines, and hope there is money to support these. Sadly, just like 2020, not much about Utah's public education system is typical.

## **Avenues Street Fair Cancelled for 2020**

For the first time in 40 years, we will not hold our traditional Avenues Street Fair. The top reason for this decision is for the safety and wellbeing of our many wonderful volunteers and the thousands and thousands of neighbors who attend this celebration. Instead of coming together to celebrate at the traditional street fair, we are encouraging everyone on Saturday, September 12th to celebrate our neighborhood from your home. We picture families and households, in their front yards or back yards or even inside, "coming together" as a neighborhood (although socially distanced). Check the Street Fair website (www.avenuesstreetfair.org) for other ideas.

Block party permit contact info: 801-535-6121 | Email: EventPermits@slcgov.com | www.slc.gov/eventpermits.

We will have our traditional "Street Fair T-Shirt" designed by this year's featured artist, Mark Walton!

Mark has combined some of his favorite elements of the Avenues with the current virus concerns to create a unique and fun design for the Avenues Street Fair 2020 Stay Safe - Home Edition. You can read more about Mark at https:// avenuesstreetfair.org/activities-schedule/featured-artist.



**ORDER T-SHIRTS** - Even if you won't get it in time for the Virtual Fair, you can still order your t-shirt at www. avenuesstreetfair.org.

Please check the website and Facebook page at https:// www.facebook.com/AvenuesStreetFair/ for more updates.

We hope to be back on schedule next year!

Daniel Gaffin, Avenues Street Fair Chair 2020, danielgaffin@ gmail.com, 801-550-1294.



## Air Quality – Why Should I Worry About Air Pollution?

Air pollution occurs when hazardous chemicals enter the environment through a variety of natural or man-made activities. We are being bombarded with potentially toxic pollutants such as nitrogen oxides (NOx), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), ozone (NOx+VOCs), carbon monoxide, heavy metals, sulfur dioxide, and respirable particulate matter (PM2.5). Study after study has shown that either long term exposure or exposure to high levels of air pollution can be hazardous, leading to health conditions like irritating your eyes, nose, and throat, also affecting your lungs and heart, and now experts are adding your brain to the list.

PM2.5 -- Most research has focused on a component of air pollution known as fine particulate matter or PM 2.5 - tiny particles that are 40 times smaller than the width of a human hair. Did you realize that they were that tiny? A form of iron called magnetite is often found within the PM2.5 and can be studied in the body due to its magnetic properties. Using a special electron microscope, the researchers confirmed that PM2.5 material can pass into the brain via the blood stream or directly through the thin lining of the nose. One study in New York City showed that kids with a high exposure to PM2.5 had lower IQs by age 5. Recently, studies are connecting PM2.5 pollution with Alzheimer's disease. Did you know that according to the Alzheimer Society, Utah has the highest prevalence of Alzheimer's disease in the nation.

#### Who's at Risk?

Children -- Pound for pound, children breathe more than adults and are more sensitive to pollution. Their air passages are narrower, so it takes less inflammation or irritation to obstruct their airways. Children typically spend more time outdoors and are more active than adults.

Seniors -- Older adults may have heart or lung disease or diabetes that puts them at greater risk. People with diabetes are at increased risk in part because they also have a higher risk of underlying cardiovascular disease.

Active Adults -- Healthy adults of all ages who exercise or work vigorously outdoors are susceptible to air pollution because they have a higher level of exposure. Exercise causes people to breather faster and more deeply, drawing more air into the lungs. In the case of ozone, the risk of serious effects is heightened in the afternoon hours. It's better to exercise in the morning or evening when ozone concentrations are expected to be less elevated.

So Who Really is at Risk? We all are! It is everybody's problem. We all need to do our part to reduce the pollution in the air we breathe. Each little bit of pollution which we keep out of the air helps. For actions that help, go to slcgreen.com, UCAIR.org (Show UCAIR about Utah's Air), or check past issues of the Agenda for articles and suggestions for cleaner air - slc-Avenues.org then click on past 2020 issues.

by Jill Van Langeveld

#### **GACC Officers and Board Members Election Coming Soon**

The GACC Bylaws give the Past-Chair one responsibility which is organizing the Elections of the Officers and the Board members for the coming year, 2021. So it's now time for me to take my duties seriously and begin to find those who are interested in serving to continue to keep the GACC healthy and responsible. I will be organizing a committee and together we need to get a slate of individuals who will stand for elections in November. In our October GACC General meeting we will present the slate. We can also add others to the slate during that meeting. If you volunteer you will be committing to two Wednesday meetings each month: the general meeting and the board meeting, which is a planning meeting for the next month's general meeting.

What are the officers and their responsibilities? Go to our website, SLC-Avenues.org and click on "About the Council" and you will immediately come to "Vision and Bylaws." Scroll down until you come to Bylaws (bolded) and click on it. Then, if you scroll down to Articles IV and V, you will find the responsibilities of each officer to see if it is something you'd like to do.

Chair - Dave Alderman was elected 2020 Chair-Elect and will automatically become the GACC Chair for 2021.

Chair-Elect --Secretary --Treasurer --

**Past-Chair** – Laura Cushman automatically becomes Past-Chair.

Board Members – There is no limit on the number of Board members and no service time limits either. The Avenues is divided into 9 areas and we would like to have representatives from each of the nine. Last year we did not have representation from Canyon Road/West Avenues, Lindsey Gardens or Arlington Hills areas. You can see a map of the avenues and the 9

areas when you first click on "About the Council."

If you are interested please contact me, the sooner the better, at gaccpastchair@slc-avenues.org\_or at 801-359-8513 and be sure to leave a message.

by Jill Van Langeveld

Cafe Shambala Reopens for Takeout Orders Our local beloved Tibetan restaurant Cafe Shambala has reopened for takeout orders Monday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.



Located at 382 4th Avenue at E Street, the long-time Avenues mostly vegetarian restaurant features flavorful and healthy traditional Tibetan and Himalayan fare.

Their menu can be seen here https://cafe-shambala.business. site/, and their phone number is 801-364-8558. Help support one of our long-time Avenues eateries!



### 89 D Street Application for Outdoor Seating

Foodie and Sweetie D Market at 89 D Street recently asked the City for permission to install outdoor seating. The Planning Commission approved the request with the following conditions: 1. Seating customers in the outdoor dining area must be

managed in a manner that the patio can be closed and shut down at the designated closing time. The hours of operation for the patio shall be limited to 11 am to 8 pm.

2. No amplified music shall be permitted.

 That a fence be located along the southern property line to shield the abutting property from the outdoor dining use.
 Wood fence to be located in front of the dumpster and trash location to the west.

5. Plantings or planters must be located along the southern property line to help buffer noise.

6. Owner must obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness for fencing and other site improvements.

Thank you to all neighbors who attended the City Planning meeting or provided input to the City as they reviewed this request. The staff report can be seen here: http://www.slcdocs. com/Planning/Planning%20Commission/2020/00578\_ StaffReport.pdf.

#### **Firewise Solution**

Of great importance is, with the continued summer heat, wildland fuels are drying out greatly and any wildfire threatens our neighborhoods and our watershed.

Please call 911 immediately if fires are spotted and report illegal campfires or fireworks to 801-799-3000.

Winter and spring moisture result in rapid vegetation growth throughout the valley. But as summer temperatures rise, vegetation can dry out and becomes a wildfire risk. There are things you can do to minimize the threat to your home from wildfire. Be sure to maintain your property and landscaping using Firewise principals. This is especially important if you live along the wildland-urban interface... where the homes meet the wild.

Keep weeds and grass cut. Most city and county codes prohibit grass and weeds in excess of six inches.

Remove dead and dying vegetation, and dispose of it properly. Properly dispose of trash and debris.



Items such as old construction materials, boxes and yard waste are fires waiting to happen.

Stack firewood away from structures, fences or anything else that may be combustible.

If you live in an urban-interface area,

consider these additional steps:

Create at least a 30-ft. safety zone around your home.
When possible, remove or thin the dead wood and the older

trees beyond 100 feet from the house. - Limit the use of flammable plants in landscape design. Choose

fire resistant varieties.

- Limit the placement of plants next to structures, under eaves, overhangs, decks, etc.

- Keep landscaping manicured and watered.

- Plant trees and large shrubs in sparse, separate areas.

- Limit the use of trees and shrubs that have large volumes of foliage and branches.

- Minimize the use of plants that develop dry or dead undergrowth.

- Remove ladder fuels (plants that provide a link between the ground and tree limbs).

- Keep the roof, rain gutters and eaves clear of debris.

Find more info at https://unifiedfire.org/prevention/wildland-urban-interface/, https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Wildfire/Firewise-USA and www. slcfire.com/wildland.

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At Intermountain Healthcare, we understand that broken arms haven't stopped, babies continue to be born, emergencies continue to happen, and doctor visits are still needed. We've put in place measures to safely care for you in these difficult times. So please, don't put off the care you need, especially for stroke-like symptoms, chest pain, difficulty breathing, or other urgent care. *We're here for you*.

> Visit IntermountainHealthcare.org/HereForYou to learn how we're making your safety our top priority.



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# Important dated material. Please deliver in-home by August 31.

Greater Avenues Community Council thanks LDS Hospital for their generous sponsorship of our activities. *We encourage your support of these events and businesses who give their support to the Greater Avenues.* 

