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AGENDA

OF THE GREATER AVENUES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

www.slc-avenues.org

May 2022

Vol. XXVI

Issue 5

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

Chair's Message for May

by Gwen Springmeyer

WORRIED

I worry about the drought that is impacting the southwest of the US. They called this a mega drought because the last two decades have been the driest 22-year period in at least 1,200 years. That is humbling. How does this impact us here in Utah, in SLC, in the Avenues, and our yards? What about our reservoirs and our Great Salt Lake? Does the shrinking of that lake mean nasty things in dust storms impacting our already compromised air quality? Will the snowmelt from our canyons be enough to provide drinking water? Will severe restrictions be implemented for irrigation and residential consumption? Will we all have to replace our lawns with drought-tolerant plants? I also worry about wildfires. We have had some close calls in our foothill that have threatened homes, but other areas in the west have not been so lucky. It seems clear that what happened near Boulder, Colorado, could happen in Utah and our beloved foothills.

HOPEFUL

I am hopeful because this year the Utah State Legislature passed ten bills intending to get more water into the Great Salt Lake so that it doesn't disappear in our lifetimes, and there are things we can do in our own homes to help. I am hopeful because we have good people to lead us. At our May 4th GACC meeting, we will hear from Laura Briefer, SLC Public Utilities Director, and she will tell us what it means to be in Stage Two of the Water Contingency Plan. I am hopeful we will learn this plan will get this community successfully through the hot summer months. Also, Stephanie Duer, SLC Water Conservation Manager, will walk us through what we can do in our yards. She will tell us about new grass seeds and informative and personalized water maps. She will also explain the Xeriscaping Ordinance to help us understand what we can do with our yard landscaping. I am hopeful Shane Carlson, the GACC Wildfire Preparedness Chair, will scare us enough about the wildfire danger that we will do something about it. He will tell us what we can do to prevent fires and how to be prepared to stay safe if one occurs.

I encourage you to read the articles in this newsletter and then come to the May 4 meeting prepared to ask questions to help you understand what we all can do to make a significant difference and safeguard our exceptional quality of life.



GACC May 4th Virtual Meeting

7:00 to 7:05 Welcome & Announcements.

7:05 to 7:50 Reports: Fire, Police, Legislature, City Council, SLC School Board, Mayor's Office, Public Land, Library, LDS Hospital, U of U.

7:50 to 7:55 **Laura Briefer**, SLC Public Utilities Director - Water Supply Update.

7:55 to 8:15 **Stephanie Duer**, SLC Water Conservation Manager - Water Conservation & Xeriscaping.

8:15 to 8:30 **Shane Carlson**, GACC Wildfire Preparedness Chair - Avenues Wildfire Preparedness.

8:30 to 8:50 **Sara Javoronok**, SLC Planning - Affordable Housing Incentives.

8:50 to 9:00 Open Forum.

The GACC Community Meeting will be virtual, on May 4th at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom meeting ID and password will be posted at <https://slc-avenues.org/> at 5:00 p.m. on May 4th.

Hilary Jacobs - District Area 2: Ensign Area



My family and I moved to Salt Lake City and into our Avenues home 28 years ago. I have had the good fortune to engage with GACC over the years working on a variety of neighborhood issues, advocating for education, animals, and the environment. As the GACC representative for the Ensign Area neighborhood (NW Lower Aves) I contribute regularly to the monthly newsletter to help build awareness and appreciation for this truly special place and community.

Memory Grove Cleanup
Saturday, May 14
8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Memory Grove Park Entrance

the **AVENUES**

Community Virtual Meetings

GACC Community Virtual Meeting

The GACC Community Meeting will be on Wednesday, May 4th at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom meeting ID and password will be posted at <https://slc-avenues.org/> at 5:00 p.m. on May 4th.

GACC Board Virtual Meeting

The GACC Board Meeting will be on, Thursday, May 5th at 7:00 p.m. If you wish to participate, send a message to the Chair, Gwen Springmeyer, at gaccchair@slc-avenues.org.

Community Life / Resources / Free Stuff!

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

New Sweet Library Hours: Monday - Thursday, 10 am- 8 pm. Friday - Saturday, 10 am- 6 pm.

• **10 years old and older D & D, "Dungeons & Dragons for Beginners"** Held on the first and third Tuesdays, 6pm-8pm. Registration calendar preferred via library events, unless it is a slow week.

Kids Calendar

• Look for virtual events and activities such as storytimes, book reviews, Tinkerlab and more on biblioboard <https://library.biblioboard.com/module/kids--twins>.

• Take-n-Make kits for kids will be available to pick up at the beginning of the month. While supplies last.

• A Storytime kit with storytime activities and a preschool craft will be available at the beginning and third week of the month. While supplies last.

Teen Calendar

• Teen DIY on Biblioboard and Teen Blog - any teens or tweens interested in fun crafts curated by Teen Librarians should check out the SLCPL Teens page on our website (<https://services.slcp.org/teens>). You'll find links to our videos and blog posts as well as some curated book lists and other activities you can do at home.

Adult Calendar

• Sweet Reads Get to know some of the faces from your neighborhood and read a variety of books from all sorts of genres. This book club will meet virtually on Zoom, on Tuesday May 24 from 7-8:30pm. May's book is *The Overstory* by Richard Powers. Email Jen Scott at jscott@slcp.org if you would like to join!

• Take and Makes Drop by the Sweet Library to pick up a craft kit that you can take home and complete! All of the materials needed for the craft are included, and we will have a new craft at the beginning of each

month. The craft for May is clay trinket bowls. While supplies last.

• **50 Books Adult Reading Challenge** Join this new year-round reading challenge for adults. Reading can bring you a lifetime of adventure, knowledge, wisdom, and fun! The City Library challenges you to read 50 books - there's no deadline, so you can go at your own pace. Stop by any City Library location to pick up your 50 Books Tracker, where you can track your progress, win prizes, and find prompts to inspire your next read.

Neighborhood Avenues Exercise Class.

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

Everyone Welcome! Contact Jan Root for our current location and for any questions at 801-455-2082, janroot@xmission.com.

City Academy, for 7th-12th grade students, 555 E. 200 S., www.cityacademyslc.org, 801-596-8489. We are your neighborhood tuition-free public charter school. We are now holding Pre-Registration for next year 2022-2023. Please visit our website, email office@city-academyslc.org, or call 801-596-8489 for more information or to book your own personal tour. Highlights at City Academy include engaging, relevant learning, Gifted Music School classes, serious visual arts education, Cambridge International advanced placement program, and an expanded Computer Science Career Pathway Program.

Tenth East Senior Center, 237 S 1000 E Open M-F from 7:00 am - 4:00 pm with lunch 11:30 - 12:15. Parking is in the rear; enter on the north side of the building. Call 385 468-3140 to register or receive more information. Website: <https://slco.org/tenth-east-senior-center/> The Center will be closed on Memorial Day.

The big news is that the Center has a new manager: Matt Waite. Special programs for May include Medicare Counseling: Tuesday, May 11, 11:30 with Mary Boyer; and Dealing with Dementia: Thursday, May 26, 9:30 - 1:00 Registration required for this class on dementia.

Special meals in May: Cinco De Mayo, Thursday, May 5; Mother's Day Special, Monday, May 9; Memorial Day, Friday, May 27. All special meals begin at 11:30 and include foods you might associate with the day.

Free community yoga class, Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 8:30-9:30. LDS Chapel 135 A Street. Please bring your own mat and strap. Questions, Barbara Cramer 801-355-1856.

If you have the time and desire to engage in community service, **The Good Samaritan Program at the Cathedral of the Madeleine**, which distributes food to the homeless and food-insecure, has volunteer opportunities for you. Now located at St. Vincent dePaul's Dining Hall. Contact Jane Grau at jgrau@utcotm.org or 703-598-2091, or go to justserve.org for details.

Celebrate Trail Day with Save Our Foothills • Saturday, June 4 in Memory Grove • 10 am to 2 pm • FREE Fun Nature Hike • Kid's Nature Scavenger Hunt • Prizes • Join us to learn more about conservation in the Salt Lake City Foothills. Other environmental preservation and conservation groups will be at the event. Stay green - walk, bike or take the bus. Parking available at the Capitol or in surrounding neighborhoods, a short walk away, info@slcfoothills.org

The Salt Lake City Trails Alliance stands for Trails For Everyone and believes an improved and well-planned network of foothills trails that accommodates the needs of all users improves the quality of life and helps make Salt Lake City a unique and attractive 'world-class city'. Contact: Ashley Patterson slctrailsalliance@gmail.com, <https://slctrailsalliance.org/>, <https://www.facebook.com/slctrailsalliance>, <https://www.instagram.com/slctrailsalliance/>.

Parleys Canyon Update

The Salt Lake County Council voted to enact amendments to zoning ordinances prohibiting new mining and gravel pits in the Wasatch Forestry Recreation Zones and the Foothill and Canyon Overlay Zones. This may not be enough to save Parleys Canyon. For more information visit: www.SaveParleys.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.

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The GACC web page is www.slc-avenues.org.

FOOTHILL FORUM

The (foot)hills are alive!

by Jon Seger and Jack Longino

On a hike or a ride in our foothills, you don't normally encounter Julie Andrews or hear much that sounds like music. You see rocks and a lot of bare ground separating mostly small plants. Animals seem scarce, and mostly flying, as if on their way to somewhere else. Sandwiched between the fertile valley floor below and the forested mountain slopes above, these hillsides look a bit impoverished, almost barren. Yes they are beautiful, and invitingly open, but not obviously a place that many living things would want to call home.

This has been the rap on deserts since the time when ancient humans started putting their complaints in writing. And it's true to a degree, for some kinds of living things. For many others, however, places like this are Home Sweet Home, and not just figuratively. For example, the sugary honeydew secretions of aphids and other sap-sucking insects support a complex ecosystem that is literally rooted here, because these insects feed on the roots of long-lived plants such as Gambel oak (*Quercus gambelii*). People don't notice this ecosystem because most of its animal members are very small and underground, except at certain times of year, and even then mostly at night.

We are naturalists who frequent the Avenues and Tomahawk foothills, and Jack is an expert on the ecology and evolution of ants. He's been checking them out for the last decade. To observe them hard at work you need to stop, kneel, and patiently look for them in leaf litter under the



The ant *Formica xerophila* is one of 37 species known to occur in the Avenues foothills. Studies of its ecology in other locations have found it tending aphids and scavenging dead arthropods. The photo from a minor trail below the Bonneville Shoreline Trail and west of Limekiln shows locations of two nest entrances that we observed to be active before the snowfalls of April 11-12. The ant shown is about 5 mm (3/16") long. Specimen casset0005379 (California Academy of Sciences), photo © AntWeb.org / CC-BY-SA-3.0.

oaks (including in acorns) or under rocks in the spring (*always put the rocks back!*). To date Jack has found 37 different species. That's 21% of the 174 ant species known to occur in the entire state of Utah. Given the tiny area covered by his survey, our local foothills would seem to qualify as a biodiversity hotspot.

Most of these ants depend directly or indirectly on the underground sap-sucking insects, which depend on legions of symbiotic bacteria that they culture inside their bodies to synthesize nutrients that don't occur in the sugar water

they get from the plants, which get their water from symbiotic fungi that extend their root systems for vast distances through the porous, rocky soil, and then use sunlight to turn that water and CO₂ from the air into sugar. We walk on the sunbaked surface of that soil which, from our height, looks hostile to life. But just below our feet, a diverse and highly connected community carries on with the business of living well, in a world made sustaining and even comfortable by their own industry.

Memory Grove Cleanup

by Brian Berkelbach

The 24th annual Memory Grove Cleanup will take place on Saturday, May 14, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in Memory Grove Park (500 North Canyon Road, Salt Lake City). We invite all ages of volunteers to help clear brush, pull weeds, and plant flowers. Intermountain LDS Hospital will again provide a free lunch to all volunteers!

Check in at the entrance gate on Canyon Road. Wear appropriate clothing, bring gloves, water, and sunscreen. All tools will be provided by Salt Lake City Parks Department.

Bring the whole family and join the fun that preserves and beautifies Memory Grove Park!

Thank you to Salt Lake City Corporation, Salt Lake City Parks, the Ensign Stake, Greater Avenues Community Council, and Intermountain Healthcare/LDS Hospital for supporting this project.

City Council Redistricting

Salt Lake City is in the process of changing the boundaries for the seven Council Districts. The citizen Redistricting Advisory Commission has recommended maps for the Council to consider. To review the maps, please visit <https://app.districtbuilder.org/o/slc-redistricting>. The Council will hold public hearings in April and May and adopt a new map by May 10th. You may provide comments at www.slc.gov/council/virtual-meetings/ or council.comments@slcgov.com.

Gardening Under Stress: Summer-Proofing Your Landscape

by Stephanie Duer, Water

Conservation Manager, Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities
stephanie.duer@slcgov.com (801)483-6860

Well, here we are, wondering what another year of drought might mean for our gardens. While we don't want to over-use water, we also want to see our gardens thrive and flourish. Don't despair; there are strategies that can help keep things cool in the garden without wasting water.

Don't get the lawn blues! First, don't worry about the lawn. Even during the heat of summer, lawns will survive on just one or two irrigations a week, and even less! While it's true that Kentucky bluegrass lawns require more water than some other turfs, it is also true that if it gets less water, it protects itself by going dormant. That golden lawn isn't dead; it's conserving energy until shorter days and cooler nights restore and revive it after the summer's heat. Want to learn more about how to water your lawn? Visit www.cwe.usu.edu and sign up for a FREE Water Check! Another strategy is to consider changing the type of grass—Salt Lake City now sells a fine tall fescue/bluegrass blend that uses 30% less water than the traditional Kentucky Bluegrass! Visit www.slc.gov/utilities/conservation for details!

•**Mow high!** Allowing a lawn to grow taller—between 3 to 5 inches—helps save water by shading the soil, reducing evaporation, and encouraging deeper roots. This helps grass survive longer periods without water.

•**Save the shade!** Your trees and shrubs need water, but not as often as your lawn. When you water trees, shrubs, and perennials, think slow and deep. Signs of heat-stress include limp, curled, or dull colored foliage. Here's a tip: examine plants in the morning—after a long, hot day leaves may appear limp, but that's to be expected and they may not be dry. If leaves are perky in the morning, the plant probably doesn't need watering. Visit www.slc.gov/parks/urban-forestry for tree care information.

•**Off to a healthy start!** New trees and shrubs (those planted within the last three years) are most susceptible to damage from hot, dry days and are most in need of your attention. Until a plant is well established, regular—though not necessarily frequent—watering will ensure a healthy start and increase the chance that the plant can survive later with less water.

•**Know your zones!** If you are planting a new landscape, placing plants together with similar water needs will save water because you won't have to over-water all the plants to meet the needs of a few (this strategy is called hydrozoning). And selecting plants with less water-thirsty habits will help to reduce water demand even more!

•**Be a hose dragger!** Don't need to water your whole garden? Drag out a hose and water only those plants that need it. Having a positive-pressure nozzle on the end of that hose will also reduce water waste.

•**Use Mulch!** Applying a 3 to 4-inch layer of a plant-based mulch around the root zones of trees, shrubs, and perennials will help keep soil cool and conserve moisture. This will also help suppress weeds and improve the quality and water-holding capacity of the soil as it decomposes. Tip: keep the mulch away from bases of trees and plants.

By taking these simple steps you can keep your garden healthy and beautiful and help to save water for our children and their gardens. To learn more, visit www.slc.gov/utilities/conservation and www.slcgardenwise for inspiration and information.

Did you know that Salt Lake City does not require lawns in front yards or parkstrips? In fact, only one-third of the front yard and one-third of the parkstrip needs to be planted, and the rest can be mulch!

Make Sure it is FULL!

by Tom Brooks

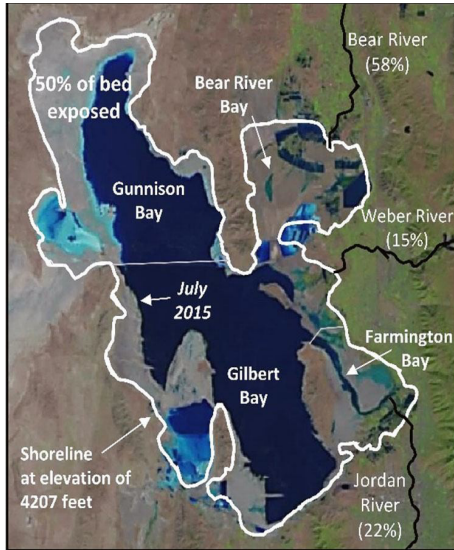
Save a lot of water, energy, and money by filling your dishwasher with dishes and your washing machine with clothes when you run them.

But, use the minimal amount of detergents. Too much detergent can linger in your clothes, waste money, and pollute water downstream.

You can also do a lot of good when you make sure your recycle containers are full before you put them out. The recycle trucks must stop and rev up their engines for each time they pick up your Blue, Brown, and Gray bins. You could also do a lot of good by turning in your gray-glass bin and using the giant common recycle containers at Popperton Park and elsewhere. *Thank you! We can all do better.*

Air Quality – The Great Salt Lake, part 2

by Jill Van Langeveld



This is a very interesting graphic which shows a 2015 NASA photograph when the Great Salt Lake was at a new record low of 4191.6 feet above sea level. Last September 2021 that record was broken by .3 feet so the graphic is still very up-to-date. The white line shows the lake margin at the average natural elevation of 4207 feet. At that level there was a Farmington Bay and a Bear River Bay which today have almost disappeared. You can easily see and appreciate the exposed lake bed. The graphic also shows the three major river inflows and the relative contribution (%) of each.

In 1991, the Utah Legislature passed the Bear River Development Act, [Utah Code 73-26], which authorizes and directs the Division of Water Resources to "...develop the surface waters of the Bear River and its tributaries through the planning and construction of reservoirs and associated facilities..." When this legislation was passed, the projected need for this extra water was 2015. Thanks primarily to conservation efforts, new technology, optimization and efficiency projects, this particular project has been pushed out to 2045-2050. The BRD system is expected to deliver 220,000 acre-feet annually to northern Utah for residential use. Current modeling indicates that this would reduce the lake level by an average of between 8.5 and 14 inches according to a White Paper published in 2016 by Utah State University, Water Resources, Salt Lake Community College, and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. The BRD system would give us more water for our showers and yards, but it would expand our DUST problem. I found two very interesting videos online by typing in **SLC Dust Storm** into my browser. One was 27 seconds of a dust storm 11-16-2016 filmed by the University of Utah and the other was almost 3 minutes from a July 28, 2021 news report regarding a deadly dust storm by Max Roth on Fox 13 News.

This year our Legislature passed 10 bills with the goal to get more water into the GSL so that it doesn't disappear in our lifetimes. I have a list of them and what they will do that was put together by Ashley Miller, the director of Breathe Utah. If you want a copy, email me at jill.van@hotmail.com.

So what can we do as individuals? For starters (1) One of the best things you can do, according to water experts, is Install a low flow toilet (2) Don't let water run while you wash your hands, brush your teeth or shave. (3) If every Utah resident reduced their shower duration by one minute, about 1.6 billion gallons of water would be saved every year—that's enough water to fill more than 2,400 Olympic-sized pools! (4) Only use the garbage disposal when necessary (composting is a great alternative). There are really so many simple ways to reduce our water use. Check out this website; it's a good one and easy to use: <https://www.watercalculator.org/how-to-save-water/cut-indoor-water-use/> While you are there check out "Everything you know about water conservation is probably wrong..."

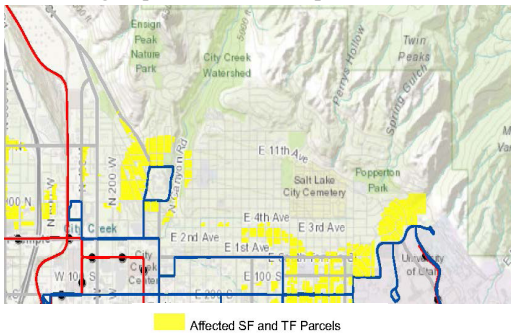
Outdoor watering is a little more challenging. We could take a page from New Mexico. While the average Utah resident uses 167 gallons per day in and around their home, New Mexico residents use an average of only 90 gallons. That's a big difference! In Albuquerque where my sister lived for eight years, they are required to use water wise plants and trees. Big water guzzling lawns are a "no-no." They can only have 20% of their planting space in lawn. **Senate Bill 110** passed in the 2022 session requires all Utah municipalities include a water use and preservation elements in their general plans and encourage residents to be water wise.

This summer looks to be a really dry one. Start being more conscious of the water we use in and around the house. That is the only thing in which we have any control. It's all goes back to if we each do a little, it is amazing what we can accomplish. Maybe we can even eliminate the dust storms from the Great Salt Lake so we can all breathe easier.

Affordable Housing Incentives

by Sara Javoronok, AICP,
Salt Lake City Senior Planner, 801-535-7625 or
sara.javoronok@slcgov.com

Salt Lake City is working on a proposal to encourage the building of more affordable housing with Affordable Housing Incentives. The changes to zoning requirements would provide incentives



to those who include affordable homes in their projects. Rather than imposing restrictions, the incentives aim to provide additional benefits to projects that increase the supply of homes that more people can afford. It includes zoning changes that may result in multi-unit housing and taller buildings in some neighborhoods. Planning staff will discuss this proposal at the Greater Avenues Community Council on May 4th. You can find out more on the project page: <http://bit.ly/slc-AHI>. Please provide comments using the form on this page. The item is scheduled for review by the Planning Commission on May 11th.

Post Memorial Day Clean-up at SLC Cemetery

by Dave Alderman

Each year, in observance of Memorial Day, visitors to the Salt Lake City Cemetery place potted plants, flowers, and other memorabilia around the graves of their loved ones. Once the flowers and plants have died they need to be removed. This year, the Friends of the Salt Lake City Cemetery are once again asking for volunteers to help separate the plants and flowers (compostable waste) from the plant pots (recyclable waste) and the foil and plastic wrap (trash).

Last year, nearly 9 tons of green waste was diverted from the landfill to be composted. Almost 6 tons of plastic was recycled rather than sent to the landfill. In previous years, all of this would have been sent to the landfill.

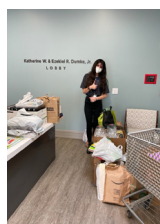
There will be 3 opportunities to help – on the evenings of Wednesday and Thursday, June 8th and 9th and on Saturday, June 11th. The evening sessions will run from 6 pm until 8 pm. The Saturday session will be from 9 AM until 11 AM.

If you are interested in helping, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4EAA2DA0FDCE9-post> or scan the QR code below.



Meet in front of the Sexton's house (corner of N and 4th Ave). Wear closed-toed shoes, bring gloves, sunscreen, and a water bottle. This is a great opportunity for you to support our cemetery, enjoy the green space, meet your neighbors, and contribute to your community.

For more information, contact Paul Anderson at 801-364-6613 or paul@pbageo.com. Or visit the Friends of the SLC Cemetery website at <https://slc-avenues.org/friends-slc-cemetery>



Thank you for your generous donations of art supplies for the Neighborhood House adult daycare program! They were thrilled to receive so many items! They will be put to good use!

THANK YOU SO MUCH! by Ali Barnes

Introducing the 2022 Featured Artist

by Daniel Gaffin, 2022 Avenues Street Fair Chair



Each year the Street Fair Committee selects an artist who will prepare an original piece that describes what the Avenues means to them. The design becomes the official promotional art for the Fair.

We are excited to announce this year's featured artist:

Deborah Day. Born and raised in the Avenues, Deborah Day has been fortunate to have the rich tapestry of the neighborhood as a backdrop to her life. The Avenues' unique architecture

and charming landscapes have been an inspiration and driving force in her passion as an artist and her career as an interior designer.

Deborah comes from a long line of great artists, inspired by the work of her grandmother, great aunts and uncles, and especially her own brother, she has been driven to pursue art since childhood. Now she is inspiring her next generation by being a creative force to three budding artists of her own.

Deborah's medium of choice is watercolor and is most inspired by nature and historical architecture. She is very excited to be this year's featured artist offering original paintings and prints of her watercolor illustrations."

We are always looking for more volunteers please join us for our next street fair planning meeting Saturday May 7th at 9AM. Please email daniel-gaffin@gmail.com for details.

Wildfire Preparedness

by Shane Carlson, GACC Wildfire Preparedness Committee Chair

Let's start with the good news - This year's drought seems to be less severe than last year's (US Drought Monitor - <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>).

The bad news is that this year's drought conditions are following on the heels of decades of drought (a "mega" drought). Our potential wildfire fuels (grasses, shrubs, timber) need a lot more than just one 'less bad' year to recover.

Concern about communities at risk of wildfire is steadily increasing. Environmental conditions, expansion of development along the "Wildlands-

Urban Interface" (WUI), historic development along the WUI that occurred without regard for potential wildfire risk (neighborhoods filled with highly flammable junipers, wooden shake roofs, roof vents without appropriate screening, etc.) all play a part. In addition, "wildfire season" (historically June 1-October 31) is giving way to year-round risk.

In the last four months, two major fires near Boulder, Colorado (the Marshall and NCAR fires) have occurred at times that have previously been considered outside of Colorado's wildfire season. In late March, the NCAR fire led to the evacuation of roughly 20,000 residents. On New Year's Eve, 2021, the tragic Marshall fire burned 6200 acres and destroyed 1084 homes. One person was confirmed dead and a second person is presumed to have died while returning to her home to retrieve her pets.

What can Avenues residents do?

Be Aware - Low humidity and high winds are a dangerous combination. Be careful with any burning on these days - including BBQs and fire pits. Winds were a major factor in the Marshall fire.

Have a Plan - Family AND pets. Familiarize yourself with at least two evacuation routes. Check on neighbors who may have difficulty evacuating (along with their pets).

Do what you can do now (do the rest later). Make a list of what and who you need to take with you in an evacuation (no warning, 5 minute warning and 30 minute warning); assemble a Go Bag; remove yard litter (leaves, pine needles, etc.), especially next to structures as embers during a fire will collect in the same locations where wind-blown litter collects now; request a personal risk/mitigation assessment by the SLC Fire Dept.; think about wildfire risk when replacing or modifying landscape features and when re-roofing, remodeling, or when building new.

Prepare for wildfire year-round. While wildfire season is getting longer, the probability of a wildfire fluctuates in a predictable pattern. Certain times of the year lend themselves to specific activities. Winter is a great time to plan and to assemble a Go Bag. Spring and early Summer are ideal times for fuels removal while Fall may be best for implementing changes to landscapes. Adopt a calendar of wildfire preparation activities.

If you live within the GACC "Firewise" area, it is not too late to have Salt Lake City assist with the disposal of your qualified fuels the first week of May (<https://www.slc.gov/fire/community-wildfire-preparedness-day/>).

For links to web-pages with more information on all these topics, visit the GACC Wildfire Preparation Sub-Committee web-page - <https://www.slc-avenues.org/our-neighborhood/wildfire-preparedness>.

Join the conversation at the GACC monthly meeting, May 4th, 2022.

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**GACC
 May 4th
 Virtual Meeting!**

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. on the day of the 7 p.m. meeting.

Important dated material.
 Please deliver in-home
 by April 30th.

The GACC encourages your support of these events and businesses who support the Greater Avenues Community Council.

Greater Avenues Community Council thanks LDS Hospital for their generous sponsorship of our activities.

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