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■ THE ■  
**AGENDA**  
OF THE  
GREATER AVENUES  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

April  
2026  
Vol. XLII  
Issue 4

REPRESENTING THE AVENUES AND FEDERAL HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOODS OF SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH



**April 2026 Chair's Message**  
by Steve Miller MD

Happy Spring!! I hope you are having a wonderful spring season. It is good to see the flowers coming up, the trees blossoming and the grass getting greener. It is great to live in a beautiful part of Salt Lake City where the mountains and green spaces are so close to us.

We recently visited our grandson Arthur to celebrate his third birthday. As we were out walking and biking in his neighborhood I noticed the way Arthur stopped to greet everyone by name - especially the neighborhood dogs and their owners. It made me think of the many kindness pass it on billboards in Salt Lake which feature Dolly Parton's quote which encourages us to: "Find the Good in Everybody." Please continue to reach out to your neighbors, to show kindness to those you meet and to look for the good in everyone. We hope to make the Avenues a welcoming place for all who live and come to this beautiful area. This coming month we will be helping with the Salt Lake Marathon as the course goes through the Avenues and City Creek. Please join with us at the aid station on April 25th. See the marathon article in this issue.

I have seen many of you out working in your gardens and yards. Thank you for making the Avenues such a beautiful place to live! Please remember that you can call the city "Call2Haul" number (801) 535-6953 to pick up anything too large to fit in your trash or compost bins.

We will be hearing from our State Senators Jenn Plumb and Todd Weiler and House Rep. Jennifer Dailey-Provost at our April 1st GACC meeting. They have just completed the legislative session for the year. Please come to the community meeting to hear their reports and to ask any questions.

Our wildfire committee has scheduled two excellent reports to help us prepare for the upcoming wildfire season. Please read their article in the newsletter and come to the community meeting on April 1st to hear their report. There is more information at [avenuescouncil.org/project/wildfire-preparedness/](http://avenuescouncil.org/project/wildfire-preparedness/)

Please contact me at [gaccchair@avenuescouncil.org](mailto:gaccchair@avenuescouncil.org) if you have any neighborhood concerns. I hope you all enjoy this lovely season of the year.

Sincerely,

Steve Miller, GACC Chair

**APRIL COMMUNITY MEETINGS**

**GACC Community Meeting - April 1 - Hybrid**

The GACC meeting will be held at the Sweet Branch Library, and on Zoom at 6:00 pm. The Zoom link will be posted at 5:00 pm on April 1 at [www.avenuescouncil.org](http://www.avenuescouncil.org).

**GACC Board Meeting - April 8 - Hybrid**

The Board Meeting will be held at the Sweet Branch Library, and on Zoom beginning at 6:00 pm. If you need the Zoom link or special accommodations you can contact Steve Miller at [gaccchair@slc-avenues.org](mailto:gaccchair@slc-avenues.org).

**APRIL 1 COMMUNITY MEETING AGENDA**

- 6:00-6:15 **Welcome and Announcements**  
Steve Miller GACC Chair  
  
Street Fair, Community Kindness, April 25th  
Marathon Water Station, CERT, Memory  
Grove Cleanup, Nominating Committee
- 6:15-6:25 **Open Forum**
- 6:25-6:55 **Wildfire Presentation - Scott Haney,**  
Salt Lake City Fire Department Wildland  
Urban Interface Coordinator, and **Daryl**  
**Lindsey,** founder of local landscaping  
company, "YardFarmer"
- 6:55-7:30 **Legislative Updates - Sen Todd Weiler, Sen**  
Jenn Plumb, and Rep Jennifer Dailey-Provost
- 7:30-7:40 **Council Member Chris Wharton**
- 7:45 pm **Adjourn and Clean Up**

**Board Member Spotlight:**  
**Kati Miller**



Hi neighbors! I moved to the Avenues with my husband, Phil, and our pup, Max, in September. We are so happy to call this neighborhood home. I work in public health and health care emergency preparedness and response, and I knew I wanted to join the GACC after seeing the Wildfire Preparedness Committee's booth at the Street Fair. When I'm not working on ways to protect the public's health, you can find me hiking, rock climbing, skiing, walking the neighborhood with Max, or enjoying a coffee and a sweet treat. Phil, Max, and I are looking forward to meeting new neighbors and friends!

## Seeking Candidates for Chair and Chair-Elect

Steve Miller has announced that he is relocating to Hong Kong and therefore is resigning as Chair of the GACC as of June. We are grateful for Steve's service and wish him well in his new assignment. Also, as announced at the March General Meeting, Amy Merrit-Smith has resigned as Chair-Elect for personal reasons.

This means the GACC is in the unusual position of needing both a Chair to finish the 2026 year and a Chair-Elect for 2026 who will take over as Chair in 2027.

Dave Alderman has been appointed as chair of the Nominating Committee. If you are interested in serving either as 2026 Chair or 2026 Chair Elect (and thus 2027 Chair), please contact Dave at [davealderman@hotmail.com](mailto:davealderman@hotmail.com).

The timeline for the nominating committee will be as follows:

**April General Meeting** – Announce the vacancies and call for volunteers for the two positions.

**May General Meeting** – The Nominating Committee will present candidates for the two positions and accept any nominations from the floor.

**June General Meeting** – The community will vote on the candidates presented by the Nominating Committee and any nominations from the May meeting. Nominations will not be taken at the June meeting.

The new officers will start their duties with the June Board meeting.

In September, we will go back to our normal nominating process for Secretary, Treasurer, and 2027 Chair-Elect.

## Fire Safety and Your Landscape

by *Cindy van Klaveren*

Are you ready to put away the snowmelt and bring out the gardening tools? Prepare for both spring planting and fire season now.

The GACC Wildfire Preparedness Committee has arranged two presentations for the April 1st GACC Community meeting. Speakers will address fire safety topics that are critically important to Avenues residents.

Scott Haney, Salt Lake City Fire Department Wildland Urban Interface Coordinator, will stress the importance of creating defensible space with landscape materials. He will also describe other specific steps that Avenues residents can take to help harden their homes against wildfires.

Daryl Lindsey, founder of local landscaping company "YardFarmer", will present ideas for water-wise, fire-wise, eco-friendly landscaping. Her designs emphasize functional low-maintenance gardening. Daryl will convey her commitment to sustainable landscape design, emphasizing Utah native plants.



Bring your questions and join your neighbors to learn this critical information. Use this QR code for additional wildfire prevention resources.

## The Avenues Community Kindness Program Winner for March is LAURA SEITZ!

by *Jenn Beck*

Laura was nominated by her neighbor, Courtney Henley who said: "She cleans up trash in the open space above Ensign Elementary and around 11th Avenue Park. She even bought a trash pick-up grabber! Laura is a wonderful and caring neighbor - the Avenues is fortunate to have her." She will receive a \$25 gift card to the Avenues business of her choice!

**SUBMIT NOMINATIONS FOR FUTURE AWARDS!** We know that there are members of our community that are quietly going about doing good. **Let them know you notice!**

We draw a winner for this award every month, and we really love highlighting the amazing acts of kindness and service in the Avenues. Nominate your neighbors, friends, teachers - anyone who is showing care and respect through their service in our community. Winners receive a \$25 gift card to an Avenues business of their choice!

**Rules/Instructions:** Nominees must live in the Greater Avenues to qualify. **To submit a nominee,** simply  
 1) Send an email to Jenn Beck at [jennbeck@gmail.com](mailto:jennbeck@gmail.com);  
 2) Provide the name and contact info (phone & email if possible) for the person being nominated;  
 3) Give a brief description of the service/kindness.  
 Thank you to those who have submitted nominations and to all those who serve our Avenues community!

## Salt Lake City International Airport's (SLC) Spring Open House

by *Alison Smith*

April 18, 5 p.m., Salt Lake City International Airport  
 3920 W Terminal Dr, Salt Lake City, UT 84122,  
 Reservations Required

The Airport Open House provides an opportunity for the public to visit SLC without an airline ticket! Participants will enjoy experiencing the airport's shops, restaurants and art installations without being rushed to catch a flight. A self-guided tour will be available along with prizes and discounts at SLC's concessions.

Registration is currently open to Salt Lake City residents only, through April 3. After April 3, registration will open to the general public. Passes are free and are limited to four per person. Please share this with your neighbors!

Here is the link to register: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/p4626jw/lp/08c06379-0c10-422d-87f6-d8f77bb23572>

Please contact [airportinfo@slc.gov](mailto:airportinfo@slc.gov) with any questions.

## Large Item Illegal Dumping

by *Gwen Springmeyer*

As we drive through the Avenues, we often see discarded mattresses, furniture, green waste, and other debris placed on the parking strips or at street corners. This is illegal dumping. When citizens report unwanted items or trash that has been left on public or private property, SLC Sustainability will clear the items.



Report by calling **801-535-6999** (Monday-Friday, 7 am to 5 pm), or by emailing [SLCSanitation@slc.gov](mailto:SLCSanitation@slc.gov). See more at the QR Code or at <https://www.myslc.gov/s/article/Illegal-Dumping>.



**Celebrate Earth Day and School Library Month!** *by Ashley Anderson*

Ensign's 6th graders will have an Earth Day Hike on April 22nd. Whether or not you get out on a hike, you can celebrate Earth Day by reading. Have a child or grandchild looking for a seasonal read? Try, *Is it Spring?* By Kevin Henkes. This new release is in SLCPL and some district libraries.



All elementary and secondary schools in the Salt Lake City School District staff a certified teacher librarian which is unique among districts across Utah. This ensures our literacy and library media instruction is strong, enhances student learning with enrichment

opportunities, and is a great investment! Our district charter, Open Classroom, also maintains a strong library program. Thank a librarian this month and ask them for their spring picks.

- Ashley Anderson, Salt Lake City School Board, Precinct 3 [ashley.anderson@slcschools.org](mailto:ashley.anderson@slcschools.org)

**Art Showcase at Wasatch Elementary May 1**  
**Save the Date and Call for Art Donations**

You're invited! Wasatch Elementary (30 R Street) invites you to attend our annual Arts Showcase May 1st from 5:30 pm to 8 pm. Everyone is welcome to explore our student art gallery, bid at our silent auction and buy locally-made art at our Art & Craft Market.



Let's celebrate the incredible artists, both young and old, in our community!

Want to sell YOUR art at our market? It's not too late! We ask artists to split the proceeds from your art (or donate!). All you have to do is drop it off in advance at Wasatch! Email us at [wasatchartsshowcase@gmail.com](mailto:wasatchartsshowcase@gmail.com) to find out more!

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**JOHN WOOD CUONG TA & HUMOR, A GROUP SHOW**  
*Apr 17 - May 8*  
**12:11:125 GALLERY**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**  
**JOIN OUR STREET FAIR PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
**WE MEET 1ST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH THRU THE FAIR ON OCTOBER 10!**  
**HELP PLAN & EXECUTE THE FUN!**  
EMAIL: [streetfair@avenuescouncil.org](mailto:streetfair@avenuescouncil.org)  
[avenuescouncil.org/street-fair](http://avenuescouncil.org/street-fair)

**Salt Lake City Marathon Saturday, April 25th**

We need 20+ volunteers to help staff the GACC Water Station near the Salt Pavilion on Bonneville Road. We will be against the hillside, not in the Pavilion. Set-up begins at 6:00 am sharp and we usually finish clean-up by 8:45 am. Find a place to park on B Street. It is busy and fun, but cold early, so plan clothing accordingly. If you have a headlamp, bring it. It will be helpful during the first half hour. Also bring rubber gloves. They provide some clear plastic gloves that don't fit well. The Marathon gives all volunteers a T-shirt. This year it is purple. Be sure to list your size when registering. Sign up early!



- To Register go to <https://saltsakesitymarathon.com>.
1. On the upper right of the page click on Volunteer.
  2. On the next page look for Find Your Category.
  3. Below find Race Course and click on it.
  4. On the new page you will see Water Stations with a green volunteer button. Click on it.
  5. You need to read and then check the Waiver square.
  6. Fill out the Registration Form:
    - a. Include your T-Shirt size
    - b. You are signing up with a group: GACC and the Aid Station is B-3 Pavilion Cir/Bonneville Road

It is easy to sign up and the runners are so appreciative that you feel like you've done something helpful that morning. FYI: Crossing 11 th Avenue between 7:00 and 9:00 am will be a bit slow that morning. The police at the intersections will help you get across if you need to get off the Avenues. Better yet, plan to do your errands either before or after for easier movement.





**The City Library**  
THE SALT LAKE CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

801-594-8651  
455 N. F Street  
[www.slcp.org](http://www.slcp.org)

**Sweet Library April Events:**

Monday-Thursday 10 am - 8 pm  
Friday & Saturday - 10 am - 6 pm  
Sunday - Closed

**Kids' Calendar**

**Book Baby Storytime.** Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am. A fun storytime that encourages playful interactions between little ones and their caregivers. Ages 0-3

**Storytime.** Thursday mornings at 10:30 am. Stories, rhymes, and fun to help kids get ready to read! Ages 2-4

**Playtime.** Friday mornings from 10 am - noon. Playtime is an unstructured time for little ones to play with toys and make new friends! Drop in anytime between 10 am -12 pm.

**Book Fiesta at Sweet:** Storytime Yoga. Saturday, April 18 at 11 am. Jayme Vetz, from Emerald Kids Yoga, will lead a yoga storytime for little ones and their caregivers. We'll end the yoga portion by exploring creativity through completing a mindful and playful craft.

**Teen Calendar**

**Dungeons & Dragons for Beginners** (10 years old and up) A friendly introduction to Dungeons & Dragons for first-timers, led by an experienced player. Held on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 6 - 8 pm.

**Adult Calendar**

**Book Club:** The Sweet Reads Book Club will meet on Tuesday, April 28th from 7-8 pm in the meeting room to discuss **The Women** by Kristin Hannah. At the end of the evening, copies for May's book, **Wild Dark Shore** by Charlotte McConaghy, will be passed out.

**PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT**

This publication is to conduct the business of the Greater Avenues Community Council (GACC).  
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The GACC web page is [www.avenuescouncil.org](http://www.avenuescouncil.org)



**City Council District 3 March Message** by Chris Wharton

Hi Neighbors,

Can you believe how warm it has been this year? With the lack of snow and rain this season, I'm becoming increasingly concerned about fire risk in our area. Please take time to prepare your home

and make sure you have a plan in place in case of a fire. You can also schedule a home assessment with our Fire Department—they are happy to help residents reduce fire risk and stay prepared. [fire.slcp.gov/wildland/](http://fire.slcp.gov/wildland/) Next month the Mayor will present her proposed budget to the Council. I encourage you to keep an eye out for that presentation and share your thoughts or feedback with me. Stay safe, District 3, and thank you all so much!

Chris Wharton

801-535-7600, [chris.wharton@slcp.gov](mailto:chris.wharton@slcp.gov), or  
[city.council.liasons@slcp.gov](mailto:city.council.liasons@slcp.gov)

**Neighborhood Whole Foods Plant-based Potluck Luncheon**

Saturday, April 11 at Noon  
Terrace Falls Condos Social Room (5th floor)  
171 E. 3rd Ave (east entrance)

Everyone is welcome! Bring healthy whole foods with minimal oils, salt, and sugar. Please avoid animal products and refined grains. Copies of recipes to share are welcome!



**Become a Blood and Marrow Donor**

"I am blessed to be the recipient of a life-saving bone marrow transplant from my sister, Rachel. To donate is a defining moment and opportunity to save a life."

— Rabekah Louder

Learn how you can save a life through organ donation.



Rabekah Louder



The Greater Avenues Community Council recognizes the Shoshone, Paiute, Goshute, and Ute Tribes, whose ancestral homelands we occupy today. The Council honors the enduring relationship that exists between these peoples and their traditional lands, and we thank them for their longstanding land stewardship.



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**2026 UT Legislature Session Recap** by David Berg

The 2026 session of the Utah Legislature just ended and they considered a record breaking over 1,000 bills. Join us at our April general meeting where we've invited the three Utah legislators who represent the GACC area, to offer their perspectives on the latest legislative session, and to answer your questions. Each of them were also asked to write a bit about the 2026 session and here's what they had to say:

**Sen. Todd Weiler:** Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. This year in the Utah legislature, I was able to pass 21 Senate bills as well as another 16 House bills that I co-sponsored. We focused on key issues including protecting the Great Salt Lake, strengthening safeguards for children and supporting student success. We took meaningful steps to protect the Great Salt Lake by finalizing a major land agreement through H.J.R. 30, securing long-term protections, public access and Utah's mineral rights. Education remained a top priority, with nearly \$300 million in new funding to support students, teachers and classrooms. <https://senate.utah.gov/sen/WEILET/>

**Sen. Jenn Plumb:** The 2026 Utah Legislative Session was a challenging one, and I'm proud of the work we did to protect our communities and push for thoughtful, evidence-based policy. This session, I was honored to pass thirteen pieces of legislation, including advancing pediatric emergency readiness in ER settings, strengthening dyslexia screening in schools, expanding vitamin K education to protect newborns, and ending abusive non-compete clauses in veterinary medicine to improve access to animal care and protect the workforce. I also passed legislation establishing a Recovery Ready Workplace initiative, and initiated a Purple Alert system to help communities respond when vulnerable Utahns go missing. It is an honor to represent Senate District 9, and I remain committed to building a healthier, more equitable, and more just Utah for all. <https://senate.utah.gov/sen/PLUMB/>

**Rep. Jennifer Dailey-Provost:** The 2026 Utah General Legislative Session brought a mix of progress and ongoing challenges for our state. As lawmakers, we debated critical issues such as public education funding, Medicaid expansion, and environmental protection. While this session felt slightly less contentious than the past few years, many justifiably feel that the legislature fell short in addressing our water crisis, environmental quality, and protecting voting access. On social issues, the session saw continued contentious debates over LGBTQ+ and immigrant rights, with many community members pushing back against restrictive, mean-spirited measures. Despite these setbacks, grassroots activism and public engagement continues to grow stronger, setting the stage for change in the coming months. Overall, the session highlighted the importance of continued advocacy to ensure that the voices of all Utahns are heard and reflected in future policymaking. <https://house.utleg.gov/rep/DAILEJ/>

The Agenda is the monthly newsletter of the Greater Avenues Community Council, and is mailed free to all residents.



**League of Women Voters Avenues Unit meeting**

Friday, April 3, 2026, 4:30 to 6:00 PM  
Sweet Library, 455 North F Street, 84103

**RSVP to Jeanine Kuhn-Coker at**

[jkuhncoker@gmail.com](mailto:jkuhncoker@gmail.com) or call (801) 808-5097

<https://www.lwvsl.org/calendar-events/sweet-avenues-unit-032026>

**SLCPL Summer Concert Series Call for Musical Artists**

See <https://services.slcp.org/summerconcerts> for how to apply and for the schedule at six City Libraries.

**Science Saturday Kids**

Saturday, April 04: 2:30pm - 4:00pm  
Main Library - Craft Room. On the 1st Saturday of each month, kids and families can do hands-on Science Technology Engineering Art & Math activities, led by Westminster University students.

**Men's Mental Health Discussion Group**

Wednesday, April 01: 5:30pm - 7:45pm  
Marmalade Branch Library - Conference Room  
All are welcome.

**Jewish Community Center**

2 N. Medical Drive, SLC | [www.slccjcc.org](http://www.slccjcc.org) | (801) 581-0098

**Champions by Design: Mentors Change Lives:** Salt Lake Olympic Bobsled Medalist Bill Schuffenhauer tells his powerful story of resilience, from navigating foster homes to his path to the Olympic podium. He discusses how mentorship changes the trajectory of young lives. April 22 | 7 pm | Free Event, Public Welcome

**Live From 92NY: NPR's Planet Money and Economist Emily Oster:** Join the team behind the Peabody Award-winning podcast Planet Money for a conversation with New York Times-bestselling economist Emily Oster about how thinking like an economist can help people in every aspect of their lives. April 7 | 6:30 pm | Free Event, Public Welcome

**Summer Camp:** Registration is now open! Sign up your child for an amazing summer!

**American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification & Re-Cert Courses:** Interested in Lifeguarding? Several sessions are available!

**Private Events:** Book your next celebration or company event at the JCC! We have many options to suit your needs.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**GACC Community Meeting - Wed., April 1st - 6:00pm**  
Sweet Branch Library and Zoom. The Zoom link will be at [www.avenuescouncil.org](http://www.avenuescouncil.org) by 5pm on April 1st.

**Street Fair Planning Meeting - Saturday, April 4th, 10:15 a.m.** at the Avenues Library.

**GACC Board Meeting - Wed., April 7th- 6:00pm**  
Sweet Branch Library and Zoom

**2026 Annual Memory Grove Cleanup**

The cleanup is scheduled for **May 9th, 8am - 12 noon.** Everyone is invited to volunteer to help in whatever capacity and for whatever time they are able.

We also need volunteers familiar with Memory Grove to help plan the focus areas and be crew leaders the day of the cleanup. For more information and to volunteer for this role in the event, contact Kathryn Wright, 385-235-9882, [kathrynwright7@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynwright7@gmail.com).

**Save The Date - Saturday, May 16, 2026 for Volunteer Tree Planting at the Cemetery**

*by Dave Alderman*



The Friends of the Salt Lake City Cemetery and SLC Urban Forestry will host a tree-planting event at the Cemetery on Saturday, 16 May beginning at 9 am.

Although we have replaced the 270+ trees that were uprooted in the 2020 windstorm, there is still work to be done.

These new trees will also contribute to the Mark Smith Arboretum.

For more information, and to sign up, please scan the QR Code or visit <https://www.friends-slc-cemetery.com/>

We hope you can join us. Volunteers at all cemetery events will need to wear closed-toed shoes, bring gloves, sunscreen and a water bottle.



**Mark Your Calendars for Post Memorial Day Cleanup at the Cemetery - June 3rd, 4th and 6th**

Another volunteer activity to be hosted by the Friends of the Salt Lake Cemetery will be our annual **Post-Memorial Day Clean-up**. Scheduled for the evenings of Wednesday and Thursday, June 3rd and 4th, and Saturday morning, June 6th.