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AGENDA

OF THE
GREATER AVENUES
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

March
2026
Vol. XLI
Issue 3

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

Chair's March Message

by 2026 GACC Chair Steve Miller MD



Dear Neighbors,

I hope you are all enjoying living in this wonderful neighborhood. Spring is nearly here and it is fun to watch things growing in the gardens and the new buds on the trees. I love walking, biking and driving through the Avenues. Each street is so unique and beautiful, and the views of the city and the lake are breathtaking. Thanks for all you do to make this a great place to live. We all pray and hope that we will get the needed water to fill our reservoirs, streams and the Great Salt Lake.

One of the things that I love about our neighborhood are the many acts of kindness that I see every day. I see neighbors bringing trash cans in for other neighbors who are under the weather. I see neighbors visiting with each other on their daily walks. I see neighbors shoveling not only their own walks but those of their neighbors. I see neighbors picking up mail and packages for neighbors who are out of town. Each of these acts of kindness makes our neighborhood a better place to live. I encourage each of you to get to know your neighbors a little bit better, and all help each other in meaningful ways. It could be as small as a smile or a friendly hello, but we can all show kindness to our neighbors.

I would like to give a shout out to so many of you who find ways to be kind to your neighbors and friends. Each community meeting we recognize someone who goes the extra mile to be kind to their neighbors with a \$25 gift. If you would like to recommend an extra kind neighbor for us to recognize please let us know. Keep up the kindness and thank you for making this a great neighborhood to live by looking out for each other.

As I write this article, we are in the middle of the world-wide Olympic games with the Para-Olympics to follow. It has been so wonderful to watch the athletes perform, to hear their remarkable stories and to see the world come together in sport and camaraderie. I hope that we can continue to cheer each other on as we strive to make the world a more peaceful and better place to live.

This month you will have the opportunity to participate in caucus meetings for both the Republican and Democratic parties on March 17. I encourage you to get involved and help select great candidates and leaders.

Please come to our community meeting on March 4th at the Sweet library. We will hear from those who make this community great, and we will have a special presentation from the Mayor's office.

If you have questions or concerns please reach out to me at gaccchair@avenuescouncil.org.

Steve

MARCH COMMUNITY MEETINGS

GACC Community Meeting - March 4 - 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 March 4 at www.avenuescouncil.org.

GACC Board Meeting - March 11 - 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.

MARCH 4 COMMUNITY MEETING AGENDA

6:00-6:05	Welcome and Announcements Steve Miller GACC Chair
6:05-6:15	Open Forum
6:15-6:25	Community Kindness Award Jenn Beck
6:25-6:40	Gacc taxes Lexi Hoggan/Steve Miller
6:40-6:50	Art Install at Memory Grove Report Alicia de Leon
6:50-7:00	Community Engagement-Caucuses David Berg
7:00-7:05	Memory Grove Cleanup and Salt Lake Marathon Water Station
7:05-7:45	Community Reports City Council, School Board, Mayor's Office, SLPD, Fire Department, Sweet Library
7:45	Adjourn and Clean Up



Det. Marie Stewart, SLPD, presents her monthly crime report at the February GACC meeting.

**Board Member Spotlight:
Charlie Vandel**



I'm excited to help represent Area 4 Mideast Avenues! I was born and raised in the lower Aves and truly believe it is the best neighborhood in the state. The accessibility to downtown, trailheads, the U of U, and the integration of great restaurants and cafes is very special. I enjoy going on walks around the neighborhood and taking in the eclectic architectural styles and beautiful yards. I also sing in the community choir, frequent the 11th Avenue tennis courts, and play saxophone in a couple of jazz bands around town. I am looking forward to giving back to this great community, and excited to meet new neighbors along the way!

**THE AVENUES COMMUNITY KINDNESS PROGRAM
WINNER FOR FEBRUARY IS RON GUTIERREZ!**

by Jenn Beck

Ron was nominated by his daughter, Helena who said: "He is my dad, but he also is genuinely a decent person. He does so much that goes unnoticed, whether that be shoveling our neighbor's driveways or sweeping debris or fixing a broken sprinkler. He truly cares about this community and everyone in it. And I don't know how many times he has helped lost dogs or cats or how many pets he goes out of his way to catch or visit if they need some extra attention. I just wanted to nominate him to thank him for everything and show that small acts do not go unnoticed." He will receive a \$25 gift card to the Avenues business of his 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;
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!

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.

2026 Annual Memory Grove Cleanup

The cleanup is scheduled for **Saturday, 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 team leaders the day of the cleanup. For more information and to volunteer for a team leader role in the event, contact Kathryn Wright, kathrynjwright7@gmail.com. 385-235-9882.

Call for Volunteers at Hildegard's Pantry

It has come to our attention that Hildegard's Pantry, operated by the Congregation of the Cathedral Church of St. Mark, has experienced a severe volunteer drop due to the fear of Immigration enforcement officers in the local community. The Pantry is open three days and one evening during the week, although volunteer chores are not limited to those hours.

Volunteers participate in light work (stocking shelves, unloading boxes, sorting), data entry (very simple, one screen) and heavier work (unloading trucks, moving boxes). Further information is available at the Pantry's website, <https://stmarksutah.org/foodpantry>, or by email or phone at: hildegardes@stmarksutah.org; 801 328 2303. The location is 231 E 100 S, Salt Lake City, UT 84111.

Wasatch Elementary Art Sale

by Julia Lyon



Are you an artist looking to sell your art locally? Wasatch Elementary, 30 R Street, hosts the Wasatch Art & Craft Market at our annual Art Showcase on

May 1st. This event is a neighborhood tradition. The entire school is turned into a student gallery while also giving local artists a chance to sell (or donate!) their art at our market.

Funds raised enable our fine arts program, a three-decade commitment to providing every Wasatch student instruction in dance/drama/music/visual arts. Artists do NOT need to be present at the market.

To sell (or donate!) your art at the Wasatch Art & Craft Market, please email liesel.boyce@gmail.com. Thank you for your support of Wasatch Elementary!



UTAH FOOD BANK & local pantries statewide

Utah Food Bank Food Drive

Saturday, March 14th is the annual Feed Utah food drive. Bring canned food items to the church building at **135 A Street** between 8 - 10 am, or donate online at your convenience anytime that week. Last year the Avenues donated 3 truckloads of food.

<https://www.utahfoodbank.org/>



Salt Lake School Board March Message *by Ashley Anderson*

March is a full month of learning for students in the Salt Lake City School District. Winter holidays have concluded and it won't be Spring Break until early April. While students and families may have spring fever, remember that student attendance is one of the greatest predictors of academic achievement. Missing school for athletics and activities? Don't worry, but make sure to communicate with your teachers about your absence. Research shows students in competitive athletics and activities frequently have higher GPAs than students who don't participate, perhaps because of these important time management skills.

Spring weather can be unpredictable, and residents may see more kids walking to and from school with Daylight Savings Time. Make sure to commute slowly, come to a complete stop at stop signs, and thank your school's crossing guards!

Any questions or ideas about our public schools? Reach out to me – ashley.anderson@slcschools.org

Wildfire Preparedness: Emergency Alerts *By Kati Miller*

Now is the time to prepare for wildfire season. One way to start is to familiarize yourself with and enable emergency notifications on your smartphone. You may also consider downloading the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mobile app to receive real-time alerts from the National Weather Service, easily access disaster preparedness and recovery resources, and more. Learn more by scanning the QR codes below:

- QR Code 1: "Emergency Alerts in Utah" <https://dem.utah.gov/be-informed/#receive-alerts> 

- QR Code 2: "Enabling Emergency Alerts on iPhone" <https://support.apple.com/en-us/102516> 

- QR Code 3: "Enabling Emergency Alerts on Android" <https://support.google.com/android/answer/9319337?hl=en> 

- QR Code 4: "FEMA Mobile App" <https://www.fema.gov/about/news-multimedia/mobile-products> 



Magical Moss *by Hilary Jacobs*

As you walk in the Foothills you may be surprised to encounter moss. How does this moisture-loving plant, familiarly found in damp or shaded environments, survive in arid ecosystems? Moss have adapted to living in deserts all around the world. Lacking vascular systems to transport water and nutrients, moss instead absorb these directly into their leaf cells from the environment through osmosis. A cushion of moss—which is actually a thick cluster of individual plants—provides structural support and helps the plants conserve water.

So how does a brown, withered clump of desiccated moss bounce back after long periods of dehydration? With a little water moss cells will instantly revive; the hardiest desert species can survive 97% water loss without cell damage. This is how these ancient plants—even in the harshest conditions — can magically spring back to life and carry on!

SLCDPU North Bench Pump Station Construction Update *by Sophie Friedrichs*



Work on the North Bench Pump Station project is continuing as planned, with steady progress at both the pump station site and at Morris Reservoir. Crews have completed major underground work at the future pump station location, clearing the way for construction of the new pump station building.

New underground water lines are being installed to connect the reservoir and the pump station. These improvements will help strengthen the water system and support reliable service for the community. Older water lines will be taken out of service once the new lines are ready.

Installation of the pipes that will carry water from the new pump station is complete, and testing is expected to begin within the next month. Additional work includes replacing an aging sewer line using methods that minimize surface disruption, as well as preparing a new access road between the reservoir and the pump station. Final road paving will take place near the end of the project.

At this time, no major water service interruptions are expected. We appreciate the community's patience as this important infrastructure project moves forward. The Public Outreach hotline continues to receive feedback from residents, where our team works towards quick and thorough responses to questions and concerns. Anticipated project schedule milestones are below:

Trailhead access and parking is expected to reopen summer 2026 (target May-June)

Pump station is anticipated to be operational summer 2026 (target June 2026)

Old pump station decommissioning summer 2026 (target start date in July 2026)

Waterline connections that require a temporary shutdown are anticipated to be complete by end of April 2026. For More Information: Visit slc.gov/utilities/north-bench-pump-station/ or contact the project team at 855-925-2801 (Project Code: 12065) or via email at 100317@publicinput.com.



www.slcp.org
801-594-8651
455 N F Street

Sweet Library March Events:
Monday-Thursday 10 am - 8 pm
Friday & Saturday - 10 am - 6 pm
Sundays-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.

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, March 24th from 7 - 8 pm in the meeting room to discuss *The Wedding People* by Alison Espach. At the end of the evening, copies for April's book, *The Women* by Kristin Hannah, will be passed out.

Art Exhibit - Terence K. Stephens

Stop by the Sweet Branch library meeting room to see Terence's exhibit *Desert Blooms*. His floral paintings come from inspiration found in Palm Springs and Salt Lake City. The exhibit will run through March 28.

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

This publication is to conduct the business of the Greater Avenues Community Council (GACC).

Mail correspondence to
GACC, P.O. Box 1679, Salt Lake City, UT 84110.

GACC 2026 Officer and Editor Contacts:

NOTE NEW EMAIL SUFFIX

Chair: Steve Miller MD, gaccchair@avenuescouncil.org
Treasurer: Lexi Hoggan, treasurer@avenuescouncil.org

Newsletter: Olivia Christensen,
newsletter@avenuescouncil.org

Online Newlsetter: Thank you **Barack Williard**

The GACC web page is www.avenuescouncil.org

City Council District 3 March Message
by *Chris Wharton*



Dear Residents,

Thank you to everyone who has reached out to me and other Council Members regarding the proposed street closures requested by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for the 2027 Temple Square Open House. I truly appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts and concerns.

On February 10, the Council shared your feedback with the City Departments responsible for keeping our city running safely and smoothly, as well as with representatives of the Church. Our goal is to help ensure the safety of the estimated 22,000 daily visitors over the six-month event, while also prioritizing residents' ability to move through the city efficiently, preserve parking access, maintain reliable emergency routes, and address other important community needs.

The Council will hold a public hearing on this item on March 10 at 7:00 pm I encourage you to participate and share your input to chris.wharton@slc.gov. As always, you are welcome to contact me or my staff directly. We are committed to addressing your concerns thoughtfully and treating every resident with respect.

Chris Wharton

801-535-7600, chris.wharton@slc.gov,
city.council.liasons@slc.gov



NEIGHBORHOOD EASTER EGG HUNT



March 28, 2026	Arrive 9:45 am	Egg hunt starts 10:00 am sharp
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589 East 18th Avenue
Snow, rain or shine

Easter Bunny!

**Don't forget your
basket!**



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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- Born & raised on The Avenues
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Ashley Anderson
For School Board Precinct 3

PAUL VINCENT BERNARD
JOSANNE GLASS
MICHELLE MACFARLANE
Mar 20 - Apr 10
PHILLIPS GALLERY



Avenues Marathon Aid Station April 25
11th Avenue and B Street
6:30 to 8:30 a.m.

The 2026 Salt Lake Marathon will be April 25. The GACC will be sponsoring the aid station/water tables on Bonneville Boulevard (against the hillside not in the Salt Pavillion). This will be our 6th year helping the runners. It's a very busy, early morning, but it is fun and very rewarding. Circle your calendar if you want to help. There will be more information in the April Agenda on how to be a part of the event.
<https://saltlakecitymarathon.com/>

45 is the new 50
Don't delay your colonoscopy.

- ✓ Preventable
- ✓ Treatable
- ✓ Beatable




 /LDSHospital  /Intermountain  /IntermtnHealthcare

the
A V E N U E S
street fair

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

JOIN THE
STREET FAIR
PLANNING
COMMITTEE

Our first meeting: March 7, 2026 10:15 am
Cucina Deli, 1026 E 2nd Avenue

Artist Submissions and Vendor Applications open mid March.
Help Choose This Year's Location!

This fair doesn't happen by accident. It happens because neighbors decide to build it together.

Questions?
streetfair@slc-avenues.org

This year the Fair is on Saturday, September 12th, on an Avenues street to be decided!

Jewish Community Center

2 N. Medical Drive, SLC | www.sljcc.org | (801) 581-0098

Cooking Class: Filipino Veggie Egg Rolls

March 9 | 11 AM \$20 Member | \$30 Public

Sweater Felting Class: Artist and former Wasatch Art Teacher Julie Lewis leads an upcycling class using dry felting techniques on wool clothing items.

March 10 | 5:30 pm Member \$20 | Public \$30

Summer Camp: **Registration begins March 16.** The camp guide is now available online.

Live From 92NY: Sarah Jessica Parker and Ruthie Rodgers on Food and Life

March 18 | 6:30 pm Free Event – Public Welcome!

Climate Change: What to Know, What to Do

March 25 | 6 PM | Free and Open to the Public

Sound Bath March 29 | 2 PM

\$20 Member | \$35 Public

Passover Seder: Join us for a family-friendly Seder lead by David Asman. **April 2 | 5 pm** Adult \$60 | \$30 youth

Private Events: Book your next celebration or company event at the JCC! We have a variety of options!

Dark Sky License Plate Available Now!



www.darkskyutah.org/news-events/dark-sky-license-plate

A brilliant, star-studded dark sky – who doesn't love this glorious display of nature? Just about nobody. Most Utahns are fortunate to have been immersed in this stunning natural phenomenon. But now this is out of reach for the majority of North Americans. People travel long distances to revel in our amazing resource – Dark Skies!

Utah has a greater number of officially designated International Dark Sky Places than any other state. A new special group vehicle license plate is available to celebrate our dark skies, remind people to honor and protect the dark, and raise funds for dark sky programming at our state parks. If you love the stars, you'll love this license plate.

You can order it on the DarkSky Utah website, <https://www.darkskyutah.org/news-events/dark-sky-license-plate>. 500 applications are required before the Department of Motor Vehicles will begin production. Order yours now to support this crucial movement.

Avenues Free Exercise Class – the best fun way to stay in shape! by Jan Root janroot@xmission.com

The Avenues has a free exercise class that has been meeting twice per week since 1986! It helps us older people with core strength, flexibility and balance. People of all abilities and ages attend.

Currently Jan Root leads the class. We meet at the Federal Heights Ward (1300 Fairfax Road) gymnasium at 8:30 am on Mondays and Wednesdays (enter from the east). Our exercise sessions typically run a little over an hour. Rug samples are available to use for floor cushioning or you can bring a towel or yoga mat.



Ditch the Take-Away Containers by Jill van Langeveld

Plastic and styrofoam takeaway containers dominate ocean plastic waste.

Unfortunately, waste is almost always unavoidable when ordering take-out food, so it is almost always better to dine in.

Or bring your own containers from home to carry home leftovers.

My son always brings his own containers to family parties where leftovers are plentiful!