



the
WEST VIEW



- Utah is experiencing the worst drought in 125 years of recorded history. Find out ways to “slow the flow” on page 9

This issue was partially funded with a federal grant through Salt Lake County's Emergency Rental Assistance Program.



PHOTO BY DAVID RICKETTS

Stained glass windows adorn the Art Castle, which was originally an LDS Ward house built in 1900 in a Victorian Gothic Revival architectural style.

Nonprofit plans to transform historic church into creative, cultural space

By Ivan Carrasco

Castles in the United States are rare. A castle devoted to the arts on Salt Lake City's West Side? Rarer still, but there it is in Poplar Grove, at the southwest corner of 900 West and 100 South.

The Art Castle, as the building is now known, was formerly LA East Studios, a world-famous recording studio. Predating the reels and

lyrics, the building was filled with different music: hymns and harmonies during its original life as the fifteenth ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, part of the original nineteen ward houses that were built by the Mormon Church in the early 1900s.

A century later, the historic building will continue serving as a location where folks can gather and engage with the arts as the

headquarters of a local nonprofit, the Utah Arts Alliance.

The building's history is perhaps best captured in what was formerly the Chapel recording space, the building's main studio where many world-famous artists had recorded. The building has a rich history in media, with organizations like Disney and venerable

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Suazo Center provides bilingual assistance to new businesses

By Edgar Zúñiga

Twenty years ago this summer, State Senator Pete Suazo, the first Latino to serve on Utah's Capitol Hill, died in a tragic ATV accident, but his legacy is alive and well at the business center that bears his name in Glendale.

The Suazo Business Center, a non-profit organization founded in 2003, continues Sen. Suazo's life's work of empowering everyday Utahns, particularly those he represented from Salt Lake's West Side neighborhoods, many of whom are

people of color. Since its founding, the center has helped more than 8,000 Utahns make their entrepreneurial dreams a reality. Edith Lopez, an immigrant from Mexico and co-owner of Cakes by Edith in Taylorsville, is one.

“I saw an ad at the library on a small sheet of paper. I went to Suazo (Business Center) because I didn't know where to begin,” said Lopez, speaking to The West View in Spanish. “They were spectacular. They were kind, they never made me

See SUAZO, page 10

Centro Suazo provee asesoría bilingüe para nuevos negocios

Por Edgar Zúñiga

Hace veinte años este verano que el senador estatal Pete Suazo, el primer senador latino en el capitolio de Utah, murió en un trágico accidente de cuatrimoto todoterreno (ATV), pero su legado sigue vivo en el centro de negocios que lleva su nombre en Glendale.

El Suazo Business Center, una organización sin fines de lucro fundada en 2003, continúa con la labor de toda una vida del senador Suazo, empoderando a residentes de Utah, en espe-

cial a los que representaba en los barrios del “West Side,” del occidente de Salt Lake City, la mayoría quienes son minorías étnicas. Desde su fundación, el centro ha ayudado a más de 8.000 emprendedores a hacer sus sueños empresariales una realidad. Edith López, una inmigrante mexicana y co-propietaria de la pastelería Cakes by Edith in Taylorsville, es una de estos emprendedores.

“Vi un anuncio en un papeli- to en la biblioteca. Fui a Suazo

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Nor Aung
 Ivan Carrasco
 Angie Eliason
 Roberto Elguera
 Dane Hess
 Dim Hung
 Rachel McKeen
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 Veanna Pau'u
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COPY EDITORS

Laurie Eliason
 Robert Trishman

SPANISH INTERPRETER

Edgar Zúñiga

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Vegor Pedersen

AD DESIGN

Jon Burton

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OUR MISSION

To increase awareness of west-side issues through local journalism that informs, engages and connects diverse communities in Salt Lake City.

OUR VISION

Through a commitment to social justice and increasing civic participation we create a more informed, engaged and equitable community.

ABOUT US

The West View is a product of West View Media, a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) community news organization that offers an authentic look into Salt Lake City's west side through stories written primarily by community members.

Published quarterly, The West View is mailed to over 22,000 homes and businesses throughout the Fairpark, Glendale, Rose Park, Westpointe, Jordan Meadows and Poplar Grove neighborhoods. An additional 2,000 copies are hand-distributed to local businesses and public spaces in nearby areas.

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If you have a story tip or would like to contribute a story to The West View, please pitch your idea to our Community Newsroom by sending an email to: editors@westviewmedia.org. Include your full name, address, phone number, and a brief description of your story. You will be invited to attend a Community Newsroom meeting to discuss story ideas and to receive feedback from other newsroom participants. The West View reserves the right to edit all submissions and letters for libel, slander, clarity and length.

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from the editors

At The West View, we recognize that every person has a unique perspective and experience that reflects our community, and we provide platforms for disenfranchised voices to be heard.

We were dismayed to learn of the Utah Legislature's resolution urging the Utah State School Board to ban the teaching of critical race theory. Critical race theory examines how racism and disenfranchisement against people of color persists through our country's systems and institutions. It is not an indictment of guilt for all white people, nor is it an attempt to gain special advantages for people of color. It's simply an awareness of existing, systemic inequalities.

Let us be clear: Instead of "prevent[ing] schools from endorsing discriminatory concepts," as the Senate claimed to be doing, this resolution seeks to silence the very voices recognizing real discriminatory practices in our society.

de los editores

En The West View, reconocemos que cada persona tiene una perspectiva y experiencia única que refleja a nuestra comunidad, y proveemos plataformas para que las voces privadas de sus derechos puedan ser oídas.

Nos consternamos al saber de la resolución de la legislatura estatal que le insta a la junta escolar estatal de Utah a prohibir la enseñanza de la teoría crítica de la raza. La teoría crítica de la raza examina cómo el racismo y la marginalización contra las minorías étnicas persiste en los sistemas e instituciones de nuestro país. No es una acusación de culpabilidad para los blancos anglosajones, ni es un esfuerzo para que las minorías étnicas obtengan ventajas especiales. Es simplemente un reconocimiento de las inequidades existentes y sistémicas.

Seamos claros: en lugar de "evitar que las escuelas aprueben conceptos discriminatorios" como dice estar haciendo el senado, esta resolución busca silenciar las mismas voces que reconocen las verdaderas prácticas discriminatorias en nuestra sociedad.

Just five years ago, racial justice was neither radical nor partisan. Jeb Bush, then the frontrunner for the Republican presidential nomination, decried the unequal access to education and economic opportunities experienced by people of color; however, since then, a national political movement has grown to silence the voices speaking truth to power.

This resolution is especially troubling considering it was passed just before the 100th anniversary of the Tulsa race massacre, when unchecked systemic racism boiled over into the mass murder of Black Americans by a mob that was virtually state-sanctioned. June also marks the annual celebration of Juneteenth, when slavery was finally ended, and LGBTQ Pride month, which is also related to the fight against systemic oppression.

On May 25, we also observed the first anniversary of George Floyd's murder and the beginning of glob-

al protests against the very systemic racism that our Legislature now seeks to shield from scrutiny. They claim to be responding to constituents concerned about the implications of critical race theory; however, they're ignoring the voices of constituents who have marched, protested, and spoken out during the past year of demonstrations.

The resolution suggests the Utah Legislature sees systemic racism as purely political, and that it can be treated as a political issue. That luxury isn't afforded to people of color, for whom systemic racism is personal in the most visceral ways: restricted opportunity, unequal outcomes in the justice system, and disproportionate rates of violent interactions with police.

Our Legislature has chosen to ignore the voices and erase the experiences and identities of disenfranchised members of our community. It is incumbent on all of us to refuse that erasure.

Hace tan solo cinco años, la justicia racial no era ni radical ni partidista. Jeb Bush, entonces el favorito para la nominación presidencial republicana, lamentó el acceso desigual a la educación y a las oportunidades económicas que experimentan las minorías étnicas; sin embargo, desde entonces, ha crecido un movimiento político nacional para silenciar las voces que 'le dicen la verdad al poder'.

La resolución es especialmente preocupante considerando que fue aprobada justo antes del centenario de la masacre racial de Tulsa, evento en el cual el racismo sistémico desenfrenado se convirtió en un asesinato en masa de estadounidenses negros por una turba que fue básicamente sancionada por el estado. Junio también marca la celebración anual de 'Juneteenth', cuando finalmente terminó la esclavitud, y el mes del Orgullo LGBTQ, que también está relacionado con la lucha contra la opresión sistémica.

El 25 de mayo, también observamos el primer aniversario del asesinato de George Floyd y el comienzo de las protestas a nivel mundial con-

tra el racismo sistémico que nuestra legislatura ahora busca proteger del escrutinio. Afirman estar respondiendo a electores preocupados por las implicaciones de la teoría crítica de la raza; sin embargo, están ignorando las voces de los electores que han marchado, protestado y hecho un clamado durante el último año de manifestaciones.

La resolución sugiere que la legislatura estatal de Utah ve el racismo sistémico como algo netamente político y que puede tratarse como si fuese un problema político. Ese no es un lujo que las minorías étnicas se pueden dar, para quienes el racismo sistémico es personal de la forma más visceral: oportunidad restringida, resultados desiguales en el sistema judicial y tasas desproporcionadas de interacciones violentas con la policía.

Nuestra legislatura ha escogido ignorar las voces y suprimir las experiencias e identidades de los miembros de nuestra comunidad más desfavorecidos. Nos incumbe a todos rechazar esa supresión.

Advocacy group pushes for better housing and homelessness policies

By Roberto Elguera

Behind one of Salt Lake City's historical landmarks on Rio Grande Street lives a community of people of various backgrounds. On any given day, you can see men and women fixing tents and tarps in their encampments. Some are listening to music while others are lighting cigarettes. This is a common scene in other areas of the Salt Lake Valley.

For about a year, the Salt Lake County Health Department has been clearing out these encampment communities, displacing people and leaving some to lose what little belongings they have. Although the Health Department's concern is to get people into a shelter and a warm bed, these "camp abatements" raise the question: is this the most humane way to help people who are living on the streets? Some local advocates think not.

"All it does is send agitated people all throughout the neighborhood who have nothing to do, have nowhere to go. It doesn't help the situation," said Wasatch Tenants United member John, who asked that his real name not be used.

However, Michelle Hoon, Salt Lake City Policy Manager for the Homeless Engagement Response Team, said that the abatements are necessary for public health and safety reasons and the city is helping by organizing resource fairs ahead of camp abatements. These fairs bring shelter, health care and mental health providers, as well as legal resources directly to people in the encampments.

Last April, Wasatch Tenants United (WTU), a group of volunteers that speaks up against unfair living conditions and rising living costs in the Salt Lake Valley, organized a hygiene kit drive to hand out convenient, on-the-go supplies to various encampments around the city.

The number of donations of toothpaste, sanitary wipes, and deodorant seemed endless as the volunteers organized the bags in a factory-line fashion. In total, 75 hygiene kits were made. The kits were split into four groups, with the Rio Grande group receiv-

ing priority, but there weren't enough kits to go around.

As the volunteers made their way back to their cars, one man called out, "Do you have any more?" John turned around and said somberly, "Sorry man." No one said much afterward, but the WTU volunteers realized much more work is needed. As street campsites get shut down, others pop up.

According to the 2020 Point-In-Time Count, there were a total of 1,958 people considered to be homeless in Salt Lake County – an increase of 114 people from 2019. From 2017-2019, the total percentage of people returning to homelessness after having been in housing has remained around 40 percent.

One aspect of the homelessness solution lies with the balance of shelters and housing, said Michelle Hoon.

"If you just have a ton of shelters and you don't have any outflow, you don't have anywhere for people to go from that system. Those shelters are just going to build up and you're going to spend more money on your emergency services when what you really want is to get people flowing through that system and into housing," she said.

WTU plans to keep pushing for more affordable housing in Salt Lake City and have remained vocal on social media. The group is currently demanding inclusionary zoning to be put in place in future housing developments, especially after the news of the former Road Home homeless shelter on 210 S. Rio Grande Street being replaced by a new apartment complex called The RIO.

The RIO will house 210 units. At the moment, about 60 units will be affordable for those making around \$35,000-\$49,250 a year. WTU wonders how affordable these units will be, considering that Utah's minimum wage is still at \$7.25 an hour, which equates to about \$15,000 a year for someone working full time.

An increase in the minimum wage would give working-class people more options for housing but that may take some years to be in full effect if approved by the state.

For now, those seeking affordable housing may need to settle for what they can



PHOTO BY ROBERTO ELGUERA

Volunteers meet at Jefferson Park in the Ballpark Neighborhood last April to assemble hygiene kits before passing out the kits to encampments throughout the city.

find. Tina Balderrama, age 51, was given a two-month notice to vacate her rented home of six years to make way for construction of the Kozo House Apartments at 175 N. 600 West – another one of the many luxury developments changing the look of Salt Lake City's West Side.

After getting help relocating to an apartment complex in Murray, Balderrama and her grandchildren have experienced clogged drains, broken appliances, dog feces covering the walkways, and two ho-

micides within a week – one on the intersection leaving the complex, where a man was shot and killed, and one in the parking lot, where a mother was stabbed as she confronted a group of teenagers using racial slurs.

"I'd rather be camping on the north side of my old backyard now than be a prisoner inside my own home with the kids. I will not let them go outside; they are not allowed to take the dogs out either. We are prisoners here," Balderrama said.

First lady's visit to Glendale makes big impression on locals

By Jacobo Rueda

First lady Dr. Jill Biden came to Salt Lake City on May 5 to visit Glendale Middle School and a COVID-19 vaccination clinic in Jordan Park as part of a nationwide tour focusing on education in areas most affected by the pandemic. Glendale students, parents, and school faculty alike spoke about the once-in-a-lifetime experience of meeting a government dignitary in their neighborhood.

The news that Biden was coming to a middle school on the west side of the city was met with disbelief. For students, it was hard to imagine their school being picked as a stop for a government official.

"Our school isn't that popular. It's just like any regular school," said seventh grader Diana Hernandez-Hernandez.

Other students recognized the perception people outside of their neighborhood have of their school

and of the area itself. "Normally, people look at our school and say it's a bad school," said Jasmine Vasquez, who is also in the seventh grade. Even some parents had a difficult time processing the news of Biden's visit to their kids' school.

Losaline Kaufusi's son Ilai attends Glendale Middle School. He was photographed by the Salt Lake Tribune placing a lei on Biden's shoulders. When Kaufusi heard that her son had to be tested for COVID-19 because the first lady was coming to his school, she could hardly process the news.

"I didn't believe him," said Kaufusi, "I was like, 'the first lady of what?' and [Ilai] was kind of like, 'the first lady, like the president.'"

But despite parents' and students' incredulity, the wife of the President of the United States was coming to their school and preparations needed to be made.

Ukulele club members Lupe Hansen and Joshua Garcia,



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GLENDALE MIDDLE SCHOOL VICE PRINCIPAL, GREG HOGAN

From left to right: Dane Hess, Sariye Cage, Dr. Jill Biden, and Abby Cox. Glendale Middle School student, Sariye Cage (8th grade), presents her poster to first lady Jill Biden on May 5.

along with Vasquez and Hernandez-Hernandez, got together virtually at different times to practice for Biden's visit. As for Ilai, once he was tested for COVID-19 and cleared, Kaufusi arranged the proper Tongan attire for him to wear: a ta'ovala formal mat, kafa, a traditional rope tied around the

waist, and tupenu (or lava-lava).

"All worn together shows that you are welcoming those you meet with humility, love, and respect," said Saineha Hiehiapo, a digital literacy teacher at Glendale Middle School who is also Ilai's aunt.

Meanwhile, Dane Hess, a teacher who was selected to be on Biden's escorting detail during her stop at the school, was also preparing for her arrival. When he first heard she would be coming, he was "really excited."

"I felt it'd be a great honor." Because he was to spend time around Biden, his screening was more exhaustive to the point where it became overwhelming.

"White House staff are asking me a bunch of questions, Secret Service, background checks," he said, "They want to rearrange my classroom, interview students, COVID testing. I was like, okay, this is not just a regular visit."

Once Biden arrived, Hess delighted in conversation with her while presenting both the school's and student's progress. He recalls the first lady being personable and "down to earth."

"Once she came in the classroom," he said, "she felt like another

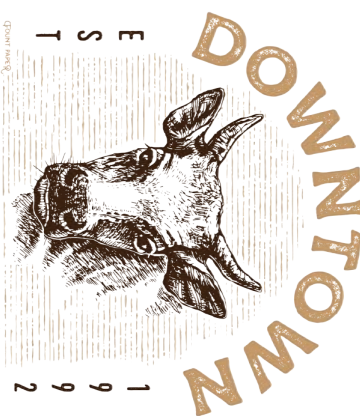
teacher in the room and that's how I introduced her."

Given the events of the past year with lockdowns, remote learning, and the economic downturn as a result of the pandemic, Biden's visit to the neighborhood and to the school had an importance that most students were unaware of. Parents and teachers recognized the impact of the first lady's visit even if students did not fully appreciate the magnitude of the situation.

"It changes the narrative of the way that people perceive us," said Hiehiapo, acknowledging the immigrant and working class roots of the area.

"For her to be like 'this is where I'm going to come to,' I felt like it raised people's perception of the value of the West Side," she said.

Hess said Biden's visit highlighted the multicultural aspect of the school and of the neighborhood. "I think hopefully she and her staff walked away with all of the great work that people are doing in our community," he said, "I'm hoping that's something that shines through for them."



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Volunteer ‘Friends of’ groups make huge difference in quality of parks

By **Melanie Pehrson**

Well-kept, attractive urban green space provides many benefits, including environmental impact, mental health, community pride, and social capital. And these imperative public spaces need our help. According to Luke Allen, Salt Lake City Public Lands Community Outreach, Events, and Mar-

keting Manager, we will need to increase our public green space by 90 acres by the year 2040 to keep up with projected population growth. In addition, upkeep and revitalization of already existing green spaces is essential.

With this kind of growth in the forecast, community residents are being asked to step up to the plate, investing in our own public spaces by creating Friends of Groups

through the Salt Lake City Public Lands Parks Division. Allen states, “A ‘Friends of’ group is an organized group of community members who dedicate a portion of their time caring for and advocating for a specific park within Salt Lake City.” It means that Salt Lake City recognizes you as the stewardship organization of the park in your neighborhood. As such, SLCPD can provide support through marketing and materials to succeed in your specific goals for the neighborhood park. This need is especially important on Salt Lake City’s West Side. Of the four “active Friends of” groups in SLC, all serve parks east of I-15.

So, what expectations does Salt Lake City Public Lands have for their “Friends of” groups? “We want every group to mold itself to fit the specific needs of the park,” Allen said. Residents whose hearts are invested in their community green spaces can take the reins in conservation, maintenance, com-

munity outreach, improvement fundraising, and hosting events and programs in the park depending on a specific park’s needs.

As individuals in SLC park communities befriend their neighborhoods, care about their community, and take pride in contributing to its improvement, the desire to serve their community in small ways becomes natural. Judi Short, chair of Friends of Gilgal Gardens, for example found herself enjoying her time volunteering while completing the Utah State University Extension master gardener program. She became familiar with the park and befriended the space. She enjoyed the peace and proximity to her neighborhood. Sarah Woolsey of the Friends of Fairmont Park shares a similar story. In her 20 years of walking and cycling Fairmont park, just two blocks from her home, she and her husband decided to invest time in the rose garden, pruning, mulching, and caring for a small space.

From there, “it just kind of snowballed,” she said.

Anchoring the work in partnerships also provides success, says Woolsey. Talk to your Parks, Natural Lands, Urban Forestry, and Trails (PNUT) board representative, the Parks Division, local businesses, the community council, the city council to engage and work together for a common goal. Invite people who live, work, recreate, in and around the park to notice, to see, to act, no matter when and no matter for how long. “Let people take their interest and run with it!”

We can transform our gathering spaces into destinations, places of togetherness and healing. If you or someone you know have a public city park that is close to your heart that you would like to take under your wing, contact Luke Allen at luke.allen@slcgov.com or 801-972-7891.



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La Comisión de Equidad Racial en la Policía de SLC quiere comentarios públicos

Por Sheena Wolfe

Las recomendaciones de la Comisión de Policía de Equidad Racial de la SLC se publicaron en marzo después de nueve meses de estudio, y ahora se les pide a los ciudadanos que revisen las recomendaciones y hagan comentarios.

La comisión de 13 miembros se formó en respuesta a las protestas de junio de 2020 en Salt Lake City (y en todo Estados Unidos) con respecto a la brutalidad policial contra los afroamericanos y el racismo institucional dentro de la aplicación de la ley. La misión de

la comisión es examinar las políticas, los programas, la cultura y el presupuesto del Departamento de Policía de SLC y hacer recomendaciones para un cambio significativo y sostenible, según el sitio web (www.slcrepcommission.com).

Después de reunirse semanalmente con miembros del departamento de policía y estudiar modelos de mejores prácticas, la comisión hizo recomendaciones en tres áreas clave: capacitación policial, políticas y prácticas, y seguridad escolar.

Para ayudar a llevar la información a la comunidad, en mayo

se llevó a cabo una reunión virtual del ayuntamiento para explicar las recomendaciones y recibir comentarios del público por teléfono y correo electrónico. La votación en línea durante la reunión indicó que la mayoría de los participantes aprobaron las recomendaciones de la comisión, que incluyen la mejora de las pautas para la recertificación de la capacitación de campo, la capacitación de intervención en crisis, el reclutamiento de agentes de policía afroamericanos como capacitadores de campo y una mayor interacción entre los oficiales y las personas a quienes atender. “Queremos centrarnos en la educación y la divulgación”, dijo el comisionado Steve Anjewierden, durante la reunión virtual de mayo.

Otros temas de discusión incluyeron entrenamiento en defusión y sensibilidad racial; implementación de una encuesta interna para determinar el grado de pre-

juicio racial dentro del departamento de policía; mejoras en cómo se manejan los problemas de salud mental; participación durante todo el año de los policías escolares que trabajan con jóvenes en riesgo; y capacitación adicional sobre diversidad, equidad, inclusión y prejuicios implícitos en la academia de policía.

La comisión también consideró el uso de cámaras corporales. Los hallazgos muestran que el Departamento de Policía de SLC actualmente cumple o excede los requisitos en esta área; sin embargo, se señaló que el departamento puede hacer un mejor trabajo al revisar y auditar el metraje de la cámara.

MJ Powell, enlace juvenil de la comisión, dijo que siente que la comisión ha hecho un buen trabajo al establecer pautas y espera ver más comentarios de los jóvenes, especialmente con respecto a la seguridad escolar.

La alcaldesa Erin Mendenhall

dijo que la ciudad contrató a una persona para coordinar los servicios y programas entre la ciudad, las escuelas y el departamento de policía, que es una de las recomendaciones que ya se ha instituido. Mendenhall también dijo que hay dinero en el presupuesto para contratar personal de salud mental adicional.

Las copias de la reunión virtual de mayo, otra reunión virtual celebrada en enero y las reuniones de la Comisión REP están disponibles en facebook.com/SLCREPCommission. Se puede encontrar más información, incluida una copia de los hallazgos de la comisión, en el sitio web de la comisión.

La comisión continuará reuniéndose y recibiendo comentarios públicos hasta junio. Se pueden hacer comentarios llamando al (801) 708-0935 o enviando un correo electrónico a: REPCommission@slcgov.com.

SLC Racial Equity in Policing Commission wants public comment

By Sheena Wolfe

The recommendations of The SLC Racial Equity in Policing Commission were released in March after nine months of study, and citizens are now asked to review the recommendations and make comments.

The 13-member commission was formed in response to protests in June 2020 in Salt Lake City (and across the United States) regarding police brutality against African Americans and institutional racism within law enforcement. The commission's mission is to examine the SLC Police Department's policies, programs, culture and budget and make recommendations for meaningful and sustainable change, according to the website (www.slcrepcommission.com).

After meeting weekly with po-

lice department members and studying best-practice models, the commission made recommendations in three key areas: police training, policies and practices, and school safety.

To help get the information to the community, a virtual town-hall meeting was held in May to explain the recommendations and receive public input by phone and email. Online voting during the meeting indicated that the majority of participants approved of the commission's findings, which include improving guidelines for recertification of field training, crisis intervention training, recruitment of African American police officers as field trainers, and more interaction between officers and the people they serve. “We want to focus on education and outreach,” said Commissioner Steve Anjewierden, during the May virtual meeting.

Additional topics of discussion included defusion and racial sensitivity training; implementation of an inhouse survey to determine the extent of racial bias within the police department; improvements on how mental health issues are handled; year-round involvement of school police officers who work with at-risk youth; and additional diversity, equity, inclusion, and implicit bias training at the police academy.

The commission also considered body camera use. Findings show that the SLC Police Department currently meets or exceeds requirements in this area; however, it was noted that the department can do a better job of reviewing and auditing camera footage.

MJ Powell, youth liaison to the commission, said he feels the commission has done a good job of establishing guidelines and he hopes to see more feedback from youth, especially regarding school safety.

Mayor Erin Mendenhall said the city has hired a person to coordinate services and programs between the city, schools, and police department, which is one of the recommendations that has already been instituted. Mendenhall also said that there is money in the budget to hire additional mental

health personnel.

Copies of the May virtual meeting, another virtual meeting held in January, and meetings of the REP Commission are available at facebook.com/SLCREPCommission. More information, including a copy of the commission's find-

ings, can be found on the commission's website.

The commission will continue to meet and take public comment through June. Comments can be made by calling (801) 708-0935 or emailing: REPCommission@slcgov.com.

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From CASTLE, page 1

actors like Anthony Hopkins producing work there. In music, artists such as Elton John, Demi Lovato, and the Backstreet Boys have cut tracks in the building.

According to Derek Dyer, Director of the Utah Arts Alliance and the Art Castle's latest caretaker, Dolly Parton even recorded an album while staying in the apartment that is tucked away upstairs. The UAA acquired the building during the pandemic with plans to turn it into a hub for culture and the arts on Salt Lake City's West Side.

For Dyer, the Art Castle is a culmination of two decades of his own history and hard work. Frustrated with the lack of opportunities for showcasing artistic talents in Salt Lake City, Dyer began down what he calls "a road of adventure" by founding the Utah Arts Alliance (UAA) unofficially in 2001 and officially in 2003.

An accomplished artist in his own right, Dyer has talents in the visual arts, as a painter and photographer, and is recognized as the creator of the largest mirrored sphere in the US, "Illuminator," which is the mirror ball for SLC's

EVE festivals of years past.

Dyer sees the Art Castle as *the* recording and creating space for west-side artists and beyond – a "melting pot" that will position the UAA as a platform for current artists and help inspire future artists. The UAA wants west-side residents and artists abroad to know, as Dyer puts it, "This space is for you." In the building and its existing and planned amenities, Dyer sees the ultimate artist support framework, "a combination of everything we do well already."

Now as the state and communities open up, Dyer is ready to get to work. Renovations for the building are planned and keeping the architectural integrity is a must for Derek and the Alliance as he recognizes that the Art Castle is a significant local landmark. The Castle is the crown jewel of the UAA's eight cultural facilities, which include, among others, Counter Pointe Studios, KUAA, and the Urban Arts Gallery and Dreamscapes, which are located at The Gateway Mall.

Funding for the Art Castle stems from multiple sources, including legislation supported by Rep. Sandra Hollins and Sen. Luz Escamilla, and through the

crowd-sourcing site Go Fund Me. Dyer sees these investments paying long-term dividends by providing access to artistic services, cultural assets, and performance spaces operated by a projected staff of 35.

Dyer's enthusiasm for the Art Castle's potential impact is infectious, especially as the fruits of the UAA's labor are becoming apparent. Future plans for the building and HQ include a sculpture garden, concerts at a planned amphitheater for the 900-west side of the property, and ADA-compliant amenities and features. UAA programming at the Art Castle will begin in the summer and fall of 2021, expanding as Dyer's hopes continue to take shape figuratively and literally in the historic space.

LEARN MORE

For more information visit www.utaharts.org/art-castle

www.facebook.com/utahartsalliance

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Historic drought may bring outdoor water restrictions to West Side neighborhoods this summer

Salt Lake City has called on citizens to help make water supplies last through the worst drought in Utah history. Here's how to prepare.

By **Emma Penrod**

Utah's dry, naturally variable climate has always been prone to drought. But this year, experts say, will be unlike any in recorded history.

Utah is currently in the midst of the worst drought in 125 years of recorded history, according to Jon Meyer, a climate scientist with the Utah Climate Center. With streams and reservoirs at record lows and less than one month left before the state officially enters the dry summer season, Meyer said he sees no reason to believe the drought will improve before winter.

"We're in a holding pattern hoping the next month will bring good rainfall," he said. "Nothing in the forecast indicates that's going to happen."

This summer's drought is technically two years old, according to Meyer, as the state's water reserves began to decline last summer amid some of the hottest and driest weather. Although this past winter wasn't exceptionally dry, it wasn't enough to make up for last summer's intense heat. Because of that deficit, thirsty soils are soaking up the melting snow before it reaches streams and reservoirs, which means the state will have to rely on existing water storage for the second year in a row.

Salt Lake City should be in reasonably good shape, according to Laura Briefer, director of Salt Lake City Public Utilities. While many of the state's reservoirs and water systems are built to withstand two

years of insufficient snow and rain, the city is prepared to weather a five-year drought, she said. It's not likely that anyone's tap will run dry.

Still, Salt Lake City has called on residents to curtail water use, especially outdoors, to be sure the city's water supplies last. Mayor Erin Mendenhall implemented Stage 2 of the city's water shortage contingency plan on May 27. Stage 2 aims to reduce city-wide water consumption by asking residents to voluntarily reduce their outdoor water use, especially lawn watering. Government facilities, including parks and schools, are required to curtail their outdoor water use under Stage 2 restrictions, Briefer said.

Although Briefer said she believes the city will remain in Stage 2 for the remainder of this year, she said she has told city staff to prepare for Stage 3, the point at which outdoor watering restrictions become mandatory for businesses and residents, and violations could be subject to fines.

Stephanie Duer, water conservation manager for Salt Lake City Public Utilities, said that this year, more than ever, residents need to ask themselves whether any water use "is a worthy use of this water

right now, given storage is limited." "Stored water is in a sense borrowed water," she said.

The easiest way to make a big reduction in your water use is to cut back on watering your lawn, according to Courtney Brown, conservation programs manager at the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District.

Watering a quarter-acre lot once requires 3,000 gallons of water, Brown said. If residents avoid watering on rainy, overcast or windy days, or reducing their watering to no more than three times per week – those adjustments can make a big difference.

"It's surprising to people. They think in terms of turning off the water when brushing their teeth or taking a shorter shower, which is great," he said. "But it pales in comparison to the amount of water that goes on landscapes. In many cases, a small behavioral change can save a huge amount of water without costing anything."

For residents with automatic underground sprinkler systems, the most important action they can take is to keep a close eye on their sprinkler controls, Brown said. Installing a smart controller, which adjusts scheduled watering

according to the weather, or even turning the automated programming off and managing the system manually can make a big difference for the city's water supplies – and the resident's water bill.

"Automatic sprinkler controllers are a convenience, but that convenience comes with a cost in wasted water," Brown said. "If you can take control of that and maybe give up some convenience, you can save a lot of water."

Smart controllers that attach to a hose are also available for those who use above-ground sprinklers connected to a hose spigot. However, Brown said individuals who water by hand are the city's most efficient water users.

Those who don't have automated systems can follow the state's weekly county-by-county watering guidelines, which are issued each week at conservewater.utah.gov/weekly-lawn-watering-guide.

While Utah communities aren't likely to experience shortages of drinking water this year, Meyer said the need to conserve this summer is critical to preventing potential shortages next year if Utah does not get enough snow and the drought continues for a third consecutive year.

"This is really a make or break time for our reservoirs," he said. "Using extra water right now, in places we might not really need it, will stress our resources now and especially down the road. Reservoirs are built to get us through a year or two of drought, but that water won't last forever."



RESOURCES FOR SAVING WATER

County-by-county lawn watering guidelines are updated weekly at conservewater.utah.gov/weekly-lawn-watering-guide.

To determine your eligibility for state rebates on tools such as smart meters and for other free resources, sign up at UtahWaterSavers.com.

To have an expert from Utah State University come to your house and provide a free landscape and water use consultation, sign up at cwel.usu.edu/watercheck.

Beginning in July or August of this year, Salt Lake City plans to provide residents with bags of low-cost lawn seed which can be applied to an existing lawn without killing it to gradually replace the grass with a variety that requires less water. To learn more and sign up when the program becomes available, visit slc.gov/utilities/conservation.

To report wasteful watering, call 801-483-6860 so that Salt Lake City water conservation experts can provide educational materials and resources for the property in question.

"In many cases, a small behavioral change can save a huge amount of water without costing anything."

Courtney Brown

Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District

From SAUZO, page 1

feel dumb for asking questions. I would not have been able to start my business without their help. I highly recommend them! They changed our lives.”

Lopez and her husband had experience baking and selling cakes and bread in Mexico and the United States, but they lacked the expertise to start their own business. The center taught them how to create a business plan with state licenses, leasing contracts, and more, helping launch the business in 2007. Shortly thereafter, when the Great Recession began, the Lopezes feared they might lose their nascent enterprise, but the center once again stepped in, helping them navigate that turbulent time.

They went from selling about \$80 a day to more than \$5,000 a day and are about to open a second bakery in Riverton. Their adult daughters, who have studied business administration and marketing, will help run that new location. The Lopezes' experience is not unique.

According to Antonella Packard, community outreach senior advisor at the Suazo Business Center, her organization helps would-be business owners determine the viability of a business, adapt the business idea to make it work, name the business, and go through the entire registration process.

“Our commitment is to help underserved communities in our state. We not only help them create businesses, we go through the life cycle of the businesses. We help with growth and when the time comes to prepare for a sale,” Packard said. “We are now seeing the [adult] children, the second generation, coming through our doors. Some of their parents only spoke Spanish and their kids are now English dominant. We provide our services in English and Spanish.”

The center provides several programs for budding entrepreneurs, all of which have continued in a remote fashion during the pandemic. “Our executive director Silvia Castro has been key to help steer the center, to adapt during this pandemic. Our advising is now virtual,” Packard said. “We have also successfully helped our clients weather the storm or create new businesses during COVID.”

Suazo Business Center's main program is “Inicio,” which means “beginning” in Spanish. It's a six-month program of rotating classes that culminates in a certificate of achievement and the knowledge and resources to launch a business. There's also a program called “Crecimiento empresarial,”

Spanish for “entrepreneurial growth,” for those who already own businesses and are trying to scale and grow their companies.

The Suazo Business Center's programs include a series of workshops. Some of their most popular are the “ELLA” (“HER”) workshops, which are geared toward wom-

executive in Colombia to cleaning banks in the U.S. because of the political situation in Colombia,” Packard said. “The late senator Pete Suazo helped her create her business plan and obtain a loan for her first business. That help made a big difference in providing for her children and made her American

“Even back then, he had this ability to bring the community together to solve issues that impacted everybody. He had a passion for helping people find their voice,” Garcia said. “Pete's legacy was really of reaching out to the community, teaching them how to access resources, helping them elevate their



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUAZO BUSINESS CENTER

Staff at the Suazo Business Center in Glendale provide multi-lingual support and resources for aspiring business owners.

en. Most of these programs are free, while advising sessions cost \$20 each. The center also runs a “Digital Navigators” program to help budding entrepreneurs with their digital literacy, from setting up an email account to much more complex tasks.

The center has also partnered with Comcast to be a hotspot so that Glendale residents can access the internet from the center, regardless of entrepreneurial aspirations, and can also refer residents to a \$9.99 monthly Comcast internet plan.

The Suazo Business Center offers the kind of assistance that the late Senator Pete Suazo provided his constituents. In 1997, Senator Suazo helped Gladys Gonzalez, an immigrant from Colombia, start her own business.

“Gladys Gonzalez went from being a bank

Dream come true. She became a serial entrepreneur and did extremely well.”

Gladys Gonzalez wished to honor the late Senator Pete Suazo's memory and pay it forward to the community by founding the Suazo Business Center shortly after his death. The late senator's widow Alicia Suazo, who finished out his term in the Utah state legislature, is an emeritus board member of the center. With help from late U.S. Senator Bob Bennett, Suazo Business Center was able to have its own brick-and-mortar location in the heart of Glendale.

Suazo was born in Salt Lake City, grew up on the West Side, graduated from West High School and the University of Utah. Maria Garcia, CEO Neighborworks Salt Lake, first met Suazo when they were students at the University of Utah in the 1970s.

life. He did that on the individual level as a mentor and as a legislator listening to and advocating for his constituents.”

Garcia added that Suazo would be “very proud of the impact the center has made in terms of serving underserved populations that might not traditionally have access to that education, in terms of how to start a business, create a business plan, a marketing plan--he was very much about education.”

The Suazo Business Center is located in Glendale at 960 West 1700 South. You can reach them by phone at 801-521-1709 or by e-mail at frontdesk@suazocenter.org. You can also find the Suazo Business Center and many of their virtual workshops on Facebook at www.facebook.com/suazobusiness-center.

Continuación SUAZO, página 1

(Business Center) porque no sabía dónde empezar”, dijo López a West View. “Fueron espectaculares. Fueron amables, nunca te hicieron sentir tonta por hacer preguntas. No pude haber empezado mi negocio sin su ayuda. Los recomiendo mucho! Nos cambiaron nuestras vidas.”

López y su esposo tenían experiencia en confeccionar y vender pasteles y panes en México y Estados Unidos, pero no tenían el conocimiento necesario para comenzar su propio negocio. El centro les enseñó como crear un plan de negocios con licencias estatales, contratos de arrendamiento, y mas, ayudándoles a abrir su negocio en 2007. Poco después, cuando empezó la Gran Recesión, los López temían que podrían perder su negocio creciente, pero una vez más el centro les ayudó a navegar ese momento turbulento.

Pasaron de vender unos \$80 al día a más de \$5.000 al día y están a punto de abrir su segunda pastelería en Riverton. Sus hijas adultas, quienes han estudiado administración de empresas y mercadeo, ayudarán con la gerencia del nuevo local. Gracias al centro, la experiencia de la familia López no es un caso aislado.

Según Antonella Packard, asesora sénior de promoción comunitaria, su organización ayuda a futuros propietarios de negocios a determinar qué tan viable es su negocio, a cambiar su idea de negocios para que funcione, a nombrar su negocio, y ayudarles en todo el proceso de matriculación con el estado.

“Nuestro compromiso es ayudar a las comunidades menos favorecidas en el estado. No solo les ayudamos a crear empresas, sino que los acompañamos en todo el ciclo de vida del negocio. Les ayudamos con el crecimiento y también cuando es hora de vender”, dijo Packard. “Ahora estamos viendo a los hijos [adultos], la segunda generación, pasar por nuestras puertas. Algunos de sus padres solo hablaban español y ahora sus hijos dominan más el inglés que el castellano. Proveemos nuestros servicios en inglés y español.”

El centro provee varios programas para emprendedores nacies, los cuales han continuado de forma virtual durante la pandemia. “Nuestra directora ejecutiva Silvia Castro ha sido clave en encauzar el centro para que se adapte durante la pandemia. Nuestra asesoría es ahora virtual”, dijo Packard. “Hemos ayudado a nuestros clientes para que salgan airoso, para que puedan



FOTO CORTESÍA DE SUAZO BUSINESS CENTER

El Centro Suazo ofrece talleres y asesorías en español para emprendedores que desean abrir sus propios negocios.

hacerle frente a la tormenta y crear nuevos negocios durante el COVID.”

El programa principal del Centro de Negocios Suazo es “Inicio.” Es un programa de seis meses compuesto de clases rotativas que culminan con un certificado de reconocimiento y el conocimiento y los recursos para crear un negocio. También hay un programa llamado “Crecimiento Empresarial” para aquellos que ya son dueños de negocios y quieren crecer sus empresas.

Los programas del centro incluyen una serie de talleres. Algunos de los más populares son los talleres “ELLA” que son dirigidos a las mujeres. La mayoría de estos programas son gratuitos, las sesiones de asesoría cuestan \$20 cada una. El centro también tiene un programa llamado “Digital Navigators” o “Navegadores Digitales” en español, que ayuda a emprendedores nacies con su “alfabetización” digital, desde crear una cuenta de correo electrónico a tareas más complejas.

El centro también se ha asociado con Comcast para ser un hotspot, o punto de acceso a internet Wifi, para que los residentes de Glendale puedan navegar la internet desde el centro, sin importar si sueñan con tener su propio negocio, y también pueden ayudar a los residentes a conseguir un plan de internet de Comcast por tan solo \$9.99 al mes.

El Suazo Business Center ofrece la clase de ayuda que el fallecido senador Pete Suazo le proveía a quienes representaba. En 1997, el senador Suazo ayudó a Gladys González, una inmigrante colombiana, a empezar su propio negocio.

“Gladys González pasó de ser una ejecutiva bancaria en Colombia a limpiar bancos en Estados Unidos a causa de la situación política en Colombia”, dijo Packard. “El fallecido senador Pete Suazo le ayudó a crear su plan de negocios y a obtener un préstamo para su primer negocio. Esa ayuda marcó la diferencia para que ella pudiera proveer por sus hijos y hacer su sueño americano una realidad. Se convirtió en una ‘empresaria en serie’ y le fue extremadamente bien.”

Gladys González quiso rendirle tributo a la memoria del fallecido senador Pete Suazo y ‘devolverle el favor’ a la comunidad fundando el Suazo Business Center poco después de su muerte. Alicia Suazo, la viuda del fallecido senador, terminó su término en la legislatura estatal de Utah, y es miembro emérito de la junta directiva del centro. Con ayuda del fallecido senador Bob Bennett, el Suazo Business Center logró obtener un hogar físico en el corazón de Glendale.

Suazo nació en Salt Lake City, creció en el “West Side”, en el occidente de la ciudad, y se graduó de West High School y la Universidad de Utah. Maria Garcia, presidenta de

Neighborworks Salt Lake, conoció a Suazo por primera vez cuando eran estudiantes en la Universidad de Utah en los años 70.

“Aun en ese entonces, tenía una habilidad de unir a la comunidad para resolver problemas que afectan a todos. Tenía una pasión por ayudar a los demás a alzar su voz”, dijo Garcia. “El legado de Pete es de acercarse a la comunidad, enseñarles a cómo acceder a recursos, ayudarles a mejorar su vida. Lo hizo de forma individual como mentor y también como legislador, escuchando y abogando por las personas que representaba.”

Garcia dijo que Suazo se sentiría muy orgulloso del impacto que el centro ha tenido en servir a poblaciones menos favorecidas que tradicionalmente no tendrían acceso a esa educación, en términos de cómo empezar una empresa, crear un plan de negocios, un plan de mercado, le importaba muchísimo la educación.”

El Suazo Business Center se encuentra en Glendale en la 960 West 1700 South. Pueden comunicarse por teléfono al 801-521-1709 o por correo electrónico al frontdesk@suazocenter.org. También pueden encontrar al Suazo Business Center y sus talleres virtuales en Facebook en www.facebook.com/suazobusinesscenter.



Utah State Fairpark and Fair have colorful, varied history

Mexican Folklorico dancers perform at the Utah State Fair in 2013 during the Jaripeo Festival, a Mexican rodeo with music and dancing.

PHOTO BY FLOR OLIVO

By Sheena Wolfe

Pond-jumping horses, the Bearded Lady, Whippet dog races, “Phroso” the mechanical man, chocolate-covered scorpions, twin-sibling contests, elephant rides, horse racing, two-headed calves, and the first color television are some of the attractions appearing at the Utah State Fair over the decades. For more than 100 years, the buildings and grounds at the Utah State Fairpark have hosted them in addition to entertainers, association conventions, sporting events, and expositions.

The first fair took place in 1856, one year after the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah passed legislation to form the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society (DAMS). The DAMS was tasked with “promoting the arts of domestic industry” by holding an annual exhibition of local agriculture, livestock, and domes-

tic products, awarding premiums to those judged highest in quality.

Some of the items that received blue ribbons during the first fairs included door locks, turpentine, shoe blacking, penmanship, sign painting, soap making and patchwork quilting. Awards were also given to livestock and agriculture, including gooseberries, potatoes and fall pears. These goods highlighted some of the handicraft and agricultural enterprises of the Mormon pioneers, according to a history printed in a 1928 “Golden Jubilee” fair book.

Records show that early fairs were held at various locations in Salt Lake City until 1902. In 1896, legislation was passed to purchase 66 acres for a permanent location at North Temple and 1000 West. This purchase facilitated the building of livestock barns and exhibit buildings. Most of the original buildings, including the livestock

barns, were completed between 1905 and 1928. Most of them are still in use today.

“Most people do not realize how old most of our buildings are or that the fairpark was placed on the National Historic Register in 1981,” said fairpark Executive director Larry Mullenax. He noted sadly that the most famous building, known as the Coliseum, was condemned by the Utah Fire Marshall in 1991 and finally torn down in 1997 despite years of planning to save it.

The Coliseum was designed by Brigham Young’s son and grandson, architects Joseph Don Carlos Young and Don Carlos Young, and completed in 1913. According to Fairpark records, spectacular ice shows, various association conventions, and wrestling and boxing matches – featuring top competitors of the day, such as Gene Fullmer, 1957 world middleweight champion – were held in the Coliseum. The venue also hosted world-re-

nowned entertainers, including Bob Hope, Frank Sinatra and Liberace.

Other performers billed at the Fairpark include Paul Revere and the Raiders, Tanya Tucker, Reba McEntire, Santana, Pearl Jam, Fleetwood Mac, Louise Mandrell, the Gatland Brothers and Foreigner, according to the Fairpark’s Assistant Executive Director Judy Duncombe, who has worked at the fair for more than 38 years.

According to Duncombe, the Fairpark once had an auto racetrack. Car racing there began in 1903, and according to a Deseret News story of that year, the first races were a “bust” because the cars of that day were not fast. Nonetheless, car racing at the Fairpark remained popular until the 1970s when upkeep of the track became problematic, and surrounding homeowners complained of the associated noise.

Other historic events at or relating to the Fairpark were documented in a recent

report to the Utah State Legislature: it was used as barracks for World War II soldiers in 1943; for a centennial exposition, including the Water Follies and an indoor waterfall, in 1947; and when Evel Knievel jumped 13 Toyotas by motorcycle in 1968. The report also highlighted what the fairpark has undergone and survived: a plan to move the Utah State Fair to Lagoon in 1964; major renovations to existing buildings in 1988; privatization and nonprofit incorporation in 1995; the addition of White Ballpark in 1999; the opening of Fairpark TRAX station in 2013; and the addition of a 10,000-seat arena and a skateboard park in 2017.

Present and future emphasis, said Mullenax, is on continuing to attract year-round events in addition to the Utah State Fair. The new stadium has gained the Fairpark numerous sold-out concerts and given the Days of '47 Rodeo

a permanent home, he said. In addition, there are several new outdoor events that Mullenax hopes to see scheduled on an annual basis such as the Goodguys Car Show (which occurred for the second year in May), the Outside Adventure Expo (scheduled for the end of June), and the new International Market (to be held on weekends throughout the summer).

"We will continue to market the Fairpark to host everything from weddings, expos, and concerts to industry trade shows and sporting competitions," Mullenax said, noting that current events attract more than 500,000 people a year.

The Utah State Fairpark has a supply of pictures and newspaper accounts of the fair from over the years, but Mullenax would like to receive some personal stories from locals who attend the fair, especially those who have memories of past experiences there. Those who have a personal story are asked to contact the state fair at Utahstatefair.com.

This year's state fair will be held Sept. 9-19. A new master plan for the Fairpark's future is currently being developed and will include comments and suggestions from surrounding neighbors and stakeholders.

PHOTOS COURTESY
OF THE UTAH STATE
FAIRPARK

TOP: Less Taylor's Motor Company display at the 1948 Utah State Fair.

MIDDLE: View of Coliseum at the Utah State Fair in the 1900s.

BOTTOM: An aerial view of the Utah State Fairpark taken in 1956, showing the racetrack and coliseum.



WEIGH IN ON THE UTAH STATE FAIRPARK'S MASTER PLAN

Utah State Fairpark is undergoing a master plan update to better support its organizational mission to serve as a permanent, year-round destination hub, and area residents are being asked to participate in the planning process.

By going to www.utahstatefair.com and clicking on the "Future of the Fairpark" link, community members can post ideas and take a survey. Ideas already posted include opening access gates to pedestrian traffic through the site; year-round access to small local dining with music and dancing; turning the green area of the park into a multi-use area with games, covered picnic tables, a walking path, and children's play area; and adding shops and restaurants along North Temple. The survey asks multiple choice questions dealing with usage of Fairpark and how it should be maintained or improved for the future.

In addition to posting ideas and taking a survey, nearby residents and stakeholders have been participating in focus groups. Ideas being discussed at the focus groups include designing pedestrian walking paths with year-round access, building a small convention facility, adding additional parking spaces, and moving the livestock facilities closer to the arena. Retail shops, restaurants, and a hotel along North Temple were also debated.

The architectural firm EDA, which is known for creating spaces that harmonize with community and environment, is facilitating the process. A draft master plan will be presented to the public in August or September.

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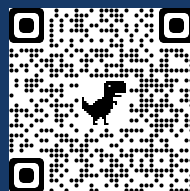


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Los fondos de alivio de alquiler disponibles a residentes de Utah

Por Angie Eliason

Uno de los principales efectos duraderos de la pandemia que está afectando a residentes de Utah es el creciente número de personas que se enfrentan a la inestabilidad de vivienda. Muchos están luchando para pagar su alquiler y los servicios debido a las circunstancias relacionadas al COVID-19. Además de eso, les resulta difícil salir del problema. El miedo a exponerse al COVID-19, las medidas de restricción cambiantes, y la creciente inestabilidad laboral han contribuido a esta dificultad.

Aunque la pandemia ha agudizado la necesidad de asistencia para vivienda y alquiler en gran medida, ya había personas necesitadas antes de COVID-19 y seguirá habiendo personas en la comunidad necesitadas después que todo regrese a la normalidad. Una preocupación creciente es lo que sucederá una vez que se levante la suspensión nacional del desalojo el 30 de junio. Se están realizando esfuerzos para abordar este problema en todo el valle de Salt Lake.

Hay fondos disponibles para quienes necesiten alivio y varias organizaciones están trabajando para encontrar soluciones a largo plazo para las crisis actuales de vivienda y alquiler. Desde organizaciones comunitarias “grassroots” que se iniciaron en respuesta a la creciente inestabilidad de la vivienda hasta operaciones bien establecidas que ofrecen recursos a los necesitados, existe ayuda disponible para personas en una variedad de formas distintas.

“La situación actual de vivienda y alquiler es tan inestable e inaccesible”, dijo Melanie Pehrson, maestra principal y defensora de la familia en Utah Community Action, o Acción Comunitaria de Utah en español. Utah Community Action es solo una de muchas

organizaciones que ofrecen recursos y ayuda a quienes necesitan asistencia de vivienda.

Aunque gran parte de los fondos existentes son específicamente para individuos que se encuentren necesitados debido a las circunstancias provocadas por la pandemia, los fondos de alivio para la vivienda también están disponibles por razones no relacionadas al COVID-19.

Según el director de vivienda y gestión de casos de Utah Community Action, Sahil Oberoi, se distribuyeron más de \$11 millones en Utah en 2020 en alivio de emergencia para pagar el alquiler, y más de 7.000 hogares se estabilizaron con ese alivio. “El alivio de emergencia para el alquiler siempre ha estado disponible y ha sido necesaria. Mucha gente está solicitando ahora mismo. Creo que tenemos alrededor de 100 citas por semana”, dijo Oberoi.

Según varias fuentes, también existe una percepción negativa de las personas que necesitan alivio de alquiler. Parece haber una creencia generalizada que se debe a una elección o que está relacionado con otros problemas, como el abuso de sustancias o actos delictivos. También parece haber una falta de representación de inquilinos en muchos espacios actuales, lo cual podría ser muy informativo para generar soluciones más eficaces a largo plazo.

Junto a organizaciones como Utah Community Action y NeighborWorks Salt Lake, organizaciones como Wasatch Tenants United (Inquilinos Unidos Wasatch) están abordando la creciente crisis de vivienda a través de métodos “grassroots” o comunitarios para proporcionar una plataforma a las voces de los inquilinos.

“Estamos enfocados en mejorar las condiciones materiales de

los inquilinos en el valle [de Salt Lake]. A menudo realizamos mítines, ‘inundamos’ reuniones del concejo municipal [con inquilinos] y tomamos otras acciones directas para enfrentar medidas y acciones que pueden afectar de forma negativa los intereses de los inquilinos en el valle [de Salt Lake]”, dijo un representante de Wasatch Tenants United (que pidió no ser identificado).

Esfuerzos directos como mítines y un mayor acceso a recursos como fondos de emergencia y alivio de alquiler pueden crear conciencia en torno a la crisis de vivienda y alquiler, y a la vez ofrecen un alivio temporal, pero puede que no brinden soluciones a largo plazo para problemas como lo inalcanzable que es pagar por la vivienda, en general. Lo que se consideraba un nivel mínimo de estándar de vida hace unos 10 años ahora se considera un lujo para muchos. Además de ser inestable e inaccesible, en la situación actual de la vivienda también se ve una tendencia creciente de inquilinos que están pagando cada día más por menos.

“Estamos viendo la construcción de más ‘micro-apartamentos’ en toda la ciudad, sobre todo en el ‘West Side,’ [el occidente de la ciudad]”, dijo el representante de Wasatch Tenants United. Estas unidades en general miden menos de 300 pies cuadrados y no incluyen baños privados ni cocinas.

El representante de Wasatch Tenants United también señaló que aunque los micro-apartamentos y otras alternativas de vivienda no tradicionales no son intrínsecamente negativas, es posible que no brinden las soluciones integrales que requiere la creciente crisis de vivienda. El financiamiento continuo para alivio de emergencia y para otras necesidades a nivel federal, estatal y local sería inmensamente beneficioso, y esfuerzos

continuos que incluyen cambios directos de políticas, campañas comunitarias “grassroots” y cambios en las percepciones sobre aquellos que experimentan inestabilidad en la vivienda también son muy importantes.

Para alivio de alquiler específicamente relacionado a COVID-19, hay solicitudes disponibles en rentrelief.utah.gov. Los beneficiarios de los fondos han podido pagar alquiler atrasado, depósitos de seguridad en nuevas unidades de alquiler, al igual que los servicios del hogar. Instrucciones completas sobre cómo solicitar y los requisitos de elegibilidad también se pueden encontrar en la página de internet, la cual ayuda a que el so-

licitar sea un proceso más sencillo.

Para alivio de alquiler en general, Oberoi sugiere solicitar a través de Utah Community Action, o Acción Comunitaria de Utah en español, entidad que ofrece solicitudes en internet en inglés y español. Solicitantes también pueden llamar a Utah Community Action al 801-359-2444 para ayuda con el proceso de solicitud, y hay personal que está disponible para responder a preguntas y dudas. Otros recursos incluyendo cuidado de niños, educación para adultos, y despensas de comida también están disponibles a través de Utah Community Action.

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Rent relief funding available for Utah residents

By **Angie Eliason**

One of the pandemic's major lasting effects on Utahns is the rising number of folks facing housing insecurity, with many finding themselves struggling to pay for rent and utilities due to circumstances related to COVID-19. On top of that, they are finding it difficult to rectify their situations. Fear of exposure to COVID-19, fluctuating restriction measures, and growing job instability have all contributed to this difficulty.

Though the pandemic has greatly exacerbated the need for housing and rental assistance, there were folks in need before COVID-19 and there will continue to be folks in need after the community returns to a more familiar state. One growing concern is what will happen once the National Eviction Moratorium is lifted on June 30. Efforts to address these concerns are underway all over the valley.

Funding is available for those in need of assistance, and several organizations are working towards finding long-term solutions to current housing and rental crises. From grassroots organizations started in response to rising housing instability, to well-established operations offering resources to those in need, there is aid available to folks in a variety of different ways.

"The current housing and rental climate is so unstable and inaccessible," said Melanie Pehrson, lead teacher and family advocate for Utah Community Action. Utah Community Action is just one of many organizations offering resources and aid to those in need of housing assistance.

While much of the existing funding is specifically for individuals who are in need due to circumstances brought on by the pandemic, housing assistance funds are also available for reasons unrelated to COVID-19.

According to the Director of

Housing and Case Management for Utah Community Action, Sahil Oberoi, over \$11 million was distributed in Utah in 2020 for emergency rental assistance, and over 7,000 homes were stabilized with emergency rental assistance. "Emergency rental assistance has always been available and needed. A lot of people are applying right now. I think we have around 100 appointments a week," said Oberoi.

According to several sources, there is also a negatively skewed perception of people in need of rental assistance. There seems to be a general belief that it is a choice, or is connected to other issues such as substance abuse or criminal activity. There also appears to be a lack of representation of tenants in many of the current conversations, which could be greatly informative for generating more effective long-term solutions.

Alongside organizations like Utah Community Action and NeighborWorks Salt Lake, organizations like Wasatch Tenants United are addressing the growing housing crises through grassroots methods by providing a platform for tenants' voices.

"We are focused on uplifting the material conditions of tenants in the valley. We often hold rallies, flood city council meetings, and take other direct actions to confront measures and actions that may negatively affect the interests of renters in the valley," said a representative of Wasatch Tenants United (who asked not to be named).

Direct efforts like rallies and increasing access to resources like emergency funding and rental assistance can bring awareness to the housing and rental crisis, while offering temporary relief, but they may not provide long-term solutions to issues such as the general unaffordability of housing. What was considered the minimum standard of living roughly 10 years ago is now being considered a luxury to some.

Aside from being unstable and inaccessible, the current housing climate is also seeing growing trends in tenants paying more for less.

"We are seeing more 'micro-apartments' going up all over the city, particularly on the West Side," the Wasatch Tenants United representative said. These units are generally less than 300 square feet and do not include private bathrooms or kitchens.

The representative from Wasatch Tenants United also noted that while micro-apartments and other non-traditional housing alternatives are not inherently negative, they may not provide holistic solutions that the rising housing crisis needs. Continued funding for emergency assistance and other needs at the federal, state, and local levels will be immensely beneficial, and continued direct efforts including policy change, grassroots campaigning, and changing perceptions of those experiencing housing insecurities are also very important.

For COVID-19 specific emergency rental relief, applications are available at rentrelief.utah.gov. Recipients of funding have been able to pay for past-due rent, security deposits on new rental units, as well as utilities and home energy costs. Full instructions on how to apply and eligibility requirements can also be found on the website, which helps make applying a more straightforward process.

For general rental assistance,

Oberoi suggests applying through Utah Community Action, which offers online applications in both English and Spanish. Applicants may also call Utah Community Action at 801-359-2444 for assistance with the application process, and staff are available to address questions and concerns. Other resources including childcare, adult education, and food pantries are also available through Utah Community Action.

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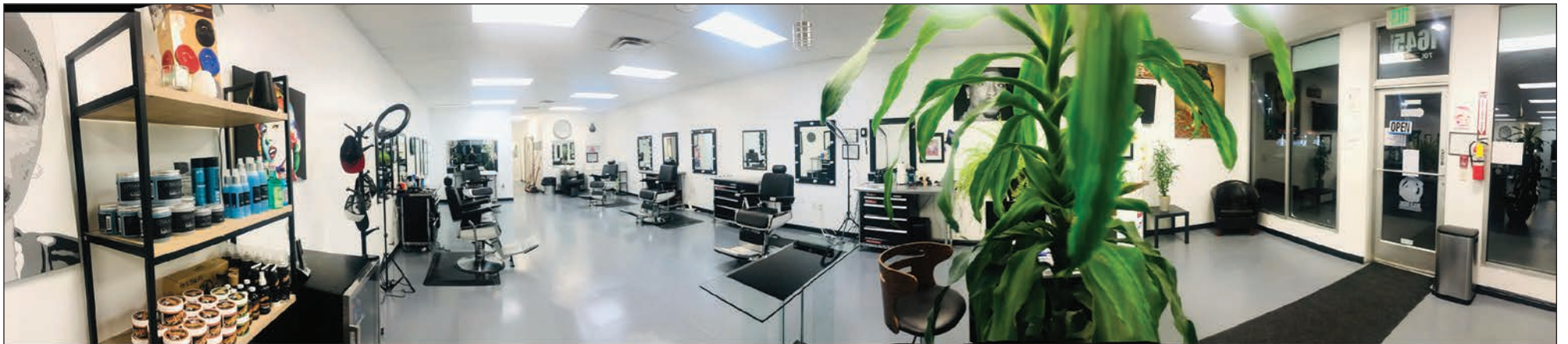


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You may also contact the Salt Lake County Health Department by calling (385) 468-SHOT (7468).

If you or somebody you know is in need of assistance during the ongoing pandemic, please visit slc.gov/mayor/covid-19 to learn about available resources.

Las vacunas son la manera mas efectiva de regresar a la normalidad y le ayudarán a usted y a sus seres queridos a desarrollar una inmunidad contra el coronavirus. Aprenda más acerca de la vacuna y encuentre donde puede recibir la suya en coronavirus.utah.gov/vacunas/.

Puede contactar al Departamento de Salud del Condado de Salt Lake llamando al (385) 468-SHOT (7468).

Si usted o algún conocido necesita asistencia durante la pandemia, visite www.slc.gov/spanish-covid-faq-2-0 para leer más sobre los recursos disponibles.

Vacunas COVID-19



Dennis Faris

Council Member, District 2
Miembro del Concejo, Distrito 2

801-535-7781

dennis.faris@slcgov.com



www.slcdistrict2.com

#WestsideStrong

Former City Council member Andrew Johnston transitions to new role in mayor's office

By Angie Eliason

After five years representing District 2, Salt Lake City Council member Andrew Johnston vacated his seat on April 21 and is taking on a new role within Mayor Erin Mendenhall's administration. Johnston is now working as Director of Homelessness Policy and Outreach.

In his new position, Johnston will help guide the city's methods of addressing homelessness and collaborate with other entities to work towards ending homelessness. "I will advise the mayor on policy related to housing and homelessness, and work with the City Council as well. It will be a dance together, where we will go back and forth on what policies could be and how to implement them effectively," he said.

Looking back on his career in both the City Council and as Chief Strategy Officer for Volunteers of America, Johnston brings a wealth of knowledge and experience with

him to apply to his new position.

"I have worked in social services for 20-plus years, and a lot of my work with VOA was centered around homelessness. I worked with all the same partners I will be working with in my new position, and the City Council has been really informative in understanding how the city works," said Johnston.

While the ultimate goal is to end homelessness, Johnston recognizes important steps to take along the way to ensure that homelessness becomes rare, brief, and non-recurring. He plans to work with other agencies such as the Salt Lake Valley Coalition to End Homelessness and the Downtown Alliance in order to take these important steps.

Perhaps the biggest hurdle is housing itself.

"We are short thousands of units, and we need general units out there that are low-income," Johnston said. To address this, Johnston wants to implement more inclusionary zoning practices to make affordable housing more feasible.

"We don't have good zoning for anything in between single-family homes and bigger, denser units, and we need that," he said.

According to Johnston, working to ensure housing availability for all income levels across the state is a key piece of inclusionary zoning. Some of the current inclusionary zoning practices are illustrated in the affordable housing overlay project, in which the city's planning division is working on amending zoning regulations to allow for accommodations such as additional building heights or reducing parking requirements. The project also incentivizes developers to include affordable homes in their projects rather than require it, though he doesn't rule out potentially mandating a percentage of housing developments to be low-income units.

Johnston also prioritizes addressing additional needs that unsheltered people might have aside from housing, such as men-



PHOTO BY CHARLOTTE FIFE-JEPPERSON

Former District Two City Council Member, Andrew Johnston, speaks at a press conference in March in the Red Iguana parking lot about the allocation of six Downtown Ambassadors on the North Temple corridor.

tal health services and substance abuse recovery resources. Incorporating these services into larger plans to address homelessness may lead to lasting long-term solutions for many people experiencing homelessness, according to Johnston. He also hopes to coordinate efforts to rehouse people more quickly, noting that the longer someone goes unhoused, the harder it is to find stable housing.

"We are going to have to formulate some concrete solutions around housing, unsheltered folks on the streets, and capacity issues," he said.

His pragmatic approach to solutions is evident in his analysis of tiny home villages, one of which is approaching a proposed trial period near 1850 West and Indiana Avenue in Poplar Grove. A tiny home village is an opportunity for unsheltered folks to build a community where they can relate to and support each other. Johnston thinks the investment is certainly worth considering, but might not be the only solution, as starting something like a tiny home village comes with its own challenges—funding,

maintenance, and location.

Regarding possible solutions, Johnston said, "Not any one plan is going to solve homelessness. It will have to be a combination of coordinated efforts." Because of his existing relationships with many entities working on homelessness issues, Johnston is confident that he can effect change by coordinating more closely with them. He also includes the community at large as part of the solution, saying he considers residents' concerns legitimate and valid.

Johnston takes pride in having represented District Two for the last five years. He describes it as a wonderful experience he wouldn't trade for the world.

"I love my neighborhood, the good, the bad, and the ugly. I see it all, and it all matters. It's been an honor, and it means a lot to me that people trusted me enough to elect me twice. For me, this has been one of the most humbling experiences."

Because Johnston vacated his District Two City Council seat before the term ended, the seat was filled through an application pro-

cess rather than standard election. Johnston's influence can be seen in the applicant pool, as many of the 17 initial applicants shared Johnston's concerns for the community and focus on housing and homelessness. Of the five finalists, which included Dennis Faris, Billy Palmer, Kate Rubalcava, Esther Jackson-Stowell, and Alejandro Puy, Dennis Faris was chosen to take over the remaining term.

A resident of Poplar Grove for nearly 20 years, Council member Faris is familiar with issues affecting District 2, such as the inland port, the need for affordable housing, and public safety. He plans to work towards addressing the needs and concerns of the community in his new appointment. He has previous experience working with the VOA, Housing Connect, and The Salt Lake Chamber, which he will be able to apply to his new role as City Council member.

Council Member Faris is the brother-in-law of The West View's Managing Editor.

ARE YOU READY TO RUN?

Faris will serve the remainder of Johnston's term, which ends Jan. 3, 2022. The seat will be up for a vote during this year's general election on Nov. 2.

Anyone interested in running for the Council seat can declare their candidacy between August 10 and 17. The city will use ranked-choice voting this year and will not hold a primary election.

The District 1 seat, which also covers the West Side, is up for a vote this year. See more information at slc.gov/attorney/recorder/elections/.

opinion

Asian Americans have endured discrimination for generations, despite their invaluable contributions to their communities

By **Dim Hung, Nor Aung, Yen Su, Snow Paw**

There are many different groups of Asians in our Glendale neighborhood. Our friend group includes Karen, Zomi, and Vietnamese people. Our school community also has students and teachers from Korea, Japan, China, Thailand, the Philippines, and Myanmar. Yet, people often assume that we are all Chinese. This has made it especially hard this past year for anyone who is Asian, because some people are blaming COVID-19 on Chinese people.

Matthew Okabe, a teacher at Mountain View Elementary School said, “Right now, the Asian population is being targeted for something that they have no control over. The coronavirus has nothing to do with Asian Americans.” Even though COVID-19 started in China and spread through the world, it doesn’t mean that all Asians, as a group, are responsible for it. Regardless, if anyone looks Asian, they are in more danger of hate crimes and being disrespected due to anti-Asian feelings related to blame for the pandemic.

Minna Kim, a teacher at Glendale Middle School who has experienced this hate said, “I am saddened by the recent uptick in violence and racist rhetoric toward the Asian American community.” This increase in hatred reminds people like Miss Kim of the history of anti-Asian sentiment and laws that are prevalent in our country’s history.

The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 which banned the immigration of anyone from China for 10 years was one law that impacted Asians. The anti-Asian ideas that led to the immigration ban and then allowed it to stand for several years have lasting impacts on how Chinese people and those who are mistaken to be Chinese are judged in America.

This law also paved the way for other restrictive race-based immigration laws like the Immigration Act of 1924 which limited immigration from Japan. Later, during WWII, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 which sent thousands of Japanese Americans to live in internment camps where they lived in terrible conditions cut off from their normal lives. As Mr.

Okabe said, “[Asian hate] is something that has been going on for a long time.”

This horrible history repeats itself in his family’s recent experiences. Mr. Okabe told us of his mother, who is originally from Japan, being told to go back to her country. He also told us of a time when she was mistreated in front of him at a grocery store. The only reason he could think of for this treatment was her accent. “That was very saddening and uncomfortable for me,” said Mr. Okabe.

The data from Stop AAPI (Asian American Pacific Islander) Hate paint a sad picture, too. According to their website, www.stopaapihate.org, from March 19, 2020 to March 31, 2021 Stop AAPI Hate has received 6,603 reported incidents of racism and discrimination targeting Asian Americans across the United States, including physical assaults, coughing/spitting, and verbal harassment. Certainly there are many more events that go unreported.

Earlier in the pandemic Dim Hung (one of the writers of this story) was helping at her parents’ sushi bar. As she walked by, a man told her, “Go back to your country!” and pushed her. After experiencing this she felt her anger start to rage. “Telling someone to go back to their country is just disgusting. No one would like to hear someone telling them to ‘Go back to your country!’ especially if it was your country that you were in,” said Dim.

Dim’s family moved to Tucson, Arizona in 2011 and then to Salt Lake City, Utah in 2012. Her parents wanted to immigrate to the USA so that she and her siblings could have a better life and have the things that they couldn’t have.

We and our families call America our country, Salt Lake our city, Glendale our neighborhood and we are a big part of what makes those areas great places to live.

Unfortunately, people seem to forget about all the contributions Asians have made to build our nation – from the Chinese railroad workers who were instrumental in completing the transcontinental railroad; scientists, like Dr Tuan Vo-Dinh, who have made important breakthroughs in cancer research; and inventors of tech companies, like Steve Chen and Jawed Karim, founders



PHOTO BY DAVID RICKETTS

From left to right: Snow Paw, Dim Hung, Nor Aung and Yen Su, 6th graders at Glendale Middle School, are highly involved in their school through the Glendale Buzz (school newscast), Outdoor Rec, Anime, and Volleyball Clubs.

of YouTube. Asian American entrepreneurs have opened countless small businesses throughout our nation, not to mention all the contributions Asian Americans have made in a variety of fields like education, fashion, civil rights and others.

Despite all of these remarkable contributions, hate incidents across the U.S. have surged, devastating individuals and entire communities. Hundreds of organizations in communities across the country work to combat hate every day.

Though all of this news about hate can be quite depressing, Ms. Kim said, “I am hopeful and know a more tolerant and accepting future is possible.” She recognizes that this will require compassion, empathy

and respect for all cultures. She and Mr. Okabe agree that continuing to speak up when we see hate, having ongoing conversations about these issues, and treating others like we want to be treated are all key to help to make our world fairer for everyone.

Please speak up about Stop Asian Hate as much as you can! You can help support by signing petitions, donating, and speaking up about it. Thank you.

Dane Hess, Glendale Middle School teacher and mentor, collaborated with the students in the writing of this piece.

Mural celebrates life of Margarita Satini, “Mana Fefine”

By Veanna Pau’u

I first met Margarita Satini standing in line, waiting for an Angela Davis lecture to begin. She was buzzing with excitement at the opportunity to be in the presence of such a prestigious activist. In all honesty, I felt the same way about Margarita, having heard so much about her activism and advocacy for our Utah Pacific Islander (PI) community prior to meeting her. She was like no one I had ever met before. Larger than life, a visionary who was both articulate and in-your-face, she was the kind of leader that put her words into action and spoke truth to power.

A champion of the West Side, she was most passionate about social justice and civic engagement. She channeled that passion

into founding and directing the Utah Pacific Islander Civic Engagement Coalition (UPICEC). She spearheaded equitable efforts for the 2020 Census to ensure our people were counted and represented. She was acutely aware of the ways that socioeconomic and health disparities intersect for the Pacific Islander community. She put herself on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic to coordinate response services for PI businesses and families, organizing testing events, dispersing com-

munity health workers across the valley, and spreading awareness across social media platforms.

She was so involved in the community, oftentimes single handedly planning, mobilizing, or strategizing around any effort that was supportive of the vulnerable, the marginalized, and the underserved.

She was so involved in the community, oftentimes single handedly planning, mobilizing, or strategizing around any effort that was supportive of the vulnerable, the marginalized, and the underserved. She was a master at building relationships and she used that skill as the bedrock of building community. A facilitator

See Satini page 24

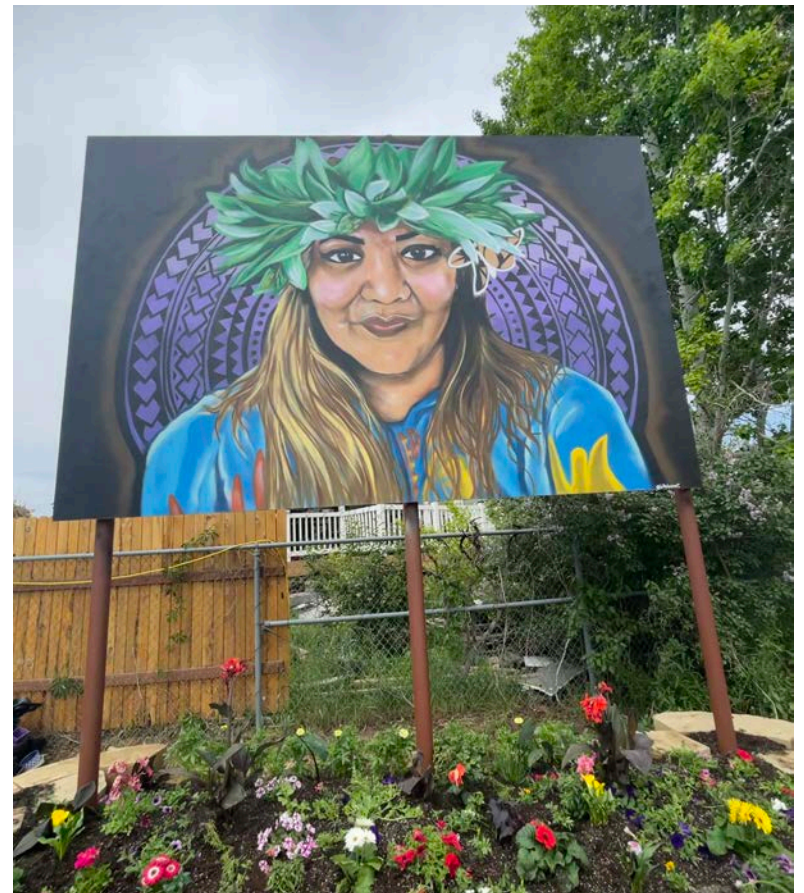


PHOTO BY ANGELA ROMERO

A colorful mural of the late Margarita Satini graces the Og Woi Orchard and Garden near the Jordan River Parkway in Fairpark between Northwest Rec Center and Cottonwood Dog Park.



neighborhood house


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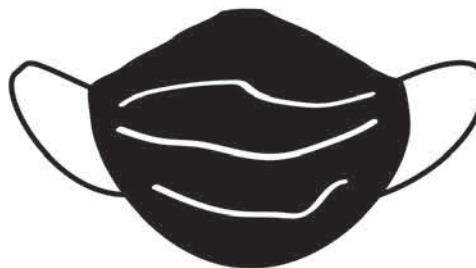
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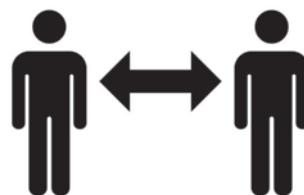
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communitycouncils

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● Ballpark

Community Council

Chair: Amy Hawkins
703-728-9151 |
amy.j.hawkins@gmail.com
Meets: 1st Thursdays at
7 p.m.
[facebook.com/BallparkCC](https://www.facebook.com/BallparkCC)

● Jordan Meadows

Community Council

Chair: Joseph Arrington
801-793-0355 |
jbvarrington@gmail.com
Meets: 2nd Wednesdays at
6:30 p.m.
www.jordanmeadows.org

● Central Ninth

Community Council

Chair: Paul Johnson
801-718-1379 /
Central9thcc@gmail.com
Meets: 1st Mondays at
6:30 p.m.
[facebook.com/
Central9thCommunityCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/Central9thCommunityCouncil)

● Poplar Grove

Community Council

Chair: Erik Lopez
801-602-9314 |
poplargrovecouncil@gmail.com
Meets: 4th Wednesdays at
7 p.m.
poplargroveslc.weebly.com

● Fairpark

Community Council

Chair: Nigel Swaby
801-634-4950 |
nigelcdr@yahoo.com
Meets: 4th Thursdays at
6:30 p.m. (except December)
fairparkcommunity.org

● Rose Park

Community Council

Chair: Kevin Parke
801-452-3833 |
kevin.s.parke@gmail.com
Meets: 1st Wednesdays at
6:30 p.m.
roseparkcommunitycouncil.org

● Glendale

Community Council

Chair: Turner C. Bitton
801-564-3860 | chair@glendaleutah.org
Meets: 3rd Wednesdays at
7 p.m.
www.glendaleutah.org

● Westpointe

Community Council

Chair: Dorothy P. Owen
801-503-7850 | dorothy.owen@gmail.com
Meets: 2nd Wednesdays at
6:30 p.m.
westpointecc.org

resources and event info

communitybulletin

Government and Health Resources

Center for Disease Control (CDC)

www.cdc.gov
1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)

Utah Department of Health

health.utah.gov

Utah Coronavirus Hotline

1-800-456-7707

Utah Division of Multicultural Affairs

Works closely with state and local agencies to elevate the unique concerns and impacts that COVID-19 has on underserved, underrepresented, and systemically marginalized populations.
multicultural.utah.gov

Salt Lake County Health Department

slco.org/health/COVID-19
385-468-4100

Salt Lake County Health Department Flu Shot Resources

slco.org/health
385-468-SHOT (385-468-7468)

University of Utah COVID-19 Resources

healthcare.utah.edu/coronavirus

Statewide COVID-19 and Vaccine Resources

Information and vaccine availability.
coronavirus.utah.gov/vaccine

Free COVID-19 Testing

coronavirus.utah.gov/utah-covid-19-testing-locations

Utah Wellness Bus

Mobile healthcare serving communities throughout Utah. Check for availability and locations:
[facebook.com/utahwellnessbus](https://www.facebook.com/utahwellnessbus),
twitter.com/UtahWellnessBus.

Food Resources

Utahns Against Hunger

www.uah.org/

Emergency Food and Community Resources

www.uah.org/images/pdfs-doc/SaltLakeCountySheet.pdf

Utah 211 Help

Phone 2-1-1, online www.211utah.org, or email 211ut@uw.org
Connecting people to housing and utility assistance, food resources, transportation, mental health and addiction help, medical, dental, and vision, domestic violence and abuse resources, legal aid and more.

Salt Lake City School District Meals on Wheels

801-301-6476
www.slcschools.org/departments/business-administration/child-nutrition/

Food Assistance FAQs - Department of Workforce Services

jobs.utah.gov/covid19/snapfaq.pdf

Emotional Relief Help Lines

Utah Strong Recovery Project

Free support for stress, anxiety, loneliness and worry. Available daily from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Call or text 385-386-2289 or email utahstrong@utah.org

Utah Coronavirus Mental Health Treatment Locator

coronavirus.utah.gov/mental-health

Intermountain Healthcare Relief Hotline

1-833-442-2211
Caregivers available 10 a.m. -10 p.m., 7 days a week. Counseling is available in 19 languages.

NAMI Utah

National Alliance on Mental Illness Mentor Help Line.
Monday - Friday, excluding holidays, 9 a.m - 4:15 p.m.
801-323-9900 or 877-230-6264
www.namiut.org

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administrative

SAMHSA's Free and Confidential National Helpline for individuals and families facing mental and/or substance use disorders.
24/7, 365-days-a-year
1-800-662-4357
www.samhsa.gov

Crisis Help Lines

For those having suicidal thoughts or for those who are helping people with suicidal thoughts

Utah Domestic Violence Coalition

Domestic violence crisis intervention, emergency shelter, and safety planning.
1-800-897-LINK (5465)

University of Utah Neuropsychiatric Institute (UNI) Crisis Line

801-587-3000

UNI's Warm Line

801-587-1055
A recovery support line operated by certified peer specialists available daily from 3 p.m. - 11 p.m. to provide support and encouragement to individuals experiencing mental health crises.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

1-800-273-8255

Crisis Text Line

Text HOME to 741741

Safe Utah

Free 24-hour crisis mobile app with mental wellness tips.
801-587-3000
www.SafeUT.org

Employment Resources

Department of Workforce Services (DWS) COVID-19 Resources

jobs.utah.gov/covid19/index.html

DWS Employment Center

jobs.utah.gov
720 South 200 East
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
801-526-0950

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
This location has a free videophone for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Unemployment Insurance FAQs - Department of Workforce Services

jobs.utah.gov/COVID19/
uifaqemployees.pdf

Refugee Services - Department of Workforce Services

Employment assistance, skills training, and case management.
250 West 3900 South, Building B
Salt Lake City, UT 84107
801-618-5096
refugee@utah.gov

Child Care and Education Support**Office of Child Care**

Information and resources regarding child care services during COVID-19.
1-800-670-1552
jobs.utah.gov/covid19/covidocc.html

Salt Lake City School District Family Resource Hotline

Support hotline for families needing help with homework, student tech/ devices, emergency food resources and other basic needs. Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
801-301-6476
Support in other languages can be provided as needed.

Business & Nonprofit Assistance**Salt Lake City Business and Employment Services**

801-535-7200 or email ed@slcgov.com
www.slc.gov/ed/covid19

Salt Lake County Resources for Businesses

www.slco.org/health/COVID-19/
business

Salt Lake County Business Relief Hotline

385-468-4011
Assistance navigating federal state and local relief options.

Utah Leads Together Small Business Bridge Loan Program

801-538-8680 or email bridgeloan@utah.gov
Business.utah.gov

Utah Small Business Development Center

This organization may be available to offer advice and help small businesses access federal assistance programs.
utahsbdc.org

Women's Business Center

This organization may be available to offer advice and help small businesses access federal assistance programs.
wbcutah.org

Small Business Administration Loan Resources

1-800-659-2955
www.sba.gov

Minority Business Center

This organization may be available to offer advice and help small businesses access federal assistance programs. www.mbda.gov/

Local First Utah

An independent business alliance to connect with local business opportunities, government agencies, and local communities.
localfirst.org

Small Business Administration Loan Resources

1-800-659-2955
www.sba.gov

Utah Nonprofits Association

801-596-1800
www.utahnonprofits.org/resources

Resources for Households**Utah Community Action**

For renters who are not receiving unemployment benefits or unable to pay their rent due to circumstances related to COVID-19 may be eligible for assistance. Meals and case management resources also available.

801-359-2444
www.utahca.org/coronavirus

Comunidades Unidas

801-487-4143
www.cuutah.org

HOST - Homeless Outreach Service Team

If you or someone you know needs clothing, dental care, food, housing assistance, obtaining an ID, medical assistance, shelter or work, HOST may be able to provide assistance.
801-799-3035

Utah Housing Coalition

801-364-0077
www.utahhousing.org/covid-19.html

Utility Assistance

The HEAT program provides energy assistance and year-round energy crisis assistance for eligible low-income households. If you are in danger of shut-off or need assistance paying your bills, contact your local HEAT office.
801-521-6107 (Salt Lake) or 1-866-205-4357
jobs.utah.gov/housing/scso/seal/offices.html

Relief for Landlords and Homeowners with Federal Housing Agency (FHA) Mortgages Impacted by COVID-19

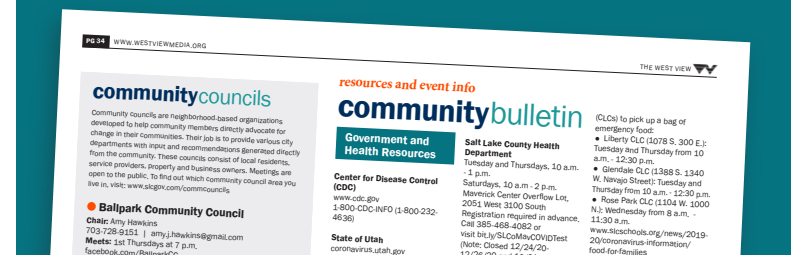
www.fhfa.gov

Protecting Immigrant Families

Quick reference guides on immigrant eligibility of federal public programs during the COVID-19 health crisis.
protectingimmigrantfamilies.org

Be part of the bulletin!

Submit events & resources to editors@westviewmedia.org.

**Community Events****Juneteenth Freedom & Heritage Festival: Black Joy**

Celebrate Black freedom and heritage with two weeks of free events.

June 15: Juneteenth Film Festival w/ Utah Film Center, virtual/ streaming, 6 p.m. Reserve free tickets: utahfilmcenter.org/event/nationtime.

June 18: Juneteenth Flag Raising Ceremony. SL County Gov. Center, 11:30 a.m.

June 19: Juneteenth Concert w/ Excellence in the Community. virtual/streaming, 8 p.m.

Juneteenth Freedom Day Celebration

June 19, doors: 6 p.m. / show 7 p.m., The Complex, 536 W 100 S. Celebrate Juneteenth with live music, food trucks, and children's activities in the parking lot. For more info, visit visitsaltlake.com/event/a-juneteenth-freedom-day-celebration-at-the-complex/28578.

Juneteenth Celebration & Black-Owned Business Expo

June 26, 12 p.m. - 9 p.m., The Gateway, 18 N Rio Grande. Connect with Utah's Black-owned businesses and enjoy art, food, entertainment, film screenings, and roller skating. For free registration or more info, visit saltlakejuneteenth.org.

Opening of Three Creeks Confluence

July 9, 5 - 9 p.m., 950 W 1300 S. Enjoy music, beer, and food trucks at the new community space built at the confluence of Parleys, Emigration, and Red Butte Creeks.

International Market

Fridays: 6 to 10 pm, Saturdays: 12 p.m. to 10 p.m. Utah State Fairpark, 155 1000 W. The Fairpark and Utah Arts Alliance present Salt Lake's first International Market, held throughout the summer and featuring foods and goods by artisans from around the world. Dates: June 18 & June 19, July 9 & July 10, July 23 & 24 (Days of 47 Rodeo), July 30 & July 31, October 1 & October 2.

Partners in the Park(ing Lot)

A multi-week summer program designed to bring University faculty, staff, students, community partner organizations, and west side residents together in local neighborhood parks. Various activities and free picnic dinners. Learn more: partners.utah.edu/partners-in-the-park.

June 14: Community parade, Glendale, 6:30 p.m.

June 15: Drive-thru event, Glendale, Mt. View CLC, 1388 S Navajo St, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

July 12: Community parade, Rose Park, 6:30 p.m.

July 13: Drive-thru event, Northwest Middle School, 1730 N 1700 W, 6 p.m - 8 p.m.

Aug 10: In-person event, Jordan Park, 1060 S 900 W, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.



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Tracy Aviary launches bilingual community science project along Jordan River

By Frances Ngo

While wandering the Jordan River Trail, it's not hard to find evidence of beavers – if you know what to look for. Along the winding path beside the river, you can find stumps marked by chisel-toothed grooves or trees whose gnarled outer bark has been removed, leaving behind a pale, naked base.

These tell-tale signs are found all along the Jordan River, a testament to beavers' penchant for being "ecosystem engineers." Beavers' industrious activity has a big impact on wild bird habitat. As beavers feed on tree bark, they alter the landscape along the banks. Dead trees, or snags, become important perches or

cavity habitat for birds. However, dead trees might be deemed hazardous and removed too quickly from the landscape.

Thus, Tracy Aviary's newest community science project was born: Birds & Beavers // Castores y Comunidad. This new bilingual project seeks to answer: How does beaver activity affect birds? How can our data inform land management that is beneficial for birds, beavers, and people?

The project, which launched this April, is centered on the new Jordan River Nature Center located on Salt Lake City's West Side, along 3300 South. This newest branch of the Aviary is no coincidence. While investigating beavers, our goal is to work with diverse audienc-

es along the Jordan River and take proactive steps towards building inclusive community science programs.

The first phase of the Birds & Beavers project is live and anyone can participate. It's simple: we need your help to find trees affected by beavers. If you're along the Jordan River and see gnawed/fallen trees, text a photo and location to the "Beaver Hotline" at 801-381-6349. Your photos help our conservation team locate trees and plan which areas to monitor. As the season continues, we hope to offer family-friendly beaver walks, activities, and interpretive signage at the Jordan River Nature Center. Learn more and get involved at tracyaviaryconservation.org/birdsbeavers.

Frances is the Conservation Outreach Biologist for Tracy Aviary. With a background in Zoology, she is especially fond of birds & mammals. At the Aviary, Frances is developing inclusive community science projects, surveying local bird populations, and creating science-art.

Tracy Aviary lanza un proyecto de ciencia comunitaria bilingüe junto al Río Jordan

By Frances Ngo

Mientras deambulas por el sendero del Río Jordan, no es difícil encontrar evidencia de castores--si sabes qué buscar. A lo largo del sinuoso camino junto al río, puedes encontrar troncos marcados por dientes de cincel o árboles cuya corteza exterior retorcida ha sido eliminada, dejando una base pálida y desnuda.

Estos signos reveladores se encuentran a lo largo del Río Jordan, un testimonio de la inclinación de los castores por ser "ingenieros de ecosistemas". La actividad laboriosa de los castores tiene un gran impacto en el hábitat de las aves silvestres. A medida que los castores se alimentan de la corteza de los árboles, alteran el

paisaje junto a las orillas. Los árboles muertos se convierten en importantes perchas o hábitats de cavidades para las aves. Sin embargo, los árboles muertos pueden considerarse peligrosos y están siendo quitados demasiado rápido del paisaje.

Así nació el proyecto científico comunitario más reciente de Tracy Aviary: Birds & Beavers // Castores y Comunidad. Este nuevo proyecto bilingüe busca responder: ¿Cómo afecta la actividad de los castores a las aves? ¿Cómo pueden nuestros datos informar la gestión de la tierra que sea beneficiosa para las aves, los castores y las personas?

Este proyecto, que se lanzó en abril, se centra en el nuevo Centro de Naturaleza del Río Jordan ubicado al lado oeste de Salt Lake City, a lo largo de 3300 S. Esta nueva sucursal del

Tracy Aviary no es una coincidencia. Mientras investigamos a los castores, nuestro objetivo es trabajar con diversas audiencias cerca del Río Jordan y tomar medidas proactivas para crear programas de ciencia comunitaria que sean inclusivos.

¡La primera fase de nuestro proyecto Castores y Comunidad está en vivo y cualquiera puede participar! Es simple: necesitamos tu ayuda para encontrar árboles afectados por castores. Si estás a lo largo del Río Jordán y ves árboles roídos o caídos, envía un mensaje de texto con una foto y ubicación a la "Línea directa de castores" al 801-381-6349. ¡Sus fotos ayudan a nuestro equipo de conservación a localizar árboles y planificar qué áreas monitorear! A medida que continúa la temporada, esperamos ofrecer caminatas, actividades y letreros interpretativos para la familia en el Centro de Naturaleza del Río Jordan. Obtenga más información y participe en <https://www.tracyaviaryconservation.org/castores>.

From Satini, page 20

tator of change and a bridge between the powerful and the powerless, no one could carry out the work the way this woman did.

Since Margarita's passing in October of 2020 the word "unapologetic" has been used frequently to describe her. And she was so unapologetic. Margarita was blunt with her words and fully aware of their impact. Sometimes she intended for them to sting, never with the intent of centering herself, but always with the hope to stimulate change. Unbeknownst to many, however, Margarita had a gentleness and sensitivity about her, one that was reserved for those she held dear, her beloved community, her family and friends, and especially her grandkids.

A public mural of Margarita was erected and dedicated in May in honor of her legacy. The mural overlooks the Og-Woi People's Orchard and Garden located on the Jordan River trail in Fairpark. It stands as a memorial to her legacy and as a physical representation of her influence on Utah's advances in diversity and racial equity.

Margarita Satini was a monument of a woman. Her memory exudes mana. She was truly a "Mana Fefine" (Power Woman). Although she is no longer with us, she has left behind a spirit of resistance and of transformation, one that will reverberate within our hearts and our community for generations to come.