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**Councilperson Celeste Friend**  
SOUTH UTICA - THIRD WARD



**cfriend@cityofutica.com**  
**315-725-5987**

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## South Utica Newsletter #14 from Councilperson Celeste Friend

If you're thinking that this Newsletter looks a little different from the ones you've received before, well, that's because it does. I've gotten an official City of Utica email address and switched platforms for these Newsletters (from MailChimp which is free, to MadMimi which charges a modest monthly fee). And along with that, I decided that it is important to separate out my official Newsletters, which I send out as a member of the Common Council, and the emails I will be sending out as a Candidate, now that my re-election campaign is winding up for a busy Summer. So, new email address, new look, but same monthly Newsletter (and mid-month one as well) that aims to keep you informed of Council business, matters important to the Third Ward, an explanation of my votes, and more.

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## Roscoe Conkling Park



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*The Overlook which gives a great view of our reservoir.*

Roscoe Conkling Park takes up at least 30% of the entire land mass of our Third Ward. It is one of the true gems of Utica, designed by the famous Olmstead Firm, and home to The Utica Zoo, The Parkway Recreation Center, Val Bialas Ski Center, the South Woods and Switchbacks, the Overlook, the Eagle, and more. It is a beautiful park with stunning views of the Valley we call home and it is right here in our own backyard. On the Western edge, it is flanked by two beautiful and historic cemeteries: New Forest and Forest Hill. Valley View Golf Course runs throughout the Park, up behind the Switchbacks, in front of the Overlook, etc. But, two city roads also cut through the Park: Master Garden Road, which connects Oneida Street and Pleasant Street (The Parkway), and Steele Hill Road, which begins at Valley View Road and connects up to Master Garden Road. These roads are the only access to the Park. This means that pedestrians, cyclists, families with young children in tow, joggers, etc cannot enter the Park without sharing the road with cars. So, after talking to lots of people, I have decided that we would all be better off if, ONE day a week, we close those roads to cars. I will be introducing legislation to the Council that would institute "Car Free Sundays" to Roscoe Conkling Park. (This would be in addition to the traditional practice of closing these roads from November through April, so that skiers and snowshoers can enjoy the Park in Winter.) I have been conducting an online survey about this, and if you haven't done so already, please weigh in now. (It takes less than a minute.) I always want to hear from you.

[Take The Survey](#)

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## Green Waste, Trash, Recycling



# City of Utica

## 2021 Bulk Green Waste Pickup Schedule\*

Spring April 12 – May 28  
Fall September 13 – December 3

### Allowable Green Waste Items

- ✓ Grass Clippings
- ✓ Leaves
- ✓ Weeds
- ✓ Flowers
- ✓ Bundled limbs and branches  
no longer than 4' and under 50 lbs.



### Items NOT Allowed

- NO** Household Garbage **NO** Plastic
- |                      |                               |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>NO</b> Plant Pots | <b>NO</b> Bricks              |
| <b>NO</b> Soil       | <b>NO</b> Cement              |
| <b>NO</b> Shrubs     | <b>NO</b> Lumber              |
| <b>NO</b> Stumps     | <b>NO</b> Construction Debris |
| <b>NO</b> Logs       | <b>NO</b> Hazardous Waste     |
| <b>NO</b> Trees      | <b>NO</b> Chemicals           |

The City of Utica **DOES NOT** pick up large green waste items such as trees, shrubs, logs and stumps. If you have large Green Waste items to be removed call Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority at 315-731-0238 to schedule a pick-up. A nominal fee is charged for this service.

**NOTE:** Landscaping and construction contractors are mandated by the City of Utica Code Sec. 2-22-41 to remove all green waste from any city property at which they provide services

### Place items loose at curb, NOT in the street.

#### North (Broad St. and NYC & HR Railroad north to City Limit)

Spring: Starts April 12 – May 24 Final Pick-up  
Fall: Starts Sept. 13 – Nov. 29 Final Pick-up

#### Upper East (Eagle St./Welshbush Rd. south to city line and east of Genesee St./Memorial Parkway/Oneida St.)

Spring: Starts April 13 – May 25 Final Pick-up  
Fall: Starts Sept. 14 – Nov. 30 Final Pick-up

#### South (Burrstone Rd. south to city limit and west of Oneida St.)

Spring: Starts April 14 – May 26 Final Pick-up  
Fall: Starts Sept. 15 – Dec. 1 Final Pick-up

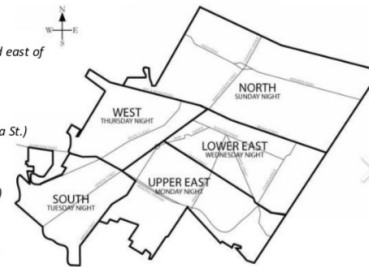
#### Lower East (Broad St. to Eagle St. and east of Genesee St.)

Spring: Starts April 15 – May 27 Final Pick-up  
Fall: Starts Sept. 16 – Dec. 2 Final Pick-up

#### West (Oriskany St. to Burrstone Rd. and west of Genesee)

Spring: Starts April 16 – May 28 Final Pick-up  
Fall: Starts Sept. 17 – Dec. 3 Final Pick-up

### City of Utica Green Waste Collection Routes



### \* Between May 31 – September 10, green waste MUST be in containers

Each household is allowed (5) – 32 gallon barrels no more than 50 lbs. each  
Branches MUST be bundled, no longer than 4' and weigh no more than 50 lbs.  
Bulk Green Waste piles put out during the rest of the year will be cited.

Dates subject to change due to weather at the DPW Commissioner's discretion. Your FINAL PICK-UP is the last day to put out bulk green waste. Heavy volume of green waste in certain areas of the city may cause delays. Please be patient with crews.

April's mid-month Newsletter "How Utica Works" will be devoted to this topic. But in the meantime, just a quick reminder of a few essentials. Bulk green waste pick up does not begin until April 14th, so hold your horses on raking your leaves and green waste out to the curb. And please, never EVER, pile it up in the street. Leave it at the edge of the curb, up on the city right-of-way between the street and sidewalk. When you put it directly onto the street, it can be washed away by rain, end up in our storm sewers, and wreak havoc. Also, please do not put your trash out until 5pm on your trash night (Tuesday night for all of South Utica). Leaving it out longer than that just invites animals to break into it, and before we know it, our streets are strewn with trash. Use official Utica blue bags always. And if something is not picked up, please bring it back in until you can figure out how to properly dispose of it. Please don't leave trash at your curb for the whole week. If we can all follow these simple guidelines, we can maintain a beautiful City. Keep an eye out for the upcoming Newsletter which will cover all this in much greater detail.

# The Best of South Utica

For the last several weeks, my friend Dennis Dewey has been lending me both his enthusiasm AND his videography skills. We've been making short videos that highlight some of the wonderful small, independent businesses that make up South Utica's economic base. So far, we've shown videos of The Beer Hub, Rintrona's Bistro, Boneyard BBQ, and Cafe Domenico. Videos of Maria's Pasta Shop and Stathis are queued up and will be released soon. I post those videos on Facebook and Twitter, but now I also have them organized on my YouTube channel. So if you haven't had the chance to catch them yet, no worries, it's never too late. Just click below.

[Visit Our YouTube Channel](#)

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## Handshake.City Supporting South Utica







*Bodywise Pilates is located at 2615 Genesee Street.*



*Cafe Domenico is located at 2011 Genesee Street*

Many of us know about the good, community-building work that Handshake.City does. They support the local, independent businesses that do and should form the economic base of a thriving Utica. In 2018, they set up a great improvised market place next to PJ Green's just off North Genesee Street. They offered a terrific place for local artists and crafters to sell their wares, and for members of the community to gather and build up community.

Now Handshake.City has really stepped up and met the moment, and responded to the ways the pandemic has hit small businesses hard. With the help of partners Universal Bookkeeper and McGrogan Design, they have started *The Greater Utica Be A Neighbor Fund*. The Fund relies on donations from the community and is awarded to local businesses. Two South Utica businesses have benefited so far: Cafe Domenico and Bodywise Pure Pilates. (And downtown, Mello's Subs has also benefitted.) If you want to learn more or, better yet, support their efforts, just click on the button below.

[\*\*Learn More About Handshake City\*\*](#)

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# Birds, Bees, and Our New Zoning Code



Oh, happy day! For those of you who want to keep a few hens in your backyard and enjoy the freshest of eggs, or who want to keep some bees in your garden, Utica has heard you! The new Zoning Ordinance that we just passed recently has included some regulations to allow homeowners to keep a few hens (sorry, no roosters), and some bees. Until the new Zoning Code is up online, simply drop me a line if you want to know just what the regulations say.

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## Spotlight on a Local Business: Rosa's Trattoria



### **Rosa's Trattoria Italian Bakery & Deli**

2644 Genesee Street

Utica, NY 13502

315-721-7672

<http://rosas-trattoria.com>

Tuesday - Friday 9-5

Monday 9-3

Saturday 8-2

Rosa's is a family run business specializing in authentic and traditional Italian classic dishes since 2000. Rosa's provides a large menu for take out or eat in, delivery and party trays. Opening Rosa's was the owner's dream come true.

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This year marks the 23rd year of the Keep America Beautiful campaign, which sponsors the annual Great American Cleanup. Utica participates, as part of the local organization, Keep Mohawk Valley Beautiful. Utica will be kicking off this annual clean-up effort on Saturday, April 24th. I'd like to put together a few teams who can tackle areas in South Utica that need to be cleaned up. For this, I need two things: Volunteers who want to participate on that day, Saturday, April 24th and a few ideas of where people would like us to clean up. Please email me and let's clean up South Utica together! In another week or so I will send another email with more details, so keep an eye out for that.

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## **My Votes on the Council in March**

**Resolutions I Voted to Place in Committee:** Resolution Affirming Support For Nursing Home Reform Legislation To Pass In the New York State Budget

**Resolutions I Voted For:** Resolution to Honor the Life and Legacy of Mr. Marron W. "Butch" McLeod; Commissioners of Deeds for Mary L. Holland, Lucia H. Soultz, and Bianca R. Morales; Public Hearing in Reference to the Executive Order Regarding Police Reform; Commissioners of Deeds for Jack N. Spaeth and Carmen Lee Scalise; Resolution Determining that Proposed Action is a Type II Action; Resolution to Adopt City of Utica Police Reform Plan; Honoring Steve Wynn and the Wynn Family Foundation; A Resolution Requesting that Warren H. Shorey be Awarded the Medal of Honor, Posthumously; Resolution Affirming Support For Nursing Home Reform Legislation To Pass In the New York State Budget

**Ordinances I Voted to Place in Committee:** Annual Estimate for 2021-2022; Amend Sec. 2-2-128 of the Utica City Code for Fees Pertaining to Freedom of Information Law Requests;

**Ordinances I Voted For:** Public Hearing for Annual Estimate for 2021-2022; Transfer of Funds for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Re: Judgements and Settlements; Amend Sec. 2-2-128 of the Utica City Code for Fees Pertaining to Freedom of Information Law Requests; Annual Estimate for 2021-2022; Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,500,00 Serial Bonds (for paving); Fence Permit for 902 Ontario Street;

**Legislation in Committee that I Voted to Discharge:** Resolution to Create a Quiet Zone; Neighborhood Notification and Meeting Clause; Resolution Regarding the New Act Regarding The Repeal of 50A of the Civil Rights Law; Feral Cats Ordinance;



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