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THE YOUTH COMMON COUNCIL NEEDS A SOUTH UTICA REPRESENTATIVE

The Common Council, under the leadership of Councilperson Delvin Moody, recently voted to re-establish the Youth Common Council. They have just begun meeting, but they are still missing a representative from South Utica. If you know of a Junior or Senior high school student who wants to be involved in local politics, please let me know.

FLOODING

This month will mark the one year anniversary of the terrible Halloween floods that harmed so many in our communities. In that time different agencies have made efforts towards mitigating the risk of flooding. I will be holding a meeting to update you on this progress. So reserve the evening of Tuesday, October 27th for this meeting. More details will come in a future email.

THE NEW ZONING ORDINANCE

The City is in the process of adopting a new Zoning plan. The hope is that this will give all of us a new, streamlined, and environmentally updated zoning code as we move into a bright new future. This month's water bill contains a notification from the City about this Zoning update. The Council will have to weigh in by passing this zoning plan as an Ordinance. If at least 10 people are interested, I would be happy to arrange a meeting for South Utica about this Zoning plan. (My cat James has already made his opinion known. The new zoning map is very comfy.) So please let me know if you would come to such a meeting. [You can check out the new zoning code here.](#)



VOTE FOR CAFE DOMENICO!

Utica's Genuine Java Joint, Cafe Domenico, located in the heart of South Utica, has been nominated for the Observer-Dispatch's 2020 Best of the Best Awards. Give our local cafe, and South Utica, a boost by voting for the Cafe today. [Just follow this link, register, choose your category, and cast your votes!](#)

GREEN WASTE - DO IT RIGHT!

For two periods a year, you can place your green waste loose at the curb and the City will pick it up for free. So starting on September 30th and running until December 2nd, we are welcome to pile our green waste by the curb, but not in the street. (Please, no logs or tree stumps.) But after December 2nd, we will be back to putting our green waste into barrels or other containers. Please follow the green waste rules. When we put leaves and grass clippings out in the street during other times of the year, we risk them being washed into our storm drains, which increases the risk of flooding. So, by all means, take advantage of the City's green waste service, but please, play by the rules, for the sake of all of us.

CONSTITUENT HOURS RESTARTED SEPTEMBER 15th

I hold my regular Constituent Hours every 1st, 2nd, and 4th Tuesday of the month from 4-6pm at The Other Side at 2011 Genesee Street, right next to Cafe Domenico.

Please come with a mask and plan to practice social distancing. But do drop in, I'd love to see you!

NEW FOREST CEMETERY

As many of you are aware, the New Forest Cemetery, just to the North of the Forest Hill Cemetery, has recently fallen on hard times. It is a separate cemetery from Forest Hill, and operates independently from it. (They are separated from each other by Master Garden Road.) After worries that New Forest might simply be abandoned, a new group, led by Mr. Craig Minor in South Utica, has stepped up and formed a new Board and found a new volunteer Superintendent. The Cemetery is now on the road to recovery. I have met with the Board, and am trying to help them as they pursue financial resources. I have great confidence in the new Board, but the road ahead for them is steep. They are currently intending to make some basic capital investments, which can help to create a more secure financial future for the cemetery. Financial contributions are welcome, and can be sent to: New Forest Cemetery, PO Box 424, Utica NY 13501



Spotlight on Local Business!

And now that we are bit by bit returning to normal, I thought it was time to bring back our "Spotlight on Businesses" in South Utica. I am grateful to my friend Theresa Smith for taking on this portion of the Newsletter. (Have an idea for a business to highlight? Let me know.)

Vanity Hair & Beauty Parlor

Vanity Hair & Beauty Parlor is a new and beautifully remodeled unisex salon located in Ridgewood Plaza. The salon has experienced stylists and specializes not only in haircuts but all hair services including colors, highlights, lowlights, and much more. Walk-ins welcome.

2514 Oneida Street Utica 13501

Telephone number: 315-922-7335

Facebook: Vanity Hair & Beauty Parlor

E-mail: vanityhair&beautyparlor@gmail.com

Owner/Operator: Dakotah Schaaf

Hours: Monday 11-4

Tuesday 10-7

Wednesday 10-7

Thursday 10-6

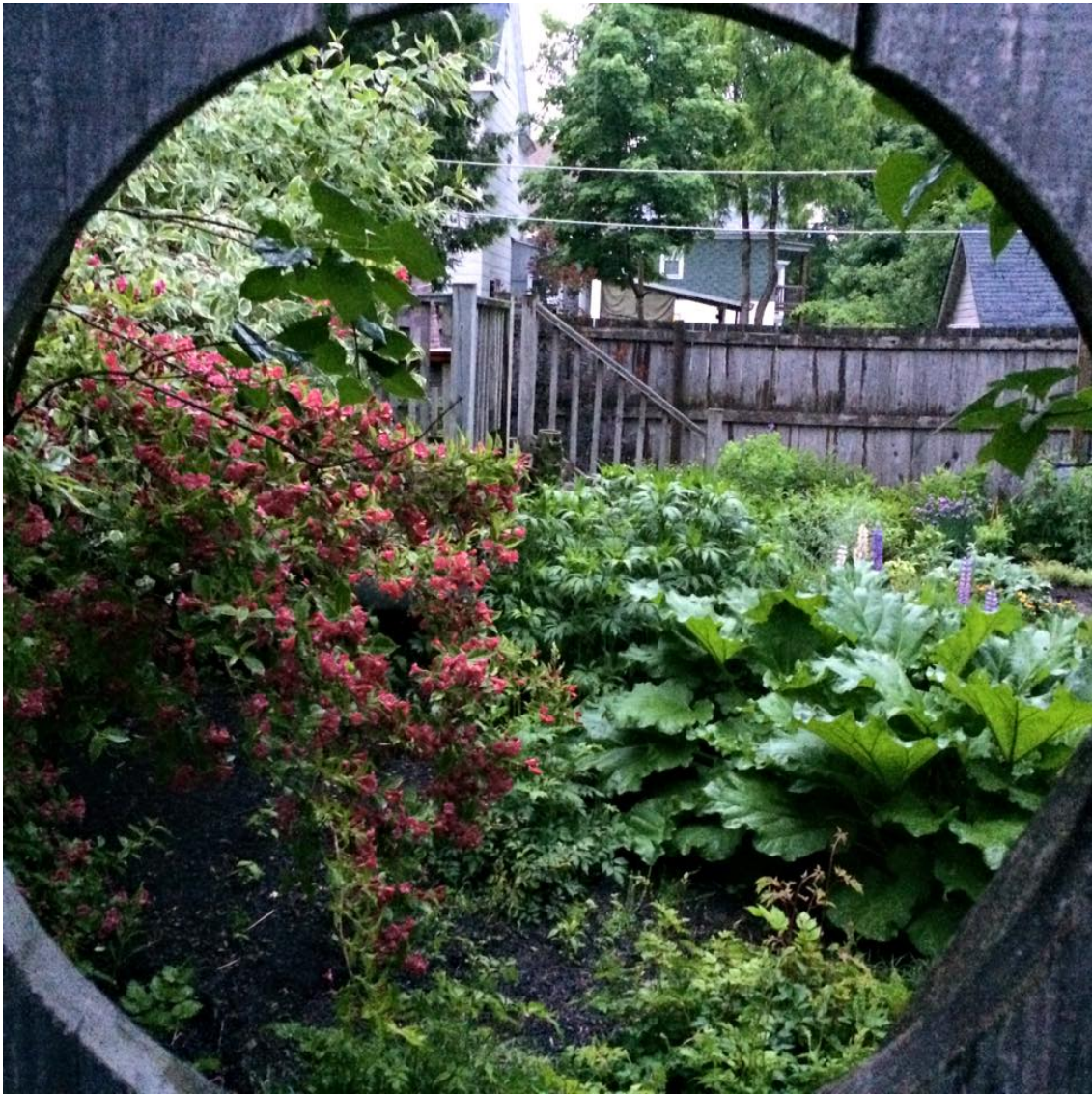
Friday 9-5

Saturday 9-2



CALLING ALL SOUTH UTICA GARDENERS!

There are many terrific gardens and gardeners in South Utica. Gardens can do a lot to beautify our neighborhoods and improve the quality of life for all of us. I will be arranging a meeting of people who would be interested in organizing a South Utica Garden club. I have already heard from several people, but there is still time to get in on the ground floor of this new club! Email me if you would be interested in this.



EVERY VOTE COUNTS

We are only a few weeks out from November's General Election. There are three ways that you can vote this year:

1) If you are concerned about voting in person because of the Pandemic, you can request an Absentee Ballot on the basis of "temporary illness". You can apply for an Absentee Ballot now. Those Ballots will begin to be mailed out in just a few days.

[Follow this link for an application for an Absentee Ballot.](#) Once you receive your ballot, fill it in, sign it, and return it to the Board of Elections.

2) You can vote during the Early Voting period, which this year will run from Saturday, October 24th until Sunday, November 1st. Early Voting is a great way to vote in person safely, without worrying about being around crowds of people. And stay tuned for a video that a friend and I are producing to explain all the details of how to Vote Early.

3) You can vote in person on Tuesday, November 3rd at your regular polling place. Anyone who is a citizen and has resided at their current address for at least 30 days is eligible to vote. [You can learn more here about how to register to vote.](#)

[Follow me on Facebook, where we have posted all sorts of helpful details about all of the above.](#)

MY VOTES ON THE COUNCIL

September 2, 2020

I voted AYE to adjust Solid Waste service charges. I voted AYE to Resolve that there are no negative environmental consequences to a proposed Downtown Utica Parking Improvement Project. I voted AYE to discontinue and sell a portion of Burrstone Road. (This is a sliver of Burrstone Road that years ago was incorporated into a new entrance for Utica College. The Council was merely formalizing this fact.) I voted AYE for legislation I sponsored to add a stop sign on Emerson Ave where it intersects with Howe St. I voted AYE for legislation I sponsored to allow a resident on Lomond Place to place an 8 foot fence in her side yard. I voted AYE on two Resolutions to place proper signage on Herkimer Road in relation to heavy trucks. I voted AYE on an Ordinance for No Parking on a section of Herkimer Road. And finally, I voted AYE on an Ordinance sponsored by the entire Council, to designate a section of Kemble Street as "Essential Workers Way". The Council agreed that it was important to recognize the sacrifices that so many essential workers have made during this pandemic. I was proud to co-sponsor this legislation, and happy to vote for it.

September 16, 2020

I voted AYE on a Resolution to honor long term Democratic Commissioner of the Oneida County Board of Elections Angela Pedone Longo. Ms. Longo had long served the City and I was happy to vote for this Proclamation to honor her. I voted AYE to Ordain that a portion of Warren Street be made one-way. I voted AYE for an Ordinance that I sponsored that would make a portion of Ballantyne Brae, where it narrows and joins Genesee Street "No Parking At All Times". I voted AYE on two Ordinances to amend the current fence ordinance to simplify the fees for fences. And lastly, I voted AYE on an Ordinance to allow a resident to add 2 feet of fencing to the top of a pre-existing fence.

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