



N.S.N.C.

Trolley Times

Vol. 5

• News of the North Slope Neighborhood Coalition •

August 1997

Next Coalition Meeting @ Bavarian: August 2 9:00 a.m.

Join us for an informative hour! Meeting begins at 9:00 and promptly ends at 10:00. On this month's agenda:

- Regular Committee reports
- Monica McNight, new mobilizer for Safe Streets

The North Slope Neighborhood Coalition is made up of the people living between "I" and Grant Streets from Division to Steele Streets. If you live in this area as a property owner or tenant, please join us on Saturday morning, **August 2** at the Bavarian Restaurant (upstairs). The Bavarian is located on the corner of Division and "K" Streets. Free coffee is generously provided to us by the owners, Karen & Dennis Faker.

Priority List Developed for Thea Foss Bond Money

After much debate and a few heated meetings, the North End Neighborhood Council (NENC) came to agreement on which projects would be funded with the money provided through the Thea Foss Bond issue. A final priority list has been submitted to the City Council for approval.

The list is the culmination of several efforts to gain public input on how residents wanted the money spent on improvements to the North End. The City undertook a poll in the neighborhood to find projects that citizens supported and two public hearings were held to brainstorm and refine ideas. Once the NENC had a "wish list" based on citizen input, we went to work setting priorities and dollar amounts.

I am very pleased with the

results. Overwhelmingly, people are interested in open spaces, lighting, sidewalks and beautification. I believe we addressed all of the wishes throughout the North End. The list of projects in order of priority are:

1. The North End "Loop". The loop is the construction of pedestrian trails down the medians of Union & Mason Streets from 9th Street to 26th Street. Improvements on 9th Street will connect Mason & Union. There will also be amenities

to create urban parks down both medians.

2. A park at 8th and K Streets on the site of the abandoned City Light substation.

3. Completion of the historic lighting project in Proctor.

4. A community center study to determine the need and location of a new building.

5. Bike lanes on Alder & Stevens Streets.

'Priority List' cont'd on Page 2

New Name for North Slope Newsletter

And the credit goes to Nick Kristensen! Nick submitted the winning entry of the "Name the Newsletter" contest. From this publication on out, our newsletter will officially be the "NSNC Trolley Times". We thank Nick for his submittal and providing our newsletter with an identity.

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6. A park at the end of Starr Street in Old Town.
7. Crosswalks at 26th & Alder Streets and in Old Town at McCarver and 30th Streets.
8. Trees/beautification throughout the North End.
9. Improvements to Jane Clark Park.
10. Lighting on 9th Street between I and M Streets.

The NENC has put together a long range vision of the future North End neighborhood. The above list is the frame work for that vision or "phase one" of a comprehensive plan to increase pedestrian-friendly connections between the neighborhoods and business districts in our area. This plan gives us something to build on in the future.

I am happy to serve the North Slope on the NENC, along with Bill Johnston. If you have any questions or concerns, please give me a call at 272-0938.

Dan Klein, North Slope Representative to the NENC



In the next edition of Trolley Times, there will be an article requesting "favorite" holiday recipes. Maybe you have a recipe that's been passed down from generation to generation that you'd like to share? Or, a simple, yet delicious dessert that only tastes like you've been in the kitchen all day? Start thinking about those special recipes and look for the article in October's edition. Any recipes received will be published in the December edition.

New Safe Streets Mobilizer Named

Some of you may already know that Moe Ware has departed Safe Streets. After a thorough recruitment and interview process, the North Slope has a new liaison, Monica McNight.

Monica moved to Tacoma from California seven years ago and experienced first hand some of the problems facing urban neighborhoods. Upon arriving here, she moved in with some former college roommates living in the Hilltop area. She was unaware of the reputation of Hilltop and soon thereafter witnessed the violence, graffiti and drug dealing taking place in her own neighborhood. She was determined to do something about it, but wasn't sure how to get started.

A friend suggested she volunteer

for Safe Streets (an organization she didn't know existed). She volunteered for five months and then was an intern for one month. On June 2, Monica officially became the mobilizer for the North End and Northeast Tacoma.

Monica is committed to making our neighborhoods safer. She brings with her an enthusiasm and strong resolve to make Tacoma a better place to live. We welcome Monica and look forward to establishing a good rapport with her as our Safe Streets North End Mobilizer.

Monica can be reached at the Safe Streets offices at 272-6824 or on her cell phone at 208-3550. She will attend the next Coalition meeting on August 2; make it a point to introduce yourself to her.

Care of Young Street Trees

Aside from the obvious (water), there are three most important points to caring for young trees:

1. Protect the bark! Possibly the biggest killer of young urban trees is the weed whacker. Many trees dry up and die because they don't have enough vascular tissue left after the bark has been knocked off to carry water up to the leaves. Keep the grass pulled up around the base of your tree. Planting flowers around the tree will help you remember to water, mulch and keep the grass away.

2. Care for the soil. Soil that is dense (compacted) has too few air spaces in it. The air spaces are necessary for good drainage and for roots to penetrate. Loosen dense soil along your whole planting strip, and add organic matter (such as TAGRO). If you don't, you will be encouraging surface roots and future sidewalk damage.

3. Prune for good branch structure. There should be one dominant branch going all the way to the top of your tree. If there are two or more branches of similar size, growing from one place, all but one should be removed. "Sucker" branches growing from the lower trunk or roots should be removed as soon as you see them. Also remove just a couple of the lowest branches each year until it is easy to walk or drive under the tree canopy. DO NOT "ROUND OVER" OR "TIP" YOUR TREE! Indiscriminate cutting of branch ends results in a low crown that interferes with cars and pedestrians, and dense, twiggy growth that looks like a toilet brush and attracts pests.

If you staked your tree when it was planted, be sure to remove the stakes and ties after one year.

A good source for tree care advice is the Pierce County Master Gardeners at 591-7170.

Kathy Van Pelt, City Arborist, 591-5767

Sector 2 Change of Command



In April, the officers and citizens of the North End said good bye to Lieutenant Gary Wiegand who served as the

Sector 2 Commander the past four years. Reluctantly, and with heartfelt praise for the citizens who live in the two sector, Lt. Wiegand relinquished his command.

Gary has been tasked to head the Police Department's Internal Affairs Unit, a demanding assignment requiring someone with Gary's outstanding reputation.

I transferred from the Special Investigations Division to assume command of Sector 2. I was fortunate to find a healthy, well maintained Sector with an outstanding reputation of its own. A reputation as a safe, livable area with thriving businesses, and solid citizens who take responsibility for their neighborhoods. The Two Sector is renowned for accomplishing things thorough the cooperative efforts of its citizens and Police Officers.

That is a reputation that reflects well on you and the Tacoma Police Department. It is a reputation vital to the strength, stability, and future success of the area. It is also a reputation under increasing pressure that will be challenged in the future. It is my responsibility to protect that reputation. Together we will advance it.

Lt. Stan W. Fisk, 591-5697

Community Meeting

The next Sector 2 COPS meeting hosted by the Tacoma Police Department is Wednesday, August 20 at 7:00 p.m., Christ Church Parish (310 N. K Street). This is an opportunity for you to bring your

concerns and comments to the attention of the Police Officers who work the area.

Please plan on attending!

Thanks to all of you who helped distribute the June newsletter: Chris & Don Brosnan, LouAnne & Dennis Nelson, Les Kinney, Kathy Swendahl, Nick & Cassidy Kristensen, Lynrae & Tom Hubbell, Wendy McDonald, Tom & Barbara

Wholesale Nursery Opens Its Doors to Public

How many times have you wished that you could obtain excellent plant material at a professional landscape contractor's cost? Wish no more! The Sweetbriar Nursery is a wholesale nursery located in Kirkland that opens its doors to the public three times a year - with the next open house and public sale being **September 13 & 14, 9:00a-5:00p.** This is an excellent time to purchase trees, shrubs and plants and get them established over the fall and winter. There are many fall and winter plants that will add color and interest to your garden. This timeframe offers another opportunity to expand the palette of your garden.

As a regular customer of theirs, I can attest to the quality of their stock. Prior to moving to the N. End, we landscaped our former home, situated on a half acre lot, with many items purchased through Sweetbriar. We never had any problems with "bad" plants - everything we purchased was of superior quality. Sweetbriar specializes in materials that are native to the Pacific Northwest, although they carry many other species too.

Whether you need a lot of plants or a little, it is well worth the trip to Kirkland. You'll end up saving a lot of money over the retail establishments and can usually pick up more mature specimens than what is offered at local garden centers.

A wholesale nursery is different

Tomberg, and Kim Moreland. Putting together the newsletter is time consuming and any help we receive is truly appreciated. If you'd like to volunteer to deliver on your street (or even another street), please see Angie Klein at the next Coalition meeting. It would be great if we could have a long list of volunteers so that the same people did not have to deliver the newsletter on every edition.

from your favorite retail nursery. They actually propagate and grow their plants all year long, so plants are in all stages of development. Please select plants that are green and obviously growing - don't choose a small or weak looking plant.

At each of their open houses, Sweetbriar invites you to donate canned food, which is given to the Northshore Multi Service Center. As a thank you gift, you will receive a 4" potted ground cover or perennial for every two cans of food you donate.

How to get there: from northbound I-405 take exit 20-B. Head east on NE 124th Street for about ¼ of a mile. Turn north (left) on 132nd Ave. NE. You'll cross railroad tracks and go up a hill about ¼ mile. The nursery will be on your left and has red flags at the east entrance and blue flags and the north entrance. There are two schools within walking distance - please park in either one of the school parking lots. Do not block any driveway if you find a parking spot on the street.

Remember, this is a working nursery. Wear sturdy shoes and be prepared for cool winds. Also, Sweetbriar accepts cash or checks only, no credit cards.

Plan on taking in this wonderful opportunity - your garden will appreciate it, as will your pocket book!

Angie Klein

Summer & Fall Flowering Plants

Here's a suggested list of plants that will add color and interest to your garden through the fall:

Japanese anemone
 Aster 'Alert' & 'Prof. Kipenberg'
 Crocosmia 'Emily MacKenzie'
 Astilbe 'Sprite' & 'Pumila'
 Hydrangea varieties
 Clethra alnifolia 'Summersweet'
 Clethra barbinervosa
 Buddlea - Butterfly Bush
 Clerodendrom Harlequin Glory
 Bower
 Sedum varieties
 Schizostylus c. 'Fenland Daybreak'
 Yarrow varieties
 Kirengashoma palmata
 Hosta varieties
 Physostegia - Obedient Plant
 Day Lily varieites
 Shasta Daisy - dwarf and standard
 Asiatic Lily
 Tiger Lily
 Scabiosa 'Butterfly Blue'
 Polygonum bistorta 'Superbum'
 Penstemon 'Eflin Pink'
 Veronica varieties

Fall Color, Winter Interest:

Styrax japonica
 Paper Bark Maple
 Stewartia pseudocamellia
 Spike Winterhazel
 Early flowering rhodie, 'Cornell
 Pink'

It's All in the Numbers!

I'm not talking about Las Vegas here, I mean the numbers you call for City services. And there are lots of them.

For example, my favorite - 591-5926. That is who you call when the bozo across the street thinks the roadway is his private parking storage area and has had his old beater sitting there so long he'd have to cut the weeds to get in the door.

The City responds in an amazingly short period of time. I am usually a happy guy just a few short days after I make a call.

The City also doesn't allow boats, trailers or anything else to stay on the street, unmoved for more than seven days.

Oh, and by the way, 591-5926 is a recorded call so you just leave a message - and as they say, the rest is history.

Next, I enjoy "streetlights", the kind that are burnt out! Call 591-5287 and a human answers on the other end. No recording. The bonus is that whoever the guy is - is a very friendly City employee. He just makes you feel better about paying your taxes.

Like the abandoned auto folks, these guys are fast also. They will have your street light generating light again in no time at all.

Of course, we all know "police emergency" or "911" but how about police (non-emergency)? That number is 593-4721. And since Tacoma has the community police concept, this is where you can get a hold of your sector officers with questions and concerns.

I am your North Slope represen-

tative on the North End Neighborhood Council, along with Dan Klein and if you want to know what we are up to just call 591-5229 and find out.

I could go on listing dozens of City service phone numbers but I won't because you can get a list of your very own by calling City Community Relations at 591-2040 and ask for the Citizen's Guide to City Services. Do it today!

Bill Johnston



Lemongrass Lemonade

1 cup sugar
 2 stalks lemongrass, bruised lightly with the side of a knife and cut into ½ inch pieces
 3 cups water
 1 cup fresh lemon juice (from about 3 large lemons)
 ½ cup fresh lime juice (from about 2 limes)
 Pinch of salt
 2 cups ice
 1 lemon, thinly sliced
 2 stalks lemongrass, cut into 4 swizzle sticks (optional)

In a small saucepan, combine the sugar, lemongrass pieces and water, and bring to a boil, stirring to dissolve the sugar. Lower the heat and simmer for 20 minutes. Remove the syrup from the heat; let it sit for about an hour. Strain it into a glass pitcher. Just before serving, add the lemon juice, lime juice, and salt. Stir well and add the ice. Serve in tall glasses with more ice. Garnish with the lemon slices and the lemongrass swizzle sticks. Yields about 4 cups.

Good Neighbor Discount

Bring this coupon in and receive two dinners for the price of one at the Bavarian Restaurant!

Offer good through August 31, 1997



Dennis Faker
 Owner

Specializing in Schnitzel
 Steaks and Seafood

206-427-5010

1105 Division Avenue
 Tacoma, Washington 98401