

N.S.N.C.

# Trolley Times

Vol. 7

• News of the North Slope Neighborhood Coalition •

December 1997

# Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays!



Please see back page for Coalition Meeting announcement and agenda.

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, December 6 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.

### North Slope Historic District Expansion Passes City Council months of hearings" says Julie our city. We know we

On October 28, 1997 the City Council unanimously passed the ordinance expanding the Historic District from J Street to include I, K, L & M Streets.

The purpose of the NSNC-sponsored ordinance, which protects the exterior structural elements of historic buildings in the designated area, is to prevent the destruction of any more old homes. The ordinance requires Landmarks Preservation Commission approval of exterior changes which require a building permit. Other changes made to exteriors, as well as all interior changes, are not affected by the ordinance.

"It has been gratifying to see our neighborhood rally around this issue, and hang together through all these months of hearings" says Julie
Turner, coordinator of the NSHD
expansion effort. "I'd like to
thank all of the supporters for their
willingness to come to hearings,
testify, write letters, and talk to
each other! We surprised officials, Commission boards and the
City Council with our cohesiveness and willingness to stand up
for our belief in the project. We
should all feel proud of ourselves
for using the democratic process
to achieve our goal."

"Besides saving the old houses, perhaps the best thing the effort for the Historic District has done is to enable many of us to get to know each other", says Turner. "We not only can do the Second Expansion, but can also explore other issues of importance to our immediate neighborhood and to

our city. We know we can make positive changes when we work together."

Julie Turner will now hand the coordinator hat on to Velda McDonald, who has been organizing the Second Expansion, uphill, to include Sheridan, Cushman, Ainsworth and possibly Grant Streets.

McDonald and her team will hold home meetings where neighbors can come to ask questions and clarify issues raised by the Historic District ordinance. So, look for notices in this newsletter as to meetings dates and times and plan to attend.

In the meantime, please call the Historic Preservation Office, 591-5220, Julie Turner, 383-2329 or Velda McDonald, 627-4192 if you have questions or would like to help.

### 1997 Progressive Dinner Wrap Up

The Progressive Dinner & Walking Tour is building in popularity with each passing year and the 1997 dinner was no exception! Thanks to all who came, and to all who opened their homes and/or helped in any way. It takes a lot of people and hard work to make this happen and without all the volunteers, it wouldn't have been as successful as it was. This is one of those projects that make our neighborhood so unique and distinct. With a total sellout of the available 104 tickets, the response was overwhelming! It was a very special time for those of us who were on the committee to plan this night. It was lots of fun!

The progressive dinner had four homes this year and the participants not only toured those homes, but they also had a different course of dinner at each stop. Gourmet appetizers, roasted butternut squash soup, authentic Northern Italian lasagna, and diet-breaking desserts completed the menu. Mark your

calendars for next year, Saturday,
November 7, 1998. Since we only
have a limited amount of tickets
available each year, you may
want to be
our list for
year. If

you're
on the list you will be given the first

on the list, you will be given the first opportunity to purchase tickets.

The funds raised from this year's dinner (\$1,435.00 after all overhead bills were paid) will be divvied up between several things: \$500 will be sent to Lindy & Diane Nelson, which completes our original commitment to them to help defer their legal fees (they were named in a lawsuit on behalf of the neighbor-

hood); approximately \$250 will go to the Crime Patrol so additional reflective signs and supplies can be purchased; another \$250 will be held in reserve for monthly fees (cell phone bills) for the operation of the Crime Patrol; and the rest of the funds (\$435) will be held in the treasury for future use.

We have a good start with the planning process for 1998's Progressive Dinner. If you are interested in being a host home, or helping in whatever capacity you can, call Angie Klein at 272-0938 or Judy Martin at 272-0609. When the time comes to get planning meetings started, one of us will contact you.

See you next year!

P.S. The names were drawn for the two doorprizes and Ester Wilfong won the matted color pencil artwork and Scott Norris won the Victorian topiary. Congratulations to both of you!

Angie & Judy, Co-Chairs for the 1997 Progressive Dinner & Walking Tour

# North Slope History Project On Hold

The North Slope History project is temporarily postponed until some time next year. Kim Moreland, coordinator of the project, has asked that it resume at a later date. There is some concern that not enough people have expressed an interest in helping Kim pull this project together. Please think about joining this effort; since Kim is relatively new to this area, she has to rely on the folks who have lived here for a while for her to be able to compile the stories and memories.

Kim is experienced in collecting historical data and information - she took on the same type of project for the much larger city of Portland and did an extremely good and thorough job. The North Slope is rich in Tacoma's history and it would be a shame not to take advantage of Kim's expertise in this arena. Watch for related articles in upcoming issues of Trolley Times and consider joining this committee.



Happy Hanukkah! December 24 This edition marks the one year anniversary since we started publishing a neighborhood newsletter. We hope that it has been informative as well as fun. With this milestone, it also provides an opportunity to look at the contents - is it meeting your needs? What other things would you like to see covered? Is there enough information?

The newsletter can only be as good as its contents. Any feedback you may have is appreciated. Please drop us a note or give us a call with your thoughts. With your help, we can make Trolley Times Pulitzer-worthy! (Okay, wishful thinking on our part....!)

Angie Klein Marie Dudley 272-0938 383-2116

#### **Vehicle Prowls**



Theft from automobiles is the most pervasive crime in north Tacoma. Longer hours of darkness and holiday shopping bring an

increase in this activity. The Tacoma Police Department will apprehend many of these criminals but with your help, many of these crimes can be stopped before they occur. Please do your part by keeping these facts in mind and eliminating the opportunity for criminals to strike.

- 1. Popular items to steal are stereos and speakers, golf clubs, Christmas gifts, purses and wallets.
- 2. Thefts from autos most often occur between 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., although day time thefts are not uncommon.
- 3. If you park on the street, park where your car can be seen.
- 4. Never leave anything of value in your car, not even in the trunk.
- 5. Report any suspicious persons you see in the neighborhood. These thieves prowl the area on foot or bicycles but have a car nearby.
- 6. The average car prowler takes about 30 seconds.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.

Lt. Stan Fisk
2 Sector Commander

## Citizens Patrol Update

Since the last update in the newsletter, eight more dedicated souls joined the patrol (three more are awaiting orientation) and one has moved out of the area, for a total of 27 on the roster. We still need more volunteers to be able to

meet our initial goal of having at

least one patrol on the street every day of the month. Please consider committing yourself to one hour to an hour and a half every month to make your community a better place to live.

We are still awaiting an

answer to our request for additional cell phones from the Community Policing Consortium in Washington, D.C. Hopefully, we will receive a favorable response shortly. Upon receipt, we will be able to put more than one patrol out simultaneously. The more visibility, the better.

Our problems with middle school kids from Jason Lee occupying the N. Ainsworth and Grant alley between N. 7th and 8th during school hours has moderated somewhat after Lynrae Hubbel's meeting with the school principal. The problem in that area now is not so much kids doing nefarious deeds in that location, it's that some of the local residents, for whatever reason, are reluctant to notify the school authorities when they see kids in the area at inappropriate times.

The key here for all of us is to make a point to call the proper authorities whenever we see something amiss in our neighborhood. Take the time to be a little bit of a pest, even when you consider what you observe is minor or transient in nature. Goes back to that old saying, "give 'em an inch and they'll take a mile". I, for one, think that 911 is underutilized.

An analysis of our operations indicates that, along with the Red Maple Apartments, our biggest problem is vehicular vandalism and vehicular prowling (and some auto theft). With the exception of auto theft, this type of activity occurs primarily after midnight on Saturday night. To assist in reducing these

incidents, I am seeking volunteers to

patrol some time between the hours of midnight to 4:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. If I can get a partner to handle the telephone and spotlight (and record incidents/activities) while I drive, I will be the first to volunteer.

All volunteers, and anyone who would like to pass information on whatever good or bad is happening in your immediate area, contact me at 572-1532.

"Tom" Tomberg 572-1532

### A Request from a Citizen Patroller...

My husband, Tom Hubbell, and I are on our third month as Citizens Patrol members. Our two hours per month commitment has greatly expanded our concept of "our neighborhood" and has given us a sense of control over what happens around us.

We do have a request for all of you in the North Slope area that would help the members of the Citizens Patrol — since we drive through the alleys, it would be very helpful to have addresses on the garages that face the alley. If we have to call for assistance, the exact address would give a better description of our location.

Even though we try to memorize the streets surrounding each alley, it's very easy to forget what street you just passed since there are not streets signs at the alley/street intersections. So please help us out, we would appreciate it very much!

Lynrae Hubbell

### **Adopt-A-Family**

Many of us in the North Slope area look forward to the holiday season with joy and expectations that many people in this city do not have. That is especially true of the people who are victims of domestic violence and have made the decision to get themselves and their children out of their abusive situations and make a new start in their lives. Many of those families go through unbelievable hardship and with that in mind, we in the North Slope area have "adopted" two of these families for the holidays.

Both families have been through the shelter for women and children at the YWCA and are starting over with their children. They are not living with their batterers. The first family is now in their own housing, but have very little. None of them have pillows and they do not have winter coats. We want to get coats to them as soon as possible since cold weather is approaching.

The second family has requested a food basket, and is also in dire need of common household items such as toilet paper and cleaning supplies. The mother has said that toilet paper is a luxury to their family, as are other non-food items. Since the second family has another sponsor for gifts, we would like to give them cleaning supplies, toilet paper, shampoo, toothpaste and deodorant.

A list of things needed for the family we are sponsoring has been compiled and if you are interested in helping out, call Chris at 272-4290 or Marie at 383-2116. We would like to deliver their food, pillows, coats and any second-hand house-hold items that are in good condition to the YWCA shelter the Tuesday prior to Thanksgiving (November 25). We plan on delivering another food basket and Christmas gifts by December 19.

Thanks for all your help and have a wonderful holiday season. We will update you on how this worked in the next edition of the newsletter.

#### Wish list:

Mother: Pants - 4X, Shirts - 4X, socks 9-11, coat 4X (warm), watch, perfume.

Male, age 14: Coat - large size. (This child's ultimate wish is for a Chicago Bulls jacket); slippers - size 10; pants - 28 inch waist; shirt - medium; underwear - 26-28 inch; socks - 9-11; shaving case set; sports posters.

Male, age 8: micro cars; walkman; Uno game; pants - size 12 chunky; shirt - size 14; socks - 9-11; underwear - 14 boys; coat - size 14 (Raiders).

Male, age 17: Coat - size XXX Large, blue or red; T-Shirts - size XXX Large, solid colors; large socks - 11-13.

Special request (these may be second-hand, good condition): toaster, hand mixer, dishes (black), glasses, silverware, black & white TV, can opener, pots and pans, sheets and pillowcases. Non-food items: laundry soap, bleach, toilet paper, dish soap, bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste.

### A Fond Farewell

Lwenty-three years ago, The Bavarian restaurant was already a very special and popular place for many diners in Tacoma. We were excited to buy the restaurant and all of our hopes and dreams went into that special place. Part of the uniqueness of it all was the fact that it was located in our beautiful North End. It will now be such a wonderful memory . the friends we've become, the challenges we've faced, and all of our accomplishments as part of the North Slope neighbors and neighborhood business.

The Bavarian has been a Tacoma tradition since 1959 and you are all part of it. Thank you for your patronage and support over the years. Please come visit before the end of the year to say hi one last time.

Aufwiedersehen.

Dennis & Karen Faker

Editor's Note: The Paker's have sold The Bavarian - it will soon become an El Toro Mexican Restaurant.

## Faker Appreciation Dinner

If you just read the previous article from Dennis and Karen Faker, you know they have sold the The Bavarian restaurant, where we as a neighborhood have held all of our Coalition meetings and a good amount of other meetings as well. The new owners, DBA El Toro Restaurant will take possession of the restaurant on January 10, 1998.

Dennis and Karen have always been there for all of us and now we want to have one last neighborhood dinner with them. The dinner will be held on Saturday, January 3, 1998 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the upstairs banquet room of The Bavarian. This is not a fund raiser, but a fun way to say thank you to the Fakers and to spend time getting to know your neighbors.

The menu will consist of spaghetti with German sausage (a vegetarian sauce will also be available), salad bar, bread and a non-alcoholic beverage Dessert will be by potluck so plan on attending and

bring your favorite dessert! The price is \$7.50/pp for adults, \$5.00 for children (under three years of age is free) and a family charge of \$25.00 for over four people. Please call 274-0839 and make your reservations ahead.

Let the Faker's know how much we appreciate them for all their hard work in our neighborhood by attending this dinner.

### Down on J Street

 ${f T}$ he holidays are upon us again. It seems to me every year the lights become more plentiful and brighter on the historic North Slope between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Now that we are officially a "historic district", perhaps someone with a much more artistic imagination than mine could think of some sort of decoration with a historic theme to put up each year (well, think about it). Best I can do is wrap a red ribbon around the street light in front of my house in a feeble attempt to make it look something like a candy cane.

Did everyone read the value of houses on the market in Tacoma is going up at twice the rate as Seattle? For those of you who are long standing members of "lesser" Tacoma, I'm afraid you are losing the battle - Tacoma is being discovered. We are living in the San Francisco of Washington while Seattle continues its progression towards "Los Angelesation". Couldn't happen to a better place. After all, haven't we taken their outrageous slings and arrows long enough? It's good to have some of those arrows headed back north.

Have you noticed the very nice garden and sanctuary next to St. Patrick's? It is on part of the land the old grade school was on until torn down a couple of years ago. Looks like a good place to sit and contemplate life - I don't think you have to be Catholic. Go take a look.

### oril Showers -May Flowers

 $oldsymbol{F}$ or all of you gardening buffs, keep this thought in mind for spring - a small garden plant exchange/sale.

If you have hanging planters or mail planters that you plan on discarding, call us instead and we will recycle them for our plant sale in the spring. Also, if you have garden starts or plants that need to be thinned or divided, we

will be glad to take them off your

hands for the sale. Call Nick at 272-2884 or Marie at 383-2116 and they will give you information on how you may help or where to donate plants/ planters. Be on the lookout in the February edition of Irolley Times for updates regarding the sale/exchange.

Also, would you like to see a Spring Garden Tour organized? Is this something that appeals to you? If so, let Marie or Nick know and they'll look at possibly organizing this event

The new park has been approved for 8th and K. It will replace the rather unattractive power station that has been there for years. The park is part of the new North End Neighborhood Council plan to improve and beautify the neighborhoods - at a total cost of \$750,000 for all projects including the Union-Mason Street loop.

Rumors: The Annobee has been condemned by the city and the owners only have until the end of the month to do something about the

The Bavarian is going Mexican!! That is good news for a lot of us, but Dennis Faker is selling the place and that is sad news because he will be missed. Best of everything, Dennis!

Well, that is it down our way. See you at the North Slope Coalition meeting on December 6th at the Bavarian.

Bill Johnston

### Some Thoughts on New Year's Resolutions...

A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other.

If you kept every resolution you made last year, you'd probably be skinny, smart, healthy, rich - and

Serious trouble comes when the New Year's resolutions collide with the old year's habits.

May your troubles in the coming New Year be as short-lived as your resolutions!

What the New Year brings you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the New Year.







Merry Christmas! December 25

### **Committee Contacts**

Coalition Office @ 274-0839

**Historic District Expansion** (Sheridan through Ainsworth/Grant): Velda McDonald @ 627-4192

North End Neighborhood Council: Bill Johnston @ 627-6860

Dan Klein @ 272-0938

"Tom" Tomberg @ 572-1532 Maggie Kelly @ 272-7102

Crime Patrol: "Tom" Tomberg @ 572-1532

Newsletter: Angie Klein @ 272-0938

Marie Dudley @ 383-2116 Julie Turner @ 383-2329

#### North Slope Coalition Steering Committee:

Nick Kristensen @ 272-2884

Tom & Barbara Tomberg @ 572-1532

Will & Marie Dudley @ 383-2116

Julie Turner @ 383-2329

Dan & Angie Klein @ 272-0938

Velda McDonald @ 627-4192

Bill Johnston @ 627-6860

Judy Martin @ 272-0609

Don & Chris Brosnan @ 272-4290

North Slope History Project (temporarily on hold) Kim Moreland @ 593-4319

May Plant Sale/Exchange:

Marie Dudley @ 383-2115

Nick Kristensen @ 272-2884

Other: Monica McKnight, Safe Streets: 272-6824 (office) 208-3550

(cell); Lisa Wojtanowicz, Tacoma Cares: 591-5267

# Next Coalition Meeting (a) Bavarian: December 6 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:

- Selling of the Bavarian Restaurant
- Passage of the Historic District Expansion
- Crime Patrol Update
- · Financial Statement of North Slope's Treasury
- · Adopt-a-Family through the YWCA Battered Women's Program
- Results of the North End Council's Elections
- · Report on the 1997 Progessive Dinner
- · May Plant Sale/Exchange

### February Edition Article Deadline

If you have an item to submit for the February edition of Trolley Times, please get it to Angie Klein or Marie Dudley no later than Monday, January 12. This allows adequate time to get the newsletter ready to go, get it printed, and then get it delivered. It would really help and make things go a lot smoother if articles are submitted by the requested date.

Thanks!

Angie Klein 272-0938 Marie Dudley 383-2116

There is an old-time toast which is golden for its beauty. "When you ascend the hill of prosperity may you not meet a friend".

Mark Twain 1835-1910

### SAFEST

**O**ur thanks to Safe Streets for the printing of this newsletter. We appreciate their support!

### 1998 Coalition Meeting dates:

Saturday, February 7\*

Saturday, April 4 Saturday, June 6

Saturday, August 1

Saturday, October 3 Saturday, December 5

\* Location to be announced. See related article on page 4.