



N.S.N.C.

# Trolley Times

Vol. 21

• News of the North Slope Neighborhood Coalition •

Oct./Nov./Dec. 2000

## Coalition Meetings Go Quarterly

The Steering Committee has made some changes in regard to the Coalition meetings. Now that the historic designation is complete, and the park at North 8<sup>th</sup> & K is on target, there isn't a need for bi-monthly business meetings.

Instead of Saturday morning meetings every other month, we will change to quarterly events, with the newsletter distributed the month prior.

Our next Coalition meeting will be a social function – a potluck. Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, October 27 at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 901 N. J. You may bring whatever you like – salad, main dish, dessert. Drinks, paper plates, and plastic utensils will be furnished. Families are welcome!

We will show a short video about Tacoma's architecture. However, this will be a time for all of us North Slope neighbors to become better acquainted.

There will not be a progressive dinner in November this year. Those of you who have previously attended may want to come to the potluck instead.

We hope many of you will plan to participate in the potluck/social. We heard from a lot of you at National Night Out that you want more social activities. It makes for a stronger community when we know our neighbors!

For further information call Patty at 272-2884 or Angie at 272-0938.

P.S. Because "Make a Difference Day" is the next day, Saturday, we will have boxes available for everyone to make a canned or non-perishable food donation for the food bank. We will also collect for the YWCA women's shelter. The YWCA wishlist includes diapers, baby food, bath towels, hair brushes, pre-paid phone cards, toiletries and cleaning products.

The North Slope is a caring community. This is one way we can share with others, during the national volunteer "sharing" event.

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 for a potluck social Friday evening, **October 27, 5:30 p.m.** at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 9th & J St.

## Stadium Business District Hosts "Street of Treats"

On October 31 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. the Stadium Business



District is hosting a Halloween trick or treat party with the "Street of Treats". It's on Tacoma Avenue from Division to N. 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be treats from all the Stadium Merchants; games for prizes; hay ride; free balloons; and free hot cider. Bring the kids and enjoy a safe Halloween environment!

The North Slope Neighborhood Coalition joins our entire city in extending condolences to family and friend of Erik Toews. The tragic loss of a young person is heart-rending, and no mere words can offer healing.

Perhaps we can renew our efforts to prevent violence in our neighborhood – reach out to neighbors, monitor all our children, take care of each other – as a memorial to Erik.

NSNC Steering Committee

## Make A Difference Day Activities

October 28 is "Make a Difference Day". For 10 years neighborhoods and towns all over America have planned and carried out grass roots volunteer projects to enrich communities. This year, perhaps we can do something in our own block to help others. Ideas can be found at the web page [www.makeadifferenceday.com](http://www.makeadifferenceday.com).

Even a small gesture can make a difference! The places to start are our own immediate families and neighborhoods and schools. We can all try to make our city a better place to live. On a larger scale, you can help Tacoma CARES plant over 10,000 plants at the 19<sup>th</sup> Street Interchange on Highway 16. The volunteer planting project begins at 9:00 a.m. and goes until 2:00 p.m. Meet in the Metropolitan Park District parking lot at 4702 S. 19<sup>th</sup> St at 8:30 a.m. Please bring your shovel, boots, gloves and appropriate outdoor clothing (raincoat, hat). Children need to be accompanied by an adult.

You can help restore our neighborhood; you can help restore the environment! For more information on the planting project, contact Lisa Wojtanowicz at Tacoma CARES, 591-5267.

Don't forget we'll have donation boxes at the October 27 potluck for the food bank and YWCA women's shelter items.

## BOOKS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Because books DO make a difference in the lives of so many children, a book drive will be part of Make a Difference Day here in Tacoma.

The Board of the North End Neighborhood Council holds its meetings at Mason Middle School in

the library, a room with many empty shelves. As a gesture of thanks to the school for its hospitality, a former Board member, Maggie Kelly, has initiated this book drive.

Gently used or new books for grades 4 through adult are appropriate. The librarian, Louise Graverson, indicates that science fiction, biographies, autobiographies, the "classics", and just "a good read" will be especially welcome.

The books can be dropped off anytime during school days at the Mason Library. If you prefer, bring your books when you attend the open house on Make a Difference Day, October 28, at Maggie's home, 811 North Sheridan. The hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with a silent auction and live music in the afternoon hours. All monetary donations will be used to buy additional books.

For more information, call Maggie at 272-7102.

Thank you to:

**Tacoma Cares**

for the printing of the newsletter. We appreciate your support!

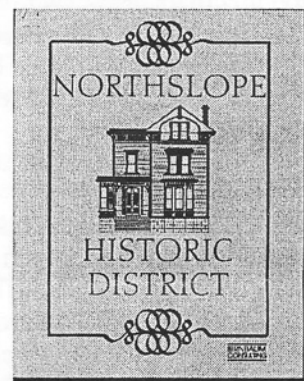
## Tacoma CARES Anti-Graffiti Strategy

An Anti-Graffiti Ordinance (#26395) became effective in Tacoma in December of 1999. In response to the ordinance, CARES investigates complaints and sends notices to property owners informing them the graffiti must be removed within a prescribed time frame. Since adoption, 31 reported graffitied locations have come into compliance under the ordinance. CARES also coordinates with city departments and outside agencies to remove graffiti from public property and operates a graffiti hotline (591-5691) where complaints can be left for investigation.

## Get Your North Slope T-Shirts!

Available for your wearing pleasure – 100% cotton T's in slate blue or a soft buttery yellow with our historic street sign "logo" on the front (see below). T shirts are available in M, L, XL & 2X for \$12.00 each.

Polo shirts are available also in Lake Blue with "North Slope Historic District" embroidered in yellow. Polo's are \$25.00 each. Both styles of shirts are available at North Slope meetings or by calling Patty LeBlanc at 272-2884.



While no program exists to remove graffiti from private property, CARES does coordinate with community resources to find assistance for low-income senior and disabled residents in need of help. Safe Streets continues to organize graffiti paint-outs throughout Tacoma. If you are interested in removing graffiti as a neighborhood project, call them at 272-6824 to see if they can assist you.

If you would like more information on the Anti-Graffiti Ordinance, call Mike Teskey at the City of Tacoma CARES offices at 591-5634.

## Are You Looking for a Great Neighborhood Preschool???

We are pleased to announce that Grant Co-op Preschool moved into the North Slope Historic District. We are residing at Christ Episcopal Church at North 3<sup>rd</sup> and K Streets.

We are enrolling for Fall 2000. We offer classes for 2, 3 and 4/5 year olds.

A co-op preschool is a wonderful way to begin your child's early education. Parents work occasionally in the classroom and also volunteer with various aspects of running the school. We have a warm and loving teacher who has over 12 years of preschool teaching experience. Our preschool focuses on age-appropriate play, socialization and the creative arts.

For more information, please call Debbie Kepl at 383-4930.

Do you have suggestions for future North Slope Neighborhood Coalition meetings and projects? Please phone any of the steering committee members with your ideas.

## Adopt-a-Spot

The Coalition held its third litter pick up of 2000 on September 6, as part of Tacoma CARES Adopt-a-Spot litter program. Weather cooperated as nine volunteers collected about 50 pounds of trash. The wind the day before had really blown stuff around!

The next litter clean up will be Saturday, February 3, 10:00 a.m. Meet at Immanuel parking lot. Thanks to all the North Slope



residents who keep litter picked up in front and back of their houses. It does help to keep our neighborhood looking more attractive! And speaking of cleaning up – thanks to all the dog owners who carry scoops and plastic bags when they walk their leashed pets! If only all dog owners were that responsible...

## Traffic Signal Update



As reported in the June edition of Trolley Times, a traffic signal will be installed at the K Street & Division intersection. The city hoped to have construction begin last month, but the project has been delayed by a supplier problem. Totem Electric won the bid and the project

requires steel beams, which are apparently in high demand (the beams are sort of on "back order"). The new schedule for the signal installation is January 2001, with completion in April.

The traffic signal at that intersection is to help move the traffic safely along. It's a Federally funded project and came about initially because of multiple citizen requests. The City goes through a ranking process based on the traffic volume for the area, the number of accidents that have occurred, how much help it can offer to pedestrians crossing the street, what is around the area, and whether it's located in a business district. Points are awarded for each category and the Division & K intersection ranked high enough to garner a signal.

## Safety Tips for Children

Even though school has been in session for well over a month now, it's not too late to remind ourselves of some important safety tips.

Parents: Teach children how to spot trouble and be alert for strangers. Friendly strangers can be dangerous strangers. Teach young children what a stranger is: anyone they do not know well. Children should never get close to a car if a stranger calls out for directions or anything else. It is easy for a stranger to pull them into a car.

Kids: Never give your name or address to a stranger. Never open the door to anyone you do not know. Never tell callers that you are home alone. Never volunteer family vacation plans or other information about your home. Always avoid strangers who are hanging around restrooms or the playground and want to play with you or your friends.

### Play it safe – teach children how to avoid trouble.

Never play in deserted areas such as the woods, a parking lot, an alley, deserted building or new construction.

Always try to play or walk with friends. It is safer, and more fun.

Try to sit near the driver on the bus.

Always keep doors and windows locked when home alone.

Never hitchhike. NEVER!

Never walk or play alone outside at night.

Always tell a family member or other adult in charge where you will be at all times and what time you will be home.

### Teach children how to respond.

They should know how to dial 0 or 911 or other emergency numbers

used in your area.

They should memorize their area code and phone number, and maybe a friend's number as well.

They should memorize your work number.

### **Back to school safety tips for parents:**

Teach your children to walk confidently and stay alert to their surroundings.

Encourage your children to look out for other kids' safety and report anything they see that does not seem right.

Teach your children to write down and report to you the license numbers of people who offer rides, loiter around playgrounds or appear to follow them or other children.

### **Bus stop safety:**

Children should never walk behind the school bus.

Parents should monitor the bus stop for young children.

### **Walking to school:**

Choose the best route. Parents should explore alternate routes to school with their child(ren). Teach crossing skills. Children should cross at intersections only. They should be advised to never take shortcuts by crossing a mid-block.

### **Biking to school**

Generally speaking, children should not ride in the street before age 10. Before that, bike riding to school should be only on the sidewalk or bike path. Wear a helmet. Helmets are a must as they can reduce head injuries by as much as 80 percent. Helmets should fit well and be worn horizontally across the head, not pushed back. The chin strap should be sufficiently snug that your child should feel the helmet press down on the top of his/her head when yawning.

These are good sense tips that

can be applied throughout the year, not just when kids head back to school.

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**A** reprint of the Tacoma Historical Writers first book, Tacoma: Voices of the Past, will be available December 1. Volume II continues to be available. Call 752-7722 to obtain your copy(s).

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**Happy Thanksgiving!  
Thursday, November 23**

### **Dates to Remember**

**Friday, October 27:** Coalition Potluck, 5:30 p.m.

**Saturday, October 28:** Make a Difference Day

**Tuesday, November 7:** Election Day

**January, 2001:** Next edition of Newsletter

**February 3, 2001:** Next Adopt-a-Spot Litter Pick up

## **Committee Contacts**

**North End Neighborhood Council:** "Tom" Tomberg @ 572-1532  
Walter Evanishyn @ 272-2425  
Thomas Hudson @ 973-3700  
Bill Johnston @ 627-6860

**Newsletter:** Angie Klein @ 272-0938  
Marilyn Torgerson @ 627-4537  
Patty LeBlanc @ 272-2884  
Tom Hubbell @ 593-0749

### **North Slope Coalition Steering Committee:**

Nick Kristensen & Patty LeBlanc @ 272-2884  
Julie Turner @ 383-2329  
Dan & Angie Klein @ 272-0938  
Velda McDonald @ 627-4192  
Judy Martin @ 272-0609  
Marilyn Torgerson @ 627-4537  
Dennis Faker @ 572-6508

**Other: Safe Streets:** 272-6824  
**Tacoma Cares:** 591-5001

## *Coalition Social Potluck*

*Friday, October 27,  
5:30 p.m.*

*at Immanuel Presbyterian*

