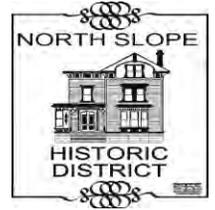




Trolley Times



Volume 50

Tacoma's North Slope Historic District

June/July 2008

June Program Is All About History



Have you been confused by the similarities between two local organizations, both of which work on many issues

important to North Slope residents?

Come to our June 26th program to learn about both the Tacoma Historical Society and Historic Tacoma. You'll hear from Jim Hoard, current president of the Tacoma Historical Society, and Brett Santhuff, a board member of Historic Tacoma, as they discuss their different organizations and how they are working together to help preserve Tacoma's history. You'll also get the scoop on both organizations' upcoming programs.



Put it on your calendar:

NSHD Social Event
"A Preservation Panel"
featuring
The Tacoma Historical Society
& Historic Tacoma
6:30 p.m. social/ 7 p.m. program
Thursday, June 26, 2008
Immanuel Presbyterian Church,
901 N. J St.
Free babysitting available

Be Part of the July 12th Garage Sale

It's time to clean your closets and organize your attic in anticipation of the annual NSHD Garage Sale: Saturday, July 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Here's how it works: Each family sets up their items to sell in their own yard. Maps listing participating homes are handed out the day of the sale; shoppers won't receive the maps until 9 a.m. so you won't have any early bird shoppers.

To Participate: Fill out the form below. Attach a check for \$5 made out to NSHD (cash will also do). This fee helps cover the cost of advertising and flyers; any additional funds go toward North Slope beautification and safety projects.

Drop the garage sale form off at Judy Martin's home (515 North M Street) by July 9. Questions? Call Judy @ 572-3059.

NSHD Garage Sale 2008

Your name _____

Address _____

Where will you stage your sale? Circle one:

Parkway Alley

What one item would you like to feature in the map and advertising? (example: baby clothes, antiques, power tools, etc.)

Mail or drop off by 7/9 (with \$5) to 515 N. M St.

Beloved Butterfly Bush: A Noxious Weed

The Pierce County Noxious Weed Control Board, (PCNWCB), www.piercecountyweedboard.wsu.edu has elevated the priority of *Buddleja davidii* and its cultivars (our beloved butterfly bushes) to a class "B" noxious weed and is encouraging property owners to control it because it's escaping our gardens and displacing native plants in the Puget Sound region.

Buddleja davidii is from China and Japan. The French and English exported the shrub to Europe in the late 1800s, and the English exported it to the U.S. around 1900.

If you have *B. davidii*, including any of its cultivars, the Pierce County Noxious Weed Control Board requests your help:

- Dig up the shrub including the roots and dispose of it with your yard waste.
- If you can't dig up the shrub by the roots, cut the shrub down to the ground and paint the fresh wound with concentrated glyphosate (Round-Up™) herbicide.
- If you can't bring yourself to destroy your butterfly bush, remove the flowerheads when they turn brown (before October) and dispose of them with your yard waste because each flowerhead has the potential to produce approximately 40,000 seeds.
- If you want to replace your *B. davidii*, consider *B. alternifolia*, *B. colvilei*, *B. globosa*, or a native shrub such as an Elderberry, Huckleberry, Oceanspray, *Kalmia*, etc.

If you're not sure whether a shrub in your garden is a *B. davidii* or one of its cultivars:

- Wait until it blooms.
- Call the PCNWCB (253) 798-7263 or the Pierce County Cooperative Extension Office (253) 798-7180 to make an appointment to identify your shrub.
- Cut off a branch and take it to the office for identification.

Re-Elect North Slope Resident TIM FARRELL to the Pierce County Council



Paid for by Neighbors for Tim Farrell

2008 NSHD Programs/Dates

- 6/26 Historic Tacoma & Tacoma Historical Society: A Preservation Panel *#
- 7/4 J Street 4th of July Kiddie Parade (10:30 a.m.)
- 7/12 North Slope Garage Sale
- 8/5 National Night Out (6 p.m. K Street Park)
- 10/23 Tacoma City Councilman: Jake Fey *#
- 11//1 Progressive Dinner (various times TBA, tickets available closer to the event)
- 12/10 Holiday Cocoa and Carols (6 p.m.)

** Indicates these programs begin with social time at 6:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 7p.m. Programs generally include a short business meeting to update residents on relevant issues/concerns.*

Indicates free babysitting will be provided at these events.

Unless otherwise noted, programs will be held at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 901 N. J Street. Check our website (www.tacomnorthslope.com) and watch future editions of this newsletter for updates.

**Reach more than 1,000
North Slope homes by
sponsoring/advertising in
The Trolley Times for as little as \$200.**

**For details e-mail:
news@tacomnorthslope.com**

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the retroactive application for the installation of vinyl windows and asked that windows which met the North Slope design guidelines be installed (vinyl is an incompatible material for a historic home). The owners appealed the decision, which triggered a hearing before an administrative law judge. The Landmarks decision was upheld and the owners are being required to replace the vinyl windows with windows that meet the design guidelines.

It has been my experience as a Landmarks commissioner that retroactive applications are always a result of neighbors reporting violations. Thus, it seems that most of us would like to preserve the original historic fabric of our homes even though it may restrict what individuals are allowed to do to the exterior of their houses. Creation of the NSHD was a grassroots effort by the residents who live here, not something imposed upon us by the City of Tacoma. Our residents fought long and hard, and put in countless hours of documenting, testifying, meeting, and working the political process to get our historic status and the zoning that went with it.

As homeowners who benefit from living in a historic district let's protect the historic materials we have left in our community that make it such a special place. You can start by reviewing the NS design guidelines available at www.tacomaculture.org/historic/home.asp.

NSHD Board of Directors

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Mary Boone	272-0165
Deborah Cade, secretary	593-4569
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Kathryn Longwell	627-0423
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Kyle Price	396-9047
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Dave Root	223-6636
Barbara Tomberg	572-1532

Living in the North Slope

*By Kathryn Longwell
Landmarks Preservation Commissioner*

Congratulations! You own a home in a unique neighborhood. Not only is the North Slope Historic District a city, state, and national historic district, it is also the 2nd largest residential historic district west of the Mississippi. You enjoy such perks as prestige and higher property values as a result of residing in the NSHD.

With perks, however, come some responsibilities. You are a steward of a historic structure. The NS wouldn't be a historic district if homeowners were replacing original siding with aluminum, original windows with vinyl, or tearing off original porches to add decks. These are a few examples of why we have a design review process through the Landmarks Commission. The focus is on preserving our existing historic homes. As a homeowner, in a historic district, you give up some of your individual rights for the collective good of the community.

An example of a recent application to the Landmarks Commission may help illustrate. New owners of a house on N. Sheridan tore out all of the original windows and replaced them with ill-fitting vinyl windows. They were reported by a neighbor and required to make a retroactive application for design review. Landmarks denied



Tacoma North Slope Historic District
1102 N. Fifth Street
Tacoma, WA 98403

District-wide Garage Sale is July 12 – Details Inside!

Be Part of our July 4 Parade!

Children of all ages are invited to participate in the North Slope's Third Annual Fourth of July Kiddie Parade beginning at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, July 4. Participants should plan to gather at the corner of N. 12th and N. J streets, near Saint Patrick's Catholic Church.



Once everyone has assembled, we will call upon parents and spectators to help carefully move our spirited parade participants down J Street to N. 8th. At 8th, we'll turn right and travel one more block to the North Slope Park.

All modes of non-motorized transportation are allowed: You can walk, jump rope, bike/trike, rollerblade, skateboard ... younger residents may want to catch a ride in a stroller or wagon. If you play an instrument: Bring it! Decorations are

strongly encouraged, as is patriotic apparel. The North Slope will provide free stick flags to participants. Well-behaved pets on leashes are also welcome.

New this year: A prize will be awarded for the best float. Gather your friends and neighbors to create a non-motorized (yes, that means it will be powered by you!) float that speaks to the spirit of the holiday.

Think you're too old to march? Impossible! But we also need lots of spectators to line the route and cheer on our little marchers.

Come join us in this low-key celebration.

Put it on your calendar:

NSHD Fourth of July Parade

Starts at 10:30 a.m.

Friday, July 4, 2008

**Gather near St. Patrick's Church at N. 12 and J
Ends at the North Slope Park on N. 8th and K
Non-motorized participants only!**