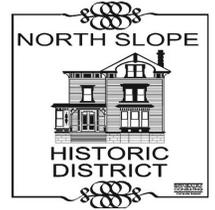




# Trolley Times



Volume 62

Tacoma's North Slope Historic District

April 2012

**You Don't Want to Miss This!**  
**Thursday, April 28 7:00-8:15pm**

## **Crime Prevention in the North Slope Historic District Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Doors open: 6:30 pm (refreshments provided)**  
**Presentation: 7:00- 8:15 pm**  
**Where: Immanuel Presbyterian Church**  
**901 North J Street**

Our city has seen an increase in burglaries and crime in our district over the last year. We have been gearing up our Neighborhood Watch program for our North Slope Historic District to help with these issues.

A panel of experts will be speaking to our neighborhood about the variety of free support services available to us. Hear what is happening in our district, see a short tour of where to quickly access information on the internet, have your questions answered by the experts, and get referrals for services available in our community.

### **Tacoma Police Department**

Officer Jennifer Terhaar, Community Liason Officer (CLO)

### **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design**

Mike Teskey  
City of Tacoma, Community Based Services Program

### **Safe Streets**

Wanda Rochelle, Pierce County Mobilization and Prevention Services Manager

### **City of Tacoma**

Don Sjoben, GIS Analyst – GIS Mapping & Data

### **NSHD Neighborhood Watch**

Erica Nelson, NSHD Neighborhood Watch Committee Chair

## **OUR PARK: 10 YEARS OLD!**

By Geoff Corso and Julie Turner

The North Slope Historic District will celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the North Slope Historic District Park on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

It's hard to believe that 10 years has passed since our neighborhood group finished work on securing the land, planning the tot-lot park, watching the construction and doing weeding, watering—and more weeding and watering! Lots of work to convert an old electrical sub-station into a park for playing and relaxing.



Picture courtesy of Tacoma Power, 1953

It all started in the mid-1990s, with Kelly Halligan's persistent suggestion: A park on the old electric sub-station property at North 8<sup>th</sup> and K Sts. instead of another apartment building. The Steering Committee of the North Slope Neighborhood Coalition took up her idea and broached the park plan to the North End Neighborhood Council, (NENC), which had \$750,000, part of the Thea Foss Bond money, to use on capital projects.

Bill Johnston and Dan Klein, North Slope representatives on NENC, worked hard to negotiate the \$100,000 needed to remove gravel and dirt from the sub-station, and buy and build a tot-lot at North 8<sup>th</sup> and K. Sts. North Slope residents went to many meetings to vote for the park, vote for the name, and support Bill and Dan's efforts.

## ***Valerie Anne Sivinski Inspired North Slope Residents in the 1990's***

By Roger Johnson

The North Slope Historic District Park is 10 years old and it is dedicated to Valerie Sivinski because of her foresight and guidance in establishing the NSHD. It is time we remember Valerie again. The entire North Slope was in jeopardy and we citizens seemed at a loss as to how to protect and improve our neighborhood.

**Valerie Anne  
Sivinski  
May 3, 1951 -  
October 17, 2000**



Valerie suggested and guided us in establishing an Historic District to protect the homes and to instill a neighborhood pride; not as individuals but as a neighborhood. It has been successful and a model for other neighborhoods to emulate.

In the middle of our NSHD was an under-utilized Tacoma Power substation that contributed nothing to the spirit of the historic district. Tacoma Power abandoned the substation and the corner lot was a target for apartment building developers. After a long procedure it was deeded to Metro Parks and dedicated to Valerie. The park has turned out to be a bright cheerful place for families with small children but also a gathering place for the entire neighborhood. The park is a reminder of the spirit of our predecessors desire for a safe, friendly neighborhood. It is a symbol of a neighborhood pulling together to create something for everyone, it is a reminder of a less complicated past but also a beacon for a bright future. Everyone should visit the park and experience the spirit and glad tidings of the outdoors, the interesting plants and happy playful children. The best of the past is present in the park.

\*\*\*\*\*

An informal gathering of original park and historic district workers, all acquaintances of Valerie Sivinski, will occur at the park on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

The funds were finally awarded and the long effort began to get the property transferred from Tacoma Public Utilities to the City. The plans were ready, having been decided upon by a committee of residents in consultation with Metro Parks, the managing agency – but we had no land transfer! It finally took intervention by City Manager Jim Walton to save the day by expediting the land transfer. Late in 2001, work at last began!

The Steering Committee had voted to dedicate the park to the late Valerie Sivinski, the Tacoma Historic Preservation Officer who mentored residents during the formation of the Historic District, and whose guidance and professional advice was instrumental in its formation.

“Valerie taught us our neighborhood’s place in history,” says Julie Turner, leader of the historic district formation. “She believed that saving the early homes of Tacoma’s ordinary people is just as important as saving large buildings. Val insisted that we in the North Slope should be grateful that we can walk in the footsteps of Tacoma’s pioneers,” continues Turner.

The park was named by Tim McDonald, Valerie’s husband, who chose “North Slope Historic District Park.” He generously designed, planned and paid for a memorial stone, placed at the park and unveiled at a dedication held on a sunny afternoon, June 8th, 2002.

Dozens of NSHD residents have volunteered their time and money landscaping and maintaining the NSHD Park. Most noteworthy is Nick Kristensen who donated most of the original plants, and has volunteered the greatest number of hours landscaping and maintaining the park. In addition, the NENC recently awarded NSHD, Inc. a grant to refresh the landscaping because freezing temperatures during the past 4 winters killed some of the original plants.



## Trolley Tales

*Folklore from Tacoma's North Slope, by Karen May*

### The Job Carr Family - Part One

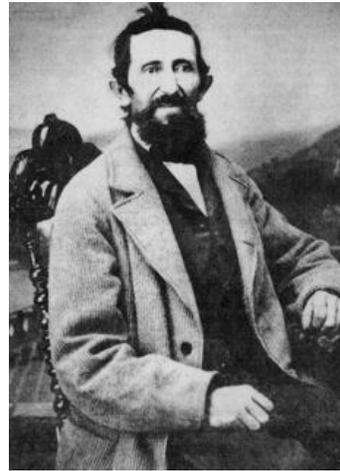
Who was Job Carr, and where did he come from? Or, as a child visiting the Job Carr Cabin Museum asked, "Why should I care about Job Carr?" Well, since most of the property in the North Slope Historic District was on Job's farm and orchard, we should care. What is the Job Carr story?

In 1635, nineteen year old Caleb Carr and his older brother were sent on a ship from London, England, to their uncle William in New England. As Quakers, they hoped for a better life in America. Before his untimely death by drowning in 1695, Caleb became governor of the colony of Rhode Island. His son Samuel died one year before him. Samuel's son Job was born on the Carr estate in Jamestown, RI in 1689. Job's son Caleb married Sarah Ridgeway in Little Egg Harbor, NJ. Their son, Job, was born there in 1750. In 1778, this Job Carr was disowned by the Burlington Quaker monthly meeting for "learning art of war." He was a colonel in the Revolutionary War and an aide to George Washington. Job's wife, Catherine Smith, was from Ohio.

The Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy, V. 5 (Ohio) states: "On September 7, 1806, Job, son of Job and Catherine, Warren County, OH, married, at Miami, OH, Ruth Mason, daughter of James and Rebeckah." In 1813, Ruth and her three children were granted a certificate to Great Egg Harbor, NJ monthly meeting. A son, Job, was born in Little Egg Harbor, NJ, on July 2, 1813. Three years later, Ruth and Job and their (4) children returned to Ohio.

From Abstracts of the Society of Friends in Indiana, V. 2: "On October 2, 1840, Job, Jr., Camden, Jay County, son of Job and Ruth, Wayne County, married Rebecca, daughter of Anthony and Margaret Pittman at Camden monthly meeting." Anthony Pitman had come to Ohio from New Jersey in 1803, when he was five years old.

His daughter Rebecca was born in 1822 in St. Clairsville, OH. By 1840, Anthony and Margaret Vail Pitman had settled in Indiana with their family. Job and Ruth Carr had also come to Indiana from Ohio.



Job Carr



Rebecca Vail Pitman

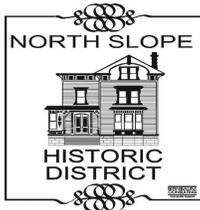
Job and Rebecca Vail Pitman Carr lived in Indiana and raised their family. Their children were: Anthony Pitman, born June 8, 1841, Francis Howard, born November 25, 1846, Marietta Elizabeth, born March 19, 1849, and Margaret Ann, born November 3, 1850. Both Rebecca and Job had strong personalities, as shown in the reprimands for "disunity" and non-attendance at Quaker meetings. It was an exciting time, with anti-slavery and women's rights actively advocated by the Carrs and other Friends in the 1840s and 1850s. In the 1860s, middle-aged and with grown children, life for this couple was about to change completely.

Next time: The Job Carr family - Part Two  
Photos courtesy of Job Carr Cabin Museum

Curious? Read about Job Carr's Hill in Chapter 2 in *Tacoma's North Slope*. The book is available in local stores, including the Pacific NW Store in Proctor, Watermark Gifts across from the Post Office on A Street, Kings Books and others. There are some copies in the Northwest Room at the downtown library as well. Author Karen May  
253-779-0160 or [klmay@harbornet.com](mailto:klmay@harbornet.com)

## ***NSHD Board of Directors***

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Marshall McClintock, Public Works	253-572-5474
Erica Nelson, Safety Committee	253-202-5595
Marilynn Sabo	253-627-4735
Julie Turner	253-383-2329



## ***Call Before You Hammer***

Exterior changes to your house or garage, other than painting and minor repairs, must be reviewed by the Tacoma Landmarks Commission. This includes:

- Changing or replacing windows
- Changing siding
- Adding, replacing or changing a porch or deck.



Before starting any exterior work, contact Reuben McKnight, our city Historic Preservation Officer, at 591-5220 or [Reuben.McKnight@ci.tacoma.wa.us](mailto:Reuben.McKnight@ci.tacoma.wa.us)

## ***Tacoma Historical Society Tour of Homes Coming May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012.***

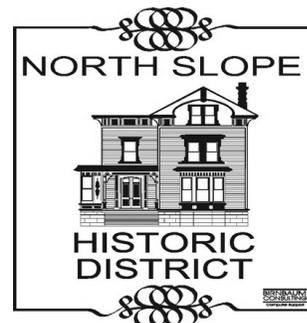
By Jim Hoard

The 2012 Tacoma Historical Society Tour of Homes is on Saturday, May 5, from 10 am to 5 pm, and Sunday, May 6, from 1 pm to 5 pm. The tour features Christ Episcopal Church and Welles Hall (310 N. K St.) in the North Slope Historic District. The Christ Episcopal Church organ master will be performing on the 17<sup>th</sup> Century-style church pipe organ on Saturday from 12:30 to 2:00. Also on the tour is the historic Annie Wright School, three Four-square-style homes on North Starr St. in Old Town, and four homes in the Proctor District.

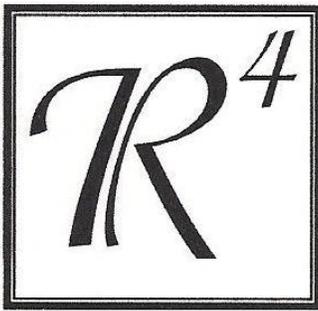


Courtyard of Christ Episcopal Church

Tickets can be purchased at Stadium Thriftway, the Pacific Northwest Shop, and the Fircrest, Pearl Street, and Union Ave. branches of Columbia Bank. Tickets can also be purchased on the weekend of the tour at Christ Episcopal Church, which is serving as the Tour of Homes reception center. Tickets are \$20 each.



Thanks to the Sponsors and Contributors to the North Slope's Trolley Times.



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PHOTOGRAPHY

### Is it a blue garbage day or brown?

How do we know which? Go to gov.ME for the answer. Click on - <http://www.govME.org/govME/AddApps/Inter/ParcelAnalysis/PAMain.aspx> then enter your House Number and Street Name. Select your address from the Records Found list. At the bottom of the page click on the folder icon by Solid Waste and you will find the answer. Well almost. You need to remember that:  
Yard Waste is BROWN and Recycle Waste is BLUE

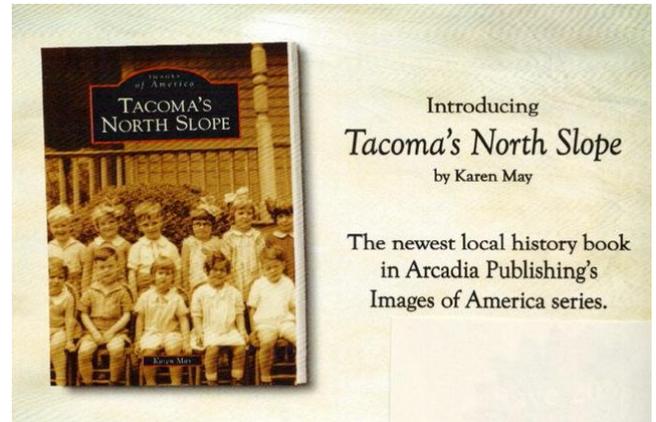
### Custom Greenhouses

Made from historic reclaimed window sashes and clear cedar. Custom sizes and shapes available. Call for a consultation. 253.691-8021



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email: [greenest.houses@gmail.com](mailto:greenest.houses@gmail.com)



Introducing  
*Tacoma's North Slope*  
by Karen May

The newest local history book  
in Arcadia Publishing's  
Images of America series.

### Tacoma Community Based Services Clean-up

NSHD Residents only

Saturday, August 11th from 10a - 2p

Jason Lee Middle School, in the North  
Sprague Ave. parking lot

Volunteers are needed to:

- Drive their own trucks around the NSHD collecting garbage
- Help unload garbage from trucks into dumpsters
- Provide lunch and drinks
- Greet and orient neighbors

Contact Geoff at [corso1965@live.com](mailto:corso1965@live.com) or  
(253) 572-5474



**CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
310 North K Street  
Tacoma, WA 98403  
(253) 383-1569  
The Rev. Dr. Jane Maynard, Rector

Sunday Worship, with Holy Eucharist, at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.  
(Nursery Care Available at the 10:30 Service)

Third Friday Organ Concerts at 12:10 p.m.

Join us for Easter Sunday Worship, 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

*We're Here For You.*

Reach more than 1,000  
North Slope homes by  
sponsoring/advertising in  
The Trolley Times for as little as \$150.

For details Call Troy Axe

## 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Free Plant Exchange

### Immanuel Presbyterian Church

May 5, 2012 Saturday

9am – noon

church parking lot at North 9th and I  
Tacoma, WA 98406

The Free Plant Exchange program started eight years ago with the idea of saving unwanted plants, trees, shrubs and bulbs from going into local Yard Waste and city dumps. Today our program is going as strong as ever, but its success depends on people bringing plants from their yard so there are plenty of plants for everyone to take home. It is always held on the first Saturday of May in the church parking lot at the corner of North 9<sup>th</sup> and J street in Tacoma. People are cleaning out their yards of unwanted plants all year long, which is the key to the success of this event every year. We won't know what we have until May 5<sup>th</sup>. There are always a few surprises...and we get excited to see what wanders in, from seeds and bulbs to even an occasional shrub and one year two tall saplings (which disappeared as fast as they arrived!). Currently the following organizations will be participating: Pierce County Gleaning Project, Master Gardeners, Puget Creek Restoration Society, Specialty Nursery Guides, TAGRO, and Tacoma Water Conservation Program.



Bagging Tagro to be Given Away

Do you like to dress up for occasions? Then how about wearing a flowered hat and your favorite boots...be creative, just for fun!

For all those attending, please make note of the following:

1. No amount of money is accepted;
2. All plants are free
3. The time is 9 am to 12 noon.
4. Please try to bring plants to share!  
If you can't bring something that grows, bring pots, or non-perishable foods for the Food Bank.
5. Take what plants you need/want, but remember that other people are coming and looking for plants, too.
6. Spread the word to neighbors and friends.

Our new chairman is Becky Wulfestieg, and she has a passion for gardening and fantastic ideas. Her email is: [beckywulf@comcast.net](mailto:beckywulf@comcast.net) and her phone is 253-582-3615

## Garage Sale is Coming!

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

**Here's how it works:** 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 \$5 cash or a check made out to NSHD. This fee helps cover the cost of advertising and flyers; any additional funds go toward North Slope beautification and safety projects. Contact Judy Martin with any questions.

NSHD Garage Sale July 14<sup>th</sup> 2012

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Where will you stage your sale? Circle one:  
Parkway Alley

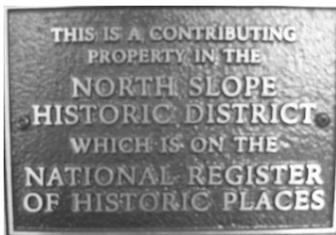
What one item would you like to feature in the map and advertising? (example: baby clothes, antiques, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mail or drop off by 7/11 (with \$5) to Judy Martin at 515 N. M St.



## 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade!

Children of all ages are invited to participate in the North Slope's 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. Participants should gather beginning at 10:am at the corner of North 12<sup>th</sup> and North J street , near St. Patrick's Catholic Church. Once assembled, we will call on the parents and spectators to help carefully move the parade down J street to North 8<sup>th</sup>. At North 8<sup>th</sup>, we will turn right and travel one more block to the North Slope Park. All modes of non-motorized transportation are allowed . If you play an instrument, bring it. The North Slope will provide free stick flags to participants. Treats will be available at the park at the conclusion of the parade.



### ***Get Your North Slope Historic District Plaque Today***

Mark your home with pride. We have a supply of North Slope plaques.

These bronze, 5-by-7-inch plaques identify your property as part of the North Slope Historic District and National Register. Plaques cost \$75 each.

To purchase your plaque, call Marilyn Sabo at 253-627-4735.

## ***Poop and Scoop***



## **Pollution Prevention and Pooches!**

It's great to see folks out enjoying the weather and walking their dogs. Spring is a great time of year to get out and see the neighborhood and also to remind dog walkers to please scoop the poop. Unscooped-poop is not only unsightly, it creates a health hazard, contributes to water pollution, and is in violation of Tacoma municipal code 8.27.120. Dog poop is full of bacteria and is runs straight into our storm drains, ditches, and streams when it rains, making its way to the Puget Sound. It can make our waters unsafe for humans and other animals. So Please, do your part. Scoop the poop whenever you can—in your back yard, on the sidewalk, at a playground, or at a park.

OK KIDS, here is one for you. Is it Sheridan Street or Sheridan Avenue? In the NSHD we have both. Where is Sheridan Street? Can you find it?



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

*Don't Forget Our Great Events! Keep up with us at  
[www.tacomanorthslope.com/](http://www.tacomanorthslope.com/)*

### ***April Safety General Neighborhood Meeting***

Neighborhood safety and community watch meeting. April 2:

**Immanuel Presbyterian**  
**901 North "J" St**  
**Social hour: 6:30pm**  
**Program start: 7:00pm**

### ***Other Events***

**Plant Exchange at Immanuel Presbyterian on May 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Tacoma Historical Society Tour of Homes May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>**

**4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade July 5<sup>th</sup>**

**NSHD Garage Sale July 14<sup>th</sup>**