

# Trolley Times



Volume 62

Tacoma's North Slope Historic District

June 2012

## Traffic Problems In North Slope Subject Of June Meeting With City Employees

On June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 7 pm there will be a NSHD program at Immanuel Presbyterian Church featuring Mr. Joshua Diekmann from City of Tacoma's Traffic Engineering Department. Mr. Diekmann will cover a broad range of topics, including measures available to deal with excessive speed, parking violations, difficulty crossing No. I Street, use of traffic circles, appropriate street trees, sidewalk program and street lighting.

Mr. Diekmann will bring with him at least two other City employees, Jennifer Kammerzell the manager of the neighborhood traffic calming program, and David Carr, the City's parking manager. This group will give all of us an overview of resources available to our neighborhood for various problems we have on our streets. Their information will be general in nature, but they will have time for a few questions and will give information about how to reach them for follow-up.

Please join us at 6:30 for a social time, with the program starting at 7 pm.

## 4th of July Parade!

Children of all ages are invited to gather beginning at 10:am at the corner of 12<sup>th</sup> and North J street , in front of St. Patrick's Catholic Church.

Once assembled, parents and spectators will help to move the parade down J street to North 8<sup>th</sup>. At North 8<sup>th</sup>, turn right and go one more block to the North Slope Historic District Park for treats.

All modes of non-motorized transportation are allowed . If you play an instrument, bring it.

### 29th Annual National Night Out!

#### What is National Night Out?

Neighbors joining neighbors to build awareness and community.

This year will be the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out.

Last year over 37 million people participated nationally.

#### **National Night Out is designed to:**

- (1) Heighten crime prevention awareness
- (2) Generate support and participation in local anticrime programs
- (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and policecommunity partnerships
- (4) Send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

When is National Night Out?
Early evening (6:00-7:30) Tuesday, August 7
Where is National Night Out?
Block parties will be held in neighborhoods
throughout the North Slope Historic District.
How do I get information for holding a block
party in my neighborhood?
Contact your board members Judy Martin at 253572-3059 or Erica Nelson 253-202-5595.

National Night Out 2011 involved over 37 million people in 15,325 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities, and military bases worldwide. National Night Out 2012 is expected to be the largest ever. Once again this year, Target is a national corporate sponsor along with WhitePages.com. The newest National Night Out corporate partner is NextDoor.com which is a private social network; like Facebook but for your neighborhood.









#### **EVERY HOUSE HAS A STORY**

By Marilynn Sabo A Storybook Tudor, 1417 Division, Tacoma, WA

One of my favorite views is from the palladian window (original!) at the top of our staircase. I can look down my street and see neighbors' homes that are over a century old, still as solid and stately as the day they were built---Victorian Queen Annes, Edwardian four-squares, craftsman bungalows, Dutch gambrels. All around me are lovely examples of American architecture from the late 1800's to the 1950's. We are fortunate to have so many homes that have been cared for (even in hard times) or that have been restored sensitively. Some were designed by well-known architects, built for opera singers, artists, governors, and local captains of industry. Some still have original blueprints and pictures available. Others were lived in by ordinary people, and records have been lost over time. Famous or not, each home has its own special tales to tell. What was Christmas dinner 1901 like in my house? Armistice Day 1918? V-J Day 1945? Any weddings, births, funerals? I'd love to have been a fly on the wall (or maybe a cat in the lap)!

The house in back of us is a very pretty Tudor-style cottage, which my neighbors worked diligently on all last spring and summer. They were especially meticulous about the paint job — the colors, quality of work, and cleanup. We chatted over the fence about paint, kids, dogs, turquoise refrigerators, flowers, and swapped old house stories. I remember my neighbor saying that her house was, "just an ordinary house," and that, "no one famous lived there, and no famous architect designed it." But, its charm, craftsmanship and style are what make our neighborhood so great.

Their home, at 1417 Division, was built in 1928 for Leonard and Kathryn Kolstad. Mr. Kolstad was a salesman for the Younglove Grocery Company. The Tacoma Historical Register lists it as a Tudor-style cottage, architect/builder/contractor unknown. This style is a subgroup of an architectural style called "Storybook", which originated in California



after WWI. Soldiers returning from the war had new knowledge and appreciation of European architecture, and the film industry began depicting castles, chateaus, and Cotswold cottages. reflect this interest in things European, architects unique, whimsical homes began designing resembling something from a storybook. These homes were very popular in the 1920's and 30's, and came in all shapes and sizes. Charlie Chaplin and Humphrey Bogart had Storybook mansions, and Disney Court, a 1931 Storybook apartment complex, was probably the inspiration for the dwarfs' house in Snow White.

Storybooks often featured stucco, brick, or clapboard walls, sloping roof lines and unusual curves and angles. The English Tudor-style used arch-topped doors and windows, shingled roofs, wing walls, mullioned casement windows, wrought-iron embellishment and leaded or wavy glass. The Kolstad home is a wonderful cottage-scale example of this style, having a wing-walled facade with an arched entry and window, a tall, massive chimney, steeply gabled roof, and its original(functioning) mullioned casement windows. What a treat to be able to see this cheerful house every morning across my garden gate!

Next time you're out for a stroll, see if you can find more Storybook homes in the neighborhood!

References:

Storybook Style: America's Whimsical Homes of the Twenties, A. Gellner & D. Keister http://antiquehomestyle.com/styles/storybook.htm Storybookers.com

## Calendar of Events

June 28<sup>th</sup> Traffic Problems in NSHD July 4<sup>th</sup> Children's Parade to Park July 14<sup>th</sup> Annual NSHD Garage Sale August 7<sup>th</sup> **National Night Out** 

August 11<sup>th</sup> Clean Up Day October 7<sup>th</sup> Octoberfest October 25<sup>th</sup> Program meeting

Look in future issues of Trolley Times for details of coming programs and events.

#### **NSHD Board of Directors** Troy Axe, Communications 253-691-8021 Mark Bardwil, President 253-759-3878 253-627-3379 John Butler Deborah Cade, Secretary 253-593-4569 Timothy Chen, Treasurer 253-272-9281

Geoff Corso, Parks and Beautification 253-572-5474 Kathryn Longwell 253-627-0423 Judy Martin, Social/Fundraising 253-572-3059 Gyda May 253-495-1872 Karen May 253-779-0160 Marshall McClintock, Public Works 253-572-5474

Erica Nelson, Neighborhood Watch 253-202-5595 Marilynn Sabo 253-627-4735 Julie Turner, Neighborhood Outreach 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
  - 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

## Free CBS\* NSHD Clean Up Day

Saturday, August 11th, 10am-2pm Jason Lee Middle School (602 No. Sprague)

No. Sprague parking lot

For Solid Waste customers who own or rent singlefamily houses or duplexes within the NSHD.

Identification Required: driver's license or recent TPU bill to prove residency in the NSHD

**Bring** unwanted items that don't fit in your green garbage bin or blue recycle bin including electronics, lawn equipment (empty fluids first), tires, carpet, furniture, exercise equipment, barbecues (no propane tanks), strollers, metals.

St. Vincent de Paul is will accept reusable items.

Do not bring household garbage; yard and food waste; material from a business or apartment building; vehicles, motorcycles, RV's, campers, truck canopies, boats, trailers, riding lawnmowers or parts; animal carcasses; hazardous materials or containers; dirt; liquids.

#### To volunteer and/or lend your truck:

Contact Geoff Corso, NSHD Park and Beautification Committee Chair at corso1965@live.com or (253) 572-5474

Questions? Contact Allyson Griffith, City of Tacoma Community Based Services at agriffith@ci.tacoma.wa.us or (253) 591-5119

\*Community Based Services is a City of Tacoma program that encourages safe, clean and attractive neighborhoods through partnerships with citizen and neighborhood groups.

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NORTH SLOPE HISTORIC DISTRICT, Inc. A 501(c)(3) Corporation www.TacomaNorthSlope.



## Garage Sale Is Coming July 14th!

It's time to clean your closets and organize your attic in anticipation of the annual NSHD Garage Sale: Saturday, July 14, 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 covers the cost of advertising and flyers; any additional funds go towards North Slope beautification and safety projects. Contact Judy Martin with any

questions (572-3059).

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.