

# TROLLEY TIMES



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Tacoma's North Slope Historic District

Fall 2013

### Events in the North Slope!

### TC Broadnax, City Manager to speak at Nov 21st North Slope General Meeting

T.C. Broadnax began serving as the City Manager of Tacoma on February 13, 2012, with more than 19 years of local government management experience. As the City Manager, T.C. is the Chief Executive Officer for the City government, overseeing a staff of more than 1,995, and a biennial of over \$1.7 billion, which includes a General Fund Budget of \$396.6 million.

Prior to joining the City of Tacoma, T.C. served as Assistant City Manager of the City of San Antonio, Texas for five years, where he was responsible for providing the strategic direction for the library department, code enforcement services, planning and community development, housing, and historic preservation.

Before his San Antonio experience, T.C. was Assistant City Manager in Pompano Beach, Florida, working for that City for 10 years. His responsibilities included coordinating, developing and administering the City's operating and capital budget and all redevelopment and housing programs.

We encourage you to attend the evening program to hear TC Broadnax's vision for Tacoma.

Immanuel Presbyterian Church Coffee/Social Time 6:30 Program Begins 7:00

### **NSHD Board Elections Nov 21st!**

Our neighborhood organization, NSHD, Inc. is an all-volunteer group of property owners in the North Slope Historic District. Each year the Board elects half of its membership to serve two-year terms. The group of about 16 people meet quarterly, or more often if needed, to discuss and plan activities and programs for the good of our neighborhood residents.

Since the mission of this group is preservation of the historic architecture of our structures, many of the things we do – but not all - touch on aspects of preserving old houses.

If you'd like to help your neighborhood, meet some interesting people and plan activities to engage residents, please consider seeking a position on the Board. To do this is simple: just call the Board Secretary, and say you are interested.

We'd love to have you!

Nov. 21, 2013, 6:30 is Coffee and Social time,
Elections are at 7 pm sharp, because this
happens before the program, which begins
about 7:15 pm.

Julie Turner NSHD Board Secretary, phone: 253-383-2329.



## Trolley Tales – Folklore from Tacoma's North Slope By: Karen May

McKellar Apartments, at "Miller's Corner"



McKellar Apts - 901 N. M Street/1215 N. 9th Street Two 12 unit buildings with 21 1BR and 3 studio apts.



Mary and Albert Miller, with daughters Lydia, Mabel and Cora (left to right)

The NW corner of N. 9th and N. M Streets was said to be "Miller's Corner" since apartments built by Albert Miller were at 909 N. 9th St (1911),

901 N. M St (1917) - with an annex at 1215 N. 9th - and at 915 N. M St (1922). The building at 909 N. M was first called the Albert Miller

Apartments, and in 1922 he was listed there with his family. The building at 901 N. M had several names, including the Orchid Apartments, the Holly Apts (1934) until 1981 when it became the McKellar Apts.

Albert Miller's great-granddaughter wrote about the family.

"Henry and Minnie (Heberlein) Mueller, the former a native of Prussia and the latter of Saxony, Germany were married in Milwaukee, whence Mr. Mueller had come in 1844 or 1845, and having a good education, secured work in a printing office. Some time after his marriage he came to Manitowoc county and secured sixty acres of land in the town of Mishicot, on which he made a comfortable home for his family. He held the office of chairman of the town board for many years also serving as clerk, treasurer and assessor, was very prominent in democratic politics, and became well known and highly esteemed throughout the town. He and his wife were the parents of seven children ...(including) Albert, a leading contractor of Tacoma, Washington... and Edward, proprietor of the Mueller Cornice & Roofing Company, at Nos. 114 Railroad and 1117 C. streets, Tacoma, Washington..."

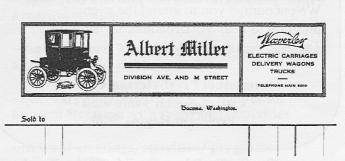
Henry served in the Civil War. He was mustered out of the service on July 14, 1865.

Henry Mueller died December 30, 1882, of injuries sustained from a kick in the eyes by a horse. Minnie died of an apparent stroke on June 16, 1905.

### Albert Miller (1857-1935)

Albert Miller married Mary Levenhagen on October 28, 1880, and came to Tacoma in 1889. There (along with his brother Edward) he changed the spelling of his name to Miller. A well known contractor, he built several homes, as well as apartment houses, a church, the Blue Mouse theater at 26th and Procter, a factory building and a brewery. The Blue Mouse Theater is still operating as a theater, one of the oldest in Washington State. Albert also started a company to sell electric autos. (The business was about 80 years ahead of its time!) Below is the letterhead of his company.

He was also one of the original directors of the Tacoma Savings and Loan Association, a position he still held at his death. Mary Miller contracted cancer in 1934 and Albert virtually bankrupted the family in a futile attempt to save her life. She died on October 23, 1934 and Albert swiftly followed, dying on January 29, 1935.



# Protect Your Hands and Support The North Slope Historic District!

Before you go out and purchase utility gloves for Working in your yard Working on your house

Call Judy Martin for utility gloves at a fraction of the cost you will pay in the store and support the North Slope Historic District.

These gloves were a mis- print at the manufacture. The North Slope is offering these gloves for a donation of \$2.00 pr or \$20.00 for a 12 pair package

The gloves are available in Small/Medium or Large/XL

These gloves are great for any type of yard work, mowing, pruning, gardening, pulling berry vines, landscape projects, concrete work, roofing, painting, fence building, working on your car, washing recreational vehicles, hauling wood.

Last change to pick up gloves for Winter Projects and Holiday gift for the Avid Gardener Make your check out to: North Slope Historic District Call Judy Martin 253 572 3059

Gloves will also be available at the Nov 21<sup>st</sup> General Meeting with City Mananger Broadnax and the election of NSHD Board



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

# 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 Marilynn Sabo at 253-627-4735.



### NSHD Changes, Election Date, Meetings Schedule

The NSHD Board of Directors has voted to make a few changes to NSHD meetings schedule. At November's General Meeting, on November 21<sup>st</sup>, **we will be electing new Board members** to serve for two years, beginning in January. This change was suggested to allow a new Board to start off at January's Board meeting, ready to make plans for the rest of the year, instead of waiting until late January to start.

In addition, the Board has moved to **quarterly general meetings**, as well as quarterly Board meetings in an attempt to better coordinate meetings and activities with the publication of the newsletters. General meetings will usually be meetings with a program element.

These changes were made by a Board email vote on the change of the date of the election meeting, and the move to quarterly meetings instead of bi-monthly meetings.

#### 2014 Schedule

- --November election and general meeting, with a program element
- --January, April, July, October for Board meetings; also open to the public
- --February, May, August and November for General Meetings with Programs/Activities
- --News of meetings/activities/ programs advertised in publication of the Trolley Times before each general meeting.

# Some Good Stuff From Your Neighbors in the Slope

### Tons of Thanks!!

Tacoma Neighborhood and Community Services, Tacoma Solid Waste, Jason Lee Middle School, Stadium Historic District and the North Slope Historic District, Inc. joined forces to clean up the neighborhood on August 24th. More than 9% of the eligible Tacoma Solid Waste residential customers (122 of 1307) took advantage of the free service and discarded 10 tons of garbage and recyclables (e.g., 2 refrigerators, 72 tires and 42 rims, miscellaneous scrap metal, etc)! Participants also filled a truck from St. Vincent de Paul with re-saleable items. Tacoma Code Compliance Officers used their trucks to help us collect garbage, a Community Service Supervisor and her crew helped offload garbage into dumpsters, Tacoma Police Officers issued parking tickets and warnings, and a city street sweeper cleaned-up the school parking lot afterwards. This event is as much about building community as it is about cleaning up Tacoma's neighborhoods. Many neighborhood volunteers contributed their time, money, muscles, pick up trucks, supplies and culinary talents to the event this year including Pam Boyles and Rocky Johnson, John Butler, Deborah Cade, Geoff Corso and Marshall McClintock, Chris Hamilton, Jim and Jean Hoard, Bill Johnston, Rob Thoms, Jay and Julie Turner, and Mike and Marty Webb. Thank you volunteers!

### Plant a Tree or Two

As long as the ground is not frozen, fall and winter is the best time to plant trees in the Pacific Northwest. Through April 1, 2014, the City of Tacoma is offering coupons to Tacoma residents for purchasing trees at participating nurseries at a reduced price. The trees must be planted within city limits. Limit one coupon per resident/property owner and 2 trees per coupon. Participating nurseries include Gardensphere Nursery, McLendon's Hardware, Portland Avenue Nursery, and Vassey Nursery. Contact the City of Tacoma Urban Forester, Ramie Pierce at rpierce2@ci.tacoma.wa.us, providing your street address, and she'll mail you the coupon. NOTE: If you received a tree coupon last year but didn't use it, you may request another coupon this year.

#### **NSHD Board of Directors** Troy Axe, Communications 253-691-8021 John Butler 253-627-3379 Deborah Cade, Co-chair 253-593-4569 Timothy Chen, Treasurer 253-272-9281 Geoff Corso, Parks and Beautification 253-572-5474 Jean Hoard Kathryn Longwell, Co-chair 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 Wanda Thompson



