

## FEBRUARY PROGRAM FEATURES ARCHITECTURAL SALVAGE COMPANY

**P**lease join us on Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, when **Earth Wise Salvage** will present a program highlighting the architectural antiques and building materials available in their public warehouse on S. 60<sup>th</sup> and McKinley. The company buys and sells vintage doors, windows, lights, hardware and lumber, wrought iron, pillars and other building materials – all sorts of old stuff. You name it, and I’ll bet it’s there!

Two salvage specialists, Tracy and Aaron, will talk about the history of the company, how they can help you find what you need, or sell to them what you don’t. They will have some old items to show us, and hand-outs to take home.

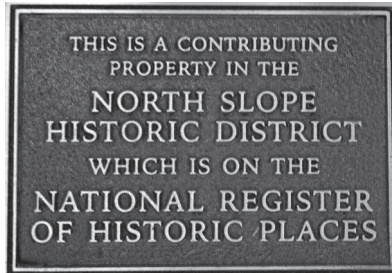
Earth Wise is working with the City of Tacoma via its Community Clean-Ups to “reduce construction debris in the waste stream” as a means of reducing the amount of refuse needing disposal.

As a result, old house buffs can shop in the warehouse full of vintage materials when they need to replace or refurbish an antique feature or material in their homes.

Join us for a fun evening with salvage!

- ◆ February 19<sup>th</sup>, Immanuel Presbyterian Church basement
- ◆ Coffee Hour at 6:30, Program at 7 pm
- ◆ Entrance on North 9<sup>th</sup>, between No. I and No. J. Streets

## NATIONAL REGISTER PLAQUES FOR NSHD AVAILABLE



**T**he plaques noting the National Register designation for the neighborhood are bronze, 5x7 inches, and identify your property as part of the NSHD and National Register of Historic Places. The cost is \$75, including tax.

To order your plaque, call Karen May at 253-495-1872 or send an email to [klmay@harbornet.com](mailto:klmay@harbornet.com)

New plaques for the Tacoma Register of Historic Places are on order and will be available in the near future.

**Look Inside for Valuable  
Coupons From Our Sponsors!**

## Trolley Tales

### Folklore from Tacoma's North Slope

By Karen May

#### Tacoma's First School - Part Two



1885 First Ward School (Tacoma Public Library)

**B**y 1877, there were about 100 school age children in Old Tacoma. In 1885, ten years after the wooden school had burned, a new school was built up the hill at 1210 N Yakima, midway between N 12th and 13th Streets. It was, according to the Tacoma Daily Ledger: "the handsomest of the wooden school buildings of the city...and caused a howl from the taxpayers. It was too expensive, having cost \$5000; it was away out in the woods, and it was big enough to hold all the pupils there would be for 100 years." In 1889, the Second Presbyterian (later Immanuel) used the school building for services, before their 1891 church was built on N 9th and J Streets.

In 1892 a brick school was planned to replace the First Ward school, which was moved to one side to the edge of the grounds, facing the side of the new building. The new school was designed by the firm of Bullard and Haywood. From the New England Magazine, 1893, "Tacoma is noted throughout the Pacific Northwest today for the excellence of her public schools. There are thirteen public ward schools in the city. Each school is named after some national celebrity... On the birthdays of these patron saints exercises are held in the respective schools, designed to promote a spirit of patriotism in the young scholars." In 1891 the American poet and diplomat, James Russell Lowell, had died. So Tacoma's first school, on the property between N. Yakima and I Streets, became Lowell School. Originally it was to be built in two halves, with a tower entrance in the center. The first half and the tower were finished by 1893. Albert H. Haywood left Tacoma in 1894. The old wooden First Ward school was moved down a block. Later, Lowell received its addition, not quite symmetrical, perhaps due to lack of funds.



Lowell School, with final addition  
TPL postcard ca. 1908

In 1949, there was some earthquake damage, and one death, so it was demolished, and the present Lowell Elementary built, with the entrance on N. 13th Street, off Yakima.

Note: To read more about schools and other history of our neighborhood, see [Tacoma's North Slope](#), by author Karen May.



Lowell School (left) and old First Ward School  
(right) (TPL photo ca. 1893)

## SPONSOR'S CORNER

*Highlighting Trolley Times' Sponsors*



State Farm Agent Wendi Thomas is the Trolley Times sponsor in the spotlight in this issue. She is the owner of a Tacoma State Farm Insurance Agency, and she has insurance in her blood. She is a second-generation State Farm agent and has been with State Farm for 35 years. “My goal as an insurance and financial services professional,” she says, “is to help my clients avoid financial loss, and achieve financial success.”

Wendi feels that the best way for home owners to find the most coverage for the least money is to sit down with her and talk frankly about their home, and their family’s needs. As she puts it, “When I visit individually with clients, it provides both of us a chance to assess a home – particularly an older home – for eligibility for the most useful, cost-effective insurance programs. Give me a try!”

Drop in for a visit to the well-staffed office, located just south of Hwy 16, on Union Avenue, at 3025 S. Union Ave.

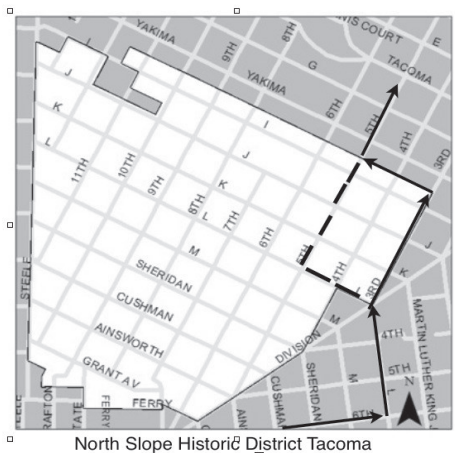
Make an appointment to talk with Wendi, and mention you live in NSHD. Appointments are available evenings and Saturdays, too.

Phone: 253-475-0753. Website: [WendiThomas.biz](http://WendiThomas.biz)

## LINE FOR NORTH END NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL CHANGED

During a 2013 Neighborhood Council Program review of the boundaries of all Tacoma’s Neighborhood Councils, the City Council decided to make a few changes. The boundary line that separates the North End Neighborhood Council, and the New Tacoma Neighborhood Council was adjusted to make **all** of North Slope Historic District fall into the North End Neighborhood Council.

Prior to this, a small piece of the NSHD fell inside the boundaries of the New Tacoma Neighborhood Council, while the bulk of the District fell into the North End Neighborhood Council. **On map below, dotted line is old boundary, solid line the new.**



North Slope Historic District Tacoma

The Neighborhood Council Program was created in 1992 as a citizen-based effort to build and foster partnerships between citizens and their local government, the City of Tacoma. “The goal is to open lines of communication, to create opportunities for citizen involvement and to build cooperation and consensus among diverse interests within a neighborhood council area,” says Carol Wolfe, Neighborhood Council Program staff member.

If you have questions about the boundary line or the Neighborhood Council Program, you may call or write to: Carol Wolfe, 253.591.5384 [cwolfe@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:cwolfe@cityoftacoma.org)

# Beautification Committee Needs Helpers

By Geoff Corso

**T**welve members of the NSHD Beautification Committee volunteered at least 128 hours of their time in 2014, and many more neighbors helped the Beautification Committee in its endeavors to:

- ◆ Landscape and maintain the NSHD Park with an NENC grant.
- ◆ Landscape and maintain traffic circles.
- ◆ Collect street litter.
- ◆ Remove 14 tons of garbage from the district and adjacent neighborhoods.
- ◆ Install a rain garden at the corner of N. Sprague Ave. and Division Ave.

Immanuel Presbyterian Church and the Turner family adopted N. I St. and N. L St., respectively, through the **Tacoma Adopt-a-Spot program**. To adopt your street, alley, traffic circle, etc., call Neighborhood and Community Based Services (591-5634) or visit their website: [https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city\\_departments/neighborhood\\_and\\_community\\_services/community\\_services\\_division/community\\_based\\_services/](https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city_departments/neighborhood_and_community_services/community_services_division/community_based_services/).

To join the Beautification Committee, contact Geoff Corso at (253) 627-4408 or Corso1965@live.com.



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Brought to you by The Stadium Historic District Business Association

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618 N 1<sup>st</sup> Street Tacoma WA 98403,

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(excludes drip coffee)  
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## **Frequently Called Numbers for City of Tacoma Services**

**Abandoned Vehicle (City Streets) - (253) 591-5926**

**Animal Control - (253) 627-7387**

**Building & Land Use - (253) 591-5015**

**Building Inspections - (253) 591-5004**

**Building Permits - (253) 591-5030**

**Call-2-Haul - (253) 573-2468**

**City Council / Mayor - (253) 591-5100**

**City Manager's Office - (253) 591-5130**

**Code Enforcement 591-5001**

**Community Based Services 591-5001**

**Domestic Violence - (253) 591-5151**

**Fire (General Info) - (253) 591-5737**

**Garbage - (253) 591-5543**

Recycle 565-5955

**Graffiti Hotline - (253) 591-5001**

**Illegal Dumping - (253) 591-5001**

**Illegal Parking - (253) 798-4721**

**Overgrown Vegetation - (253) 591-5001**

**Police (Non-Emergency) - (253) 798-4721**

**Police (Recorded Information) - (253) 591-5950**

Crack Track 475-2725

Gang Tip Line 594-7867

**Potholes / Street Repairs - (253) 591-5495**

**Power Outages, Fallen Wires, etc. - (253) 502-8602**

**Sidewalks (Hazardous) - (253) 591-5270**

**Streetlights (Burned Out) - (253) 591-5287**

**Tacoma CARES - (253) 591-5001**

**Trees in Right-of-Way - (253) 591-5500**

**Eric Huseby (Parking Manager) 253-591-5437**

**Robert Thoms (Dist 2 Council Member) - 253-229-2508**

## NEW ADDITIONS TO THE NSHD WEB SITE

Check out the new additions to the website pages. Gary Johnson, a NSHD, Inc. Board member who is the web master of our organization's website, has added new content on the page called **Newsletter and Articles**.

To try this, find the above page, then click on **NSHD Library**. The library is an archive of over 50 articles about the NSHD written over the past 20 years, now collected to read here. There are also over 100 photos of NSHD houses taken around 2002 for the 2003 National Register nomination. Good, bad and the ugly photos, as required!

On the **HOME** page, a section has also been added on **Home Owner Information**. Whether you're a new homeowner in the North Slope Historic District or a long time resident looking for new information, you will find something interesting or useful in the material put together there.

If you want to do research on your home's history, click on **Newsletter and Articles** and click again on the **NSHD Library**. There are several articles about doing home research in **Chapter 9**. Start with the article on using the internet for research, where a step-by-step guide is given. If you need more, read the other articles found there.

A collection of useful links to City of Tacoma services can be found on the **Community** page. Click on **Useful Links** to find web pages for the City, Metro Parks, Tacoma Historical Society and many more.

Read the whole website so you'll know what's there if you need it.



**HOT time to Sell & Buy!**  
Interest rates are low &  
Homes are selling!



**Ronda Haase**  
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**Craig Tuttle**  
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(253) 691-5987



**1302 N I Street Tacoma, WA 98403**  
[www.tkrei.com](http://www.tkrei.com)

# NEWS AROUND NSHD....



**Keep an eye on NSHD brick gutters.** If you see street or sewer workers digging in gutters or alley approaches, take action! Here are two numbers I use: Sewer Dept. 591-5585, Street Dept. 591-5426. The Sewer Dept. is doing work in the 500-block of N. J. and did not save the bricks. The Sewer Dept. engineer is asking for a review of options from management. We might get them saved if we persevere. **If you have brick gutters, please make phone calls to Street or Sewer Divisions if you see work being done.**

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**Glass Recycling Trial Program.** The North Slope is part of a pilot glass-recycling program. According to Solid Waste, we were supposed to put our old blue glass bin out on a Saturday some months ago in order to get a new 30-gallon glass container with a locking top. If you didn't do that you will need to order one from Solid Waste. There is no charge for the new container, but recycling will **not empty the old blue bins at this time.**



Call (253) 502-2100 or email [solidwaste@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:solidwaste@cityoftacoma.org). Tell them you live in the glass recycling pilot project area, give them your address and ask for a new container. Solid Waste will not pick up your old blue container at this time because they aren't sure they will continue the program past a pilot stage.

*Thanks to Stacey Klinzman for this info.*

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**New Apartment Building at 223 N. J. St.** The lot is cleared and the foundations are poured. I found out that the zoning was changed to "Neighborhood Mixed-Use" and that zoning is designed for a mix of commercial and residential uses. (Since the 200-block of J. St. is not in NSHD, the zoning is not single-family.)

The building will be large, with 35 apartments, and the clinker is that there will be only 20 spaces of off-street parking underground and 2 spaces ground-level. The parking requirement exception was given because it is near two bus lines and the builder is providing spaces for motorcycles and bicycles in the underground area.

There is a shortage of daytime parking on-street because of employee parking of medical businesses nearby.

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**Little Library List.** There are a couple of new "Little Libraries", some just outside NSHD boundaries:

1110 North 8 <sup>th</sup>	909 No. J	819 No. J
511 No. D St	502 N. 11 <sup>th</sup>	824 N. Tacoma
1107 No. M St	714 No. M St	2132 N. Prospect
1702 N. Oakes	Yakima at N. 4 <sup>th</sup>	

Check them out and report new ones to Julie Turner.

Send short informational items to Julie Turner, Editor, Trolley Times: [juliejayturner@gmail.com](mailto:juliejayturner@gmail.com)



# Drive home the savings.

**Wendi Thomas CLU, Agent**  
 3025 S Union Avenue  
 Tacoma, WA 98409  
 Bus: 253-475-0753  
 wendi@wendithomas.biz  
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## NSHD Board of Directors

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<b>Kathryn Longwell, Co-Chair</b>	<b>253-627-0423</b>
<b>Jean Hoard, Treasurer</b>	<b>253-272-7222</b>
<b>Julie Turner, Secretary</b>	<b>253-383-2329</b>
<b>Judith Martin, Programs/ Fundraising</b>	<b>253-572-3059</b>
<b>Jarett Baily, Safety</b>	<b>206-510-8457</b>
<b>Marshall McClintock,</b>	<b>253-627-4408</b>
<i>Hist. Pres./Public Works</i>	
<b>Geoff Corso, Beautification/Parks</b>	<b>253-627-4408</b>
<b>Gary Johnson, Web</b>	<b>253-267-4475</b>
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<b>Lynda Sheppard</b>	<b>253-579-7942</b>
<b>Todd Sheppard</b>	<b>360-6495212</b>

## Announcements

### Join us for our February Program...

Earth Wise Salvage will show and tell about historic salvaged materials.  
 ⇒ Feb. 19th, Immanuel Presbyterian Church basement.  
 ⇒ Coffee Hour at 6:30, Program at 7 pm.  
 Come and learn about salvaged materials.

### Did you know?

3-1-1 is a centralized telephone number that provides live and after-hours voicemail support for callers seeking City services.  
**Call 311 in Tacoma**, and a live human being will answer and direct your question!  
 (Info from Council Member Ryan Mello)

### Help Make NSHD Litter Free!

We need neighbors to adopt a street for litter pick-up a few times a year. Please contact Geoff Corso, Chair, Beautification Committee, at 253-627-4408 or corso1965@live.com to help.