

# THE Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council BULLETIN



Capitol from Drawing, 2 February 1912, Photographer: Shipler Commercial Photographers; Harry Shipler, Shipler #13026

## Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Meeting

When: 19 May 2004, 6:30 p.m.

Where: Washington Elementary School

### Preliminary Agenda

(for final agenda see [www.capitolhillcc.org](http://www.capitolhillcc.org)  
a few days before the meeting).

- 6:30 Welcome by Peter von Sivers, Chair  
Minutes of Apr. 21
- 6:35 Police Report
- 6:50 Draft Resolution Proposed by the Trustees of the Capitol Hill Council: Asking for the Installation of Traffic Lights on 300 and 500 North of Columbus Street
- 7:30 TBA
- 8:00 Adjournment

**NEXT MEETING**  
JUNE 16, 2004, 6:30 p.m.

### Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Members

Chair	Peter Von Sivers	364-3310
Vice-Chair	Polly Hart	355-7203
Secretary	Christine Wade	918-0114
Treasurer	Kim Fowkes	521-0104
Historian	Hermoine Jex	364-5326

### Neighborhood Trustees

Capitol	Carol Wood	355-6475
DeSoto/Cortez	Katherine Gardner	328-1724
Ensign Downs	Dean Larsen	575-8135
Kimball	Victoria Collard	595-8575
St. Marks	Shauna Davenport	363-1905
Swedetown	Mary Solt	355-8507
Temple	William Call	364-1758
Warm Springs	Minta Brandon	355-1363
Washington	Bonnie Mangold	363-4634
West High	Erlinda Davis	531-1964

Mobile Watch	Joan Legge	355-8396
Bulletin	Kevin & Margaret Berchtold	364-2604
Web Site	Cassandra VanBuren	

[www.capitolhillcc.org](http://www.capitolhillcc.org)

[capitolhill@aros.net](mailto:capitolhill@aros.net)

### Greetings to all readers of this newsletter from your new Capitol Hill chairperson!

Many of you come regularly to our monthly meeting and I know you personally both from the meetings and from your dedicated work, often extending over many years. But there are lots more of you who live in our area and whom I do not yet know. I want to meet each of you, listen to you, and do all I can to keep Capitol Hill the friendly, inviting, and livable urban neighborhood we enjoy. Those of you whom I can entice into becoming active in the community will be warmly welcomed as part of our team – I count on your ideas and idealism!

My wife Judith and I became Capitol Hillers in 1975. We fell in love at first sight with “Big Red,” our 110 year-old Victorian house on what used to be Plum Street (400 North). As brand new homeowners we felt a strong responsibility to personally care for our neighborhood. During our first community council meetings decades ago, at the Horace Mann school (now razed to make room for a soccer field at West High), we got a full dose of the many diverse – and sometimes conflicting – interests of our community. The well-to-do home builders overlooking the rest of us from Ensign Peak, the gentrifiers on the hill, the young families in their starter homes, the immigrants living in run-down absentee landlord buildings, and the successful as well as struggling businesses on 300 West, each had their individual concerns and passions, even though we all shared the same boundaries. I cut my CHCC teeth as our community’s monitor of a nasty oil spill cleanup site in Swede town, a sadly declining little island of cottages in the industrial zone west of Beck Street – and it was a fascinating introduction to the intricacies of local politics.

If you come to the meetings: believe me, you can make a difference! We made sure the EPA did a thorough job of cleaning up the oil spill site. After many years of hard work, we got the city to pass a respectable Master Plan. We invited the Redevelopment Agency to get involved in our area and it is doing a fine job of revitalizing the fragile 300West corridor with new housing. The struggle is never-ending, however. Now we need your interest and support in preserving endangered open zoning land from development up on the hills; in keeping the traffic flowing on 400 West where a planned TRAX station might impede it; in finding an acceptable compromise for reducing the insane volumes of traffic squeezing through Columbus Street near the Capitol; and in getting the branch library that our kids so richly deserve but were refused in the last elections. Come to the meetings, get engaged and see how you can flex your muscles for the welfare of our neighborhood!

See you soon, best wishes, Peter von Sivers

### This Old House

#### Perkins-Thompson “Double House”— 458 & 460 North 400 West

By Nelson Knight

The focus of this month’s article is an example of what is referred to as the “double house” type by architectural historians. More commonly known simply as a duplex, the double house comes in a wide variety of styles and layouts. Many historic duplexes looked very similar to single family houses, with only two doors to distinguish them. A well-rehabbed example of such a building (although technically a triplex) can be found at 554 N. 200 West.



Other duplexes were built with one unit atop another, such as the example at 74 W. 200 North. A third variant is the true double house, with two units having separate entrances and porches, but joined by a common wall. The double house was an extremely popular building type in Salt Lake City in the first decades of the Twentieth Century. They provided an opportunity for small investors

(Continued on page 2)

## VOLUNTEER & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

### Food, Clothing, and other Donations

- **The Road Home** is in need of volunteers at its community shelter, 210 S. Rio Grande St. Donations of personal hygiene items, socks, underwear, diapers, and any other items are needed. Call 359-4142 or go to [www.theroadhome.org](http://www.theroadhome.org)
- **The LDS 19<sup>th</sup> Ward Relief Society**, located at 225 W. 500 N., sponsors a **clothing exchange** on the second Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. **Everything is free!** Come and look, or bring something along to pass on to someone else. All are welcome
- **Crossroads Urban Center**, 347 S. 400 E., helps feed the homeless in our neighborhood. This month they have a special need for **any canned beans**. Their **Thrift Store**, 1385 W. Indiana (850 S.), needs dishes, silverware, pots and pans, and small groups for sorting. Please call Linda Hilton at 364-7765 for more information.



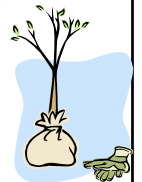
### Literacy, Reading, and Children

- **Washington School** needs volunteers to read to a child one hour a week. Call Ann Pendell, 578-8140, Tuesdays or Thursdays, for details.
- **Literacy Volunteers of America-Wasatch Front** is seeking volunteers to teach English to adult refugees and immigrants. Training is provided. Call Barbara or Denise at 328-5608.
- **Become a foster parent** and strengthen a family! Right here in our Capitol Hill neighborhood are children in need of safe, stable, loving homes while their families heal. You can be married or single, with or without children, renter or homeowner. Visit [www.utahfostercare.org](http://www.utahfostercare.org) or call 994-5205. Volunteer opportunities are also available.
- **The Children's Museum of Utah** needs energetic, fun-loving seniors, and others to volunteer for work in the galleries, at the front desk, and behind the scenes. Call 328-3383.



### Service Activities

- **Utah Food Bank** always welcomes volunteers to help sort food at their warehouse at 1025 S. 700 W. Please call Christine Thomas at 908-8660.
- **Primary Children's Medical Center** needs volunteers for its information desks, gift shop, and other areas. Call 588-2446 for more information.
- **Capitol Hill Kiwanis Club** continues its service to our community. Join us each Thursday at 7:00 a.m. for breakfast and a speaker at the Inn at Temple Square. For more information, call Moyle Anderson at 364-7294.
- Help the **Neighborhood Watch** for two hours or more monthly. To help, or for more information, please call Joan Legge, 355-8396.
- **LifeCare** (1025 S. 700 W.) needs volunteers to help homebound seniors and persons with disabilities by delivering food boxes. For more information, call 978-2452.
- **TreeUtah** will be planting seedlings May 7, 8, and 12. For more information, visit [www.treeutah.org](http://www.treeutah.org) or call Vaughn Lovejoy at 598-2344.



(Continued from page 1)

get into the real estate market. Duplexes fit well onto the small lots common in Salt Lake City's first subdivisions. Often, as today, an owner would live in one unit and rent out the other unit, providing a source of income. The separate porches provided residents a sense of their own space and provided a place for residents to socialize and keep cool during the summer.

The Perkins-Thompson house was constructed by David Archer Ellis Thompson for his sister, Alice Thompson, and brother-in-law, John Absalom Perkins. The Thompson family owned the northwest corner of this block, and constructed several other houses on the property. David was a contractor, mason, and bricklayer, and his skills are still evident on the dressed stone foundation and decorative brickwork on this house. Alice and John

Perkins, along with their three sons, were the first residents of the house. John Perkins was a blacksmith and teamster for the C.S. Martin Coal Company, and later worked for the J.W. Mellen Sand and Gravel Company on Beck Street.

In 1917 the Perkins sold the house and moved to 556 N. Second West in Capitol Hill. The double house became a rental unit, with a succession of residents. Many of the residents worked for the railroad; the house's location within walking distance of the Union Pacific Depot and rail yards was no doubt an attraction. Among the residents, the family of J. Henry Keppner is notable for its size. J. Henry, a freight officer for the railroad, lived in the north unit in the 1920s with his wife Cora, three young children, mother-in-law, and sister-in-law.

By 1940, the house was owned and occupied by Liza and Joseph Bulman. Other

members of the Bulman family lived in the other unit at various times, along with other renters. Joseph died in 1952, but Liza remained in the house until her death in 1975. She worked as a maid at the Hotel Utah for 18 years.

The building remains a rental duplex. Thanks to recent investment by individual property owners, the Salt Lake City Redevelopment Agency, and the nonprofit developer Neighborhood Housing Services, this neighborhood in Capitol Hill is undergoing a renaissance. Residents are rediscovering the area's convenience to downtown and easy walk to such attractions as the Gateway, which rose on the site of the old rail yards - the workplace of many former residents. Double houses such as the Perkins-Thompson House contribute to the great character of West Capitol Hill, and hopefully will remain in the neighborhood as it is redeveloped.



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The Days of '47 Royalty Pageant will be held on Saturday, May 15, in the Conference Center Little Theater, 60 West North Temple, at 2:00 p.m. (preliminary judging) and 6:00 p.m. (final judging).

The pageant is open to all young women ages 18-25 regardless of religion or race who have pioneer ancestry who entered the Salt Lake Valley before the railroads were joined at Promontory Point in 1869.

For other qualifications and any questions, call Colette Liddell (538-1050) or visit [www.dupinternational.org](http://www.dupinternational.org).

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Please join us for the **Annual Capitol Hill Community Music Festival** on Wednesday, May 12, 7:00 p.m. in the Assembly Hall on Temple Square. All welcome! Come and hear your talented neighbors perform!



**FEATURED NEIGHBORS**

*Rocky and Nell Raymond*

If you've managed to get out of the house at some point in the last six or seven years, chances are very good that you've enjoyed and benefited from some of Nell and Rocky Raymond's craftsmanship, without even realizing it. Rocky and Nell do signs – all kinds of signs – and do them extremely well.

The Raymond's were married eight years ago in northern California, and a year later decided that the time had come to stop working for other people and start their own business. Rocky (whom Nell describes as "a great multi-tasker") was an electrical engineer with 30 years' experience in the sign industry, and Nell's background was in sales and marketing. "We thought Utah would be a wonderful place to start a new business," says Nell, and events have proven their judgment sound. "It's a wonderful community for sinking your roots. I can't think of another place we could go and be as involved in the events of the community as quickly." Nell and Rocky have associated with a broad range of activities – government, arts, the Hispanic community, youth and adults; "whatever you want to tap into is available."

Their business, "Display Business, Inc." has recently moved to expanded, modernized quarters at 451 South 300 West. Their burgeoning client base runs the gamut from the Internal Revenue



*Sign People*

Service, the Sundance Film Festival, the Utah Arts Council, Mayor Rocky Anderson's office, and the Salt Lake City Marathon, to small ma-and-pa businesses, community groups, and individuals, with everything in between. If you need a sign, they'll make it, including large format banners, graphics and graphic design, trade show displays, and exhibits of all kinds. The quality and capacity of their equipment has allowed them to expand into wholesale printing, and their customers come from all along the Wasatch Front as well as across Utah and the surrounding

states. "We treat every customer with the intention of having a life-long relationship," Nell notes. Shrugging off the long hours' work which that philosophy requires, Rocky states, "In this business you just do whatever it takes to get the job done."

Rocky and Nell not only like the business climate in Salt Lake City, they like the neighborhood. "We fell in love with Capitol Hill seven years ago," Nell says. Their home on west 300 North was built in 1888, has been owned by only three families, and is beautiful. It has one additional distinction – this is the place where the "panic bar," used for exiting through virtually every door in every public building constructed in the last half-century, was invented. The Raymond's have a copy of the patent.

**FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS - MAY**

**Temple Square\* - 7:30 p.m**

- |    |  |    |   |
|----|--|----|---|
| 7  | Orem Institute of Religion Latter-day Celebration Choir*                   | 14 | Martin Jones, pianist from England        |
|    |  | 15 | Eleanor Kennard Chorale                   |
| 8  | Orem Institute of Religion Latter-day Celebration Choir*                   | 21 | Orchestra and Chorus of Sandy City        |
|    | Performances at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m.   | 22 | Schubert Singers - "A Romance with Music" |
| 8  | Utah Valley Chamber Players - Student musicians between the ages of 13-18. |    |   |
| 11 | BYU-Idaho Chamber Players*   |    |   |
- \*Certain programs require tickets; please call 240-0080.\* Certain programs require tickets. For info., call 240-0080.

**Madeleine Choir School**

- 9 Madeline Festival Concert, 8:00 p.m.  
**Gallivan Center**  
 10 Lunch Bunch Concert Series - Noon to 1 p.m.  
 14 UTA Bike Bonanza - 5:30 p.m. For more information, see [utarideshare.com](http://utarideshare.com) or call 287-2066  
**Additional City-sponsored events**  
 21, 22, 23 Living Traditions Festival - 5-10 p.m. at Washington Square (City/County Building)  
 A Celebration of Salt Lake's Folk & Ethnic Arts