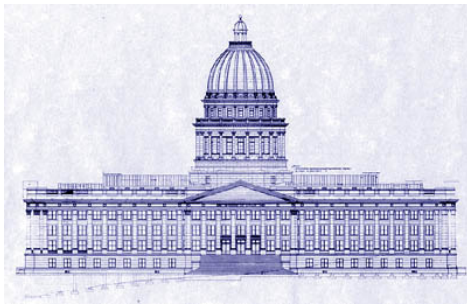


# THE Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council BULLETIN



## Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Meeting

When: 16 February 2005, 6:30 p.m.  
 Where: *Utah State Capitol Cafeteria, new east wing of State Capitol*

If you need transportation, please contact Peter von Siviers (364-3310) and he will help you. Peter will also pass by Washington Elementary School (corner of 200 West and 400 North) at 6:00 PM pick up anyone needing a lift.

- 6:30 *Welcome by Peter von Siviers, Chair*
- Minutes of November*
- 6:35 *Police Report*
- 7:00 *Discussion and Vote on Traffic Light*  
       *Installation at Columbus and 500 North*
- 7:45 *Open Forum for Community Matters*
- 8:00 *Adjourn*

**NEXT MEETING**  
**MARCH 16, 2005, 6:30 p.m.**

### Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Members

Chair	Peter Von Siviers	364-3310
Vice-Chair	Georg Stutzenberger	510-1603
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	Gene Simmons	364-3830
Warm Springs	Minta Brandon	355-1363
Washington	Bonnie Mangold	363-4634
West High	Erlinda Davis	531-1964

Mobile Watch	Joan Legge	355-8396
Bulletin	Margaret Berchtold	364-2604
Web Site	Cassandra Van Buren	<a href="mailto:capitolhill@aros.net">capitolhill@aros.net</a>

Is Capitol Hill for or against a Traffic Light on Columbus Street at 500 North?  
 By Peter von Siviers

The Capitol Hill community has been agonizing for years over how to deal with the traffic on Columbus Street to the west of the Capitol. Traffic between Davis County and downtown Salt Lake squeezes through this street morning and night, making it near impossible for us to cross in an east or west direction.

In Fall 2004, our Council and UDOT came to an agreement to install two traffic lights, in order to control traffic flow and allow cross traffic. One light would be at 300 North and the other at 500 North.

Unfortunately, it now turns out that the installation of the 500 North traffic light requires the removal of 4-5 feet of green space on a length of about 30-50 yards on the east and north sides of the triangle that is located to the west of Columbus Street.

UDOT's proposal to remove this green space caused a vivid discussion at our last meeting in January. Minds are deeply divided over the green space issue. Please come to the February meeting for a full discussion and (advisory) vote on the matter.

### These Old Houses

**Moore's Market/Marsh Auto**  
**574 North 300 West**



**By Nelson Knight**

You've driven by them many times: They're down at their heels, in the wrong location, and now awaiting the wrecking ball.

**Pugsley Barlow House**  
**271 W 300 North**



However, back when 300 West was more like 200 West and less like the multi-lane barrier it has become, Moore's Market/Marsh Auto at 574 N. 300 West and the Pugsley-Barlow House at 271 W. 600 North were viable and important parts of the neighborhood.

Recent research conducted by preservation consultant Beatrice Lufkin and funded by the Salt Lake City Redevelopment Agency provides some interesting background on the history of these two buildings. Members of the Pugsley family, the namesakes for nearby Pugsley Street, constructed both buildings. Philip Pugsley, patriarch of the family, was a self-described capitalist who lived owned a tannery and a flourmill in the neighborhood. Philip built the Marsh Auto building as a house around 1886. It was one of three similar houses that stood next to each other along 300 West.

The Pugsley-Barlow house was built much earlier; physical evidence in the house indicates that it was probably c.1875. Initially, the house was a two-room adobe structure. The side wall of this older section is still readily visible on the east side of the building. 1898 and 1906 additions enlarged the house considerably and updated the building with Victorian massing and details. Two daughters of Philip Pugsley occupied the home. The first was Sarah Isabel Pugsley, who with her husband James Alonzo Raleigh owned the property from 1884-1892. Clarissa Pugsley Barlow and her husband, Joseph Smith Barlow were living in the house by 1900, along with their six children and her mother, Clarissa Ames Pugsley (the plural wife of Philip Pugsley). Joseph Barlow was well known as a member of the city's two top early

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

baseball teams, the Salt Lake Deserets and the Salt Lake Red Stockings. The first of the two, the Deserets, was formed in the 1870s and dominated competition at the city's ball grounds on Washington Square (now the site of the City and County Building), drawing as many as five thousand rowdy spectators. An 1877 controversy over the Mormon associations of the club's name (fueled by a Salt Lake Tribune columnist) led the Mormon members of the Deserets (including Barlow) to leave the team and form another team, the Red Stockings. The two teams played a series of games over the next two years. The Deserets dominated most games, but the Red Stockings, led by a young Heber J. Grant, won the city championship in 1878. Baseball was banned from Washington Square in 1880 for its unsavory associations with gambling and loud, boisterous crowds. The Red Stockings disbanded shortly thereafter and baseball did not recover in popularity in the city for several years. Joseph returned to normal life as a police officer and prison

guard, and he and Clarissa Barlow remained in the house until their deaths in 1919 and 1931, respectively. The house stayed in the family until 1937. From then on, the house was a rental and owned by several owners. At some point the house became a duplex. The city RDA purchased the property in 1999 from the Marsh family, owners of Marsh Auto.

Another Pugsley daughter lived in the Marsh Auto building. Emily Pugsley Thompson and her husband, Ezra Thompson, purchased the property from the estate of Philip Pugsley in 1903. However, the couple may have been the initial occupants of the house, because it was built soon after their marriage in 1885. Ezra made it big in mining and eventually became mayor of Salt Lake City. Like our current mayor, Ezra had a passion for alternative fueled vehicles, and tooled around the city in an "Owens Magnetic" electric car. The Thompsons moved to 576 E. South Temple, but remained the owners of this house until 1920. The Moore family purchased the

home in 1928 and converted it to a commercial use, removing the front porch and adding a large front picture window. They constructed a rear lean-to addition across the back that housed the family's living quarters. Moore's Market operated in the building for many years. Signs on the front of the building, as pictured in a 1936 tax photo, included placards advertising 3 loaves of bread for ten cents, lettuce and spinach at five cents a bunch, and steak for twenty-five cents a pound. More recently, Jackson's Market Produce, Marsh Market, and then Marsh Auto Sales have occupied the building. Additions to the front in 1947 and 1953 obscure the original building, but historic details such as decorative scrollwork over the windows still can be seen (at least for a few more weeks) on the north wall of the structure.



## VOLUNTEER SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

### Food, Clothing, and other Donations

- **Crossroads Urban Center**, 347 S. 400 E., helps feed the homeless in our neighborhood. This month they have a special need for **small jars of peanut butter**. 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.
- **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.



### Literacy, Reading, and Children

- **English Skills Learning Center** seeks volunteers to teach English to adult refugees and immigrants. Training is provided. Call Barbara or Denise at 328-5608.
- **Washington School** needs volunteers to read to a child one hour a week. Call Shauna Levitt at 578-8140 for details or stop by the school.
- **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

- **LifeCare** (1025 S. 700 W.) needs volunteers to help homebound seniors and persons with disabilities by delivering food boxes. For more information, call Taylor 978-2452 ext 229.
- **TreeUtah** has no projects planned at this time. Annual Valentine's benefit is Saturday, February 7. Visit [www.treeutah.org](http://www.treeutah.org) or call 364-2122 to learn more.
- **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.
- **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.
- Help the **Neighborhood Watch** for two hours or more monthly. To help, or for more information, please call Joan Legge, 355-8396.



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*The champion Salt Lake Red Stockings team of 1878: Alexander Watson, Richard P. Morris, David C. Dunbar, Gromway Parry, Heber J. Grant, Oliver Best, Joseph Barlow, Alts Barker, and William George. Improvement Era, November 1936.*

The champion Salt Lake Red Stockings team of 1878.... See *These Old Houses* (pp. 1-2).

**FEATURED NEIGHBOR**

*Peter Paul Prier*

*Violin Master*

Sometimes Fate just seems to step in and take a hand.

One day in 1948 in Schweinfurt, West Germany, Hermann Bittner happened to walk past a vacated bomb shelter, and noticed a violin case. Hermann had lived a life of culture and artistic success before World War II, and among other achievements had played the violin in the Breslau Symphony in eastern Germany. When the country was partitioned after the war, Hermann fled to West Germany with his daughter, Katherina, and her three small children; Katherina's husband, Paul Prier, had been killed in the war. The violin case was an enticing find, because in postwar Germany musical instruments were nearly impossible to obtain.

Hermann investigated and found that the case contained a three-quarter-size violin. He decided to give the instrument to his seven-year-old grandson, Peter, and to teach the little boy to play. Soon Hermann and Peter were entertaining at parties and elsewhere for a small fee, "doing what we could to survive," as Peter now wryly notes.

Peter continued to play the violin and eventually branched into instrument making and repair. After graduating from violin-making school, he worked for a year and a half for Leo Aschauer in his respected violin school and shop. Peter cherished a dream of opening his own violin shop someday but, realizing this would be extremely difficult in Europe, decided to emigrate to the United States. He asked his boss if he knew of any openings in America, and Aschauer suggested that he contact his son Ludwig who was working in Salt Lake City. Ludwig found an available job at Pearce Music Company, and nineteen-year-old Peter headed for Utah in 1960 to work as a violin maker and repairman.



Five years later, Peter opened his own violin shop, and in 1972, remarkably, founded the first violin-making school in the United States. Asked how he had the courage to take that bold step, Peter laughs, "I didn't know any better, that's how!" (He later established the first bow-making school in the nation, in 1996.) His school has been a remarkable success story, beginning with just four students and producing 146 graduates in the last 32 years. "Eighty-nine of them have their own shops now around the world and are doing well," Peter relates, "so apparently this was a good thing for me to do." Some sons and daughters of graduates have now returned and completed their training. More recently established schools operate in Chicago, Boston, and Philadelphia, but even combined with the European schools, Peter's is one of only seven in the world.

His craftsmanship in producing fine stringed instruments has also been noteworthy. To date, Peter has made 230 instruments (183 violins, 16 violas, 30 cellos, and two basses); Jascha Heifetz, Yehudi Menuhin, Joseph Silverstein, and Daniel Heifetz, for example, have all owned Prier violins. His shop is a hive of activity for string musicians from Utah and beyond. Peter has recently opened the Salt Lake City Recital Hall, the only such venue in the downtown area, next to his school and shop on Second South and Third East.

Peter and his wife, Kay, a fine pianist and teacher in her own right, have lived on Capitol Hill for 35 years and raised their three daughters and three sons here. Their daughter, Kristen, was a record-setting swimmer at West High, and sons Martin and Paul, with son-in-law John, are actively involved in the business. Another son, Daniel, currently works with the Karl Becker violin-making school in Chicago. As to the future, Peter quietly states that "fine musicians will always need a fine hand-made instrument."

**FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS — FEBRUARY**

**Temple Square\***

24-26 *Woman in the Wind: The Drusilla Hendricks Story*  
 \*Certain programs require tickets, please call 240-0080.

**Cathedral of the Madeleine\*\***

27 Founder's Day Concert  
 \*\*For ticket info., please call 994-4663.



The Salt Lake Gallery Association hosts a monthly Gallery Stroll on the third Friday of each month from 6-9 PM. For more information see [www.ourcommunityconnection.com/gallerystroll](http://www.ourcommunityconnection.com/gallerystroll)

**Gallivan Center**

Feb. 27 Ice rink closes, so enjoy skating now!  
 Mar. 18 Highland Bagpipe Experience, 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.