

# THE Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council BULLETIN



## Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Meeting

When: 18 May 2005, 6:30 p.m.  
 Where: *Utah State Capitol Cafeteria, new east wing of State Capitol*

*If you need transportation, please contact me (Peter von Sivers, 364-3310) and I will help you. I will also pass by Washington Elementary School (corner of 200 West and 400 North) at 5:50 PM to pick up anyone who needs a lift.*

- 6:30 Welcome by Peter von Sivers, Chair  
Minutes of April
- 6:35 Police Report
- 6:50 Reports by our community representatives
- 7:15 Report by Gwen Springmeyer, Liaison with the Mayor's Office
- 7:30 Presentation on the Columbus Street Tunnel Project
- 8:00 Open Forum for Community Matters
- 8:15 Adjourn

**NEXT MEETING**  
 JUNE 15, 2005, 6:30 p.m.

### Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Members

Chair	Peter Von Sivers	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
Web Site	Cassandra Van Buren	<a href="mailto:capitolhill@aros.net">capitolhill@aros.net</a>

### Bulletin Staff

Layout Editor & Mailing List	Margaret Berchtold	364-2604
Editorial Board	Corinne & Steve Sorenson	364-3838
Service & Community Events	Tim Lineback	363-1027
Mailing & Circulation	Amy & Bentley Mitchell	519-9068
Advertising	Corinne & Steve Sorenson	364-3838

## Comment: Swedetown – a Brief History (part 1) by Mary Solt, Trustee for the Swedetown area

*(Editors note: Some of our Capitol Hill residents may not be familiar with the Swedetown neighborhood at the northern end of our Community Council area. The Bulletin asked Mary Solt, trustee for that neighborhood, to share a brief history of Swedetown. Part 2 will appear in next month's Bulletin.)*

Swedetown is located at the north end of the city, west of Beck Street and east of the railroad tracks between 1400 North and the city limits. In the early days its boundaries went to the Jordan River.

When the early pioneers settled in the Salt Lake Valley they found that there were warm springs throughout the area where Swedetown is located. The people enjoyed the many hot mineral pools in the area. This helped them to feel invigorated and refreshed after long hours of hard work.

In the year 1889 a large tract of land was developed for residential use. Water was provided from a large artesian well that was piped to the area for the use of the residents. When the well became insufficient to supply all the homes, this stopped growth in the area for some period of time. Later, a clear spring was found in the mountains nearby and came to serve the homes on the newly acquired lots.

Original settlers of this little community spoke Swedish over their back fences and maintained their native language. They all seemed to be honest and hard-working people, happy to be here in Utah. It is said that Swedetown got its name because of the number of Swedish people who settled here. Some of the younger children would call it "Sweet Town."

Of the early residents, many came to work on the Salt Lake Temple because of their needed construction skills. Many others worked for the railroad, and others worked for a brick-making company. Some worked in the established foundry which produced manhole covers, many of which are still in use throughout Salt Lake City.

One of the more colorful groups for which Swedetown was known in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century was the "Indian Grove," a group of about 45 young bachelors who liked to get together in the evenings. After they were asked not to congregate on the porch of the Swedetown store, they shifted to the steps of the recently built LDS ward house. Here they were accused of "spitting on the steps, using boisterous and profane language, destroying the lawn and defacing the property," so they decided to build a meeting place of their own.

*(To be continued in next month's Bulletin.)*



### This Old House **Dickson-Gardner-Wolfe Mansion** 273 N East Capitol Street By Nelson Knight

Perhaps best known to Capitol Hill residents as Kay Malone's Bed & Breakfast, the Wolfe Krest Inn is more properly known as the Dickson-Gardner-Wolfe Mansion. The building is named for the first three families to own the building – all were prominent residents of the city.

The house was built in 1905 for attorney William H. Dickson, his wife, Annie, and their family. Dickson purchased the land from John R. Park, early president of the University of Utah. Noted and prolific architects Walter Ware and Alberto Treganza designed the house. Early photos show elaborate classical revival details such as the two-story portico, classical cornices, fanlight windows, and projecting bays on the front corners of the building.

A New Brunswick, Canada, native, Dickson moved to Salt Lake City in 1882. In 1884, Dickson was appointed to be the U.S. Attorney for the Territory of Utah in 1884. From then until he left the post in 1887, Dickson became one of the most controversial figures in territorial Utah. In 1882, the U.S. Congress passed the Edmunds Act, which prompted a crackdown by the federal government on LDS polygamists. During his term, Dickson prosecuted dozens of polygamist men for cohabitation, which was punishable by a fine of \$300.00 and six months in jail. Editorials in the local newspapers either praised (in the case of the SL Tribune) or condemned (in the case of the Deseret News) Dickson's actions. Frank J. Cannon, who later became a prominent publisher in Ogden, spent three

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

months in jail for participating in a group that assaulted Dickson in 1886. The group was angry with the U.S. Attorney for his "untoward" questioning of Cara Cannon during the trial of her husband, Angus M. Cannon. LDS Church lobbyists in Washington, DC worked diligently for Dickson's removal, but it was Dickson who made the decision to resign from the post in 1887, citing the low pay of the position. Dickson returned to private practice, where he apparently let bygones be bygones – he later represented the LDS Church before the U.S. Supreme Court in their case challenging the federal government's seizure of the Church's assets (Dickson lost). By the time he constructed this house, Dickson had apparently made up for the modest salary of the U.S. Attorney and was a wealthy man. He practiced law in several firms and at his death in 1924 was described as "one of the most prominent attorneys in the west" and "the greatest mining attorney in the world." Following the death of his wife in 1917, Dickson deeded the property to his daughter, Irene Earle Dickson Schuler, and moved to Los Angeles, where he died in 1924.

Irene sold the house to James P. Gardner, president of Gardner and Adams Clothiers, which was located at 138 S. Main Street, in the Kearns Building. According to later sources, Gardner encountered financial difficulties, and after taking out a \$16,000 mortgage, was forced to sell the property in 1924. The new owner was also an attorney, James H. Wolfe. James, his wife Carolyn, and their five children moved into the house. Wolfe later became Chief Justice of the Utah Supreme Court and a member of the state's judiciary for almost 25 years. Wolfe was a Democrat, social reformer, Unitarian, regent of the University of Utah, active in welfare organizations, and a wartime administrator during World War II. In this role, Wolfe, like Dickson, attained some notoriety as the chairman of the Alien Enemy Hearing Board of Utah, a member of the National Alien Enemy Hearing Board and a board member of the War Relocation Authority. These organizations were responsible for the relocation of Japanese-Americans into internment camps during World War II. However, Wolfe's record as Chief Justice, activist and social reformer far outweighs this aspect of his career.

Like many houses of its size, the house was converted into apartments some time after the house was purchased by the Wolfe family, who owned the property for over forty years. A wing was added to the north side of the house, dormers were changed on the roof, and the second story porch was filled in, all in an effort to provide more space. The graceful original design of Ware and Treganza was obscured with these additions, but the overall character of the house was still apparent. The mansion was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Capitol Hill Historic District in 1982.

The house was extensively rehabilitated in its conversion to the Wolfe Krest Inn in 1997. In addition to Kay Malone (the wife of basketball player Karl Malone), Jane Johnson, and Capitol Hill resident Tom Sieg were partners in the venture and guided the restoration work. With the Malone family's exit from Utah, the inn was put up for sale. The new owners, Sign of the Dove, own a group of assisted living facilities in California, several of which are in historic, upscale buildings. The mansion has reopened as an assisted living facility under the Wolfe Krest name.

## VOLUNTEER SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

- **Crossroads Urban Center**, (347 S. 400 E) helps feed the homeless in our neighborhood. Their **Thrift Store**, 1385 W. Indiana (850 S.), needs gently used/new sleeping bags and bath towels. Call 364-7765 for information. To donate food, call 359-8837.
- **The Road Home** (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).

Washington Elementary's two buildings will be torn down this summer and be replaced by a new building.

Come join with the neighborhood at a farewell carnival on Friday, May 20th from 3-7 pm on the upper playground.

There will be games, music, food and historical displays.

For more information or to share Washington memories & photos, call Bonnie Weiss (359-5991) or Lisa White (364-0721).

- **Utah Food Bank** (1025 S. 700 W) always welcomes volunteers to help sort food. Please call Christine Thomas at 908-8660.
- **Become a foster parent:** You can be married or single, with or without children, renter or homeowner. Involves 32 hours of training. Visit [www.utahfostercare.org](http://www.utahfostercare.org).
- **Primary Children's Medical Center** needs volunteers for its information desks, gift shop, and other areas. Call 588-2446 for more information.
- **English Skills Learning Center** seeks volunteers to teach English to adult refugees and immigrants. Training is provided. Call Barbara or Denise at 328-5608.

### Memory Grove Clean Up - Community Service Event Co-sponsored by The Greater Avenues Community Council

Date: Saturday, 14 May 05  
Time: 8 am-12 noon  
Lunch: 11 am-12 noon  
Location: Memory Grove - South Entrance



- Wear appropriate clothing & shoes for work
- Recommended to bring gloves
- Tools will be provided by the city – do not bring your own.
- All are invited – various levels of work available for all skills
- Participants encouraged to walk to park (when possible)

AaBbCc

- **The Children's Museum of Utah** (840 N 300 W) Call 328-3383 for opportunities or [www.childmuseum.org](http://www.childmuseum.org)
- **LifeCare** (1025 S. 700 W.) needs volunteers to help homebound seniors and persons with disabilities by delivering food boxes. For more information, call Taylor Beckstead 978-2452 ext. 229.



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**Mickey**

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Capitol Hill Kiwanis Club President Bonnie Archer at a recent Babycare Cupboard drive.



Scott Richards with a portion of the Babycare goods he gathered for his Eagle Scout project.

### FEATURED SERVICE

## Capitol Hill Kiwanis and the Babycare Cupboard

You're probably aware of the Crossroads Urban Center at 347 South 400 East and the tremendous help it provides, year in and year out, to the homeless and working poor in our community. Several years ago Linda Hilton, the Center's resource coordinator, spoke at one of the Capitol Hill Kiwanis Club's regular Thursday breakfast meetings, and pointed out a dilemma – many of the Center's patrons have tiny children, and "you can't feed a can of beans to a baby!" The Center was in sore need of expanded capability to provide diapers, formula, and baby food for needy little people.

The Capitol Hill Club decided to adopt the "Babycare Cupboard" at Crossroads Urban Center as an on-going project, and has maintained a very satisfying sponsorship ever since. The Club conducts drives for baby products and, with the support of its own club members, Washington School, West High Key Club and Builder's Club, several LDS wards, and others in the Capitol Hill neighborhood, keeps the Babycare Cupboard stocked.

Two years ago, Dean Larsen, our Community Council's trustee for the Ensign Peak neighborhood and at that time the president of Capitol Hill Kiwanis, received a letter inviting applications for grants from Kiwanis International for worthy child-related service projects. The traditional "light-bulb" clicked on in Dean's mind, and he appointed a committee to apply for a grant for the purpose of establishing additional "babycare cupboards" in other areas where the need exists. The committee (Pat Petersen of the Capitol Hill neighborhood, with Kathie Olsen and Karen Derrick from the Avenues) were delighted when their hard work paid



Karen Derrick, Pat Petersen, Kathie Olsen, and Dean Larsen spearheaded the Capitol Hill Kiwanis Club's successful Babycare Cupboard project.

off and Kiwanis International provided a grant of matching funds, to be administered by the Capitol Hill Club, for other clubs to establish and support their own cupboards.

From that small and hopeful beginning, the project has mushroomed. The first check for \$2,500 in matching funds went to the South Davis Kiwanis Club, which established a babycare cupboard at the Bountiful Community Food Pantry. The Bonneville Kiwanis Club recently opened a babycare cupboard at the Redwood Community Center with the matching funds, and forged a corporate partnership with the Boeing Company, whose employees donated an initial \$12,000-worth of baby supplies. Another cupboard recently opened in Tooele, and others are being developed in Boise, Pleasant Grove, Sugarhouse, Clearfield, and Logan.

Meanwhile, the Baby Cupboard at Crossroads Urban Center continues to prosper, thanks to Capitol Hill neighbors like J Heslop (who manages publicity for the baby product drives) and Scott Richards (who recently gathered several thousands dollars' worth of cash and good for the Babycare Cupboard as his Eagle Scout service project) and many others in the Capitol Hill Kiwanis club and community – steady generosity in time and baby formula, filling a genuine need.

*(Editors' note: This month the Bulletin introduces this occasional feature – stories of service given within the Capitol Hill community. If you would like to share such a story, please call Steve or Corinne Sorenson, 364-3838.)*

### FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS—MAY

#### Temple Square Events\*

All during May (Monday-Saturday): "One Fold, One Shepherd" Showtimes: 10:30 am, Noon, 1:30, 3:30, 4:30, 6:00, & 7:30 pm.

May 20 (Friday) 3-7 pm: Washington Elementary Neighborhood Farewell Carnival on the upper playground. There will be games, music, food and historical displays. See full details on page 2.

#### Temple Square Events (continued)\*

Assembly Hall Concert Series—7:30 pm (Free)  
 May 13 (Friday): Utah Valley Chamber Players  
 May 14 (Saturday): Cache Children's Cantante Choir  
 May 20 (Friday): Sandy City Orchestra & Chorus  
 May 21 (Saturday): Families Making Music  
 May 27 (Friday): Mountain West Chorale  
 May 28 (Saturday): Westminster Concert Bell Choir

\*Certain programs may require tickets; please call 240-0080.