

# THE Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council BULLETIN



## Capitol Hill & Avenues Mobile Watch Meeting

When: 15 November 2006, 6:00 p.m.  
Where: State Capitol Cafeteria

## Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Meeting

When: 15 November 2006, 6:30 p.m.  
Where: State Capitol Cafeteria

### Preliminary Agenda:

- 6:30 Welcome by Peter von Sivers, Chair
- 6:35 Minutes
- 6:40 Police & Mobile Watch Reports
- 7:00 Elections of Officers for 2006-2007
- 7:15 Updates by elected Representatives
- 7:30 Trash Container Initiative, Vote  
(Robert King)
- 7:40 Truck Traffic on 600 North
- 7:50 Down-zoning of 300 West, north of 600 North
- 8:15 Adjourn

**NEXT MEETING**  
JANUARY 17, 2007 - 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	Harries Lloyd	532-0754
Kimball	Victoria Collard	595-8575
St. Marks	Nephi Kemmethmueller	359-3936
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	Robert King	359-9992
Web Site	Nick Burns	<a href="mailto:nick@vanburns.com">nick@vanburns.com</a>

### Bulletin Staff

Layout Editor/Mailing List	Margaret Berchtold	364-2604
Editorial Board	Corinne & Stephen Sorenson	364-3838
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Mailing/Circulation	Amy & Bentley Mitchell	519-9068
Advertising	Corinne & Stephen Sorenson	364-3838

## Farewell Note from the Chair, Peter von Sivers

After three years as Chairperson of the Capitol Hill Community Council, I will be stepping down at the end of November. I greatly enjoyed my time as Chair and benefited immeasurably from meeting and working with the wonderful people of Capitol Hill. But now I'll be turning the position over to our Council's next leader in the same spirit of generous cooperation with which I received it from Katherine Gardner, my predecessor.

During the past three years our community has changed considerably, and I hope most of us would say, for the better. These years saw the peak of the real estate boom which has brought so much construction to Capitol Hill. Many new homes and condominiums have been, or are in the process of being, built. Thanks to the financial incentives provided by the Redevelopment Agency, Pugsley Street has been rehabilitated and Marmalade Square on 300 West between 500 and 600 North is now ready to be constructed. Not all aspects of the building boom, however, have been acceptable to our community and I want to thank our trustees – especially Minta Brandon, Vicki Collard, Erlinda Davis, Katherine Gardner, and Nephi Kemmethmueller – for their tenacious engagement in letting the Planning Commission and other City boards know of our concerns, not to say criticisms, regarding a few problematic construction projects.

Capitol Hill, more than other neighborhoods in Salt Lake, is vulnerable to commuter traffic squeezing through its narrow streets. A traffic light installed at one particularly dangerous spot – Main Street and 300 North – represents the triumphant culmination of twenty years of hard lobbying with the Utah Department of Transportation. Many of our streets received at least minimal lighting, level sidewalks, and re-pavement, thanks to the dedicated efforts of Erlinda Davis. An active neighborhood watch, originally animated and maintained by Carol Wood and Joan Legge, and now sustained by Georg Stutzenberger and Robert King, has been of critical importance in making Capitol Hill one of the safest areas of the city. A courageous lawsuit initiated and relentlessly pursued by Bonnie Mangold, was eventually settled amicably out of court. This settlement gave Capitol Hill much needed relief from traffic and parking congestion around the new LDS Assembly Hall. An expanded newsletter, under the energetic leadership of Steve Sorenson and Margaret Berchtold, as well as an Internet Website, voluntarily created by Cassandra van Buren and ably continued by

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Nick Burns, makes our work known to thousands of residents who – I sincerely hope – have learned to appreciate the work done by all of us who are dedicated to grassroots politics.

Our Council cooperated happily and fruitfully with the local LDS wards in the organization of the July 4<sup>th</sup> breakfast at Warm Springs, the August summer fest on the Columbus triangle, and the Christmas carol service in the Capitol Hill Ward. All events have been highly successful and enjoyable and have contributed greatly to our community spirit. Finally, my special and deeply felt appreciation goes to my friend, City Councilman Eric Jergensen, who embraced our causes and initiated many more for the benefit of the community. To all of you who have supported me during the past three years: my sincere and profound thanks.

(Continued from page 4)

commercial and industrial facilities, and others. His final project (for Bodell Construction) was building the Rose Wagner Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Salt Lake City. He’s now semi-retired, still performing some home inspections.

•**Uxorious for Helga.** He met Helga Keil, a girl in his neighborhood, in 1968, and immediately wanted to ask her out, but she was already engaged and understandably reluctant to accept. “She gave me every reason in the book she couldn’t go with me,” he recalls, but after she and her fiancé broke off the engagement, “in exasperation, she agreed to go out once.” Even then, Nephi’s role on the first couple of dates was to act as a grip — Helga was a member of a Polynesian dance troupe, and “she allowed me to haul the equipment for her act.” Persistence paid, however, and six weeks later they became engaged. Now, nearly 39 years later, they point with pride to three daughters and one son (each of whom graduated from West High) and

sixteen grandchildren. Nephi’s affectionate persistence has paid off again recently, as he’s quietly helped Helga successfully weather a several-years-long bout with cancer.

•**“Who’s that tripping over my bridge?”** (This reference may be a bit of a reach, but please read on anyway.) In July, 1973, Helga and Nephi moved into their home on 600 North between 300 and 400 West. They loved the place, and the only drawback in those days was that the 600 North on-ramp for I-15 was nearly in their front yard. “Our kids’ friends would come to visit and say, ‘Oh, you live under a viaduct!’ ” Nephi recalls. “Our second-story window was at eye level with the on-ramp.” Something of a dream came true in 2000, when UDOT relocated the ramp entry a block to the west. That, the improvements on Pugsley Street, and other changes “have really made a very nice neighborhood. The RDA has helped immensely in this area.” Nephi and Helga have seen great changes in the Capitol Hill area, and remain excited to be here.

## VOLUNTEER SERVICE & DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

Search the internet for opportunities to serve (No computer? Visit the Salt Lake Library):

- **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Utah**, [www.bbbsu.org](http://www.bbbsu.org) Being a Big Brother or Big Sister is about sharing simple, magical moments with a child.
- **Crossroads Urban Center**, 364-7765 or [www.crossroads-u-c.org](http://www.crossroads-u-c.org).
- **IHC Hospice**, [www.ihc.com](http://www.ihc.com) They provide care for the terminally ill and their families. You’ll help provide companionship, help finish projects, give respite care and much more.
- **Kiwanis Club** (Capitol Hill) Join us at the State Capitol Cafeteria, Thursday mornings at 7:00 a.m. Call 328-1325 for more information.

- **Operation Kids** [www.operationkids.org](http://www.operationkids.org) You’ll serve Utah’s children in various ways.
- **People Helping People Garden Tour** is considering the Capitol Hill Neighborhood. They’re looking for 12 beautiful gardens now, before the snow sets in. Nominate your neighbor’s yard (or your own)! For more information, contact Kim at 355-5538 or [kim@phputah.org](mailto:kim@phputah.org). The event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 9, 2007.
- **Primary Children’s Medical Center**, call 588-2446 or [intermountainhealthcare.org/xp/](http://intermountainhealthcare.org/xp/public/primary/)

[public/primary/](http://public/primary/).

- **Salt Lake County Aging Services—** Volunteer! Apply online on their website: [www.slcoagingservices.org](http://www.slcoagingservices.org).
- **Utah Food Bank**, 1025 S. 700 W., call 908-8660, [www.csc-ut.org/foodbank.htm](http://www.csc-ut.org/foodbank.htm) . Donate or volunteer!
- **Utah Foster Care**, 994-5205 or [www.utahfostercare.org](http://www.utahfostercare.org).
- **Volunteer Utah** is Utah’s resource for finding volunteer opportunities in your community. Their website ([www.volunteerutah.com](http://www.volunteerutah.com)) features information on volunteering with a wide variety of organizations.

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Don't miss Peter von Sivers' farewell note on page 1.

We sincerely apologize for the delayed mailing of this bulletin.

### FEATURED NEIGHBOR

*Nephi Kemmethmueller*

*Builder, Neighborhood Council Trustee*

How many people do you know who used to live under a viaduct, and still live in the same place, but no longer live under a viaduct? Nephi Kemmethmueller serves our Council as trustee for the St. Mark's area, and brings to the task both a long affection for the Capitol Hill neighborhood and a fascinating set of personal credentials. His resume might include these bullets:



•**German Midwesterner.** Nephi and his sister were born in Chicago to immigrant German parents. (His father came from Munich, his mother from an area in Prussia now located in Russia, both in the 1920s; they met in Chicago at church and married some time after his dad's first wife died.) Nephi's father and his forefathers for many generations were tanners, specializing in patent leather production. His dad didn't care for the unions in Chicago, though, and when Nephi was five, the family moved to Salt Lake City, settling in the Avenues. His father was hired as the gardener and caretaker for the home and grounds at 13<sup>th</sup> East and Yale Avenue owned by then-LDS Church President George Albert Smith, of whom Nephi has fond

memories.

•**Closer of public schools.** Nephi attended the old Ensign School, Forest Elementary School, Irving Junior High, South High, the Trade Technical College on Fourth South, and the University of Utah. He laughingly points out that each of these schools has since been razed except the University, "and I'm expecting that to be removed in due course!" He

graduated from Trade Tech in mechanical and electronic drafting, and studied geological engineering at the U. for three years before serving a church mission in the Southwest Indian Mission (mostly in New Mexico in the Navajo Reservation).

•**Builder:** Nephi was then confronted with the fact that there simply were not many jobs for geological engineers who didn't want to live outside the United States, so he went into construction. His long career (including operating his own business for fifteen years) ran the full gamut of designing and building homes (from bungalows to custom luxury estates), schools, churches, army depots, sewer treatment plants, heavy

*(Continued on page 2)*

### FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### The Madeleine Choir School

205 First Avenue, Salt Lake City, UT 84103  
(801) 323-9850 [www.madeleinechoirschool.org](http://www.madeleinechoirschool.org)

Nov. 20 – Late Arrival - 9:30 am  
Nov. 22 –24 –School Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday

#### The Cathedral of the Madeleine

331 East South Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
(801) 328-8941 [www.saltlakecathedral.org](http://www.saltlakecathedral.org)

Nov. 19—St. Cecilia's Day Concert - 8:00 pm  
Dec 15, 22—Benjamin Britten, a Ceremony of Carols, 12:15 pm  
Dec. 18, 19—Christmas Carol Service, 8:00 pm