

The Bulletin

CAPITOL HILL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

A Capitol Hill Mardi Gras Minute

A Review
by Derek Jones

Greetings from North Main!

My name is Derek Jones and I have lived in our cozy little corner of Salt Lake for a little over a year-and-a-half now. I'm elated to be a part of a community that takes pride in its diversity and have recently had the opportunity to attend a party at a neighbor's house where I experienced firsthand the fellowship and abundant reciprocity of the residents in this neighborhood.

This past February, I received an invitation in the mail from my next-door neighbors to attend their annual Mardi Gras celebration. I've never really been too familiar with Mardi Gras, having no childhood memories of ever celebrating Mardi Gras, nor ever giving it much consideration even as a young adult.

In more recent years I admit I've made my way to The Bayou on Fat Tuesday, mouth soon-to-be ablaze with some fiery Creole cooking, the walls shifting to the beat of the local Jazz band. Yet being the non-religious type, I never really knew what I was celebrating, and even those Fat Tuesdays at the Bayou resonated on too similar a note as the typical Saturday night on the town.

Needless to say, when I received the invitation I was a bit anxious, perplexed, a little excited, but most of all curious. I had no idea what to expect and I knew I would probably be at a party full of strangers.

The night of the party finally arrived and as I made my way up the steps, I could hear the soft muffled notes of what sounded like old show tunes reverberating through the door. I made my way into the party and began to mingle. To my delight, I discovered that it was a sort of mini Mardi Gras block party. Thanks to the graciousness of the hosts, I

was immediately introduced to the other guests who were, to my surprise, all my surrounding neighbors I had yet to meet. As I made my way around the party, I was even able to meet a former owner of the house I'm currently living in who has since moved out of the city, but has still kept in touch with the people in the neighborhood.

I felt like I had been plunged into the epicenter of the converging personal histories that this neighborhood has to offer. My neighbors were the hosts and stewards, ever guiding those around them to meet and share their stories, their lives and the bonds of friendship that only come from living in such an open and diverse community.

Mardi Gras will forever be that celebration when I not only indulge in the excesses of food and drink, but also revel in the lasting friendships I have made and will make in this community.



Matt Aune, Derek Jones
& friends enjoy the festivities.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE
IN WRITING FOR THE BULLETIN,
PLEASE CONTACT JOHN BOYACK AT
JNBOYACK@GMAIL.COM

CAPITOL HILL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday, April 15, 2009
State Capitol Senate Cafeteria

6:00pm Mobile Watch Meeting

6:30pm Neighborhood Council Meeting

Welcome by Chair, Polly Hart

6:35 Police Report, Brian Wahlin

6:45 Mobile Watch Report, Georg Stutzenberger

6:55 Mayor's Office Report, Joyce Valdez

7:05 Elected Officials Reports

7:30 Request for conditional use for condominium conversion at 324-326/326R W 600 North, Nephi K Emmethmueller

7:50 Swedetown updates, Willie Salas

8:05 City Creek Fire Prevention update

8:15 Adjourn

NEXT MEETING:
APRIL 15, 2009, 6:30 P.M.

A Special Dedication Mickey Hansen: The Senator's Daughter

by Stephen Sorensen

The daughter of US Senator Elbert Thomas, was born in and has lived most of her life in the Capitol Hill neighborhood, raising eight children in a wonderful old family home.

As a little girl Edna Hansen went around singing a then-popular jingle, Mickey, Mickey, can you blame anyone for falling in love with you? Before long, she had her nickname.

Mickey was the youngest of three daughters to Elbert and Edna Harker Thomas. Their family home at 137 North West Temple still graces the community — it has “about 25 rooms if you count the cubby-holes,” Mickey once said. Her grandmother and two aunts lived on the second floor. “My daddy took care of everybody, as always.”

Her parents served an LDS mission in Japan from 1907 to 1913, and her father then taught Oriental culture and political science at the University of Utah. In 1932, as the Democrats swept national and local elections, he was elected to the US Senate, garnering more votes in the state than Franklin D. Roosevelt even.



Mickey Hansen

Mickey moved with her family to Washington, DC, and remembers “riding the streetcar, nice and cheap, running around the Senate Office Building and acting silly,” graduating from the capital’s Western High School with other Congressional offspring, and attending two years at American University. School assignments often included interviewing key public figures, and she recalls visiting with legendary Louisiana Senator Huey Long in his office, about a year before his assassination. She asked him what he thought of FDR’s National Recovery Act and he replied, “I think it’s rotten as hell!” She also met the Roosevelts at a reception

and was immediately impressed with the President’s “charisma – I mean real charisma! I know Eleanor was self-conscious about her looks, but I thought she was lovely.”

Back in Salt Lake City, where she graduated in 1939 with a history major from the University of Utah, she met Lawrence Hansen. “After a whirlwind courtship of seven years,” as Mickey described it, they were married, and eventually raised three daughters and five sons in the old home on West Temple. Lawrence, a banker (and later bank examiner for the State), died in 1980. Mickey then went to work at the Deseret Gym on North Main Street. “It saved my life. It gave me something to do,” until her retirement.

Mickey lived her last years in the Panorama condominiums. She resisted numerous temptations to sell the old home for development, choosing instead to wait until she could find a buyer who would promise to keep the place as a family home. Dr. JP & Elaine Hughes

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Vice-Chair	Robert King	801-359-9992
Secretary/Treasurer	Rosann Greenway	801-518-5471
Historian	Shirley McLaughlan	801-328-4182

NEIGHBORHOOD TRUSTEES

Capitol	Carol Wood	801-355-6475
DeSoto/Cortez	Lorille Miller	801-363-8191
Ensign Downs	Gordon Russell	801-364-7335
Kimball	Victoria Collard	801-595-8575
St. Marks	Nephi Kemmethmueller	801-359-3936
Swedetown	William Salas	801-539-0938
Temple	Erlinda Davis	801-531-1964
Warm Springs	Minta Brandon	801-355-1363
Washington	<i>election pending</i>	
West High	Bonnie Archer	801-328-1325
Mobile Watch	Georg Stutzenberger	801-510-1603

SLPD / CRISIS INTERVENTION

Salt Lake City Police	Det. Brian Wahlin	801-799-3314
	brian.wahlin@slgov.com	
Abandoned Shopping Cart Hotline		801-446-7984
Graffiti Busters		801-972-7885
Mobile Watch	Robert King	801-359-9992

THE BULLETIN

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filled the bill nicely, and became close friends to Mickey and her family as they've continued to maintain the old home on West Temple.

Editor's note: Mickey Hansen passed away on March 13, 2009, and we offer the article in her memory. Throughout her life Mickey's been a devoted member of the Capitol Hill neighborhood – if you noticed, she was the “Mickey” on our advertising page for the last several years.



Letter to the Editor

Anonymous

From our windows a half block north of West High School, we see students and others coming and going. Passersby and winds regularly deposit trash including shattered glass on the property. We also

find the dog waste other area residents have deplored. We shovel the walk and always greet those we meet outside. Sadly, owners of the property just to the south, 333 North 300 West, which is also through the block just east of the Utah Opera facilities on 400 West, and whose occupants moved out several months ago, do not do likewise. So despite the “Private Property, No Trespassing” sign, students and others congregate behind the building. Formerly, transients used the water in the back to bathe, but the plumbing has been turned off. The driveway includes an easement between 300 and 400 West so vehicles and pedestrians proceed both ways. Some students and others have gathered in our driveway and back parking lot, mistakenly perhaps thinking it includes a through-way. So cigarette butts and other trash accumulates. We invite people to sit on our front porch to chat instead.

Sadly, also, we and others on the west side of this block have been burglarized over the past year, causing considerable damage and loss of equipment and supplies but not resulting in apprehensions of perpetrators. Perhaps

we need the community police office that had occupied part of the building to our north when we came in 1996 to move back in again.

Also, earlier in the fall, police advised us neighbors that several units were training in demolition at the abandoned motel to the south of 333 and said the building would be fully removed as a result. But the structure's remains are still there.

Perhaps further training is planned.

Salt Lake Bicycle Laws

by Detective Brian Wahlin

With the bicycle season coming upon us I have included the bicycle laws for SLC that may be helpful for some:

A bicycle is considered a vehicle and riders have the same rights and are subject to the same traffic laws as the operators of other vehicles. As a vehicle, bicycles are required to be ridden in the same direction as other traffic, obey traffic signals, stop signs, and all other traffic control devices.

see page 4

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebrate Earth Day by recycling your electronic waste!

Wednesday, April 22nd, 2009 from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Location: University Services Building parking lot, just west of the Huntsman Center. 1795 E South Campus Drive, University of Utah (access from Business Loop or westbound South Campus Drive).
<http://www.sustainability.utah.edu/initiatives/erecyclingday2009.htm>

INTERNET RESOURCES

www.chnc-slc.org
www.downtownrising.com
www.downtownslc.com/events
www.glbtccu.org
www.lds.org
www.saltlakeactingcompany.org
www.slcgov.com
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*the Salt Lake Association of Community Councils is recognized by the IRS as a section 501(c)(3), tax-exempt organization.)

Our sincere thanks to LDS Hospital for printing The Bulletin.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Bicycles

- Must be licensed
- Must be equipped with a white headlight, red taillight or reflector, and side reflectors, all visible from at least 500 feet, when riding a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise or when it's difficult to see farther than 1,000 feet ahead.
- Must be equipped with brakes capable of stopping from 10 mph within 25 feet on dry, level, clean pavement.

Bicyclists

- Must not ride on the sidewalks downtown within the area between North Temple and 500 South and 400 West and 200 East.
- Must ride on roadways as far to the right as practicable except when:
 - Passing another bicycle of vehicle,
 - Preparing to turn left,
 - Going straight through an intersection with a right-turn-only lane,
 - Avoiding unsafe conditions on the right-hand edge of the roadway, or
 - Traveling within a lane too narrow to be safely shared, side-by-side, by a bicycle and another vehicle.
- Must not ride more than two

abreast on roadways and then only if they do not impede other traffic. Bicyclists must only ride single file on sidewalks.

- Must yield to pedestrians and give an audible when overtaking them. When riding on a sidewalk, path or crosswalk, ride at a safe speed (walking speed is recommended).
- Must not carry an item that prevents using both hands to control the bicycle. A bicyclist must have at least one hand on your handlebar moustache at all times.
- May park a bicycle on a sidewalk only if it does not impede normal and reasonable sidewalk traffic. Bicycles may be parked on the roadway where vehicle parking is allowed, at any angle to the curb and abreast of another bicycle but shall not obstruct a legally parked vehicle.
- Must signal their intention to turn right or left, change lanes or stop, at least 3 seconds before doing so. Bicyclists do not have to maintain a continuous signal if both hands are needed to control the bicycle. Once stopped in a designated turn lane bicyclists are not required to signal again before turning.

For more information, visit www.slcgov.com and click Laws & City Ordinances.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Main Library
Sustainable Living Series
April 22 - 7 p.m.**

Sustainable Neighborhood

What can you do to make your neighborhood green and participate in your community? The panel of experts includes Ron Jarrett, Chair of the Rose Park Community Council; Robin Ziegler from the Utah State Historic Preservation Office; Bridget Stuchly from Salt Lake City Green; and a representative from Wasatch Community Gardens.

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