Issue Nº 95 March 2009 www.chnc-slc.org

The Bulletin

Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council

A Message from Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck

rchouck@utah.gov

Dear Constituents,

I know that most of you have kept close watch on the myriad budget cuts that have been proposed and implemented, first to help us balance and close out FY 2009, and in adopting a budget for FY 2010. It has pained me to watch each cut as it has been proposed. We hope to backfill cuts from the Rainy Day Fund (note that these funds can only be used for one-time expenses and not ongoing programs) for key safety net programs (e.g., Meals on Wheels). I also have great hopes that federal stimulus monies can offset some of the cuts.

While I understand that the severity of the economic downturn has necessitated reductions in services offered, I still have not been able to reconcile the hesitation on the part of many of my colleagues to look at revenue enhancements with the same vigor as they proposed and implemented cuts. For example, I have had constituents and others recommend looking at revamping severance and corporate taxes. Unfortunately, what's being looked at instead is an increase in the food sales tax. While I believe all possible sources of revenue enhancements should be part of the discussion, I do not agree that the most regressive taxes should be the first raised.

Despite the difficulty of the work that we have had before us, I do want to thank you for your emails and calls; some to which I have been able to respond, others I have not. You have sent me your input on issues ranging to use of streams and waterways to support of our public school teachers. Due to the focus on our budget woes (as well as the death of a close family member), it has been difficult for me to reply to all your missives. Please know that I am reading all emails and listening to messages. I hope to reply (albeit slowly) to those of you who are my constituents.

Warm regards,
Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck,
District 24

"Dr. Thueson, I Presume?"

by Stephen Sorensen
sorensonstephen@yahoo.com

Technically Darrell and Noni Thueson have retired, but you may be hard-pressed to find much evidence of that fact. From his modest beginnings on a dairy farm in Idaho's Boise Valley, Darrell gained medical know-how that, over time, has enabled him to relieve suffering all across the social strata on two continents.

Work on his parents' dairy farm (the youngest of five children) "helped me decide to get an education," Darrell remarks drily. But he acknowledges that "growing up on the farm was the single most impactful thing in my life - it allowed me to work with my dad and it taught me how to work."

When time came for college, Darrell attended BYU for a year and then transferred to the College of Idaho (a sister institution to Westminster College in Salt Lake City). Upon graduation, he had been accepted to medical schools at Utah and Colorado. He decided to come to the University of Utah — a very wise move, as it turned out, because he met Noni, who was working as a secretary at Mountain Fuel. They were married in 1963, midway through medical school.

see page 2

Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Meetings

Wednesday, March 18, 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, Robert King*
6:55	*Mayor's Office Report, Joyce Valdez*
7:05	*Elected Officials Reports*
7:30	*Vote on request to legalize duplex at 692 N Wall St. (John and Caroline Davis)*
7:40	*Vote on request for zoning change on parcel at 240 W N. Temple belonging to City Creek Inn*
7:50	*Presentation for proposed zoning change request at 121 N 300 W (Howard Johnsons)*
8:15	*Other business*
8:30	*Adjourn*

Next meeting:
April 15, 2009, 6:30 p.m.

Call for Submissions

If you would like to participate in writing for The Bulletin, please contact John Boyack at jnboyack@gmail.com

continued from page 1

After a one-year internship at Ogden's McKay-Dee Hospital, Darrell accepted a position with the Indian Health Service to work for two years on the Navajo Reservation. This became "one of the most interesting experiences of our lives," he says. "Five of us brand-new doctors were assigned to a remote clinic to give health care in any situation that happened to present itself — really a baptism by fire. The Navajo culture was fascinating."

Darrell then served a general-practice residency in Modesto, California, and opened his own office in Nampa, Idaho. A year and a half later, Darrell went to work with a doctors' group in Blackfoot, much closer to his then-widowed mother, and remained there for twelve and a half years. After his mother died, an opportunity opened to practice at the Salt Lake Clinic, "…and I jumped at that."

Noni at the "toddler school room" she established at an orphanage in Kathmandu.

Darrell and Noni are the parents of five children. Moving to Salt Lake City, he found, "…was really a good move educationally, culturally, and in employment for our children."

He practiced family medicine at Salt Lake Clinic, with privileges at Primary Children's Hospital and LDS Hospital, until his retirement in 2001.

Life became even more interesting then.

Darrell agreed to serve "short-term stints" for the Indian Health Service, eventually traveling throughout the West and Midwest to 13 healthcare facilities on nine reservations, providing medical care. Between this and his earlier experience, "I really fell in love with the Indian cause," he remarked.

Although he saw great strides in economic well-being after 35 years, he still acknowledges "a soft spot" for the plight of Native Americans. "They were given the worst of the land and had their culture dismantled," he said.

After Darrell worked for a time as a volunteer doctor for LDS missionaries in Salt Lake City, he and Noni shared what he

Darrell at "Hermit's House" on the Bagmati River on the east side of Kathmandu

terms "a life-changing experience" in Nepal. Darrell agreed to serve for a year and a half on the faculty of the Tribhuvan University Hospital in Kathmandu, teaching in the only government-sponsored medical school in Nepal. The emergency room (the largest in Kathmandu) had no fulltime doctors on staff except the faculty, and Darrell instructed in family and emergency room practice — making daily rounds with the interns and residents who provided the bulk of the emergency room care.

In the meantime, Noni worked in Kathmandu's orphanages, particularly focusing on proper care and attention for infants, toddlers, and pre-schoolers. Seeing the Hindu caste system close-up and witnessing the grinding economic conditions were sobering.

"You see the poverty and the struggle people go through just to get the next meal

Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Members

Chair	Polly Hart	801-355-7203
Vice-Chair	Katherine Gardner	801-328-1724
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	*election pending*	
West High	Bonnie Archer	801-328-1325
Mobile Watch	Georg Stutzenberger	georgst@xmission.com

SLPD / Crisis Intervention

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

The Bulletin

Advertising	Sylvia Lloyd	sylviaklloyd@msn.com
Design/Layout	Kelly Badger	kelly.badger@gmail.com
Editorial Content	John Boyack	jnboyack@gmail.com
Events & Mailing	Lola Timmins	lolatimmins@comcast.net
Web Site	Nick Burns	nick@vanburns.com

The Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council bulletin is published monthly by the Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council, c/o 355 N. Quince St., Salt Lake City, UT 84103.

— it's something we have no concept of," Darrell reflects.

As an encore to that tour of duty, Darrell and Noni more recently worked in a new private hospital and clinic in Shanghai, China, teaching medical English to physicians and staff and coordinating healthcare for five months.

Between international service junkets, Darrell and Noni enjoy their home on Capitol Hill (100 years old this year) where they've lived for six and a half years.

The house has solid concrete exterior walls (ten to 16-inches thick) and must have been one of the first locally to use that construction.

"It's solid as a rock," Darrell remarks.

Something like the 45-year (so far) record he and Noni have compiled of improving life for others.

Nicholas & Elizabeth Groesbeck House

222 N. West Temple

by Nelson Knight

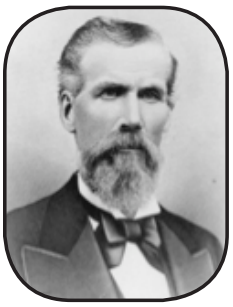
nwknight@utah.gov

Now a nondescript apartment building on N. West Temple, this home was once the residence of one of Salt Lake's first and most successful capitalists.

Nicholas Groesbeck and his wife Elizabeth Thompson Groesbeck purchased this property in 1866, and built this house around that time. They had moved to Salt Lake City in 1856, building their first house a block away, on the corner of 300 West and 200 North (now the site of the West High track).

An upstate New York native, Nicholas joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in 1839, at the age of 19. Elizabeth Thompson met the young Groesbeck in Springfield, Illinois, where she was working as a maid and he had moved to be closer to the headquarters of the church in Nauvoo. They were married in 1841, and quickly prospered in several businesses. Soon they had the beginnings of what became a large family of nine children. In 1856, three of those children crossed paths with a man headed for greater things.

The three boys were working in their father's haying business when their cooking fire set a nearby field aflame, destroying about $3,000 in grain. The landowner brought suit against the boys to recoup his damages. Nicholas hired a tall, spare, shock-haired acquaintance, Abraham



Lincoln, to defend them. Lincoln arranged a $300.00 settlement to resolve the dispute, though not before the oldest boy, 13 at the time, spent 3 weeks in debtor's prison. The Groesbeck family headed west shortly thereafter, leaving Lincoln to pursue his career as a small town lawyer.

Lincoln's nemesis, Stephen A. Douglas, played a role in another portion of Nicholas' life. Shortly after arriving in Salt Lake City, Nicholas was asked by Brigham Young to manage a portion of the company (owned by Young) contracted by the U.S. Government to deliver mail to Salt Lake City. Groesbeck went to Independence, Missouri, and tried to pick up the mail bound for Salt Lake City, but the postmaster refused on instructions from Washington. Upon making inquiries, Nicholas was told that Judge Drummond, recently run out of Salt Lake City, had been

see page 4

Announcements

All full-power analog television broadcasting ends by June 12, 2009. Be prepared for the DTV transition and get ready now!

1. Connect your analog TV to a digital-to-analog converter box *OR*
2. Buy a digital television (a TV with a built-in digital tuner) *OR*
3. Subscribe to a paid TV service (such as cable or satellite TV)

For more information visit: www.dtv.gov

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
www.slcgov.com/PublicServices/Gallivan
www.slcityevents.com
www.utah.gov
www.visitsaltlake.com

Our sincere thanks to LDS Hospital for printing The Bulletin.

Advertise with The Bulletin!

Please support our wonderful sponsors and consider becoming a sponsor yourself. Your donation may be tax deductible.*

To help sponsor The Bulletin, please contact Sylvia Lloyd: sylviaklloyd@msn.com

$50 per month for 2" x 1 column ($550/yr.)
$25 per month for 1" x 1 column ($275/yr.)

*the Salt Lake Association of Community Councils is recognized by the IRS as a section 501(c)(3), tax-exempt organization.)

Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council
c/o Salt Lake Association of Community Councils
PO Box 522038
Salt Lake City UT 84152

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SALT LAKE CITY, UT
PERMIT NO. 5919

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

continued from page 3

telling all in Washington that the Mormons were in rebellion. Among those he convinced was Douglas, who admonished Congress "to cut out this loathsome and disgusting ulcer" of Mormonism. General Albert Sydney Johnston was dispatched with troops to quell the uprising, leading to what is known as the Utah War.

Brigham Young ordered Salt Lake City abandoned and a guerilla war of harassment of the oncoming troops.

Groesbeck returned to Salt Lake City in time to move his family south to Utah valley. Ever the entrepreneur, he set up a mercantile business in Springville, and also opened the town's first amusement hall. Later, with Johnston's army safely in Camp Floyd, the Groesbeck family returned to their home on 3rd West, leaving the businesses to their son.

Nicholas and Elizabeth continued to acquire property in Salt Lake, including most of the entire hillside between West Temple (then called Apple Street) and Almond Street (then called Grape Street), from 200 to 300 North.

There, they built a large home that eventually had 13 bedrooms, two stories, and thick adobe walls covered with stucco. Though the house was large, it was very simple in style, eschewing the Victorian ornament that would soon become commonplace among Utah's houses.

Groesbeck also built barns north of the house, planted locust trees on 200 North, as well as orchards on the hillside. There, the family grew as the children married and grandchildren were born (the 1880 census lists four grown children, two boarders, and a servant in the house).

The neighborhood must have been lively — in addition to the large Groesbeck clan, the Margetts family, with their seven children, lived right up the hill on Vine Street.

The Groesbeck fortune also grew. In 1869, the family ventured into the mining business, staking a claim near the town of Alta that became the Flagstaff mine. The group's substantial investment of $200,000 in the mine yielded big profits when in 1871 they sold out to an English financial syndicate, yielding a $300,000 profit for Nicholas.

Nicholas invested his money in new buildings, constructing the Groesbeck block on 200 South in 1872, and the huge (for its day) Wasatch Block (200 South & Main Street – now the site of One Utah Center) in 1875.

Elizabeth put her wealth to work in other ways — according to Pioneer Women of Faith & Fortitude, a family, destitute because of illness and unemployment, rented a cottage (according to some reports this was the house at 76 West 200 North) from the Groesbecks.

A puzzled friend asked the husband where he got the money to pay the rent. The man replied, "We receive the rent money from Mrs. Groesbeck. She comes around with the rent money a day or two before her husband comes around to collect it."

Nicholas and Elizabeth subdivided their property before their deaths — many of the surrounding homes on 200 North and Almond Street were built by family members.

Elizabeth died in their family home on December 28, 1883. Nicholas followed her on June 29, 1884. The house was divided into apartments in the early 20th Century (how it remains), but only some exterior changes were made to the house. Much of its original character remains, though recent window replacements have left the house looking somewhat blank-eyed.