

THE Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council BULLETIN



Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Meeting

When: 15 September 2004, 6:30 p.m.

Where: *Utah State Capitol Cafeteria, new east wing of State Capitol*

This meeting venue is tentative, subject to how people feel, in comparison to Washington School which remains available if we decide we want to meet at the school instead.

Tentative Agenda

- 6:30 Welcome by Peter von Sivers, Chair
Minutes of July
- 6:35 Police Report
- 6:50 Report by David Hart, Executive Director, Capitol Preservation Board on the progress of the Capitol Restoration
- 7:30 Request by Fairpark Community Council to Annex 600 West between North and South Temple
- 7:50 Other Community Matters
- 8:00 Adjournment

NEXT MEETING
OCTOBER 20, 2004, 6:30 p.m.

Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Members

Chair	Peter Von Sivers	364-3310
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	William Call	364-1758
Warm Springs	Minta Brandon	355-1363
Washington	Bonnie Mangold	363-4634
West High	Erlinda Davis	531-1964

Mobile Watch	Joan Legge	355-8396
Bulletin	Kevin & Margaret Berchtold	364-2604
Web Site	Cassandra VanBuren	

www.capitolhillcc.org capitolhill@aros.net

Thoughts From Kim Fowkes, Treasurer

Hooray! Lots of pencils, lots of books, lots of teachers... how does that go?

School is back in session! "Big deal you say? Perhaps you don't have children, or your children are grown and on their own. If you plan to vote in November, and I hope you do, then education is a big deal.

We are forever hearing about surpluses and deficits, taxes, and bonds. So where does it all go? Well, "Typically 85% to 95% of total state income taxes are used to fund K-12 [public] education...equaling \$3,400 per student...[In addition] about 55% of property taxes are used for public education... approximately \$1,748 per student..." The 2003-2004 Salt Lake School District's total expenditure per student was \$7,284.

-Source: Calculations by Utah Tax Payers Association based on data from individual school districts, Utah State Tax Commission, and Utah State Office of Education, <http://www.utahtaxpayers.com>

During this election year citizens are going to hear a great deal regarding funding public education, private education, charter schools, vouchers, tuition tax credits and more. So where does all that money go? How much are we spending to educate a child? One site that may be a useful reference is www.utahtaxpayers.com. There are fiscally responsible answers and approaches to financing education.

Regardless, thank you and best of luck to all the educators out there. Kudos to all the students getting up early, studying hard, and making the most of their educational experiences. Have a great school year, especially all you seniors out there.

Now-how does that rhyme go? Where did the principals underwear end up? Wasn't there a flag pole involved? Anyway, you students make us proud, and you adults do your homework, get the facts about financing education in Utah!

This Old House

5 Capitol Ave



The original owner of the Fritsch house, which formerly stood on the southeast corner of Hillside Avenue and North Main Street, was a noted outdoorsman who met an untimely but intriguing end on one of his expeditions. The property upon which the Fritsch house once stood is now the site of the Panorama Heights condominiums, constructed in 1961. At the time, this block held the same real estate cachet that Ensign Downs and Capitol Park now have. Those who could afford it constructed large homes on the hill to

take advantage of the views, and perhaps to show the city what their money and taste could build. The Fritsch family built a large house on this lot in 1891 that fit right in with the surrounding mansions. The family patriarch, Francis Fritsch, arrived in Salt Lake City in 1889 already a wealthy man. He made a comfortable living in the pharmaceutical and banking businesses in Wapakoneta, Ohio after immigrating to the United States from Germany. His wife, Katinka Herman, and his three older children moved with him to Utah in order to find a healthier climate for his only son, James. Francis and Katinka also had two daughters, Helena and Hulda. James and his father established the Fritsch Investment Company and the Fritsch Loan & Trust. They spent \$11,000 on their home, and moved in upon its completion in 1892. Soon after, the first of a string of tragedies struck the family. Katinka died in 1895 on a trip to Los Angeles. The rest of the family remained in the house, though for only a few more years, until 1899. Helena married a local boy, William Henry Jenner, and

(Continued on page 2)

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 **crackers and snacks suitable for homeless people**. 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.
- **The LDS 19th 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** is seeking 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 Ann Pendall, 578-8140, for details.
- **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 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

- **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.
- Help the **Neighborhood Watch** for two hours or more monthly. To help, or for more information, please call Joan Legge, 355-8396.
- **LifeCare** (1025 S. 700 W.) needs volunteers to help homebound seniors and persons with disabilities by delivering food boxes. For more information, call 978-2452.
- **TreeUtah** needs volunteers to water seedlings at the Audubon Site AND also help in their demonstration garden. For more information, visit www.treeutah.org or call 364-2122.
- **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.

(Continued from page 1)

Hulda married Alma Mueller.

James remained unmarried. The climate in Utah must have been invigorating for him, because he soon spent days at a time outdoors, hiking to Brigham City or Park City on a lark. As noted in the September 18, 1916 issue of the Salt Lake Tribune, "it was not infrequent for Mr. Fritsch to don his outfit and go out for a hike that kept him out for three or four days at a time. Frequently he would report, upon his return home, that he had camped or slept in snow from ten to eighteen feet in depth for a night or two." James scaled every peak within 100 miles of Salt Lake City, and climbed Mt. Timpanogos eight times. Later in life, he turned his sights toward other mountains. On September 16, 1916, James and a party of seven others set out from

Paradise Camp for the summit of Mt. Rainier. Something went wrong, and James fell over 100 feet into a crevasse. His companions were able to hoist him out, and carried him back to the base camp, taking shelter from a storm in a nearby outcropping and sharing clothing with James to keep him warm. Word of the accident made it to the Deseret News, whose reporter notified the Fritsch family. Francis and Helena immediately departed on a train to Tacoma. The next day, James was able to telegraph his brother-in-law, William Henry Jenner, that he had returned to base camp. Although his injuries were serious, he was expected to recover. His progress was noted in an article the following morning in the Tribune. A telegram announcing his death the following day at 3 o'clock came as a shock to his friends. His father and sister returned from Tacoma with his body, and he was buried in

Mt. Olivet cemetery.

Tragedy continued to follow the Fritsch family. Francis died in 1920, at the ripe age of 84, but still despondent over the death of his son. Newspapers again turned their attention to the family in 1930, when an article reported that Helena and her husband William had been found with self-inflicted gunshot wounds in a park at the mouth of Emigration Canyon. Williams wound was fatal, but Helena lingered, despite a shot in the chest and two shots to the head. A note was found in William's pocket explaining that they had made the decision to end their lives. Helena gave no reason to the police and her doctors, but remained coherent for three days, until she passed away due to infection. After a double funeral, they were buried next to their brother and parents in Mt. Olivet cemetery.

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\$40 per month for a full square (\$440 / yr.) or \$20 per month for a half square (\$220 / yr.)

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Fritsch Property at head of Main Street looking north, Shipler Commercial Photographers, Harry Shipler, 6 June 1907. See This Old House, p 1..

FEATURED NEIGHBORS

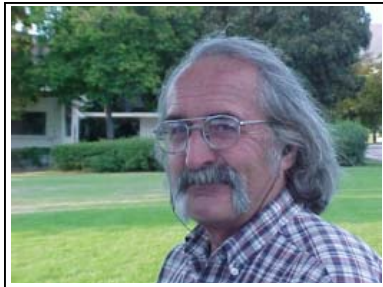
Pete Coffin

In 1976, Pete Coffin paid a visit to his mother at her home in Barnstable, Massachusetts. One day they went out for a bike ride, and Pete discovered that he had a hard time keeping up with her. "I decided that I'd better do something," he says – so he started to walk. A lot. In fact, in the nearly 30 years since, he hasn't stopped walking.

Pete is a common sight to neighbors and friends on Capitol Hill. Chances are you've seen him doing what he does best – walking. He rises early each morning, rides the bus to his office at 2100 South and Redwood Road, and then at the end of each day walks home. His usual regimen, he notes, is to walk "two hours a day, at least, and four on Sunday."

Pete was born in Glen's Falls, New York, and raised in Schenectady. His work in communications eventually took him to San Jose, California where, faced with the breakup of Ma Bell in the early 1980's, he decided to move to Salt Lake City "for the beautiful mountains and skiing." He has lived in his condominium northwest of the Capitol since 1983.

His passion for walking has led to many competitive achievements, few of which he's willing to talk about. He does mention



World-Class Walker

having finished the "Wasatch 100" – the 100-mile course over mountainous terrain from east Layton to Midway – six times. Paul Welsh, a Capitol Hill neighbor and frequent marathoner, notes that the Wasatch 100 is "an amazing, tough race. It has a 36-hour time limit. You have to have great stamina and strength to do it."

Pete also puts his well-seasoned legs to good use in charitable causes. In June, the American Cancer Society held its annual Relay for Life, a walkathon, in Centennial Park in West Valley City. Teams were encouraged to arrange sponsors and donations for the sixteen-hour event, and were required to have at least one team member on the track walking at all times. Pete arranged for sponsors and signed up as a one-man team. This means that, except for very brief necessary breaks, he walked for sixteen straight hours, successfully completing the course and earning a special achievement award from the Cancer Society at the end of the event.

He's worked for Ma Bell and Qwest in fiber optics for 35 years, and Pete may retire in three years or so. Of course, he'll keep on walking. Any other mountains to climb (so to speak) at that point? "I may bike across the country," Pete smiles. "I'll have the time to do it then."

FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS — SEPTEMBER

Temple Square* 7:30 pm

- 1, 2, 3 Auditions *Savior of the World*
- 4- Del Parkinson, pianist
- 10 Orem Institute Summer Choir
- 11 State Fair Winners
- 17 Allred and Braithwaite
- 18 Orchestra at Temple Square
- 29 Readers' Theater Presentations
- 30 Readers' Theater Presentations

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

Gallivan Center

- Lunch Bunch Concert Series* - Weekdays - Noon to 1 pm
- Come Alive Concert Series* - Wednesdays - 7 pm to 10 pm
- 4 Hispanic Fiesta Days - 10 am to 10 pm

Pioneer Park (300 S 300 W) 8:00 am-1 pm

Downtown Farmers' Market (runs thru October 16)

