By Officer Erik Timothy (Department Historian) 1893 (continued)

In 1893, the Tacoma Hotel had a mascot named "Jack", an 800 pound bear they had raised from a cub. Jack had learned to drink beer by holding a mug in his front paws, and was known nationwide. On March 17, 1893, Jack refused to return to his pen and lumbered outside, down South 9th towards Pacific Avenue, where he encountered Officer Kenna, who shot him twice. The wounded animal was returned to the hotel but would not allow anyone near him and was subsequently put out of his misery. The press and public were highly critical of Officer Kenna's decision to shoot the bear.

In 1899, the department moved from the old station on 12th Street to the basement of City Hall at 7th and Pacific Avenue. The quarters were cramped and the stench from the jail, which was not properly ventilated, filled the offices. There were no separate facilities for female or juvenile prisoners, and often juveniles were confined with hardened adult prisoners of the same sex. About 1908, improvements were made to this station; office's were expanded, better lighting installed and women's and juvenile ward's added on the second floor of the jail. Two detention cells were built which were used as receiving cells where dangerous criminals were searched. The dungeon, or "Dark Hole", remained the same, however, and was useful in bringing refractory prisoners to talking terms.

By 1907, a police station was located in South Tacoma on the northwest corner of South 52nd and Puget Sound Avenue. It is not known how long this station stayed in operation, but by the 1930's there was a small substation built on South 56th, just west of South Tacoma Way, adjacent to Fire Station #7. This tiny building included a desk, phone and three holding cells for prisoners. It was used primarily for the beat officers working South Tacoma, and was removed about 1960.

In February, 1900, the position of "Police Matron" was created and Katherine Creighton was appointed the first female Police Matron to look after female and juvenile prisoners. Creighton took a lively interest in her work and when she was refused money to improve the quarters under her care, she raised the money herself. The position of Police Matron was abolished in the early 1970's, but the last matron did not retire until the late 1980's.

Documenting incidents of crime was much different in the early days, as report writing by individual officers did not exist. Patrolman would call the Desk Sergeant, who would decide what, if anything, should be entered into the Sergeants Report Book. (to be cont.)

AGENDA
September 16, 2015
6:30 pm
STAR CENTER
3873 South 66th Street
COP'S MEETING
T.C. BROADNAX: STREET REPAIR FUNDING
"YOUR PARTICIPATION AND YOUR VOICE ARE YOUR INVESTMENT IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD'S FUTURE"

ROUNDABOUT—
Wapato Hills — We will meet next on September 12 from 9 until noon. Dress appropriately for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. Bring work gloves, water to drink, snacks, etc. Please bring a weed whacker if you have one. All are welcome. Contact Carol Munsey, Habitat Steward, 753-6417 Cemunsey@冒险.com

Wapato Hills Hike — The hiking group meets every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 am and also meets at 8 am Saturday mornings. They meet on Wapato St. midway between 62nd and 64th and enjoy hiking Wapato Hills.

Arlington Meeting—The Arlington group will hold their regular meeting September 10th at the First Congregational Church, 7209 South Puget Sound at 6:30pm. Arlington is the area between 66th to 80th St., South Tacoma Way to Tacoma Mall Boulevard. Contact Pennie Smith at 241-1176 for info.

Newsletter — We would be happy to keep you up-to-date with your Neighborhood Council. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the newsletter by email, or snail mail, call Skip at 475-3121.

Oak Tree Park — We are going to do a variety of things on Saturday, September 19th from 9am to noon. We will meet at the East Entrance to the park at 78th and Pine. You may pre-register at: http://cedar.greenecitypartnerships.org/ Contact Albert Styers, Oak Tree Park Steward, at 961-3145.

Wapato Park — Chris Beale leads a Wapato Lake work party, on the 4th Saturday of each month. The next work party will be Saturday September 26th, 9am-noon. Contact Chris Beale at 320-5623 or bealec714@gmail.com for details.

Board Members Needed — We still have Board vacancies for Edison, Orchard, and Oakland/Madrona. If you would like to join the Board and represent one of those neighborhoods, contact one of the Board Members.

POLICE PROJECT PEACE
Tacoma is initiating a project -PEACE- (Partnering for Equity and Community Engagement) that will kick off with a series of community meetings stretching from Sept. 3 to Nov. 9. These meetings will offer the Tacoma community the opportunity to have a guided conversation with the Tacoma Police Department. Police Chief Don Ramsdell noted that: "Recent events in communities across the country have prompted our police department and our city to reexamine our efforts and interactions with our community members.” Police Chief Don Ramsdell also stated: "We are committed to building and maintaining a culture of positive community engagement, which is essential to maintaining strong working relationships between the members of our department and the residents that we serve." These conversations will lead to a cumulative event at the Tacoma Convention Center on Nov. 9, after which Ramsdell and city manager T.C. Broadnax will be tasked with coming up with an action plan that takes into account the feedback they have received from the community.

South Tacoma's project “PEACE” meeting will be held on September 14th at the Asia Pacific Cultural Center, 4851 South Tacoma Way.

Check for other meeting times and dates at: cityoftacoma.org

COP'S MEETING

Are you having security problems in your neighborhood? Strangers lurking? Our Community Liaison Officers attend our Cop’s Meetings to keep you posted on criminal activity in your neighborhood and to provide you the opportunity to bring your neighborhood’s problems to their attention. Discussing problems at the meeting also allows other members to recent criminal activity that might hit their neighborhood next.

John Warczak attends our meetings and is a great example of our dedicated, professional Community Liaison Officers. See the reverse side for the phone number.

FREE DOOR PRIZES AT THE MEETING

Did You Know? — Tacoma Municipal Code 9.16.040: It is the duty of the person having charge or control of any premises with the City to keep the walk or walks along property in the street or streets adjacent thereto in a clean condition.

Facebook — Visit us on Facebook to see the latest and greatest about our Neighborhood Council.

Penicie Smith and Chris Beale keep you up to date on scheduled events and happenings in our area including our meeting agendas and minutes. https://www.facebook.com
COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICERS: Community Liaison Officers are here to team up with us on neighborhood safety and security problems. Contact them thru Sector Commander: Lt. Al Roberts (591-5190), or at Email—aroberts2@cityoftacoma.org

Your CLO’s are:   
Sector 3-1 Officer — Mike Sbory  594-7858; Email—MSbory@cityoftacoma.org  
Sector 3-2 Officer — Robert Luke  591-5692; Email—rluke@cityoftacoma.org  
Sector 3-3 Officer — Debra Vause  573-2563; Email—dvause@cityoftacoma.org (Temporarily unavailable)  
Sector 3-4 Officer — John Warczak  573-2562; Email—jwarczak@cityoftacoma.org

The contents of this newsletter are believed to be the consensus of the Board and membership of the Neighborhood Council.

GRAFFITI AND YARD SALE SIGNS: People are still trashing our neighborhoods with “Yard Sale” and “For Rent” signs on utility poles, street, and stop signs. Report graffiti and illegal signs. Help out by removing illegal signs and picking up the signs that have fallen and become litter on our streets. Don’t litter on our utility poles, street, and stop signs.

WHO ARE WE?: The South Tacoma Neighborhood Council is an independent non-profit corporation formed by neighbors to address neighborhood issues and concerns. All of our meetings are open to the public and you are more than welcome to attend. Our “Board” meetings are on the first Thursday of each month, at 6:30 pm, at the STAR Center at 3873 South 66th Street. Our General” meetings are once a month on the third Wednesday at 6:30 pm at the STAR Center at 3873 South 66th Street. Contact Skip Vaughn at 475-3121 with any questions.