

More Real Change Than Ever!

This is *not* the February issue of the *Real Change*. This is only the *first* February issue of the *Real Change*. There will be a second February issue, on the 15th. There will be two issues next month, on the 1st and the 15th. There will be two issues every month from now on.

Party!

Anitra Freeman

There is rejoicing in the streets of Seattle. The will of the people has been heard. Norm Rice doesn't listen to you, but *we* do. The *Real Change* has gone bi-monthly!

Real Change has a whole new look, too. Notice how you can hold this issue in your hand and read it like a magazine, without spreading it out wide and irritating the person next to you on the bus? Or getting the bottom edge of the newspaper in your salad dressing?

This format is not only more convenient, we are much less likely to be mistaken for *The Stranger*. Now we might be mistaken for *Time* magazine. Not.

There is a drawback to all this giddy progress. We have more space to fill every month, and we have to fill it twice as fast. *The Real Change* has built a reputation for informative articles, outspoken editorials, excellent poetry, and all-around quality. We can't pad our extra pages with fluff.

We have expanded our staff, and our editorial board, and everyone from our Board of Directors on down is out scouting for articles.

But we need your help. Do you know a story we should cover? Do you have a story written for us? Do you have a hunch that a search of a certain politician's closet might yield talking skeletons? Give us a call! 441-3247.

We are also starting another tradition this issue. The American Heritage Dictionary defines "obituary" as "a death notice, usually with a brief biography of the

deceased." Traditionally, newspapers have run obituaries of recent deaths in their community. Most newspapers have rarely printed obituaries of members of the homeless community.

This is our community. From now on, when you have news of a death within the homeless community, please call 441-3247 and leave a message for Michele Marchand. Every month, we will print recent obituaries.

Our new schedule will let us cover current events, as they unfold, a little more closely. One article in this issue is an update on the City's current actions on the eternal hygiene center debate. We strongly hope that next issue we will be able to report that the City of Seattle has actually made a move forward in establishing public hygiene services.

Your voice to your own City representatives will help insure that news.

Another article is on the corporate takeover of Westlake Park. Please read this article, and if you agree that your public lands should not be made private territory by private business, raise your voice and lodge your protest. We will report the results next issue.

We have a book review this issue, on *Merchants of Misery*, a report of financial institutions that prey on the poor. In future issues, we will run investigative articles on any such abuses that we find here in Seattle. If you know of a business in Seattle — credit company, pawn shop, check cashing outlet, car dealership, trade school, or other — that takes advantage of poor and minority customers, please let us know.

Real CHANGE

Needs Your Support Now

Real Change depends upon the grassroots support of our readership to do a whole lot with very little money. Every dollar donated to this paper winds up putting about five dollars in the pockets of the homeless. Best of all, your contribution goes beyond simple charity. We help people help themselves while they work for a more just world for everyone. *With your help, 1997, our third year, will be our best ever. Be a part of something important. Support Real Change in any way you can.*

Real Change Matters. Here's What I Can Do.

Name _____

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- Patron \$100 or more
- Friend \$50 or more
- Member \$35
- Supporter Any amount
- Call me about volunteering my time and energy.

If you donate \$35 or more, please indicate whether you want a subscription mailed to you. Yes No

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